

A step-by-step easy read guide to registering to vote for people with a learning disability.

The logo for GOV.UK, featuring a crown icon to the left of the text "GOV.UK" in white on a black rectangular background.

Start now >

This guide will help you to register to vote using the Government's website by clicking the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

Registering to vote will let you have your say in local elections, General Elections and referendums.

People with a learning disability have the same right to vote as everyone else.

You only need to register once but if you move home you will need to register again using your new address.

If you want to vote at a Polling Station, you need to click the green 'Start now' button.

Start now >

Before you start

You can also [register by post](#). There's a different form for [registering by post in Northern Ireland](#).

If you need help registering, contact your [Electoral Registration Office](#).

You cannot register to vote if you're in the UK illegally.

Where do you live?

England

Scotland

Wales

Northern Ireland

or

British citizen or eligible Irish citizen living in another country (including the Channel Islands or Isle of Man)

Continue

What is your nationality?

Select all options that are relevant to you.

British (including English, Scottish, Welsh or from Northern Ireland)

Irish (including from Northern Ireland)

Citizen of a different country

▶ [Help with nationality](#)

Continue

If you want to register by post, then click on the blue 'register by post' link below the green 'Start now' button.

Where do you live?

You should click on which part of the UK you live in. Then click on the green 'Continue' button.

What is your nationality?

You should click on the options that describe you. Then click on the green 'Continue' button below.

What is your date of birth?

Day Month Year

For example: 31 3 1970

▶ [Help with date of birth](#)

Continue

What is your full name?

Enter all your names in full - don't use initials

First name

Middle names

Last name

Have you ever changed your name? For example: marriage, deed poll

No, I haven't changed my name

Yes, I changed my name

Prefer not to say

Continue

What is your date of birth?

You should enter your date of birth here. Then click on the green 'Continue' button.

What is your full name?

You should type your first name in the 'First name' box. If you have a middle name, type this in the 'Middle names' box. Then write your last name in the 'Last name' box.

If you have changed your name (like when you get married) you should choose the 'Yes, I changed my name' box and fill in your previous name in the boxes below. You can also choose the 'Prefer not to say' box but the Government might ask you to show ID to prove your name.

After this click on the green 'Continue' button.

What is your National Insurance number?

Example: QQ 12 34 56 C

▶ [I don't know my National Insurance number](#)

Continue

What is your address?

Enter the postcode where you live and where you would like to register to vote.

Postcode

Find address

▶ [I don't know what postcode to use](#)

Do you also live at a second address?

No

Yes, I spend time living at two homes

Yes, I'm a student with home and term-time addresses

Continue



What is your National Insurance number?

You should enter your National Insurance number in the box. You can find your National Insurance number on your payslip or on letters from the Government about benefits, tax or pensions.

What is your address?

Type your postcode in the box and click 'Find Address'. Then click on the box and choose your address from the list. Then click on 'Continue'.

Do you also live at a second address?

If you live in one place, click 'No'. Then click the 'Continue' button.

If you live at two places you should click on 'Yes, I spend time living at two homes'. Then click the 'Continue' button.

If you live at two addresses, you can register to vote at both addresses by completing the form again after you finish this form.

Have you permanently moved out of another address in the last 12 months?

We'll remove your details from the register at your previous address. So only give an address if you've moved out permanently.

- No
- Yes, from a UK address
- Yes, from abroad

Continue

Do you want to include your name and address on the open register?

The open register is an extract of the electoral register, but is not used for elections. It can be bought by any person, company or organisation. For example, it is used by businesses and charities to confirm name and address details.

Your decision won't affect your right to vote.

- No, I don't want my name and address on the open register

► [Why are there two registers?](#)

Continue

Have you permanently moved out of another address in the last 12 months?

If you have moved into a new home within the last year you will need to provide your old address. Click on 'Yes, from a UK address' and then click on 'Continue'.

You will then have to enter your postcode and click 'Find address' and then click on the box to find your old house number.

If you have not moved into a new home in the last year then click 'No'. Then click on the 'Continue' button.

Do you want to include your name and address on the open register?

The open register lets organisations and businesses buy lists that have names and addresses on them.

If you don't want to be on these lists then click the 'No, I don't want my name and address on the open register'.

If you do want to be on the open register, then only click 'Continue'.

Do you want to apply for a postal vote?

Most people vote in person at a polling station. But if you prefer to vote by post, we can send you an application form.

- No, I prefer to vote in person
- No, I already have a postal vote
- Yes, send me a postal vote application form

▸ [What is a postal vote?](#)

Continue

Is there anyone else aged 16 or over living at this address?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say

▸ [Why are you asking this question?](#)

Continue

Do you want to apply for a postal vote?

If you want to vote by post then click 'Yes, send me a postal vote application form'. You will then have to choose if you want a form emailed to you or sent in the post.

If you already have a postal vote then click 'No, I already have a postal vote'.

If you want to vote at a Polling Station then click 'No, I prefer to vote in person'. Remember you can change your mind and vote by post when you want to.

After you have chosen how you want to vote click 'Continue'.

Is there anyone else aged 16 or over, (14 or over in Scotland), living at this address?

If there are other people over 16 years old, (over 14 in Scotland), living in your home, you should click 'Yes'.

If you live alone or the people you live with are under 16 years old, (under 14 in Scotland), you should click 'No'.

If you don't know then click 'Not sure'.

If you don't want to say you can click 'Prefer not to say'.

Then click on the green 'Continue'.

If we have questions about your application, how should we contact you?

Enter an email address if you want an email confirmation of your registration.

Email

Phone call

Check your answers before sending your application

Continue

Send your application

By sending your application you confirm that the information you have provided is true.

Your information may be shared with other government departments to check your identity and that you're entitled to register to vote.

You can also find out more about [how we handle your data](#).

! If you knowingly give false information in your application, you could go to prison for up to 6 months, or be fined.

I accept – send my application



Cabinet Office

photosymbols®

If we have questions about your application, how should we contact you?

You have to choose at least one option on this page.

Choose which ways you want to be contacted and then enter your email or phone number if you choose these. Then click 'Continue'.

Check your answers before sending your application

Scroll down the page and make sure all your answers are correct. If there is a mistake click on the 'Change' box next to the answer you want to change. This will take you to a new page where you can make the change.

If your answers are correct then click 'I accept – send my application'. Once you have clicked this button you have finished your application.

This guide was co-written by Mencap and the Cabinet Office.

Images provided by Photosymbols.