

Voting while incarcerated

Incarcerated people can vote unless they have been convicted of a felony.

If you have a felony conviction, you may not vote in state, federal, or municipal elections from the date of the conviction until the date of the unconditional discharge. Unconditional discharge means you are no longer under the supervision of the Department of Corrections, which includes probation, parole, or any court supervision.

Requesting an absentee by mail ballot while incarcerated

How to request an absentee ballot. If you are incarcerated while awaiting trial or have been convicted of a misdemeanor, you can request an application to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot from the Division of Elections through the correctional facility where you are detained.

If the facility fails to provide it, someone can [print the application](http://www.elections.alaska.gov/voter-information/absentee-and-early-voting) (www.elections.alaska.gov/voter-information/absentee-and-early-voting) and mail it to you to complete and return by mail to the Division of Elections.

Addresses to include

- You should use your last place of residency before incarceration as your “Alaska residence address” on the application form, **not the correctional facility** where you currently reside.
 - If you were unhoused before incarceration, you can list any address where you resided and intend to return. A hotel, shelter bed, facility, or even a park bench would be sufficient for the listed address.
- You should also put your last place of residency before incarceration as the “permanent address where they receive mail.” **However, the “ballot mailing address” should be the address of the jail or prison where you currently reside.**

Having issues with voting while incarcerated or navigating the elections process after incarceration?

Write the ACLU of Alaska explaining your issue. Please remember to give us enough lead time before the deadlines for registering and mailing ballots.

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Check your voter registration. If you have not voted in more than eight years, you likely need to register to vote again as you may have been purged from the voting rolls. Check your voter registration status online here (myvoterportal.alaska.gov).

How to register to vote after incarceration

If you were incarcerated for a non-felony conviction, or you were incarcerated for a felony conviction but have now been released from probation and parole, there are two options to register to vote.

- **Register to vote in-person at Division of Elections Offices, DMV Offices, Vocational Rehabilitation Offices, Participating Tribal Government Offices, Legislative Information Offices, United States Armed Forces Assistance Offices, Public Assistance Agencies, City or Borough Clerk's Offices, Participating Public Libraries, Voter Registrars.** When you register to vote, you must bring a form of identification and your dismissal or discharge papers to prove you are no longer on probation or parole (and if you received a letter from DOC entitled "Notification of Restoration of Voting Rights," bring that too).
- **Register to vote via mail or online.**
 - **By mail.** Print a paper form to complete and sign. Send the completed form by mail, fax, or email attachment to a Regional Elections Office. When registering to vote, send a copy of either your current driver's license, state ID, passport, or birth certificate with your paper form. Ensure documents are attached directly to email, including dismissal/discharge papers (and if you received a letter from DOC entitled "Notification of Restoration of Voting Rights," include a copy of that too).
 - **Register online.** Register through the Division of Elections' online site (voterregistration.alaska.gov). Be prepared to upload documents including dismissal/discharge papers.

Once the voter registration application has been processed, the Division of Elections will send the voter an identification card. The card takes approximately 4-6 weeks to arrive. The voter should then proceed to vote as normal.

Sample absentee ballot

Alaska Absentee Ballot Application – For Federal and State Elections

Check the status of your absentee ballot application at myvoterinformation.alaska.gov

Elections	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All in Calendar Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Primary (August)	<input type="checkbox"/> General (November)
		<input type="checkbox"/> REAA (October)	<input type="checkbox"/> Special	
Eligibility If you answer 'No' to either question, you cannot register.	2	Are you a citizen of the United States?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
		Are you at least 18 years of age or within 90 days of your 18 th birthday?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Print your name	3	<u>Moose</u>	<u>John</u>	<u>River</u>
		Last	First	Middle Suffix
Other information	4	Former name (if changed):	Voter number (if known):	
Alaska residence address - Provide an Alaska residence address. Do not use PO, PSC, HC and Box or out-of-state address.	5	<u>123</u>	<u>Main Street</u>	<u>1</u> <u>Fairbanks</u> Alaska
		House #	Street Name	Apt # City State
		<input type="checkbox"/> *Keep my residence address confidential. Mailing address in 6 MUST be different than residence in 5.		
The address where you receive mail (Permanent)	6	<u>123 Main Street Unit 1</u> <u>Fairbanks, Alaska</u> <u>99703</u>		
Identifiers You MUST provide ONE .	7	<u>1234</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not have an SSN or AK driver's license or State ID	
		*SSN or Last 4	*Alaska driver's license or State ID No.	
Birthdate and Gender You MUST provide Birthdate	8	*Birthdate <u>01/15/1975</u>	Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
Political party affiliation	9	Write political affiliation (For options, see instructions): <u>Undeclared</u>		
Military and Overseas Voters Check your status and how you want your ballot sent.	10	<input type="checkbox"/> Active member of the Uniformed Services, Merchant Marine, or commissioned corps or an eligible spouse or dependent. <input type="checkbox"/> OR, I am residing temporarily or permanently overseas and I intend to return to Alaska. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mail – Complete box 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Online – Provide email in box 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Fax – Provide fax in box 13		
In remote Alaska or overseas?	11	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I will be in remote Alaska or overseas where mail service is limited. If yes, a 45-day advance ballot will be mailed to you.		
Ballot mailing address. Ballots WILL NOT be forwarded. Provide an address where you will receive mail.	12	<u>Fairbanks Correctional Center, John Moose # 12345</u> <u>1931 Egan Avenue</u> <u>Fairbanks, Alaska 99701</u>		
Contact information Include all state and international prefixes.	13	Day Phone: <u>907-458-6700</u>	Evening Phone:	
		Email:	Fax No.:	
Certificate Read and Sign Your signature must be handwritten. A typed or digital signature is not valid.	14	I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that: The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and I am eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, I am not requesting a ballot from any other state, and I am not voting in any other manner in this (these) election(s). I further certify that I am an Alaska resident and that I have not been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude, or having been so convicted, have been unconditionally discharged from incarceration, probation and/or parole. I am not registered to vote in another state, or I have taken the necessary steps to cancel that registration. WARNING: If you provide false information on this application you can be convicted of a felony and/or misdemeanor. (AS 15.56.040; AS 15.56.050)		
		*Signature: <u>John Moose</u>	Date: <u>09/15/2024</u>	
For Office Use		Registrar or Official Name:	Voter No. or last 4 of SSN:	

*Items are kept confidential by the Division of Elections and are not available for public inspection except that confidential addresses may be released to government agencies or during election processes as set out in state law.

*You should use your last place of residency prior to incarceration as your voting address. If you were unhouseed before being incarcerated, you can list an address that is a "place in which the person's habitation is fixed and whenever that person is absent from that place, has the intention to return." A hotel, shelter bed or facility, or even a park bench would be sufficient as the listed address.