

Who can and cannot vote

Learn if you meet the qualifications to vote in federal, state, and local elections.

Who can vote?

You can vote in U.S. federal, state, and local elections if you:

- Are a U.S. citizen (some areas allow non-citizens to vote in local elections only)
- Meet your state's residency requirements
 - [You can be homeless](#) and still meet these requirements.
- Are 18 years old on or before Election Day
 - In almost every state, you can register to vote before you turn 18 if you will be 18 by Election Day.
- Are registered to vote by your state's [voter registration deadline](#). North Dakota does not require voter registration.

Who cannot vote?

- Non-citizens, including permanent legal residents, cannot vote in federal, state, and most local elections.
- [Some people after a felony conviction](#) or who are currently serving time for other types of crimes. Rules are different in each state. [Check this guide from the Department of Justice](#) to understand the laws in your state.
- [Some people who are mentally incapacitated](#). Rules vary by state.
- For president in the general election: U.S. citizens residing in U.S. territories
- Check with your [state or local election office](#) for any questions about who can and cannot vote.