

NORTH DAKOTA
SECRETARY OF STATE
MICHAEL HOWE

AMPLIFYING ELECTIONS INFO

NASS Winter Conference

Michael Howe, North Dakota Secretary of State

1/31/25

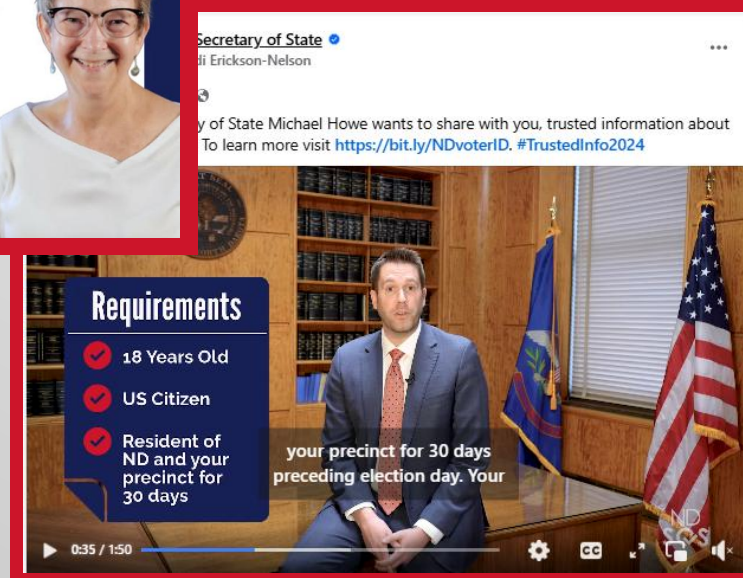
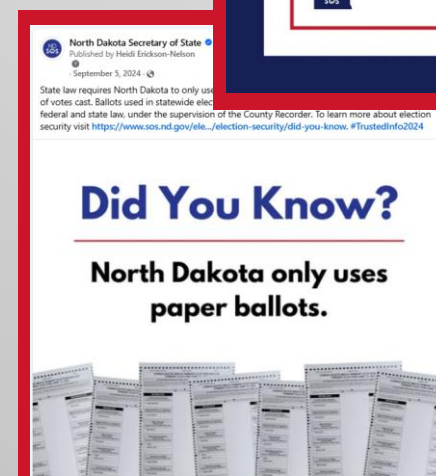
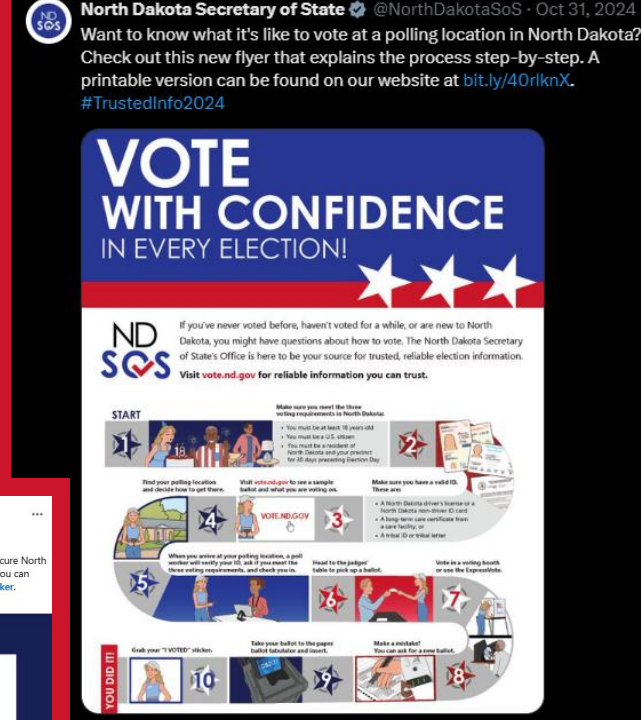
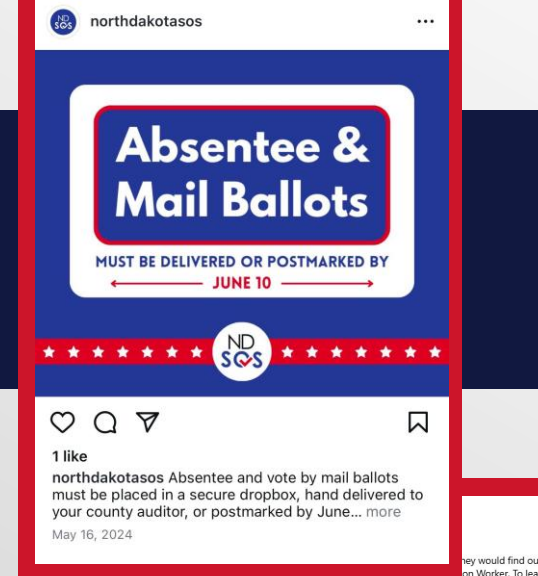
SOCIAL MEDIA

