



**DISABILITY RIGHTS  
LOUISIANA**  
Protect. Advocate. Empower.

Know  
Your  
Rights

**VOTING  
2022**



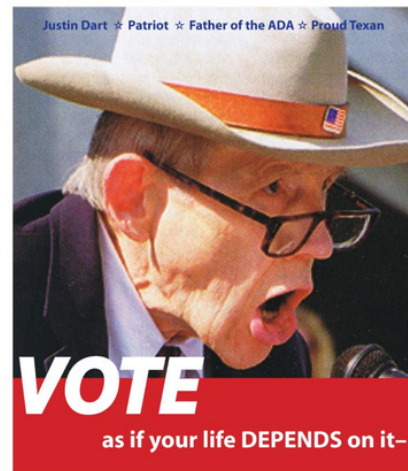
**Presented by: Dr. Ashley Volion, DRLA Policy Analyst**

# Voting is your Right!

## The Help America Vote Act (2002)

Passed by the U.S. Congress in 2002 to make sweeping reforms to the nation's voting process. HAVA addresses improvements to voting systems and voter access that were identified following the 2000 election, helping to ensure:

- Eligible citizens have the right to register to vote.
- All voters have the right to an accessible polling place.
- All voters have the right to cast their ballot privately and independently (Every polling place has to have a least 1 voting machine with accessibility features & you must be able to safely enter & exit the polling site).
- As a person with a disability, you have the right to assistance in the voting process.
- You have the right to choose how you vote (in person on election day or during early voting or through a mail in ballot).



***Because it DOES!***

Disability rights advocate and "Father of the ADA", Justin Dart, Jr.

Poster available at: <https://www.aapd.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Justin-Dart-Vote-Poster.jpg>

# Why does voting matter?

Often people with disabilities get overlooked but when we come together we can make change.

For example:  
According to a report from the Center for American Progress, nearly 62% of voters with disabilities cast a ballot in the November 2020 election, compared with just 56% in 2016 (Root and Ives-Ruble, 2021)

We must make the issues that are important to us known!!!



# Am I eligible to vote?

- I am 18 years old or older
- I am a resident of LA and a citizen of the United States
- I live in the state and parish where I am registered to vote
- I am not under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony. However, if I have been released from incarceration for five years I can register to vote, even if I am still on probation or parole.
- I am not under a judgment of full interdiction or limited interdiction with suspension of voting rights.

**ELIGIBLE**

# I am eligible, how do I register to vote?

- Online: [www.geauxvote.com](http://www.geauxvote.com)
- In Person - [Registrar of Voters Locations](#):  
<https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/registrar>
- By Mail - [Louisiana Voter Registration Application](#):  
<https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/ApplicationToRegisterToVote.pdf>
- At Government and Non-Profit Organizations (like Disability Rights Louisiana!!!)



# How can I cast my ballot?

## Election Day

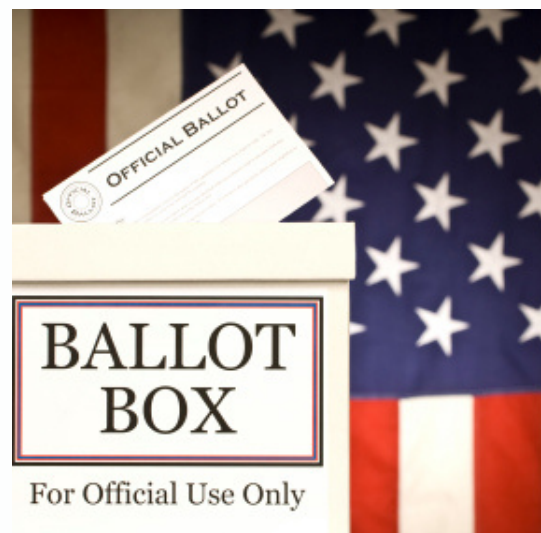
Polls are open from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm for federal elections and 7:00 am to 8:00 pm for all other elections.

