



VETERANS
FOR ★ VOTING

Iowa Veterans Vote Toolkit



IOWA SECRETARY OF STATE

WELCOME TO THE VETERANS FOR VOTING TOOLKIT

The veterans of our state represent an exemplary cohort of individuals who have dedicated themselves to safeguarding the liberties and freedoms enjoyed by our nation's citizens.

By committing to facilitate their participation in the electoral process this election, you have taken a significant step towards upholding our collective responsibility to support these brave men and women, both in times of conflict and in civilian life.

This commitment ensures that those who have served our country so nobly are never overlooked or forgotten, whether on the battlefield or in the democratic processes that they have fought to protect.



This comprehensive toolkit equips you with the knowledge and resources necessary to confidently answer questions and effectively showcase your organization's engagement and impact.

YOUR COMMITMENT:

PLEDGE TO HELP VETERANS AND SERVICE MEMBERS EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE

By committing to assist veterans during this election, you play a crucial role in empowering those who have defended our democratic freedoms. The Secretary of State Veterans for Voting initiative ensures that veterans and service members can exercise their fundamental right to vote. Your pledge to aid veterans in exercising this right directly contributes to a more inclusive and representative democratic process.



WAYS TO PARTICIPATE WITH VETERANS FOR VOTING

- Help veterans access information to register to vote
- Share information about how to obtain an absentee ballot
- Drive veterans to their polling locations on Election Day, November 5, 2024
- Direct them to the Secretary of State's website, sos.iowa.gov or their county auditor's website for questions about Iowa election security, 2024 candidates, and important voting deadlines
- Promote voting through your own information channels
- Check in with your members who you haven't seen in a while to see if they plan to vote or require assistance in casting their ballot



**REGISTER TO
VOTE ONLINE**



**ABSENTEE
BALLOT
REQUEST**



**IOWA VOTER
INFORMATION**

VOTER ASSISTANCE IN IOWA

A voter may declare upon oath that the voter is blind, cannot read the English language, or is, by reason of any physical disability, unable to cast a vote without assistance.

VOTER ASSISTANCE

Voters may choose any person to assist them with casting their vote (exceptions include the individual's employer, employer's agent, or an agent/officer of their union). The voter will have the individual sign an Affidavit of Voter Requesting Assistance.

ASSISTANCE FROM PRECINCT OFFICIALS

Voters may request assistance from precinct officials. Two precinct officials, one from each political party, will assist.

VOTER ASSIST TERMINAL

Voters may request to use the voter assist terminal at their precinct. The device is available to any voter. To mark their ballots, voters use features on the machine such as a touch screen, an audio component and/or a sip and puff element to select their candidate. The device will mark their paper ballot according to their selections.

CURBSIDE VOTING

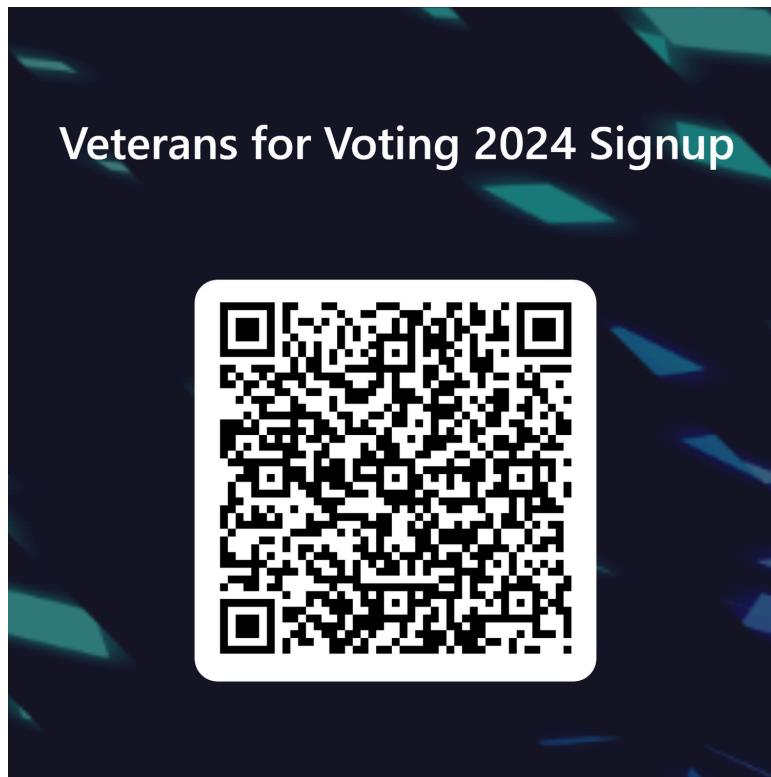
Voters may request curbside voting if they are unable to enter the polling place. Two precinct election officials, one from each party, will bring a ballot and election supplies to the voter's vehicle. (Please note - it is recommended to contact the county auditor's office ahead of time to let them know of your intention to vote curbside).