#TrustedInfo2024

➔ **Asked people/groups to follow us and share posts**

- Facebook followers increased from 1,032 (Jan. 1) to 2,110 (Nov. 30)

	Election posts	Total shares	Avg. shares per post
Primary Election (1/1 – 6/30)	123	1,110	9
General Election (7/1 – 11/30)	126	1,222	10



PUBLICATIONS

Articles in Partner Communications

ND Assoc. of Counties

ND League of Cities

ND School Boards Assoc.

ND State Library

Team ND News

NDAREC ND Living Magazine

82,000 magazines sent out each month



NORTH DAKOTA County NEWS
Official Publication of the North Dakota Association of Counties

The Integrity of North Dakota Elections

North Dakota counties play a vital role in the administration of elections. The County Auditor upholds North Dakota's election laws, and elections are conducted securely, accurately, and with integrity. The Office of the Secretary of State will be providing key election information to the readers of *County News* to spread the truth about our election processes and provide insight into our election systems.

This issue highlights the security and testing of election equipment used in all statewide North Dakota elections.

One Person = One Vote

NORTH DAKOTA SECRETARY OF STATE

File tracks when a voter has voted in a given election. PollPads are connected through a secure, private network to every other PollPad used in North Dakota's elections and are tested extensively before each election.

When a voter returns an absentee or mail ballot to the county auditor, the Central Voter File and the PollPads are updated to show that the voter has voted. That voter cannot vote again. Additionally, once a voter checks in at one polling location, within minutes,



NORTH DAKOTA Living
Your local cooperative news
SEPTEMBER 2024

ND CO-OPS VOTE

People at the polls, page 6
Feast like a governor, page 30

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September 2024



SPEAKING OPPS

Talking About Elections

Invited By a Variety of Groups

Chambers, Amvets, NDAREC, AARP,
Rotary, Military Bases, County
Commissions

Naturalization Ceremonies

5 ceremonies in 2024



EMAILS

Included Website Links and Attached Flyers

Service Providers for Specific Voters

Military, Long-Term Care, New Citizens, Tribal, Homeless

College Students

ND University System

Non-NDUS Colleges and Universities

Voting Advocacy Groups

AARP, ND League of Women Voters, ND

Protection and Advocacy, ACLU, ND League of Cities, ND School Boards Association, NDACo



VOTING IN NORTH DAKOTA

If you are a U.S. citizen and live in North Dakota, you have the right to vote.

North Dakota does not require voter registration, but you do need to have proper identification to the polls to vote.

HOW DO I VOTE?

Find information on where you vote at vote.nd.gov.

- You can vote by **absentee**, or by **mail**.
- You can vote at an **early voting location**.
- You can vote on **Election Day**.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION

You need one of the following forms of ID to vote:

- North Dakota Driver's License
- North Dakota Non-Driver ID
- Tribal ID or Tribal Letter
- Long Term Care Certificate

Identification, tribal government IDs, or documents



VOTING IN NORTH DAKOTA WHILE RESIDING IN A LONG TERM CARE FACILITY

If you are a U.S. citizen and live in North Dakota, you have the right to vote! Anyone who has lived in North Dakota for 30 days prior to an election can vote.

HOW DO I VOTE?

Find information on where you vote at vote.nd.gov.

- You can vote by **absentee**, or by **mail**.
- You can vote at an **early voting location**.
- You can vote on **Election Day**.

OPTIONS FOR LONG TERM CARE RESIDENTS

As a resident in a long term care facility, you have two options for where you cast your vote:

PREVIOUS ADDRESS

Where you lived prior to moving to the long term care facility.

