



Can I Vote while on Pre-Trial Detention?

Yes! You CAN vote if:

- If you are **Not** currently on probation and parole
- You have never been convicted of an elections offense, either a felony or misdemeanor

Many Americans are legally eligible to vote while being held in jail awaiting trial. Those currently detained, but not yet convicted, may face a number of barriers when attempting to exercise their right to vote. However, unless made ineligible by a previous felony conviction or elections related conviction, detainees awaiting trial retain the right to vote and must simply meet the same qualifications as all voters.

Who do I ask for a voter registration application or absentee ballot?

Each county develops its elections procedures through its Local Election Authority. Generally, a detainee may tell their **Case Manager** that they would like to register to vote, check their registration status, or request an absentee ballot. The jails will provide these documents to the detainee through their case worker. In some counties, the jail will provide notaries to complete absentee ballots. Other counties send poll workers to the jail to provide notary services. This will differ between counties.

What if I requested an absentee ballot while detained but was released before election day?

Some counties will forward your ballot to the current address you provide. Some will require that you pick up your ballot at the jail. This will differ between counties.

Can I vote if I have been convicted of a misdemeanor?

If convicted of a misdemeanor, you only lose the right to vote while incarcerated.

Can I vote if I have been convicted of a felony?

Yes! While you may not vote if you are currently imprisoned or are still serving probation or parole, you CAN vote if:

- You have completed your term of incarceration
- You have completed your probation and parole
- You have never been convicted of an elections offense, either a felony or misdemeanor

Racial and socioeconomic disparities in our jail populations means that people of color and low-income are disproportionately affected by lack of information and access about voting to pre-trial detainees.

Visit aclumoelectionhub.org for information on how to register, requesting a ballot, finding a notary, finding your polling location, and creating a voting plan.

More Questions? Call the ACLU MO Complaint line (314) 652-3111