## Early voting

- At the Registrar of Voters office and sometime other locations
- 7-14 days before the election, including on Saturdays

## Absentee by Mail

- Typically only available if you cannot vote in person
- Special program for people with disabilities and seniors



# **Absentee By Mail Voting Program for people with disabilities and older adults**

- People with disabilities or those 65 and older can register for Louisiana's permanent absentee ballot program.
- Ballots are mailed automatically or by e-mail through an e-mail secured link before each election. If ballot is returned as undeliverable, voter is removed from the program.
- Sign up through the Voter Portal at [geauxvote.com](http://geauxvote.com). For printable forms see the resources page at the end of this guide.



# Where do I go for voting information?

Go to the Geaux Vote website or mobile app\*

Here are some tips on accessing helpful information:

- Type **“find my polling place Louisiana”** into a Google search and click the first item that pops up **“Voter Portal”**



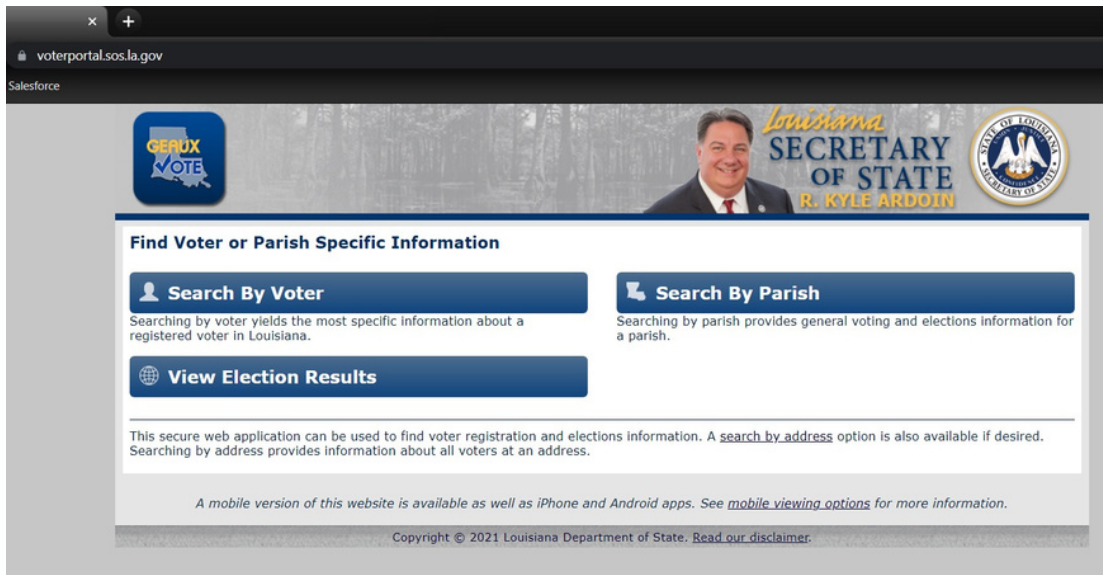
The Google logo is displayed in its standard multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, blue, green, red).





# Where do I go for voting information? (Continued)

## 2. Click on "Search By Voter"



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Louisiana Voter Portal at voterportal.sos.la.gov. The page features a header with the Louisiana Department of State logo, the text "Louisiana SECRETARY OF STATE R. KYLE ARDOIN", and the "GET OUT VOTE" logo. Below the header, there is a section titled "Find Voter or Parish Specific Information" with three main buttons: "Search By Voter", "Search By Parish", and "View Election Results".

