

Vote

Presented by ...



NEVADA DISABILITY
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About NDALC



- ✓ NDALC is a statewide non-profit that advocates for adults and children with disabilities.
- ✓ NDALC has attorneys & advocates on staff.
- ✓ NDALC does not charge for services.
- ✓ NDALC receives state & federal grants to operate.



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Voting & People with Disabilities



- People with disabilities continue to have lower voter turnout, and are more likely to report difficulties in voting at a polling place
- Barriers for individuals with disabilities include:
 - Guardianship questions; transportation to the polls; voting machine accessibility; physical accessibility (ramps & entrances to polls)



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Target Audiences for Voting Presentations



- Adults with disabilities who live independently.
- Adults with disabilities who reside in group homes.
- Adults with disabilities who are employed in the community or in a sheltered setting.
- Adults with disabilities who may or may not have a guardian.
- High school students with disabilities.
- Professionals who work with individuals with disabilities.



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Voting Laws and People with Disabilities - HAVA



- Help America Vote Act
- Passed by Congress in 2002
- Addresses improvements to voting systems and voter access that were identified following the 2000 election
- Provides monies to states to address voting standards
- Voter registration lists; Accessibility; Voting systems



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What is Voting?



- The official choice made in an election or meeting, etc., by casting a ballot, raising your hand, speaking your choice aloud.
- To express one's views in response to a poll.
- Check out: www.wikipedia.org - VOTE
- Check out: www.merriam-webster.com
- Check out voting videos on You Tube also!
- Check out www.sabeusa.org



History of Voting Rights



- Men of all races were given the right to vote in 1870. (15th amendment)
- Women were given the right to vote in 1920. (19th amendment)
- Native Americans were given the right to vote in 1924. (Indian Citizenship Act)
- The voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 in 1971. (26th amendment)





Things to Vote On



➤ **President**

➤ **Sheriff**

➤ **Senator**

➤ **City Council Members**

➤ **Governor**

➤ **Laws & Regulations**

➤ **Mayor**

➤ **Taxes**

➤ **School Board Members**





Registering to Vote in Nevada



- You must be 18 years old
- You must have a Nevada DMV issued drivers license or ID card
- Be a resident of the county that you register in at the time you vote



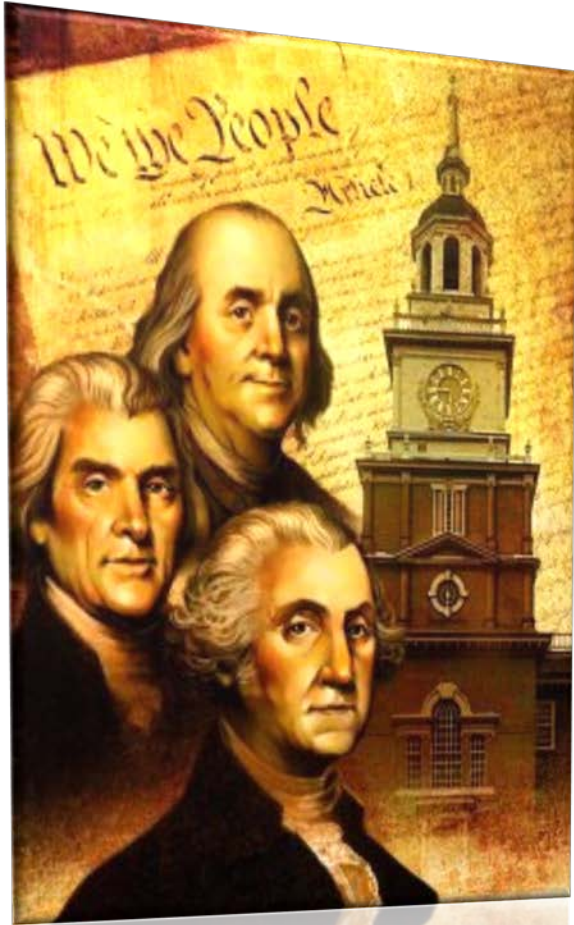
What are the Requirements to VOTE?



