Voting with Photo ID

All Mississippi voters casting a ballot in person at the polls or casting an absentee ballot in the Circuit or Municipal Clerk's office must present one of the following forms of acceptable photo ID:

- A driver's license
- A government issued photo ID card
- A United States passport
- An employee identification card
- A firearms license
- A student photo ID issued by an accredited Mississippi university, college or community/junior college
- A United States military ID
- A tribal photo ID
- Any other photo ID issued by any branch, department, agency or entity of the United States government or any State government
- A Mississippi Voter Identification card

If you do not present an acceptable form of photo ID or are unable to do so because of a religious objection, you are entitled to cast an affidavit ballot.

A voter casting an affidavit ballot because he/she did not present an acceptable form of photo ID based upon a religious objection is entitled to have his/her ballot counted if he/she completes an Affidavit of Religious Objection in the Circuit or Municipal Clerk's office within five (5) business days after Election Day.

A voter casting an affidavit ballot because he/she did not present an acceptable form of photo ID is entitled to have his/her ballot counted if he/she presents an acceptable form of photo ID in the Circuit or Municipal Clerk's office within five (5) business days after Election Day.

Call 1-844-MSVoter for Voter ID information or assistance in obtaining a MS Voter ID card.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Some registered voters are eligible to vote by an absentee ballot because of age, health, work demands, temporary relocation for educational purposes or their affiliation with the U.S. Armed Forces. Please check with your Circuit or Municipal Clerk to determine if you are entitled to vote by an absentee ballot and to learn the procedures for doing so.

If you know you will vote by an absentee ballot, you may contact your Circuit or Municipal Clerk's office at any time within 45 days of the election.

Voters included within the Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), such as members of the military and overseas citizens, may register to vote and request an absentee ballot by Federal Post Card Application. UOCAVA voters may register to vote using the FPCA up until 10 days before the date of an election and may receive and return an absentee ballot by mail, email or fax. Mississippi was the first state to provide active-duty military and overseas voters the ability to receive and return an absentee ballot by secured-access email. For more information, call the Secretary of State's Election Hotline at 1-800-829-6786 or visit our website at www.sos.ms.gov.

How to Register to Vote

Registering by Mail

1. A Mail-In Voter Registration Application is enclosed with this brochure. Simply provide the information requested, including your drivers license number and/or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

If you do not provide your drivers license number or the last four digits of your Social Security number, you must send with your application:

- A copy of a current and valid photo ID, **or**
- A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows your name and address.

2. Send your Mail-In Voter Registration Application to your Circuit Clerk's office located in the county of your residence.

3. Applications must be postmarked 30 days before the date of the election.

4. Mail-In Registration Applications are available at your Circuit Clerk's office, Municipal Clerk's office, public library and other participating government offices. Also, Mail-In Registration Applications may be downloaded from our website at www.sos.ms.gov.

Registering in Person

1. You may register to vote in person at any of the following locations:

- Circuit Clerk's Office
- Municipal Clerk's Office
- Department of Public Safety
- Any state or federal agency offering government services, such as the Department of Human Services

2. You must register to vote 30 days before the date of the election.

Mississippi Voter Information Guide

Know your voting rights and responsibilities

DELBERT HOSEMANN
Secretary of State

401 Mississippi Street
P.O. Box 136
Jackson, MS 39205
Elections Hotline: 1-800-829-6786
www.sos.ms.gov

Know Your Voting Rights

- Every qualified Mississippi elector is entitled to vote regardless of race, creed, color or disability.
- No one may refuse a person the right to vote if that person is legally entitled to vote.
- No voter shall be threatened, intimidated or paid to vote by any person.
- Voters whose names do not appear on the poll book or who do not have an acceptable form of photo ID are entitled to vote by affidavit ballot.
- Voters who cast an affidavit ballot are entitled to receive written information at the time of voting on how to determine if the vote was counted and, if not, why not.
- Voters who require assistance in marking the ballot because of disability, blindness or an inability to read or write are entitled to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice, excluding, however, the voter's employer or union representative.

Voter Registration Applications

Additional applications can be obtained from your county Circuit Clerk's office, your county courthouse, public library or other participating government offices. Mail-in voter registration forms are also available from the Secretary of State's Office and may be download from our website at www.sos.ms.gov.

2016-19 Elections Calendar

The chart below reflects regularly scheduled elections and does not account for special elections, elections affected by litigation and other special circumstances.

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Federal Offices				
President and Vice President	■			
United States Senator			■	
United States Representative	■		■	
State Offices				
Governor				■
Lieutenant Governor				■
Secretary of State				■
Attorney General				■
State Auditor				■
State Treasurer				■
Commissioner of Insurance				■
Commissioner of Agric. & Commerce				■
State Senator				■
State Representative				■
Transportation Commissioner				■
Public Service Commissioner				■
State District Offices				
Supreme Court Justice	■		■	
Court of Appeals Judge	■		■	
Circuit Court Judge			■	
Chancery Court Judge			■	
District Attorney				■
Levee Commissioner	■		■	
County Offices				
Sheriff				■
Chancery Clerk				■
Circuit Clerk				■
County Court Judge			■	
Tax Assessor				■
Tax Collector				■
Coroner				■
Superintendent of Education				■
County Attorney				■
Surveyor				■
County District Offices				
Supervisor				■
Justice Court Judge				■
Constable				■
Election Commissioner	■			
County School Board Member	■		■	
Municipal Offices		■		

NOTE: Not all counties elect all of the offices listed. Some special-charter municipalities hold elections in years other than the one indicated. Supreme Court Justices, Appeals Court Judges and County Board of Education members run in staggered terms.

Voter Registration Deadlines

To vote, you must register either in person at the Circuit Clerk or Municipal Clerk's office or by mail-in registration application at least 30 days prior to the date of the election. All applications must be postmarked on or before 30 days prior to the date of the election. Please note: the U.S. Postal Service is not open and does not deliver on Sundays or legal holidays.

Voters who have not yet reached the age of 18 at the time of a primary election may vote in the primary election so long as he/she will reach the age of 18 on before the date of the general election.

2016

Primary Election Day - March 8
Register by February 6

General Election Day - November 8
Register by October 8

2017

Primary Election Date - May 2
Register by April 1

General Election Date - June 6
Register by May 6

2018

Primary Election Day - June 5
Register by May 5

General Election Day - November 6
Register by October 6

2019

Primary Election Date - August 6
Register by July 6

General Election Date - November 5
Register by October 5

Registration Qualifications

Every U.S. citizen who possesses the following qualifications is eligible to register to vote in Mississippi:

- A resident of Mississippi and the county, city or town for 30 prior to the election;
- At least 18 years old (or will be 18 by the date of the next General Election)
- Not declared mentally incompetent by a court
- Not convicted of a disenfranchising crime as defined by Section 241 of the Mississippi Constitution or by Attorney General Opinion, unless pardoned, rights of citizenship restored by the Governor or suffrage rights restored by the Legislature.

Once you are registered, you remain registered until you no longer meet one of the qualifications to vote.

Where to Vote

After registering to vote, your Voter Registration Card will be sent to your residence/mailing address provided on your application. Your Voter Registration Card will provide the name, location and number of the precinct in which you will vote.

You may contact your Circuit Clerk's office for more information. Polls are open each Election Day from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Secretary of State's Office
Election Hotline - 1-800-829-6786
Voter ID - 1-844-MSVoter (1-844-678-6837)

Attorney General's Office
601-359-3680

MS Protection & Advocacy Office
1-800-772-4057