Wisconsin Guide to Voter Rights and Responsibilities

	Voter Responsibility	Voter Resource
Registration	You must be registered in order to vote in Wisconsin. Register by mail, in-person at your municipal clerk's office, or at the polls on Election Day. Check the Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) *Voter Public Access* website for more information including deadlines and forms.	http://vpa.wi.gov
Absentee Voting	If you cannot make it to the polls on Election Day, it is your responsibility to arrange absentee voting, which is a privilege not a right. Vote absentee by mail or in-person at your municipal clerk's office. There are deadlines for requesting and returning an absentee ballot on the G.A.B. website.	http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/voters/absentee
Proof of Residence	If you are registering to vote in the 20 days before any election, at the polls on Election Day, or for the first time by mail, you must provide a proof of residence document, which must have your name and address on it. It can be a piece of government correspondence, a WI driver license, WI ID card, utility bill, or another document identified in State Statutes. For a list of acceptable documents, visit the G.A.B. website.	http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/voters/registration-voting
Election Information	All voters must vote from their assigned polling place. Voter registration and absentee voting is done in conjunction with your municipal clerk. To review your voter registration record, to find your polling place, and to find your municipal clerk's information, visit *Voter Public Access*.	http://vpa.wi.gov

	Rights	Responsibilities	Repercussions
Voting	The Wisconsin Constitution and state statutes give you the right to vote if: • you are a U.S. citizen • you are at least 18 years of age • you have lived in Wisconsin for 28 consecutive days. However, you must not be otherwise restricted from voting, meaning: • you are not a convicted felon whose civil rights are not yet restored • you have not been judged incompetent • you have not already voted in that election.	Know what you must do on Election Day: • be registered to vote • re-register if you have moved or changed your name • vote at your assigned polling place between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.* • state your full name and address • sign the poll book. You must not wear any political paraphernalia such as campaign shirts, hats or buttons to the polls. * Voters in line by 8 p.m. on election day may complete the voting process.	Voter fraud is a felony: • election fraud is punishable by a fine of $1,000, imprisonment for not more than 6 months or both • examples of voter fraud include voting or registering to vote while you are not eligible, voting more than once in an election, or impersonating another voter. Preparing for Election Day ensures that you are able to exercise your right to vote without complications.

This document prepared by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board
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Observing Elections	As an election observer you have the right to observe: • elections at the polling place • challenges and the counting and reconciliation process at the end of the night, including copies of electronic voting equipment tally tapes • voters during most of the election process. Procedures for election observers are described in Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 7.41 and the Election Observer Rules At-A-Glance brochure.	Observers must do the following: • sign in with the chief inspector upon arrival • wear an observer badge • stay in the observer area • direct questions and comments to only the chief inspector • obey orders of the chief inspector. Observers must NOT do the following: • talk to voters • watch voters mark their ballots • touch official documents • be boisterous or disruptive • wear political paraphernalia • take photos or video until polls are closed • talk on phones in observer area.	If you disobey an order of an election official or disturb the polling or canvass place: • you may be asked to leave if you are causing a disruption; if you do not leave the polling place when asked, law enforcement may be called • you may be fined $1,000, imprisoned for not more than 6 months, or both • if you are asked to leave the polling place, you will not be allowed to observe elections at other polling places that day .
Challenges	You have the right to challenge another voter's qualifications to vote if: • you are eligible to vote in Wisconsin • you know or have a reasonable basis to suspect the person does not meet the legal requirements to vote. Procedures for challenging voters are described in Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 6.925 and Administrative rules Chapter GAB 9.	When making a challenge: • you may not challenge voters because of their appearance or the language they speak • if you challenge, the chief inspector will ask you under oath for evidence why you believe the person is not qualified to vote.	Frivolous challenges will not be accepted or tolerated: • if you abuse the right to challenge by disrupting the polling place, the chief inspector may order you to be removed • if you disobey an order of an election official or disturb the polling or canvass place, you may be fined $1,000, imprisoned for not more than 6 months, or both.

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