- You should go to the polling location that is assigned to your permanent or previous address.
- If requesting an absentee ballot application, you should include your permanent or previous address and submit it to the county auditor in the county in which your permanent or previous address is located.



VOTING IN NORTH DAKOTA AS A COLLEGE STUDENT

HOW DO I VOTE?

Find information on where you vote at vote.nd.gov.

- You can vote by **absentee**, or by **mail**.
- You can vote at an **early voting location**.
- You can vote on **Election Day**.

In North Dakota you vote where you live and while away at college that means you have choices to make about how and where you will vote. Here are options for you to consider prior to Election Day.

- HOME RESIDENCE:** If you wish to vote from your home address, you will need to reach out to the county auditor in your home town for an absentee ballot application. You can request absentee ballots for both the Primary and General Elections.
- COLLEGE RESIDENCE:** If you wish to vote in the city in which you attend college, you will need to update your North Dakota identification to reflect your college residence address before Election Day.
- OUT-OF-STATE STUDENT:** If you are a student from another state attending college in North Dakota, you must choose to either vote absentee in your home state, or you can update your identification to a North Dakota ID.

NOTE: Updating to a North Dakota driver's license or non-driver ID will replace any identification you have from another state.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION

You need one of the following forms of ID to vote:

- North Dakota Driver's License
- North Dakota Non-Driver ID
- Tribal ID or Tribal Letter
- Long Term Care Certificate

Identification, tribal government IDs, or documents

CORRECTION

If you are away at college before Election Day, you can update your North Dakota identification to reflect your college residence address before Election Day.

Use the QR code below to update your address. Call 855-433-4835 for more information.



VOTING AND THE MILITARY

VOTING AS A UNIFORMED SERVICE MEMBER OR ELIGIBLE FAMILY

If you are a U.S. citizen and live in North Dakota, you have the right to vote! Anyone who has lived in North Dakota for 30 days prior to an election can vote.

North Dakota does not require voter registration, but you do need to have a form of identification that can be used for voting. This means you should make sure you have proper identification with you before you go to the polls to vote.

HOW DO I VOTE?

Find information on where you vote at vote.nd.gov.

- You can vote by **absentee**, or by **mail**.
- You can vote at an **early voting location**.
- You can vote on **Election Day**.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION

You need one of the following forms of ID to vote:

- North Dakota Driver's License
- North Dakota Non-Driver ID
- Tribal ID or Tribal Letter
- Long Term Care Certificate

Military ID and passports can only be used when applying for a Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) ballot.

UOCAVA BALLOT

As a **uniformed service member** or **eligible family member**, you have the right to vote using a UOCAVA ballot if you are **active duty and stationed away from home**. You should request a UOCAVA ballot within your state of legal residence which can typically be found on your Leave & Earnings Statement (LES). If possible, request your ballot at least 3 months ahead of a scheduled election in your state of legal residence. You can use your military ID or passport when applying for a UOCAVA ballot.

The Federal Voter Assistance Program can help you request a UOCAVA ballot at FVAF.gov.

Request your UOCAVA ballot through the Office of the Secretary of State if North Dakota is your state of legal residence and you are



EMAILS

Legislators, County Commissioners, Party Chairs

Inform Them So They Can Inform Others

- Emails encouraging them to view Elections section of our new website and refer others to it
- Elections 101 handout for legislators

NORTH DAKOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
ELECTIONS 101
DEMOCRACY STARTS HERE

North Dakota Election Facts
Secretary of State = Chief Election Official
The Secretary of State, as the chief election official, directs what election equipment and processes are used across all North Dakota counties. This uniformity creates consistency and security for North Dakota elections.
Other states can differ from North Dakota and may allow each local government to choose equipment and procedures for the election.
50 States = 50 Different Election Laws
What you see and hear about election equipment, laws, and processes in other states often DOES NOT apply to North Dakota.
Each state's election laws are different. It is important to remember that what happens in another state may already be prevented from occurring in North Dakota due to the robust election laws the state has wisely put in place in past legislative sessions.

