

Voter Registration Fact Sheet

The Department of Developmental Services can help you register to vote. Congress passed the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993 in order to make it easier for you to obtain and file an application to register to vote. If you are not registered to vote, you can apply to register with the department. You will need to fill out an application to register (ED-671A, Rev 9/05).

Your case manager will ask you if you want to register to vote at the following times:

- At initial intake into DDS services, for individuals who are age 17 or older
- At your planning meetings, beginning with the first one after your 17th birthday
- When you move and have a change of address.

You may also request assistance to register to vote at any time.

To register to vote in Connecticut you must:

- ✓ Be a citizen of the United States
- ✓ Be a resident of a Connecticut town
- ✓ Be at least 17 years old, and must turn 18 before primary or election day
- ✓ Have completed confinement and parole, if previously convicted of a felony

Once the voter registration form is completed, you can:

- leave it with your case manager
- mail it directly to the registrar of voters in your local Town Hall.

Once your case manager has the completed registration form, DDS will date stamp the form and provide you with receipt of the registration or declination. If you register to vote, your case manager will notify your guardian or conservator, if applicable, that you accepted voter registration.

You may decline to register to vote by completing form ED-682.

Applying to register or declining to register will not affect the supports or services you receive from DDS.

By law **only** the Registrar of Voters office can determine if a person is ineligible to register to vote. DDS or its staff cannot assess, judge, or test an individual to determine his or her competency to vote. The state law presumes all persons 18 years of age or older are legally competent to vote, unless a probate court declares otherwise. The probate court may remove an individual's constitutional right to vote based on petition by the conservator or guardian.

Note: If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with: **State Elections Enforcement Commission, 20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106, Phone: (860) 566-7106; TDD: 1-(800) 842-9710**