

# Senior Voting Rights

## Who has the right to vote in Tennessee?

In Tennessee, you can vote if:

- You are a citizen of the United States,
  - You are a resident of Tennessee,
  - You are 18 years or older,
  - You registered to vote at least 30 days prior to the election, AND
  - A court has not taken away your right to vote.
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## How do I register or assist someone in registering to vote?

- You can register to vote or update your voter registration online at <https://ovr.govote.tn.gov/>.
  - You can also register to vote by downloading and completing the [Voter Registration Application](#) and then mailing it to your [County Election Commission](#).
  - You can pick up an application to register to vote at your local County Election Commission Office, County Clerk's Office, Public Library, or Register of Deeds Office.
  - You can also register while completing a transaction with the Department of Health, Department of Human Services, Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Department of Mental Health, Department of Safety, or Department of Veteran's Affairs.
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## Can seniors with cognitive disabilities such as dementia vote?

Yes, unless a court has taken away their right to vote. While certain illnesses such as dementia or strokes may diminish a person's mental abilities, they still have the right to vote until a court takes that right away. Court orders, such as conservatorships, may strip a person of their right to vote.

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## **Can people with disabilities get accommodations to vote?**

Yes. Accommodations can be made for anyone who has the legal right to vote. Voters with disabilities can bring someone to help them, or they can ask a poll worker at the site to provide assistance. Every polling site has a voting machine that can be adjusted by height. Some of these machines can be placed on a table or a voter's lap if the voter has difficulty reaching the machine. Additionally, audio ballots can be provided upon request for voters with visual impairments.

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## **Can I vote if I am immobile and unable to leave home?**

Yes. Voters who are unable to get to their polling place can request an Absentee Ballot. This is a ballot that allows voters to vote and mail their vote to their election commission office. To learn more about absentee ballots and how to request one, visit <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/how-do-i-request-absentee-ballot>.

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[Table of Contents](#)

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