Felony Conviction and Voting Rights

Accessible, fair, and accurate elections.

Office of the Secretary of State
Elections Division

Do you have questions or need assistance registering to vote?

Contact us!
Washington Secretary of State
Elections Division
520 Union Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98504

1 (800) 448-4881
sos.wa.gov/elections
Voter Eligibility Requirements

1 U.S. Citizen
   You must be a citizen of the United States.

2 Legal resident of Washington State
   You must establish a residential address at least 30 days before election day.

3 At least 18 years old
   If you are 16 or 17, you can sign up as a Future Voter and be automatically registered to vote when you qualify.

4 Not disqualified from voting due to a court order
   Only a Superior Court Judge can declare you unable to vote due to mental incompetency.

5 Not in total confinement for a felony conviction in Washington state
   Your right to vote is restored as long as you are no longer serving a sentence of total confinement in prison with the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) or currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction. After your right to vote is restored, you may re-register to vote.

Voting Rights Restoration

When the right to vote is restored
If you were convicted of a felony in a Washington State court, your right to vote is restored automatically once you are no longer serving a sentence of total confinement in prison.

If you were convicted of a felony in another state or in federal court, your right to vote is restored automatically as long as you are no longer serving a sentence of total confinement in prison.

You do not lose the right to vote for a misdemeanor conviction or a conviction in juvenile court.

Under Department of Corrections Authority
Only people in total confinement for a felony conviction are not eligible to vote.

Ways to Register to Vote

Online
You can register to vote online using your Washington State Driver’s License or ID Card at VoteWA.gov.

In-Person
You can locate your County Elections Office at sos.wa.gov/elections, then register to vote in-person during business hours.

By Mail
You can request to have a voter registration form mailed to you at sos.wa.gov/elections or by calling 1 (800) 448-4881. You can choose to return that form by mail or in-person at your County Elections Office.

Accessible voter registration and voting options are available. Call 1 (800) 448-4881 for more information.