

Voting While Trans Checklist

Before Election Day

- Check your voter registration status or register to vote at canivote.org.
- Know what voter ID requirements are in your state and get the appropriate form of ID (if required).
- Make sure your ID matches the name and address on your voter registration at election time.
- If possible, update the photo and gender marker on your ID. While this may help avoid problems, it is **not** required to vote.

On Election Day

- Bring your voter registration card, correct ID you verified (if required), this one-pager, and a utility bill showing the address where you are registered.
- If poll workers question your eligibility to vote, show them the utility bill and the other side of this check list.
- If you are still not allowed to vote, request a provisional ballot.

If you are forced to use a provisional ballot, you generally must return to election officials within a few days to prove your identity in order for your ballot to be counted.

If you are told you cannot vote on election day, call the **National Election Protection Hotline** at **1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)** for help.

If you cast a provisional ballot, the National Election Protection Hotline can help you make sure your ballot is counted.

For Poll Workers and Election Officials

This resource was created and distributed by the National Center for Transgender Equality, a 501(c)3 social justice organization dedicated to advancing the equality of transgender people through advocacy, collaboration and empowerment. The voter you are talking to is transgender. Here is some information that may be helpful to your job of ensuring a fair election:

- **Gender discrepancies on ID are not a valid reason to deny a regular ballot.** Transgender voters may have ID that indicates a different gender than what they look like. They may not have had the opportunity to update their ID yet, or may not be able to do so in your state. This does not mean their ID is invalid or fraudulent for voting purposes.
- **Different clothing and hairstyle on an ID photo is not a valid reason to deny a regular ballot.** Voters may look different today than on their photo ID for a lot of reasons—they may even look like a different gender. As long as you can identify the voter from their picture, this is not a problem.
- **“Cross-dressing” is not a valid reason to deny a regular ballot.** A voter who appears to you to be cross-dressing may in fact be simply dressing in accordance with their gender identity. They have the right to do so, and the way they are dressed should not impact their ability to cast a ballot.
- **A voter’s transgender status and medical history is private.** Although you may be curious or confused about a voter’s appearance, asking personal questions may be offensive and discouraging to voters, and it isn’t relevant to their right to vote.
- **Transgender voters are not trying to do anything wrong—they are just being themselves.** Although this may be a new situation for you, this is their life every day and they are just here to vote. Please help them do so.

For more information about voting rights in your state, please contact your county election supervisor.



1325 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005

202-903-0112 | TransEquality.org

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