People with disabilities are entitled to fair and equal opportunities in all aspects of their lives, including voting. The Illinois Election Code provides specific rights for voters with disabilities:

**Vote by Mail (10 ILCS 5/19-1 & 19-2)**
- Any Illinois voter can vote by mail for any reason.
- You may request a mail-in ballot online 90 days before an election and up to 5 days before the election. You may request a mail-in ballot in person 90 days before an election and up to the day before the election. To request a mail-in ballot, contact your local election authority.
- If you return your ballot in person, you must return it to your local election authority before the polls close on Election Day.
- If you return your ballot by mail, your ballot must be postmarked by midnight on Election Day.

**Remote Accessible Vote by Mail (10 ILCS 5/19-2.6)**
- Voters with print disabilities may request electronic delivery of their mail-in ballot from their local election authority.
- To request electronic delivery of your mail-in ballot, you will be required to sign an application certifying that you have a print disability.
- A print disability is defined as a temporary or permanent physical or mental impairment that prevents effective reading, writing, or use of printed materials. Print disabilities include blindness, low vision, physical dexterity limitations, and learning or cognitive disabilities.
- After reading and marking the ballot using assistive technology, you must print out the ballot and return it to your local election authority by mail or in person.

**Curbside voting (10 ILCS 5/17-13)**
- If you wish to vote in person on Election Day but cannot enter the polling place because it is inaccessible to you, you may request curbside voting.
- You must request curbside voting from your local election authority by the close of business on the day before the election.
- Two election judges (one from each political party) will bring a ballot and portable voting booth to you so that you can mark your ballot privately.
- Local election authorities may also establish curbside voting programs that allow you to vote from your vehicle. Contact your local election authority for more information. (10 ILCS 5/17-13.5)
Assistance with Voting (10 ILCS 5/17-14)

- You may receive assistance with voting if you sign an oath swearing that you need assistance because you are blind, have a physical disability, or cannot read, write, or speak the English language.

- You may choose any person to assist you with voting, except you may not choose your employer, an agent or officer of your union, or a candidate on your ballot. The person assisting you must sign an oath swearing that they will not influence your choice of candidates, party, or votes on ballot measures.

- If you are voting in person, you may also ask the election judges to assist you. Two judges (one from each political party) will assist you with marking your ballot.

Voting in a Nursing Home or Long-Term Care Facility (10 ILCS 5/19-12.1)

- If you have lived in a nursing home or long-term care facility for more than 14 days before the election, you may vote by mail.

- In-person voting may also be arranged at the nursing home. If this happens, two election judges (one from each political party) will come to the nursing home to supervise voting, collect ballots, and return the ballots to be counted by the local election authority.

- For a full list of the types of facilities covered by this section of the law, see 10 ILCS 5/19-12.1.

Voting when admitted to a Health Care Facility less than 14 days before an election (10 ILCS 19-13)

- If you are admitted to a hospital, rehabilitation center, or nursing home less than 14 days before an election, you are entitled to personal delivery of a mail-in ballot.

- In order to receive your ballot, you must complete and sign an application for qualified voter admitted to hospital, nursing home, or rehabilitation center, available from your local election authority. Your doctor or other health care professional must also complete and sign a portion of the application.

- After you complete the application, a relative or any person registered to vote in your precinct must then bring your application to your local election authority. The relative or person must sign an oath swearing that they are your relative or a voter in your precinct and that you have authorized them to pick up your ballot. Then, the relative or person must bring the ballot to you in the health care facility, you privately mark your ballot, and the relative or person must return your ballot to the local election authority where it will be counted.

For additional information or to file a complaint, please contact the Disability Rights Bureau at disability.rights@ilag.gov

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