

Voting in Long-Term Care Facilities



Signature Matching

- Signature must match most recent signature that was captured in Colorado's statewide voter registration system – SCORE.
- If the signature does not match SCORE's captured signature, a team of two bi-partisan election judges will review the signatures.
- If both judges determine that the signature does not match, the clerk and recorder of the voter's county will send the voter a letter requesting confirmation that the signature belongs to the voter.
- The voter must return the form that comes with the clerk's letter acknowledging the signature belongs to the voter.
- The voter must submit one of the acceptable forms of voter identification found in C.R.S. 1-1-104(19.5) along with the verification form. This identification is not limited to photo identification. See below for more details.
- If a voter is unable to sign a ballot with a signature, the voter can mark the ballot. The mark requires a witness signature, which does not go through the verification process. The mark must not resemble a signature.
- If a voter would prefer to use a stamp instead of a signature or a mark, a stamp is allowed and will go through the same signature verification process as if the voter had signed the ballot. This means that the stamp must match the signature captured in the voter registration database.
- A voter can always update their signature in the registration database by going onto the Secretary of State's website or filling out a paper registration form anytime of the year. The voter can update their signature on their registration and vote on the same day during an election cycle. <https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/vote/VoterHome>

Capacity

- Colorado does not limit a person's right to vote based on a person's mental capacity. If a resident of a long-term care facility has diminished capacity, resides in a memory care residence, or has a guardian, that person still maintains their right to cast a ballot.

- A person may ask for assistance to vote from anyone they choose, as long as that person is not their employer or their union representative.

Mail Ballot Delivery

- An election worker must bring mail ballots to a residential facility if there are more than seven mail ballots to be delivered and the individuals do not have their own mailboxes to receive U.S. Postal Mail.
- The Election worker must return all of the voted ballots to the election office for counting.
- Online ballot delivery for people with disabilities is available to people who wish to vote a ballot using their assistive technology on their own personal computer devices.
<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/accessibleVoting.html>

Identification Requirement

- I.D. is not required when registering to vote.
- When voting, verification that a voter is a resident of a group residential facility, as defined in [section 1-1-104\(18.5\), C.R.S.](#), is all that is required of a voter for I.D. purposes. The definition of a group residential facility is as follows: *a nursing home, a nursing care facility licensed pursuant to part 1 of article 3 of title 25, C.R.S., a home for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities as defined in [section 25.5-10-202, C.R.S.](#), an assisted living residence licensed pursuant to [section 25-27-105, C.R.S.](#), or a residential treatment facility for mental illness.*
- Acceptable forms of I.D.:
<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/vote/acceptableFormsOfID.html>

Interference with a Person's Right to Vote

- Please be aware that “any person who, at any election provided by law, interferes in any manner with any election official in the discharge of his duty or who induces any election official to violate or refuse to comply with his duty or any law regulating the same is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided in section 1-13-111.” [Section 13-1-701, C.R.S.](#)

Filing a Complaint

- Disability Law Colorado | www.disabilitylawco.org
- Department of Justice Information on the Americans with Disabilities Act | www.ada.gov
- Colorado Secretary of State | www.sos.state.co.us