

REGISTERING TO VOTE

To vote, you must:

- Be registered with an address in Hamilton County at least 30 days before the election; and
- Keep your registration active by voting at least once every four years.

Where can I register to vote?

- Bureau of Motor Vehicles offices
- Hamilton County Public Library branches
- Hamilton County Board of Elections (824 Broadway, 45202)

What do I have to provide in order to register?

- Name
- Current residential address
- Date of birth
- Signature
- Identification (the number of your current valid Ohio driver license or Ohio ID card; or, if you don't have either of those, the last four digits of your Social Security number)

What happens after I register?

The Board of Elections will mail you a card that lists:

- the address of your voting (polling) place;
- your precinct; and
- State Senator, State Representative and Congressional district numbers.

KEEP THIS CARD FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

Where do I vote?

The address is on your voter's card.

Can't find your card? Contact the Board of Elections at 513-632-7000, visit their website at www.votehamiltoncounty.org or call the League of Women Voters at 513-281-8683.



Need help filling out your ballot? Visit Vote411.org for an online voters guide and election information.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Any registered voter in Ohio may request an Absentee Ballot. A request form is available online at www.votehamiltoncounty.org or you may send a written request for an absentee ballot to:

Hamilton County Board of Elections
Attn: Absentee Ballots
824 Broadway
Cincinnati, OH 45202

You may also fax a written request to 513-744-9038.

A written request must include:

- Date of Election
- Name and address, including the mailing address to which the ballot is to be sent if it is different from the residential address
- Date of birth
- Phone number
- Signature
- ONE of the following:
 - A driver's license number
 - Last four digits of a Social Security number
 - A copy of a valid ID or military ID
 - A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that has your name and current address listed.

For a Primary Election you must include your party affiliation. Otherwise, you will receive an Issues Only ballot.

Once your request is received, a ballot will be mailed to your home or, if indicated on the request form, to another address (which may be outside of Hamilton County). The absentee ballot must be returned to the Board of Elections by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day and have all information on the envelope filled out correctly.



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate.



League of Women Voters of
the Cincinnati Area

Tips for Voters
Hamilton County, OH

LWVCA Education Fund
103 William Howard Taft Road
Cincinnati, OH 45219
Phone: 513-281-8683
Fax: 513-281-8714

www.lwvcincinnati.org

HOW TO VOTE

Hamilton County uses the Hart eScan, an optical/digital scan voting machine.

1. Go to the polling place and precinct listed on the card you received from the Board of Elections ("Cincinnati 1-C/Mt. Washington Rec Center," for example). Please be aware that more than one precinct may occupy a single polling location. Be sure to vote in the correct precinct.
2. You will be asked to provide proof of identity before voting. You may use a current and valid identification card like your driver's license or a military ID; a copy of a utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document showing your name and current address. Note: You cannot use the notice the Board of Elections mailed to you. If you do not show the required proof of identity, you may cast a provisional ballot.
3. Sign the poll book as directed. You will be given a paper ballot.
4. Go to an open voting booth. Using the pen that is provided, completely fill in the box to the left of your choice on the ballot. For example:

President
Vote for one

 Abraham Lincoln
Historical Party

 Julius Caesar
Ancient Party
5. Candidates and issues are sometimes listed on both the FRONT AND BACK of your ballot. Be sure to check both sides of your ballot for items on which you intend to vote.
6. Make sure you read the directions concerning the number of candidates to vote for in each category. Some offices have "field" races where you may vote for more than one candidate. For example, you may vote for up to nine candidates for Cincinnati City Council.
7. You do not have to vote for every office or every issue for your ballot to be counted.
8. When you finish voting, take your ballot to the eScan machine and insert it into the ballot feed slot located on the top of the machine. Wait while your ballot is scanned.

9. If your ballot is properly marked, the eScan will accept your ballot and display a waving American flag on the screen next to the slot where you inserted the ballot. At this point, you have completed the voting process.
10. If you have over-voted (voted for too many candidates in a particular race) or there is a problem with your ballot, the machine will not accept it. Poll workers are instructed to ask you for the error message on the screen so they may assist you. Poll workers are instructed not to handle your ballot without your permission. You are allowed to deal with the error messages yourself or request help from a poll worker.
 - a. The error message "Ballot not properly marked" will come up on the screen and the contest that needs attention will be listed. One example is "U.S. Representative Contest is Overvoted."
 - b. If more than one contest has been marked incorrectly you will see the phrase "Next Contest" at the bottom of the screen with an arrow pointing to a button on the machine. Push the button to see the next contest.
 - c. When finished viewing the screen(s), you may remove your ballot from the machine, take it to a poll worker and request a new ballot OR you may choose to cast your ballot as is by following the instructions on the screen. In the latter case, your vote will not be counted in races in which you over-voted. You may ask a poll worker for help.
 - d. When your completed ballot has been accepted, the screen will display a waving American flag and the message will state that your vote has been recorded.
11. Voters with disabilities may use the Hart Intercivic eSlate electronic voting machine. Visually impaired or infirm voters may ask for help when voting.

YOU MAY ASK A POLL WORKER
FOR HELP AT ANY TIME



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ON ELECTION DAY

POLLS ARE OPEN
from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

All polling locations are handicapped accessible.

Ballots list the names of all candidates for an office under the title of that office; the party designation is printed with each name. You may request the list of write-in candidates from a poll worker.

In the General Election, candidates for judgeships, state or local boards of education and municipal or township offices appear without party designation. These are nonpartisan races.

On "questions and issues ballots" your choice will usually be either:

YES NO - or - FOR AGAINST

Early voting is available at the Board of Elections prior to the date of the election. Contact the Board of Elections or League of Women Voters for dates and times.

Was this brochure useful to you?

The Education Fund of the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area makes publications like this possible.

We provide important educational resources to our community, including a public officials guide, trusted candidate and issue information and a voter education hotline at 513-281-VOTE.

Please consider donating to this 501(c)(3) organization by visiting www.lwvcincinnati.org or mailing a contribution to the address on the front of this brochure.