



## You have the right to:

- Vote by yourself and make your own choices.
- Get help from a person of your choice or an election worker.
- Use a physically accessible polling place and an accessible voting machine.
- Vote if you have a guardian, unless a court determines you cannot.

If you have questions about your voting rights, or you need to report a violation, call Disability Rights New Mexico Voter Rights Hotline at:

1-800-432-4682

## Help America Vote Act

The goal of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), passed by Congress in 2002, is to make the voting process more inclusive and accessible so that more Americans will become registered voters and participate in elections.

Disability Rights New Mexico (DRNM) is the protection and advocacy agency designated by HAVA to help ensure accessible voting in New Mexico. Specialists on our staff can answer questions, respond to legal violations, and troubleshoot problems related to your voting rights. There are no costs for these services.

DRNM provides the following services related to voters with disabilities:

- Educates voters, election workers, and others involved in the voting process about the rights of people with disabilities.
- Surveys polling places to ensure accessibility.
- Assists voters with disabilities in registering to vote.



## Your Vote Matters!

### *Information for Voters with Disabilities*

**Disability Rights New Mexico**

## **Who can register to vote in New Mexico?**

Any United States citizen residing in New Mexico who:

- Is at least 18-years-old on Election Day.
- Is not in jail for a felony conviction or on parole for a felony conviction.
- Has not had their right to vote removed by a judge in a guardianship hearing.

## **How do I register to vote?**

- Online: use a computer and go to: <https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR>
- By mail: request an application from your county clerk.
- In person: visit your county clerk's office.

*In order to register as a new voter or update your registration online, your personal information must match the information on file with NM Motor Vehicle Division. This includes:*

- Your social security number,
- Your driver's license number or state identification number, and
- Your date of birth.

## **Ways to vote before Election Day**

**Absentee Voting for the General Election:** You may request an absentee ballot from your county clerk. Fill it out and send it back by mail, fax, or electronic scan ASAP.

**Early Voting** - check with your county clerk.

**Voting Convenience Centers may be available in your county.** These centers allow you to vote outside your precinct. You may vote at Voting Convenience Centers on or before Election Day.

## **Accessibility**

Accessible parking must be available for you if you have a placard for accessible parking.

If lines are long, or if you are not physically able to wait in line to vote, look for a precinct worker and ask for the accommodation of sitting down until your turn to vote, or being allowed to vote without waiting in line.

You do not need to have identification when the poll worker confirms you are on the precinct list. It helps to have a picture ID or a bill with your current name and address, but this is not required.

Poll workers should not question your eligibility to vote because of your disability. You are allowed to take a friend, relative, or staff with you. This person can assist you if you have difficulties with the poll workers. Ask to speak with the election judge if there is a problem, because a poll worker does not make the final decision.

If you need help using the voting booth or machine to cast your vote, you can take your helper with you into the voting space or ask for a poll worker to assist you. This assistance must be allowed. But no one can tell you *who* to vote for.

If you have questions or experience problems voting, call Disability Rights New Mexico (DRNM) at 1-800-432-4682.

