

# 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

## Key Information for Media

Media Representatives are encouraged to contact the county auditor prior to visiting a polling location, when possible, to minimize disruption. Once at the polling location, Media representatives should check in with election officials. Election workers may direct the placement of equipment and media personnel to ensure voter safety and privacy. Please recognize that filming and photography in a polling location may be intimidating to voters who are voting. All subjects in close-ups must agree before being filmed or photographed. For additional election-related media guidance, refer to the [Election Resources](#) page on the North Dakota Secretary of State website.

### Contents

Voter Qualifications.....	1
Voting Numbers .....	2
Voter Identification .....	2
Absentee Voting.....	2
Early Voting .....	3
Voting on Election Day (November 5, 2024).....	3
Ballot Information .....	3
Prohibited Election Conduct .....	4
Results Reporting .....	4
Recounts.....	4
Election Security.....	5

## VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified voters must be:

- At least 18 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of North Dakota

Voters must reside in their precinct for at least 30 days prior to the election. If they have moved within 30 days of election day, they must vote in the precinct where they lived previously.

## VOTING NUMBERS

- 2024 General Election [Absentee and Early Vote Numbers](#)

## VOTER IDENTIFICATION

- North Dakota does not have voter registration.
- [North Dakota Voter ID Requirements](#)
- Voter ID requirements apply to all methods of voting – absentee, in-person early voting, in-person voting on Election Day.
- North Dakota driver’s licenses and North Dakota non-driver ID cards have “Temporary” or “Permanent” on them if a resident is not a U.S. citizen, which indicates to the election workers that they are not eligible to vote. If someone becomes a naturalized citizen, they must show proof of citizenship to the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) to have this indicator removed from their identification.
- Voters are encouraged to make sure their address on their ID is up to date before voting. If not updated, then voters can provide their non-updated identification along with supplemental information that includes their updated address.
- Voters who do not have a valid ID, who have not updated their citizenship status on ID, or who do not bring their ID with them can vote by set-aside ballot during early vote or on Election Day.
  - The voter casts a ballot and it is placed in an envelope and set-aside. It is not placed in the ballot tabulator.
  - Within 13 days after the election, the voter must present their driver’s license, non-driver ID, Tribal ID or documentation, or Long Term Care Certificate to the county auditor in person or electronically before the County Canvassing Board meets.
  - If the voter provides proper identification, the set-aside ballot is tabulated when the County Canvassing Board meets.

## ABSENTEE VOTING

- People are never mailed a ballot unless they request one.
- Voters do not need an excuse to vote by mail.
- County commissions determine if they will be a vote by mail county. In vote by mail counties, all qualified electors are mailed an absentee ballot application. Voters must submit the completed application with their information and signature to their county auditor before a ballot is mailed. Vote by mail counties must have one precinct open on election day for in-person voting.
- Voters that are not in vote by mail counties may request an absentee ballot at any time by filling out a [ballot application](#), printing it, and submitting it to their county auditor. Voters must allow enough time to submit their application, receive their ballot, and return their ballot.
- Voter ID laws apply to absentee voting. Voters must complete ID information on an absentee ballot application and provide their signature for comparison. This information is again verified when a voter returns their requested absentee ballot. If any issues are found, such as a missing signature or signatures on the application and ballot affidavit not matching, the voter is contacted to cure their information prior to the meeting of the county canvassing board. To cure the issue the voter needs to go to the county auditor’s office and show proper identification to cure a signature issue or sign their ballot affidavit. Alternatively, the voter can provide written

communication via letter or email to the county auditor and include a copy of their identification to cure a signature issue.

- When a county receives an absentee ballot, the voter's record is updated to show that they have already voted in that election, and they will not be able to cast another absentee ballot or vote at a polling location.
- For the 2024 General Election, absentee ballots must be:
  - Postmarked on or before November 4
  - Placed in a county dropbox by 5:00 p.m. local time on November 4
  - Hand-delivered to the county auditor by 5:00 p.m. local time on November 4
- Absentee ballots postmarked by November 4<sup>th</sup> and received before the county canvassing board meets on November 18<sup>th</sup> will be eligible for inclusion in the official election results.

## EARLY VOTING

- Each county commission decides whether to conduct in-person early voting in their county.
- A county can choose to offer early voting up to 15 days prior to Election Day.
- Early voting is available in the following counties for the 2024 General Election: Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks, Morton, Stark, Stutsman, Ward.
  - Early voting dates, locations, and times can be found by clicking the *Early Voting Available Counties* link at the top of the [Precincts](#) page.
- Voters can find early voting information based on their address at [vote.nd.gov/myvotinginfo](https://vote.nd.gov/myvotinginfo).
- Voters must bring a [valid form of ID](#).
- When a voter checks in at a polling location, the voter's record is updated at all polling locations statewide using a secure, encrypted, private network to show that they have already voted in that election, which ensures each person can only vote once.

## VOTING ON ELECTION DAY (NOVEMBER 5, 2024)

- Poll Hours are determined by county commissions
  - Open between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. (local time)
  - Close between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. (local time)
- Voters must bring a [valid form of ID](#).
- If people are in line when the polls close, they will still be allowed to vote and have 30 minutes to cast their ballot after check-in.
  - Voters can find polling location information based on their address at [vote.nd.gov/myvotinginfo](https://vote.nd.gov/myvotinginfo).
- When a voter checks in at a polling location, the voter's record is updated at all polling locations statewide using a secure, encrypted, private network to show that they have already voted in that election, which ensures each person can only vote once.

