



Delaware Voters' Guide for Survivors of Domestic Violence

October 2026

This guide will include information on:

- Voter registration deadlines
- Voting dates and deadlines
- How to register to vote
- Voter registration for the unhoused and sheltered survivors
- Absentee Voting vs. Early Voting
- Survivor safety and confidentiality
- Additional resources for voters



General Election: November 3, 2026

- Voter Registration Deadline: October 10, 2026
- Absentee Ballot Application Deadline: October 30, 2026
- Early Voting Period: October 23, 2026, through November 1, 2026

There are three ways to vote in Delaware:

1. Absentee Voting by mail, if eligible. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Department of Elections office in your county by 8 p.m. on Election Night, November 3, 2026.
2. In-person Early Voting at any early voting site in your county.
3. In-person voting on Election Day at your assigned polling place.

Voter Registration and Deadlines:

What is the difference between a Primary and General Election?

- A **Primary Election** is held by political parties to choose their nominees for the upcoming General Election. Voters may vote only within their registered party. In Delaware, you must be registered as a Republican or Democrat to vote in the primary.
- A **General Election** determines which candidates will hold elected offices. Primary nominees and independent candidates compete, and voters can vote for any candidate regardless of their party registration.

The deadline to register for the General Election is Saturday, October 10, 2026.



For more information,
please contact
the Office of the
Attorney General at
(302) 577-8500

What about the address for unhoused or sheltered survivors?

- If you are currently receiving mail or residing at a domestic violence program shelter/hotel, you can put that mailing address as your own. Please use the program's administrative office physical address, not the P.O. Box. You don't need to include the program name.
- In Delaware, you do not need a permanent address to register to vote. People without a fixed residence can use a shelter, agency, or other location where they receive mail. When registering in person, you must provide two forms of ID, one showing the address listed on your application.

Are you registered to vote?

Check to see if you are registered to vote at <https://ivote.de.gov/VoterView>.

- To register to vote, or update an existing registration, DE voters have the following options:
 - Online at the [State of Delaware Voter Portal](#) (requires valid state-issued ID or driver's license)
 - Download, print, complete and submit a [voter registration application](#) at any [Department of Elections office](#) statewide
 - Call the [Department of Elections](#) and have a voter registration application mailed to you to complete and submit
- Participants of the [Address Confidentiality Program](#) (ACP) are still able and permitted to vote! New ACP participants will receive ACP voter registration information forms upon ACP enrollment.[1]

[1] According to the Delaware Code, "a person may petition the Superior Court for an order to have that person's own address kept confidential upon a showing of a legitimate need and lawful purpose. A person's participation in Department of Justice's Address Confidentiality Program shall constitute a legitimate need and lawful purpose for the purposes of this section. Upon submission to the State Election Commissioner and department of elections for the county in which the voter seeks to register of a certified copy of the court order granting confidentiality, the person's address shall be removed from all voter records available for public inspection, as long as the submission is not 21 days prior to an election, in which case the person's address shall be removed from the voter records within 7 days after the election." You can also visit Title 11, Chapter 96: Address Confidentiality Program or Title 15, Chapter 13: Confidentiality of Addresses

Absentee Voting vs. Early Voting:

- Absentee voting allows Delaware voters who cannot vote in person on Election Day to vote by mail. Delaware lists eight qualifying reasons for requesting an absentee ballot. [Learn more about Absentee Voting for Delaware Citizens.](#)
 - If individuals want to vote absentee, they need to request an [absentee ballot](#), in addition to registering to vote. They can do this by downloading, printing and mailing the [ballot application](#) to the county elections office.
- Early voting allows you to vote in person before Election Day. Delaware will offer early voting at designated sites, which can be found on the [Department of Elections website](#).
- For some, voting in-person may be a better option. Election officers will ask voters for ID. If a voter does not have ID, election officers will verify their registration, and once confirmed, a voter will fill out an Affidavit of Affirmation of Voter Identity form and will be able to vote.



Survivors can choose whatever voting option is best for them.



What about safety and confidentiality?

- DV survivors who are in [Delaware's Address Confidentiality Program](#) (ACP), should be sure to update their voter registration, and replace their confidential physical address with the substitute mailing address provided by ACP.
- This will ensure the public voter roll lists the ACP address and protects the survivor's confidential address.
- For survivors who are not yet enrolled in ACP, please contact The Department of Justice, Address Confidentiality Program (DOJ_ACP@delaware.gov)

Additional Resources:

- NNEDV, [Safe Voting Tips for Survivors](#)
- [Delaware Department of Elections](#)
- [Delaware Voting Information by the ACLU Delaware](#)
- [Registering to Vote Without A Fixed Address](#)
- [Online Delaware Voter Registration Application](#)
- [Delaware Application for an Absentee Ballot](#)
- [Absentee Voting for Delaware Citizens](#)
- [Address Confidentiality Program \(ACP\)](#)
- Election Protection Hotline: 866-OUR-VOTE



Scan here for a list of resources with links mentioned in this packet.

Thank you to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence for sharing their [Voting in PA for Survivors of Domestic Violence Guide](#) with DCADV!