- 18 years old at time of election
- Resident of your community
- United States citizen
- Not in jail
- Competent to make a choice
- You **do not** have to be able to read, write, or know how to use the voting machines to cast a ballot
- Registered in advance



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Rights and Responsibilities



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Why Should I Vote?



- Stand up for something or someone.
- Make your opinion matter.
- Smash the stereotype that people with disabilities are lazy - prove people wrong!
- If you are unhappy with the local police department – your vote can help make a change.
- Demand respect in job hiring and equal pay. Your vote can help make this happen!



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Rights and Responsibilities



- Register to vote!
- Know the issues.
- Know the candidates.
- Ask questions if you need help.
- Be a role model for your friends and others.





Rights and Responsibilities



- Help someone else learn how to vote.
- Read news articles on the internet.
- Attend meetings in the community.
- Have an opinion on important issues!

Get Out and VOTE!



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Ways to Learn About Candidates and Issues



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Ways to Learn About Candidates and Issues



- Read the newspaper and internet blogs.
- Watch the local and national news.
- Read your voter's manual.
- Attend candidate events; view websites.
- Talk with your friends about what's happening in the world.
- Ask questions if you don't understand something.
- Research laws & information on the internet.

**How Do You
Vote?**



**How Do You Cast
a Ballot?**



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How Do You Vote?



How Do You Cast a Ballot?



- Touch-screen voting machine at a polling place
 - Located in malls; post offices; schools
- Paper & pen ballot at a polling place
- Mail in an absentee ballot



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Problem Solving



- ★ I don't know how to read or write. Can I still vote?
YES!
- ★ I don't know how to sign my name. Is it OK to use a signature stamp? **YES!**
- ★ I need help inside the voting booth. **OK!**
- ★ I have a guardian. Can I vote? **YES!**
- ★ There is no ramp to enter the voting center. **Call NDALC or the Election Department.**
- ★ Where do I go to vote? **Call NDALC**



Using a Signature Stamp to Vote



- ✓ If you have difficulty writing your name, or have a disability that prevents you from doing so, Nevada laws permit the use of a signature stamp for purposes of voting.
- ✓ Rubberized stamp with your preferred signature.
- ✓ If you need information about a signature stamp contact the Secretary of State at 775-684-5705, or NDALC at 888-349-3843.



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What if I Need Help On the Day of the Election



- If you are a person with a physical disability and are unable to mark a ballot or use a voting device without assistance you are permitted to utilize assistance person of his or her own choice except when that person is
 - a) the voter's employer or agent of voter's employer; or
 - b) an officer or agent of the voter's labor organization (NRS 293.296)





What if I Have a Guardian?



A person under a guardianship retains his or her right to vote unless the court specifically finds by clear and convincing evidence that the ward lacks the mental capacity to vote because he or she cannot communicate, with or without accommodations, a specific desire to participate in the voting process. (NRS 159.0594)



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Physical Accessibility and Voting



- If you cannot physically access/enter the voting center because of a barrier, you need to contact the local election department where you reside, or NDALC.
- Broken ramps; physical obstacles at voting booth
- You may also contact NDALC directly to report the accessibility problem.
- NRS 293.2955



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Websites

www.rockthevote.org

www.nvsos.gov

www.clarkcountynv.gov

www.eac.gov

www.uselections.com

www.sabeusa.org

www.ndalc.org



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Questions





Evaluation



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For Additional Assistance ...



**Southern NV Office
2820 W. Charleston
#B-11
Las Vegas, NV 89102
702-257-8150**



**Northern NV Office
1875 Plumas St. #1
Reno, NV 89509
775-333-7878**



**Rural NV Office
905 Railroad
#104B
Elko, NV 89801
775-777-1590**

www.ndalc.org