## BALLOT INFORMATION

- Voters can view a sample ballot based on their address at [vote.nd.gov/myvotinginfo](https://vote.nd.gov/myvotinginfo).
- [2024 General Election statewide ballot measures](#)

## PROHIBITED ELECTION CONDUCT

- Individuals may not attempt to persuade any voter for or against a candidate, political party, or ballot issue within 100 feet of a polling place while open for voting.
- Political badges, buttons, insignias, or other items may not be worn within 100 feet from the entrance of a polling place or in the polling place while it is open for voting.
- Prohibited campaign practices can be found in [North Dakota Century Code ch. 16.1-10](#)
- Voter-prohibited conduct can be found on the [Election Resources](#) page.

## RESULTS REPORTING

- All results on election night are **UNOFFICIAL** until the appropriate canvassing board meets.
  - County canvassing boards meet 13 days after election day – by November 18, 2024.
  - State canvassing board meets within 17 days after election day – will be meeting on November 20, 2024 at 10 a.m.
  - **UNOFFICIAL** results will start to be available at [2024 Results Site](#) beginning at 8 p.m. CST on Election Day – November 5, 2024.
  - Results will show 100% of precincts reporting after all unofficial results from all counties have been reported. Information about how many ballots left to count will not be available.
- Results page links:
  - [2024 Results Site](#)
  - [All Election Results \(previous years available\)](#)
- Officials may begin processing absentee/mail ballots 3 business days prior to Election Day but results are not known until polls close on Election Day.
- All ballots that have been received by Election Day are included in election night reporting results.
- Any ballots postmarked before or on November 4, 2024, but received after Election Day are addressed and counted at the County Canvassing Board 13 days after the election.

## RECOUNTS

**Recount thresholds vary by election and type of race.** Contests that result in automatic or demand recounts, will be reflected on the [2024 Results Site](#).

**Recounts are determined by the canvassing boards at each level for elections.**

State canvassing board members include Secretary of State Michael Howe, State Treasurer Thomas Beadle, clerk of the North Dakota Supreme Court Petra Mandigo Hulm, and the state committee chair of the Republican party and Democratic-NPL party.

County canvassing board members include the county auditor, county recorder, chair of the board of county commissioners, and district party chair from each district and party in the county.

## Recount Determination

- ND Secretary of State – determines recounts for federal, state, judicial, multi-county races, and statewide measures – notifies counties within 4 days after the state canvassing board and sets a date for recount within 7 days for legislative contests and 14 days for statewide contests.
  - County Canvassing Board – determines recounts for county and city office – within 4 days of county canvassing board and sets a date for recount within 8 days.
    - City races typically appear on Primary Election ballots; however, some cities may have races on their General Election ballot.
- City Canvassing Board – determines recounts for city measures, special elections - within 4 days of city canvassing board and sets a date for recount within 8 days.

## North Dakota Century Code that directs processes for recounts:

- 16.1-16-01 Election Recounts
- 16.1-07-09 Canvassing of mailed absent voters' ballots received late
- 16.1-07-11 Submitting ballot to inspector of elections
- 16.1-07-12 Opening ballot – voting or rejecting – depositing in ballot box – preserving
- 16.1-16-19 County canvassing board to disregard technicalities, misspellings, and abbreviations – write in votes canvassed – votes from unestablished polling places disregarded.

[Recount Guidelines](#) – Guidance for election officials on conducting election recounts.

## ELECTION SECURITY

[Download printable PDF of "North Dakota Elections Are Secure" poster](#) (letter size)

**NORTH DAKOTA ELECTIONS ARE SECURE** ND SCS ★★★★★

The North Dakota Secretary of State and county election officials are your trusted source for election information.

### VOTING EQUIPMENT

All 53 counties use the same equipment for statewide elections. Voting equipment is extensively tested and certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission before being approved for use in U.S. elections.

### TESTING

All ballot tabulators are tested before every election to ensure they are 100% accurate.

Test results are cleared and the equipment is locked and sealed with a unique number until polls close on election day.

Election officials verify the unique seal numbers to ensure equipment has not been tampered with before polls open.

Ballot tabulators and the ExpressVote ballot marking devices are **NOT** connected to the internet and contain no components for such a connection.

### VOTER ID LAW

**VALID ID:**

- ND Driver's License
- ND Non-Driver ID
- Tribal ID or Letter
- Long Term Care Certificate

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- U.S. citizen
- 18 years old
- Lived in ND & your precinct for 30 days

**VOTER ID LAWS & THE CENTRAL VOTER FILE**  
ENSURE 1 PERSON = 1 VOTE.

No matter how you vote — absentee, early, or on election day — your ID is verified and records statewide are updated to ensure 1 person = 1 vote.

This happens within minutes through PollPads connected to all polling locations using a secure, encrypted, private network.

### BALLOTS

North Dakota only uses paper ballots, creating an auditable paper trail of all votes cast.

Ballots are never handled by equipment with an internet connection.

Cast ballots are always transported in the presence of nonpartisan officials.

### ELECTION RESULTS

Results are collected and recorded by the nonpartisan election board once polls close and are securely transported to the county auditor for final reporting. Results are verified on multiple levels and are not official until certified by the state canvassing board.

**VOTE.ND.GOV**