



# VOTER'S GUIDE

**2024 Provincial General Election**

**Saturday, October 19, 2024**



[elections.bc.ca](https://elections.bc.ca) / 1-800-661-8683

I VOTE.



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# 2024 PROVINCIAL ELECTION

**The British Columbia provincial election is on October 19, 2024.**

You can vote if you are:

- A Canadian citizen,
- 18 or older on October 19, 2024, and
- A resident of B.C. since April 18, 2024.

Voters will elect 93 Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs). Each Member represents an electoral district (or riding) and has a seat in the provincial Legislature. The political party with the most seats in the Legislature will form B.C.'s next government.



There are new electoral districts for this election.

Visit [elections.bc.ca/mydistrict](https://elections.bc.ca/mydistrict) to find yours.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Official campaign period begins	Saturday, September 21
Candidate nominations close at 1 p.m. (Pacific time)	Saturday, September 28
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (district electoral offices closed)	Monday, September 30
Online and telephone voter registration closes at midnight (voters can still register when they vote)	Monday, October 7
<b>Advance voting</b>	<b>October 10-13 and 15-16</b>
Last day to request a vote-by-mail package online or by phone	Sunday, October 13
Thanksgiving Day (advance voting places and district electoral offices closed)	Monday, October 14
<b>Final Voting Day</b>	<b>Saturday, October 19</b>

# REGISTER TO VOTE

Register now to save time when you vote. You can register or update your information at [elections.bc.ca/register](https://elections.bc.ca/register) or by calling **1-800-661-8683**.

Voter registration closes online and by phone at 11:59 p.m. (Pacific time) on **October 7**. You can also register when you go to vote.



# VOTER ID

Before voting, all voters must prove who they are and where they live. You can show:

- A BC driver's licence,
- A BC Identification Card (BCID),
- A BC Services Card (with photo), or
- A Certificate of Indian Status.



You can also show two documents, both with your name and at least one with your current home address.

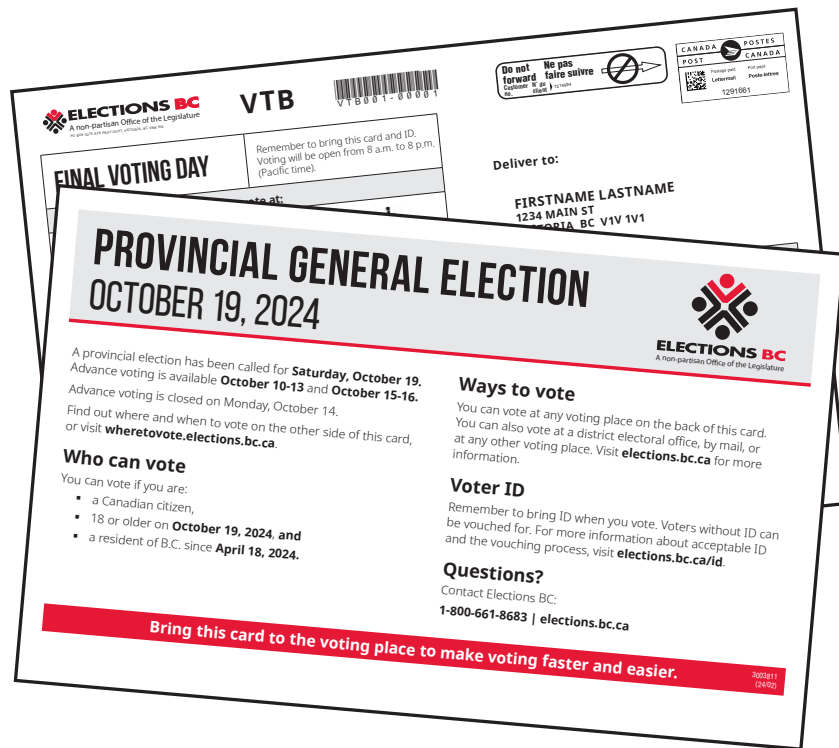
Voters who don't have ID can be vouched for. Visit [elections.bc.ca/id](https://elections.bc.ca/id) for more information about vouching and a complete list of acceptable ID.

