How to Know if You Can Vote

In the State of New York, you have the right to vote even if you have a criminal record depending on certain conditions. If you have been convicted of a misdemeanor, you can still vote or register to vote.

Are you currently serving a prison sentence for a felony conviction?

- Yes → You do not yet have the right to vote.
- No → Are you currently on probation? Are you currently on parole? Open this brochure for more information!

Additional Voting Rights Resources

Restoring Voting Rights: brennancenter.org/issues/ensure-every-american-can-vote/voting-rights-restoration

Voting Rights Restoration Efforts in New York: brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/voting-rights-restoration-efforts-new-york


New York City Voting Information and Voter Eligibility Criteria for the Formerly Incarcerated

Bronx
1780 Grand Concourse, 5 Fl, Bronx, NY 10457 (718-299-9017)

Brooklyn
345 Adams Street, 4 Fl, Brooklyn, NY 11201 (718-797-880)

Queens
118-35 Queens Boulevard, Forest Hills, NY 11375 (718-730-6730)

Manhattan
200 Varick Street, 10 Fl, New York, NY 10014 (212-886-2100)

Staten Island
1 Edgewater Plaza, 4 Fl, Staten Island, NY 10305 (718-876-0079)
Are You Currently on Parole?

You have the right to vote! If you are on parole and you are otherwise eligible to vote, you may now do so without seeking a conditional pardon as a result of a new State law.

Individuals on parole for a felony conviction no longer need to receive a pardon through NY State Executive Order No. 181 or be issued a Certificate of Relief from Disabilities or a Certificate of Good Conduct while on parole in order to register to vote. To check if you are registered, visit voting.nyc.

Are You Currently on Probation?

You have the right to vote! If you have previously registered to vote, your voter should still be active. To check if you are registered, visit voting.nyc.

If this is your first time registering, view the pages to the right for instructions on how to register and how to vote by absentee ballot.

Ranked Choice Voting

In primary and special elections for city offices, you can rank up to 5 candidates in order of preference: your 1st choice candidate, your 2nd choice candidate, and so on up to your 5th choice candidate. More information can be found at voting.nyc.

Registering to Vote

You should have received a voter registration form in addition to this brochure as part of your discharge to the community from the Department’s custody. You can also download a voter registration form from the NYC Board of Elections website.

Once you have completed the form and signed, mail it to:

Board of Elections
32 Broadway, 7 Fl
New York, NY 10004-1609

Your form must be delivered or mailed at least 25 days before the next election for it to be effective for that election.

You can also register to vote in-person at one of the BOE offices. If you have a valid ID from the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, you can register to vote online at voterreg.dmv.ny.gov/motorvoter. 

Keep Your Registration Current

If you need to update your residence address, you should notify the NYC BOE as soon as possible by submitting another BOE as soon as possible by submitting another voter registration form. Your residence address determines the particular contests in which you are eligible to vote.

Absentee Ballots

Registered voters who cannot make it to the polls on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot. All registered voters can request an absentee ballot be mailed to them.

There are several ways to request your ballot:

- Online at nycabsentee.com
- Email request form to Appy4Absentee@boe.nyc (Attach the PDF of completed, signed request form)
- Mail request form to your local borough BOE office
- Call 1-866-VOTE-NYC (1-866-868-3692)
- Fax request form to 212-487-5349

Once you have received and completed your absentee ballot, you can cast your absentee ballot by mail or by bring it to your local poll site or local borough BOE office. The ballot must be postmarked or dropped off at a poll site or local borough BOE office by Election Day. Find your poll site at findmypollsite.vote.nyc. Track your ballot at nycabsentee.com/tracking.

If you are visually impaired or have a disability, you may request an accessible absentee ballot that can be read by a screen reader at nycabsentee.com/accessibility.