VETERANS FOR VOTING

STEP 1 – REGISTRATION

Please register your participation so we can provide you with more information on ways to participate in the Veterans for Voting initiative, direct you or your members to resources on our website, or aid with media and press release creation.



Link-

<https://forms.office.com/g/pzYu50LsfR>

VETERANS FOR VOTING

STEP 2 – SPREADING THE WORD TO PARTNERS AND MEMBERS

Included is -

A press release template with a quote from
Secretary of State Paul D. Pate

Sample social media posts and captions

Sample email to members and post leaders

Branded posters

Draft newsletter blurb



If you have a specific media creation request and would like to incorporate the Secretary of State's seal or have us share it on our social media channels, please email Jaime Nicolet Rutan at jaime.rutan@sos.iowa.gov for assistance.

VETERANS FOR VOTING

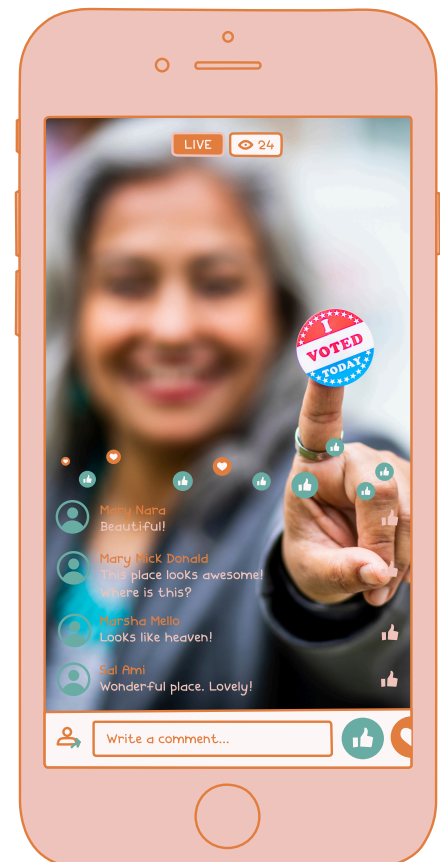
STEP 3 – ELECTION DAY

Ways to participate on Tuesday, November 5th

Drive veterans who are unable to drive to their polling locations

Provide voter assistance to veteran voters who request it (please note, exceptions include the individual's employer, employer's agent, or an agent/officer of their union)