**Search By Voter**  
Searching by voter yields the most specific information about a registered voter in Louisiana.

**Search By Parish**  
Searching by parish provides general voting and elections information for a parish.

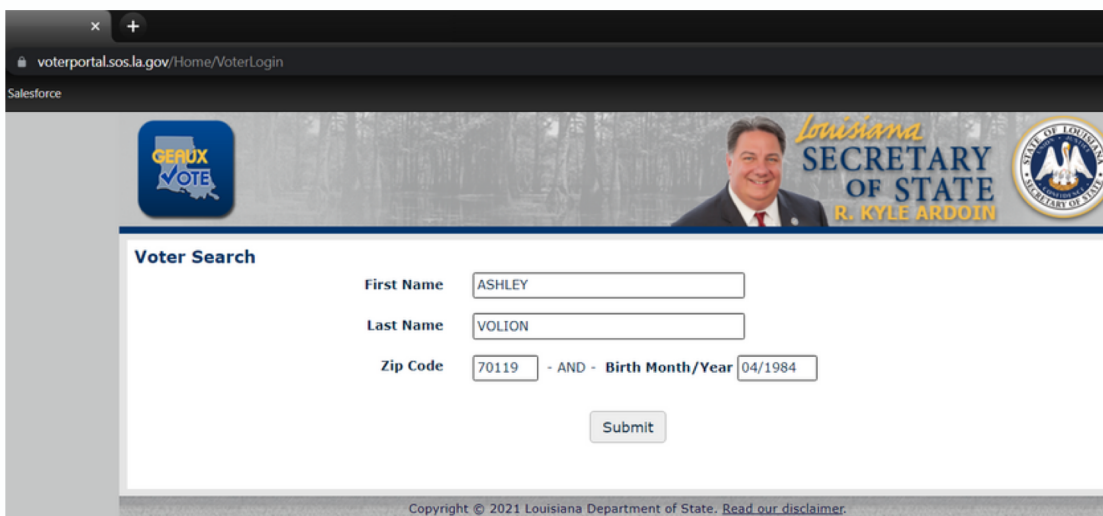
**View Election Results**

This secure web application can be used to find voter registration and elections information. A [search by address](#) option is also available if desired. Searching by address provides information about all voters at an address.

*A mobile version of this website is available as well as iPhone and Android apps. See [mobile viewing options](#) for more information.*

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## 3. Enter your information and click save.



The screenshot shows the "Voter Search" form on the Louisiana Voter Portal. The form includes input fields for "First Name", "Last Name", "Zip Code", and "Birth Month/Year". A "Submit" button is located below the form.

**Voter Search**

First Name:

Last Name:

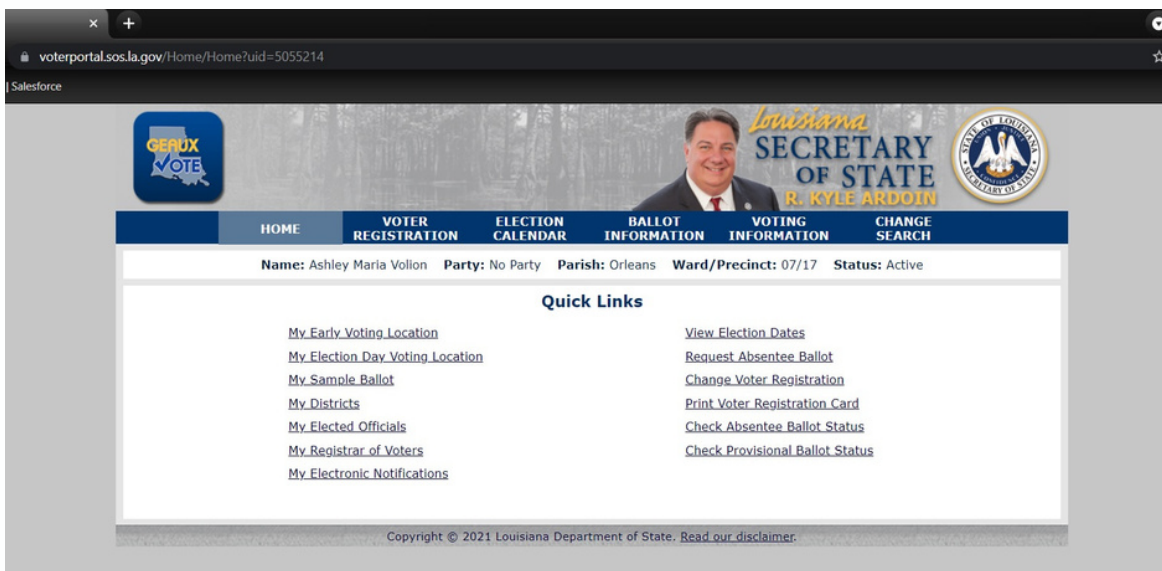
Zip Code:  - AND - Birth Month/Year:

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# Where do I go for voting information? (Continued)

3. From here, you can find help resources such as, a sample voting ballot, your polling place, absentee ballot form, etc.

