



## **TIPS FOR VOTERS— 2013**

### **Requirements for voting in the state of Michigan:**

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be at least 18 years of age by date of election
- Live in Michigan and in the city or township where you are applying to vote
- Register to vote at least 30 days before the election

### **How to register to vote in federal, state, and local elections:**

- By mail; a mail-in voter register form is available at [www.michigan.gov/vote](http://www.michigan.gov/vote)
- Or at your county, city, or township clerk's office;
- Or at any Secretary of State branch office
- If you have a Michigan driver's license, it must have the same address as your voter registration.
- You can update your voter registration and driver's license at any Secretary of State branch office or at [expressos.com](http://expressos.com)

### **The voting process:**

- You must vote in the precinct in which you are registered.
- All voters are required to show a photo identification. If you do not have with you a photo ID, you must sign an Affidavit of Voter not in Possession of Picture Identification form in order to get a ballot. The affidavit can be used by:
  - a) voters who do not have acceptable photo ID, or
  - b) voters who have photo ID but who didn't bring it to the polls.

Once you sign the affidavit, you may cast your ballot. It will be counted with all other ballots on Election Day.

### **Acceptable photo IDs:**

- Driver's license or personal identification card issued by the state of Michigan or by another state
- Federal or state government-issued photo identification
- U.S. passport
- Military identification card with photo
- Student identification with photo from a high school or an accredited institution of higher education
- Tribal identification card with photo

If you do not have a picture ID, you may get a state picture ID from your local Secretary of State branch. Picture IDs cost \$10.00, but they are free for individuals who are 65 or older, who are blind, or who have had driving privileges ended because of a physical or mental disability. Proof of residency and identity is required when you apply for a state photo ID.

Your photo ID does not need to have your address on it. In addition, the name on your identification card may be a shorter form of your name. For example, "Bill" for "William" and "Kathy" for "Katherine" are acceptable.

### **Absentee Ballots:**

As a registered voter, you may obtain an absentee ballot from your local city, county, or township clerk if you are:

- ~ age 60 years or older
- ~ unable to vote without assistance at the polls
- ~ expecting to be out of town on election day
- ~ in jail awaiting arraignment or trial
- ~ unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons
- ~ appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside of your precinct of residence.

A person who registers to vote by mail must vote in person in the first election in which he or she participates, unless the voter is handicapped or over 60 years of age.

For more information about voting, including the use of Auto-Mark voting machines, please go to [www.michigan.gov/vote](http://www.michigan.gov/vote)