## Voters without a fixed address

If you don't have a permanent residential address, you can use the address of a social services agency where you regularly receive services as your address when you vote. Visit the agency and ask to complete a confirmation of residence form before you go to vote.

## Where to Vote card

Elections BC will send a Where to Vote card to every registered voter before advance voting starts. Your Where to Vote card lists your assigned voting place on Final Voting Day and advance voting places in your electoral district. You can use your Where to Vote card as one of two pieces of voter ID.



## VOTING OPTIONS

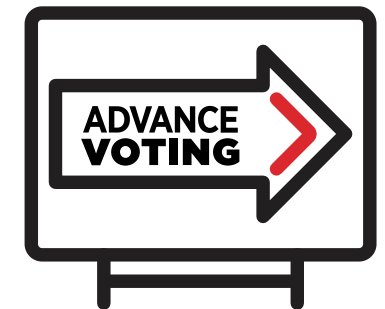
**All eligible voters can vote at any voting place in the province.**

### Vote at advance voting

**October 10-13 and 15-16 | 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (local time)**

Closed Monday, October 14

You don't need a reason to vote at advance voting – it's an option for all voters. Not all advance voting places are open on every day of the advance voting period. Make sure to check your Where to Vote card or visit [wheretovote.elections.bc.ca](http://wheretovote.elections.bc.ca) to find advance voting places and the dates they are open.



## Vote on Final Voting Day

**Saturday, October 19 | 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Pacific time)**

Voters have an assigned voting place on Final Voting Day, but you can vote at another voting place if it's more convenient to you. Find your assigned voting place on your Where to Vote card or visit [wheretovote.elections.bc.ca](https://wheretovote.elections.bc.ca).

## Vote at a district electoral office

**From September 21 until 4 p.m. (Pacific time) on October 19**

District electoral offices open the day the election is called, September 21. You can vote at any district electoral office in the province.

### Hours of operation:

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Advance voting days, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Find a list of office locations at [elections.bc.ca/offices](https://elections.bc.ca/offices).



## VOTE BY MAIL

You can ask for a vote-by-mail package by:

- Visiting [votebymail.elections.bc.ca](https://votebymail.elections.bc.ca)
- Calling Elections BC at **1-800-661-8683**

Your vote-by-mail package will be mailed to you. The last day to ask for a package online or by phone is **October 13**.

Starting September 21 you can also pick up a vote-by-mail package in person at any district electoral office.

Visit [elections.bc.ca/offices](https://elections.bc.ca/offices) or call Elections BC for a list of office locations.

Completed packages can be returned by mail or dropped off at a district electoral office, voting place or another authorized location (see Elections BC's website for a complete list).



**Elections BC must receive your completed vote-by-mail package by 8 p.m. (Pacific time) on October 19.**

# TECHNOLOGY AND THE VOTING PROCESS

Elections BC uses proven and secure technology to administer provincial elections. Technology helps make the voting process faster and easier, and enables most absentee ballots to be counted and recorded on election night.

## Digital voters list

Laptop computers are used to check voters in, record voter registration information and strike voters off the voters list when they vote. This ensures that only eligible voters vote, and that they only vote once.



## Tabulators

Tabulators are used to count paper ballots that voters mark by hand. Tabulators are faster than counting ballots by hand. They have been used successfully in B.C. by-elections since 2022, in other provincial elections in Canada since 2014, and in municipal elections in B.C.



After voting closes, election officials will print a results tape from the tabulator. Results from the tape are phoned into the district office and entered into Elections BC's results system.

You can view results as they come in on election night at [elections.bc.ca](https://elections.bc.ca).

