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COUNTY CLERK

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ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION IN WISCONSIN

Voting in local, state and national elections in Wisconsin is much easier than in most other states because the Badger State has Election Day voter registration.

Wisconsin residents who are qualified voters (a citizen, over 18, etc.) can go to their polling place on Election Day and register to vote just before they receive their ballot. All that is required is proof of residence (10 days in Wisconsin prior to Election Day) and proper completion of a voter registration form.

The ability to register on Election Day makes participating in the democratic process very easy. Even if a person has recently moved to Wisconsin from another area, she or he can elect the next school board or governor.

Wisconsin has had Election Day registration since 1976, and was the second state in the nation to institute the practice after Minnesota. Wisconsin is also second only to Minnesota in average statewide voter participation.

To prove residency, Wisconsinites can use the following documents if they contain full name and current address of the voter:

- A current Wisconsin Driver's License
- A current Wisconsin I.D. Card
- Any other official I.D. Card or License issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit
- Any employer-issued photo I.D., issued in the normal course of business, but not including a business card
- A university, college or technical college fee card or I.D. card with your photo and current address. (May be used even if the card does not contain the cardholder's address, if the educational institution provides a certified student list for use at the polling place.)
- A utility bill (e.g., gas, electric, cable TV or telephone) for the period commencing not earlier than 90 days before Election Day.
- A bank statement
- A real estate (i.e., property) tax bill or receipt for the current year or the year preceding the date of the election.
- A current residential lease which is effective for a period that includes election day
- A pay check or government check or other document issued by a unit of government

Wisconsin is one of only eight states—Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire and Wyoming are the others—that offers Election Day registration. In addition, North Carolina has just added one-stop, absentee voting up to three days before Election Day.

The right to vote is very important, and the ability to register on Election Day is a great benefit of Wisconsin citizenship. Please register to vote and exercise your right in 2008.

For more information about Election Day registration, contact your city, village, or town clerk, or see the State Elections Division website at <http://elections.wi.gov>.

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