**(NOTE: You can bring the sample ballot with you in the voting booth)**



The screenshot shows the Louisiana Voter Portal website. The browser address bar displays [voterportal.sos.la.gov/Home/Home?uid=5055214](https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/Home/Home?uid=5055214). The page features a header with the "GEAUX VOTE" logo, a photo of Louisiana Secretary of State R. Kyle Ardoin, and the official seal of the Louisiana Department of State. Below the header is a navigation menu with tabs for HOME, VOTER REGISTRATION, ELECTION CALENDAR, BALLOT INFORMATION, VOTING INFORMATION, and CHANGE SEARCH. The user's profile information is displayed: Name: Ashley Maria Vollon, Party: No Party, Parish: Orleans, Ward/Precinct: 07/17, Status: Active. A "Quick Links" section provides several helpful resources:

- [My Early Voting Location](#)
- [My Election Day Voting Location](#)
- [My Sample Ballot](#)
- [My Districts](#)
- [My Elected Officials](#)
- [My Registrar of Voters](#)
- [My Electronic Notifications](#)
- [View Election Dates](#)
- [Request Absentee Ballot](#)
- [Change Voter Registration](#)
- [Print Voter Registration Card](#)
- [Check Absentee Ballot Status](#)
- [Check Provisional Ballot Status](#)

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\*Screenshots and info can be found at [GeauxVote.com](https://GeauxVote.com) or <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov>

# How do I find candidates I trust?

- Candidate surveys
- Search the internet for information from groups you trust
- Talk to people you trust
- Look at candidates' voting records and position statements
- Newspapers typically print candidate profiles

# **What if I need explanations of the amendments or candidate platforms ?**

**There are two non-partisan groups in particular that provide information on candidates and their issues as well as amendments that are on the ballot:**

**[Public Affairs Research Council Guide:](https://parlouisiana.org/publications-by-date/guide-to-the-constitutional-amendments/)**

<https://parlouisiana.org/publications-by-date/guide-to-the-constitutional-amendments/>

**[League of Women Voters of Louisiana:](https://lwvofla.org/)**

<https://lwvofla.org/>

# Can I get accommodations in the voting process?

**Yes. Accommodations can include:**

- 8 ½ x 11 magnifying glass to magnify ballots or other materials.
- Audio voting attachments for all voting machines so that voters can listen to the ballot and vote using a keypad.
- Voting machines can be lowered to allow a voter who uses a wheelchair to vote independently.
- People with visible disabilities are allowed to go to the front of the line as well as those with a current mobility impairment card.
- If you did not bring someone with you, you can ask the election officials or poll workers for help.
- People with disabilities can have up to 20 minutes to vote (up to 7 minutes for the general public)
- Voters can bring their own signature tool, headphones or flashlights

**No proof of disability is necessary to use one of these accommodations.**



# Can I bring someone in the voting booth to assist me?



- In order to receive assistance, you must sign or make your mark on a statement saying that you need assistance in order to vote.
- The person assisting you will also sign a statement saying that he or she cast your vote according to your wishes.
- If you don't bring someone along to assist you, a poll worker is required to provide the assistance.

# Resources and Forms

## **Registrar of Voters Locations:**

<https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/registrar>

## **Voter Registration Form:**

<https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/ApplicationToRegisterToVote.pdf>

## **Absentee Ballot Form for Senior Citizens and the General Public:**

<https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/GeneralApplicationForAbsenteeByMailBallot.pdf>

## **Permanent Absentee Ballot Form for People with Disabilities:**

<https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/DisabledApplicationForAbsenteeByMailBallot.pdf>



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Information subject to change. Screenshots and election information found throughout this publication can be found at the Louisiana Secretary of State's website:

<https://voterportal.sos.la.gov>

For a customized accessible copy of this publication, or to report an error, please call **1-800-960-7705** or email **Assistant Director of Communications & Outreach, Kevin Hurstell**  
[khurstell@disabilityrightsla.org](mailto:khurstell@disabilityrightsla.org)

**For more information, visit our website:  
[disabilityrightsla.org](https://disabilityrightsla.org)**

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