

Election Myths & Rumors

Here's the truth about some of the myths that can confuse voters:

- If you have an outstanding traffic ticket, warrant, or civil fine, you still have the right to vote.
- You may quietly wear a button, hat, or shirt with a candidate's name on it when you vote, but you may not actively draw attention to your choices.
- You may take a list of your choices into the poll, but do not show it to others or leave it.
- You may vote in any precinct in your county on Election Day, but your choices only count for races that appear on your home precinct's ballot.
- You may have assistance when you vote. See Number 7 ("Assistance") in the next section.
- Voting a "straight-party ticket" does not include the nonpartisan races: vote in them separately.
- If you were convicted of a felony in any state, you may register and vote in NC after finishing your sentence, including probation. Misdemeanants do not lose the right to register and vote.

The NC Voter Bill of Rights

If anyone tries to deny you these rights, call 1-866-OUR-VOTE or call Democracy North Carolina at 919-286-6000.

1. **HOURS.** Each polling place is open between 6:30 am and 7:30 pm on Election Day. If you are in line or inside the polling place by 7:30 pm, you must be allowed to vote. It's the law: NC General Statute (NCGS) 163-166.01
2. **IDENTIFICATION.** In general, you do not have to show identification to poll workers when you vote. But if you are a first-time voter who put an ID number on the registration form that did not match a government database, then you may need to show a type of ID when you vote. Take one of these with you: a current NC driver's license or one of these with your name and current address: utility bill (electric, gas, phone, water, cable bill), pay-stub/W-2, bank statement, or a document from any government agency. NCGS 163-166.12
3. **PROVISION BALLOT.** If any problem arises, you have a right to vote with a provisional ballot. Ask for a provisional ballot if you believe you have registered but your name is not on the rolls, or if you're told that you are in the wrong precinct and don't want to go elsewhere. You must also be given a way to learn if the provisional ballot counted, and if not, the reason why. NCGS 163-166.11.
4. **IF YOU MOVE.** If you have lived in your new location more than 30 days, you have the right to vote in your new precinct. If you have lived there less than 30 days, you must vote in your old precinct, cast a provisional ballot in your new precinct, or vote at an Early Voting site. If you have moved within your precinct, you can update your information at the polls and vote. NCGS 163-82.15.
5. **NAME CHANGE.** If your name has changed since you registered to vote, you have the right to vote, even if you haven't previously reported the change. NCGS 163-82.16
6. **SPOILED BALLOT.** If you make a mistake and "spoil" your ballot, you have a right to new ballot. You can spoil up to three ballots. 8 NCAC 10B.0104b
7. **ASSISTANCE.** You have the right to receive assistance from a family member or, if you have difficulty reading or a disability, from a person of your choice except from your employer or union agent. You can also receive ballot instructions in Spanish. NCGS 163-166.8 and 168-165-5A
8. **CURBSIDE.** If the polling place is inaccessible to you due to a disability, you may vote at the curb, in the vehicle you came in, or at the door of the polling place. NCGS 163-166.9
9. **EX-FELONS & MISDEMEANANTS.** You have a right to vote if you are in jail for a misdemeanor. If you were convicted of a felony in any state, you can register and vote after finishing your sentence, including parole or probation. NCGS 13-1.
10. **INTIMIDATION.** You have a right to vote without being intimidated or forced to vote for anyone you don't wish to vote for. NCGS 163-271.

You have the right to take this Bill of Rights into the voting booth with you.
For more info, see NCElectionConnection.com or call 919-286-6000.