Tabulators are tested before and after voting to make sure they count ballots accurately. Candidate representatives (also called scrutineers) can observe this testing. Results are also validated through an audit process after voting closes.

Tabulators are secure. They are never connected to the internet, and paper ballots are kept in case of a recount.



## What are the benefits of using technology in the voting process?

### Better service

Election officials can serve voters faster and more efficiently, which means less waiting in line-ups.

### Election integrity

Once you have voted, election officials will strike your name off the voters list electronically. This lets other voting places know who has voted so no one can vote twice.

### Faster, accurate results

After voting closes, election officials will report results quickly and accurately by using electronic tabulators to count paper ballots.

### More votes counted on election night

Technology allows most absentee ballots to be counted and reported on election night. All votes cast in the election are counted, whether that's at initial count (on election night) or at final count (about a week later).



## SERVICES FOR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

Elections BC is committed to a safe and accessible voting process for all voters, and we have services available to assist. Election officials are trained on how to assist voters with accessibility challenges to vote.

### Voting place accessibility

All advance voting places and most final voting places are wheelchair accessible. Voters who can't enter a voting place can vote outside the building at the curb or in the parking lot. Ask the election official at the door of the voting place if you need assistance with voting.



### Translators

Voters can bring a translator to help them at the voting place. The translator must make a declaration that they are able to act as a translator and will do so to the best of their abilities.



## Assistance marking the ballot

Voters who have difficulty reading, writing or marking their ballot can ask for assistance from election officials in voting places.

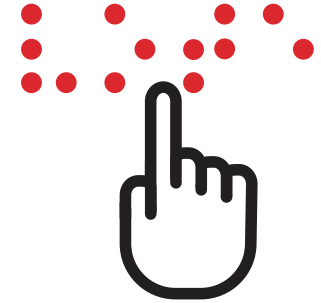
## Assistive technology

Assistive equipment will be available in district electoral offices to allow voters to mark their ballot independently. Voters can listen to an audio recording of candidate names and affiliations and indicate their vote by using a hand-held selector device, sip-and-puff straws or paddles. The voter's ballot paper will be printed and fed into the tabulator, just like any other ballot.



## Resources for voters with sight loss

Braille candidate lists, large-print ballot posters and plastic ballot templates are available at all voting places.



## Assisted telephone voting

Assisted telephone voting is available to voters with sight loss, disability, or an underlying health condition that prevents them from voting independently or that would make it unsafe or impossible to vote in person. For more information about assisted telephone voting, contact Elections BC at **1-800-661-8683**.

# ELECTION INTEGRITY

Provincial elections in B.C. are safe, secure, free and fair. You can be confident that your vote will be counted accurately and that election results will reflect the will of B.C. voters.



Some safeguards that keep our elections secure include:

- Voters must prove their identity and address before voting
- Voting is always done using voter-marked paper ballots
- Tabulators are tested before and after voting to prove ballots are counted accurately
- Candidate representatives can observe all voting and counting processes

Elections BC enforces the rules that protect election integrity. These include:

- Rules about campaign spending, raising money, and election advertising
- Protections against spreading false information about election processes and results
- Making sure that only eligible voters vote, and that they only vote once

There are serious penalties for breaking these rules.

You can help protect election integrity in B.C. One of the easiest ways to do this is fact-checking election information that you see online or in person. Remember, Elections BC is your trusted source for accurate and up-to-date information about how to vote in the provincial election and the electoral process in B.C.



For more information about how Elections BC protects our electoral process and what you can do to help, visit [elections.bc.ca/integrity](https://elections.bc.ca/integrity).





# QUESTIONS?

Visit our website or contact us for more information about where, when and how to vote.

**elections.bc.ca | 1-800-661-8683**

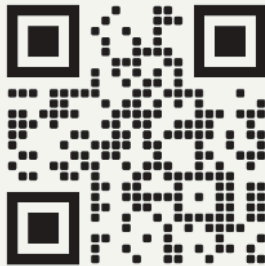
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