
VOTING RIGHTS 2020

The Rhode Island Disability Law Center is committed to promoting full participation in the electoral process for people with disabilities. Voting rights for voters with disabilities include but are not limited to the following:

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO AN ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACE:

The law requires that every polling place be situated in a building that can be entered and exited by people who have disabilities.

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO ASSISTANCE:

If you require assistance to vote because of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write, you may receive assistance from a bipartisan pair of polling supervisors or the person of your choice. To obtain assistance from the person of your choice, both you and the person helping you are required to submit an affidavit attesting that the person you have chosen to assist you is not your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer or agent of your union. A form affidavit will be available upon request at the polls.

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO USE THE AUTOMARK:

Every polling place is required to have an accessible voting system. Rhode Island uses the AutoMark Voting system. This machine will afford many individuals with disabilities the opportunity to vote independently.

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO VOTE WITHOUT INTERFERENCE:

If your eligibility to vote is challenged or the officials cannot find your name on the voter list, you are entitled to cast a provisional ballot. You will be asked to complete a voter registration form and fill out a statement that you are registered and eligible to vote; you may be asked to provide proof of your eligibility to vote before the time your polling place closes.

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO FILE AN ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT:

If you have problems with accessing the polling place or casting your ballot, you may be entitled to pursue an administrative complaint. Please note that there is a very short time frame for filing an administrative complaint.



Contact Disability Rights Rhode Island at 831-3150/ 1(800) 733-5332/ TTY 831-5335 if you have questions about your voting rights, believe your voting rights have been violated, or if you would like to request a training. Please call us immediately if you faced barriers to accessing polling places or casting a ballot and you wish to request our assistance.