Robust Voter ID Laws
• You **MUST** have a valid form of North Dakota ID to vote in North Dakota elections.
- ND Driver's License
- ND Non-Driver ID
- Tribal ID or Tribal Letter
- Long Term Care Certificate

Paper Ballots
• North Dakota **ONLY** uses paper ballots.
• Paper ballots are required by North Dakota law and are an important security measure as they create an auditable paper trail. **NOT** all states use paper ballots.
• The ExpressVote assistive ballot marking device also uses a paper ballot card.

Only U.S. Citizens Are Allowed to Vote
• North Dakota elections are **ONLY** for U.S. citizens. The North Dakota Constitution states "Only a citizen of the United States, who has attained the age of eighteen years and who is a North Dakota resident, shall be a qualified elector." In 2023, the Legislature passed HB 1431 to strengthen requirements to ensure non-citizens are not voting in North Dakota elections.

ND Does Not Mass Mail Ballots
• A voter must complete and submit an absentee ballot application to their election official before a ballot is mailed. The application includes verification identification and a check to ensure voter hasn't already voted.

Ballot Handling Equipment Do Not Connect to the Internet
• Election equipment used in DS200 and the ExpressVote **DOES NOT CONNECT TO THE INTERNET** and has NO components for such a connection.

Banning of Private Money in Election Administration
• Legislation was passed banning money organizations from influencing the public election process.

Voting Options
Every county must have at least one polling location available on Election Day.
North Dakota allows voters to choose:
• Vote by Mail
• Absentee
• Early Voting (in person)
• Election Day (in person)
Each County Commission decides whether their county is a vote by mail or absentee county, and whether or not early voting is offered.

VOTE BY MAIL COUNTY
All qualified voters in the county are mailed an absentee ballot application.

ABSENTEE COUNTY
Voters must request an absentee ballot application.
In either case, a voter must always complete and return the absentee ballot application with their voter ID information and signature. County Auditors verify the voter's identity and mail them a ballot, if qualified. Voters must complete and return their ballot (in person or postmarked) by the day before Election Day.

Voter ID Laws
North Dakota's robust voter ID laws make us the **ONLY** state without voter registration, and ensure only U.S. citizens are allowed to vote.

A VALID ID IN NORTH DAKOTA IS:
• ND Driver's License
• ND Non-Driver ID
• Tribal ID or Tribal Letter
• Long Term Care Certificate

QUALIFICATIONS:
• 18 years old
• United States Citizen
• Resident of ND and have lived in the precinct for 30 days prior to Election Day

Election Equipment
Secretary of State Michael Howe approves all voting systems used by North Dakota's 53 counties. The equipment is extensively tested and certified at the federal level. North Dakota's election officials also test all equipment before and after each election to ensure accuracy.

Ballot Handling Equipment
All ballot handling equipment is **NOT CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET** and has NO components for such a connection.

➤ **DS200**
Ballot tabulator used at all polling sites

➤ **DS450**
Large capacity ballot tabulator used for absentee ballots at courthouse

➤ **ExpressVote**
Touchscreen assistive ballot marking device used at polling sites
• Creates accessibility for all voters
• Only uses paper ballot card
• Paper ballot card is tabulated in the same DS200 as traditional paper ballots

Voter Check-in
PollPads are used to check in voters at all polling locations. PollPads are connected to the internet to be able to make immediate updates to the Central Voter File. This ensures that one person = one vote as it updates all other polling locations when a voter checks in to vote or has voted by absentee ballot.
• Connected to other polling locations through an encrypted secure portal
• Prints ballot receipt to ensure voters receive correct ballot
• Does not handle ballot information – only used for voter check-in

www.sos.nd.gov

VOTE.ND.GOV
Your trusted source for election information.

NORTH DAKOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
400 E Boulevard Ave - Dept. 108
Bismarck, ND 58505-0500
Phone: 701-328-4146

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

TIPS

Want to Try What We Did?

Website

- Make URL memorable – vote.nd.gov
- Make content easy to find and understandable

Socials

- Ask people/groups to follow and share content
- Create a variety of content

Make It Easy for Partners

- Write for them
- Create easily shareable materials

Build Relationships

- Mention to contacts that you are willing to speak to groups
- Offer to review election-related your contacts/groups are sharing to ensure accuracy
- Email groups that work closely with voters
 - Inform them of election-related materials you have

Thank You

- Learn more about our office at sos.nd.gov
- Follow ***NorthDakotaSOS***
Facebook – Instagram - X (Twitter) - YouTube