

BEFORE

Project: Provisional Voting Receipt, Chicago Board of Election Commissioners



Clear Language Lab
a division of Literacy Works

Number of Words: 530 words

Approximate Grade Level: High School

MAKE SURE YOU ARE IN THE CORRECT PRECINCT PRIOR TO VOTING A PROVISIONAL BALLOT

CONTACT THE BOARD AT 312-289-1604 TO VERIFY YOUR PROPER PRECINCT

WHY YOUR BALLOT IS PROVISIONAL

- Voter not found in the Electronic Poll Book and voter refused the opportunity to register in the voter's precinct or at another grace period registration site.
- Voting status has been challenged and the judges of election agree with the challenge.
- Voter registered to vote by mail and was required to show ID before voting and was unable to do so.
- The voter's record shows he or she voted during the early voting period, but the voter claims not to have voted during early voting.
- The voter received a Vote By Mail ballot but did not return the Vote By Mail ballot to the Board.
- A Federal or State Court has ordered the extension of voting hours beyond 7 p.m.
- The voter attempted to register to vote on election day but failed to provide the necessary documentation.

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROVISIONAL VOTERS

- ✓ Complete the Affidavit you receive from the election judge. The pink copy will be given to you as a receipt.
- ✓ An election judge will mark the Affidavit to indicate the reason your vote is provisional. The judge will place any supporting documentation you provide in the plastic sleeve.
- ✓ An election judge will issue a provisional ballot to you along with your Provisional Voter Affidavit / Ballot Envelope.
- ✓ After you complete voting, fold your ballot along the scores and insert it into your Provisional Voter Affidavit / Ballot Envelope, seal it and return it to the election judge.
- ✓ The judge must place your completed Provisional Voter Affidavit / Ballot Envelope into the Provisional Carrier Envelope - Envelope F.

You may submit supporting documentation to the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners to verify your voting status. The Board must receive the information no later than the close of business on the Tuesday following Election Day. The Board is located at 69 W. Washington, Suite 600, Chicago, IL.

DID YOUR VOTE COUNT?

- Call 1-866-780-VOTE (1-866-780-8683) or visit chicagoelections.com to determine if your vote counted. If it was not counted you can determine the reason.
- Your information will be listed by last name, first name, suffix and street name and number.
- The Board has two weeks following the election to verify the registration for provisional voters. If the Board determines you are a registered voter, your provisional ballot will be counted.
- If the Board determines you are not a registered voter, your provisional ballot will not be counted. The Affidavit you completed will be used as a registration application and you will be sent a Verification of Voter's Registration.
- If a registration record is located, we will use the Affidavit to update your voter registration and you will be sent a Verification of Voter's Registration.
- If you registered by mail and were required to submit ID but failed to do so, your voter registration remains incomplete and the provisional vote will not be counted.
- If you insist on casting a provisional ballot in a precinct even though you do not reside in that precinct, the provisional ballot may only be partially counted, as determined by rule of the State Board of Elections.

AFTER

Number of Words: 390 words

Approximate Grade Level: 5th/6th Grade Level

Reorganized entire document

Information for Provisional Voters from the Chicago Board of Elections

Added title & introduction

What is provisional voting? Provisional voting allows you to cast a ballot if there are questions about your eligibility to vote or a mistake in the registration record needs to be corrected. In the two weeks after the election, we will check our registration records and decide if your vote counts.

Why is my ballot provisional? You can see the reason(s) an Election Judge (Judge) marked on the back of this receipt.

Developed positive tone

Adjusted vocabulary

Important! Before you vote a provisional ballot, call us at 312-269-1604 to check your correct precinct. You can cast a provisional ballot in the precinct you are in now even if you don't live in this precinct. However, under state law, if you do vote in the wrong precinct, only some of your ballot might count.

Created headings to find information easily

How do I vote a provisional ballot?

Now that you and a Judge have filled out the Affidavit, follow the directions below.

Added easy to follow instructions

On Election Day

1. A Judge will give you a provisional ballot and the Affidavit attached to the ballot envelope. A Judge will direct you to a voting booth where you can vote.
2. Vote. After you vote, fold the ballot along the creases. Place the ballot in the envelope, and seal the pink envelope flap with the ballot inside.
3. Then, give the envelope with the ballot in it back to a Judge. Don't put your ballot in the ballot scanner!

A Judge will put your envelope with other provisional ballots to be reviewed later.

During Early Voting

1. A Judge will give you a voter activation card and direct you to a voting booth where you can vote.
2. Vote. After you vote, return the voter activation card to a Judge.

Removed unneeded info

What if I have other documents that show I am eligible to vote?

You must submit the documents to our office by 5 p.m. on the Tuesday after Election Day in one of the following ways:

In person or by mail
69 W. Washington, Suite 600
Chicago, IL 60602

By fax
312-269-7880

By email
registration@chicagoelections.net

Added new contact info

Did my vote count?

Call 1-866-780-VOTE (1-866-780-8683) or visit chicagoelections.com to find out if your vote counted. Please know that it takes two weeks for us to review your provisional ballot.

If we find that you are eligible to vote, we'll count your ballot. If your ballot was not counted, we can explain the reason.

Simplified follow up information