

Incarceration and Absentee Voting

In Missouri there are six reasons one may vote absentee:

- Will be absent from your voting jurisdiction on Election Day;
- Are incapacitated or confined due to illness or physical disability or are caring for an incapacitated person;
- Are restricted by religious belief or practice;
- Are employed by an Election Authority, or are a first responder, a health care worker, or a member of law enforcement;
- **Are incarcerated, but not yet sentenced and have retained all your voting qualifications;** or
- Are a participant in the Missouri SAFE at home program.

If you are in jail but have not yet been sentenced, you are eligible to vote absentee.

To do this you must follow these steps:

Step 1: Request an absentee ballot to be sent to you by mail by filling out the Absentee Ballot Application available at www.kceb.org or by contacting your local election authority.

Step 2: Once you have completed and returned your application, an absentee ballot and return envelope will be sent to you in the mail. You will:

1. Vote your ballot;
2. Place your voted ballot in the provided envelope;
3. Fill out the form on the envelope completely and have the envelope notarized (The jail should provide a notary for this purpose);
4. Send your voted, notarized ballot back in the mail.



**Questions?
Contact us!**

**Kansas City Board of Election
Commissioners**

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 Kansas City Board of Election
Commissioners



Incarceration and Voting

*What to know and
how to re-register.*



What does the law actually say?

Qualifications of Voters

No person shall be entitled to vote:

- (1) While confined under a sentence of imprisonment;
- (2) While on probation or parole/supervised release after conviction of a felony, until finally discharged from such probation or parole/supervised release; or
- (3) After conviction of a felony or misdemeanor connected with the right of suffrage.

-RSMo 115.133 Section 2

So, can I vote?

To be entitled to vote, a person:

1. Must be registered to vote in the jurisdiction of the person's domicile prior to the election;
2. Cannot be imprisoned;
3. Cannot be on probation or parole/supervised release after conviction of a felony;
4. Cannot have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor connected to voting; and
5. Cannot have been declared incapacitated.

Voter ID

It is necessary to have a valid form of ID to vote in Missouri. Acceptable IDs include:

Nonexpired IDs issued by the state of Missouri or U.S. Government like a Missouri driver's license or nondriver's license, passport, or military ID, or other document issued by the United States or state of Missouri that contains your photo and is not expired or, if expired, expired after the date of the most recent general election.

If you do not have an acceptable form of ID on Election Day, you may vote a Blue ID Provisional Ballot. This will be counted only if you come back to your polling place on Election day and show a valid photo ID or the signature on your provisional ballot envelope matches the signature on your voter registration.



If you do not have a valid ID to vote, you may be eligible to receive a free photo ID for voting purposes.

Visit www.sos.mo.gov/voterid to learn more.

FAQs

I was convicted of a felony, and have completed my probation and parole. Can I vote?

Yes! In Missouri people who have been convicted of a felony do regain their voting rights after completion of their probation and parole/supervised release.

Are there any special steps I'll need to take to get my voting rights back?

No. All you'll need to do is re-register to vote by completing a voter registration application. This can be done online, at any permanent registration site, or at your local election authority's office. Once this has been submitted and processed, you will have regained your voting rights.

When should I register to vote?

The voter registration deadline for each election is the fourth Wednesday prior to Election Day. Once you are registered to vote all you will need to do to maintain your registration is to vote!

How do I know I'm registered?

Once your voter registration is processed you will receive a voter registration card from your local election authority in the mail. You can also check your registration status by checking your local election authority's website, or by calling or emailing your local election authority.