

Voter FAQ's

Do I need an ID to vote in person?

California generally does not require voters to show their ID at the polls. But if you're voting for the first time in a general election, you registered by mail or online, and you did not provide your California ID or your Social Security number when you registered, then you may have to show your ID when voting in person.

If you need to show your ID when voting in person, you can present any of the following: your driver's license or state ID card, passport, student or military ID, a utility bill, a bank statement, your paycheck or official mail you received from a government agency.

Can I check to see if my ballot has been received and counted?

The secretary of state's office has a "Where's My Ballot" tracking tool. Found at california.ballottrax.net, you input your name, date of birth and ZIP code to register for the service. It will tell you the status of your ballot, and you can sign up to receive information about your ballot's process via email, text message or call.

Your county elections office may also have a tool to track your ballot. In Orange County, for example, the registrar has a tool that requires you to input your date of birth and the last four digits of your driver's license, California ID or Social Security number.

Can I use my phone in a voting booth? Can I take a selfie?

California is one of the states where [it's OK to take a photo with your ballot](#) (completed or not) and post it publicly on social media or elsewhere. However, voters should still be cautious about using cameras at voting centers, where recording video, photographing or otherwise recording other voters entering or exiting a polling place is not allowed.

As for bringing your phone into the polling place, individuals are allowed to bring tablets, smartphones and other electronic devices with them while voting.

How can I report any issues I see at a voting center?

If you witness someone violating the electioneering rules above or any other part of the state's Election Code, you can report it to a local election official or to the secretary of state online at sos.ca.gov/elections/election-voter-complaint-form or by mail with a form available at sos.ca.gov/elections/publications-and-resources/voter-complaint.

You can also call the statewide Voter Hotline at 800-345-VOTE (8683).