Post photos and videos on social media to promote election day

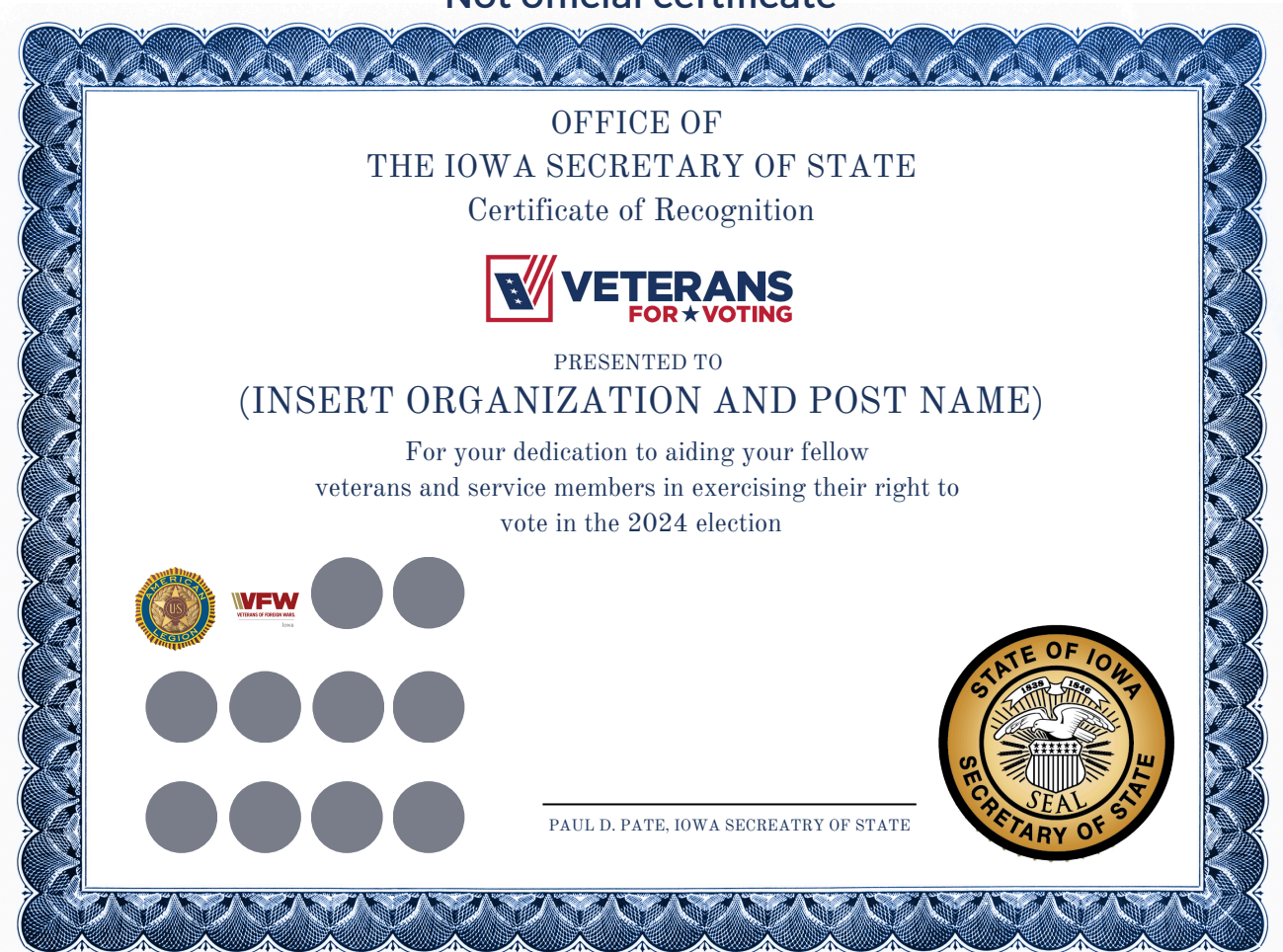


VETERANS FOR VOTING

STEP 4 – RECOGNITION OF SUCCESS!

We will send out certificates of recognition to our Veteran organization partners thanking them for helping ensure that Iowa's service members are able to exercise their civil right of voting for their elected officials.

Not official certificate



POSSIBLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Post Caption -

Federal law guarantees the right of voters to fully participate in elections. Iowa offers multiple accommodations support this right, including:

Accessible polling locations

Assistive voting technology

In-person voting booths

Curbside voting for those unable to enter polling places

Absentee voting by mail

#veteransforvoting



Post Caption -

Get the unit back together! Help your fellow veteran to exercise their right to vote this election. Contact us for how you can help participate in Veterans for Voting. #veteransforvoting



Post Caption -

Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain. Learn how to make a difference in the lives of a veteran this election. Contact us to participate in Veterans for Voting. #veteransforvoting

Post Caption -

The price of freedom is visible here. Help your fellow veterans and service members exercise their right to vote this election. Participate in Veterans for Voting.



PRESS RELEASE EXAMPLE

Paul D. Pate
Secretary of State
State Capitol
Des Moines, IA 50319

WEBSITE: sos.iowa.gov
E-MAIL: sos@sos.iowa.gov

OFFICE OF THE IOWA SECRETARY OF STATE

MEDIA CONTACT:
Ashley Hunt Esquivel

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
(Insert Date)

[City, State - Date] - [Organization] proudly announces its participation in the *Veterans for Voting* initiative, hosted by the Iowa Secretary of State. This initiative pledges to help Veterans exercise their right to vote during the election season through providing rides to the polling precincts, helping to register to vote, providing information on election security in Iowa, helping request an absentee ballot, and checking in with members to encourage voting.

"Our veterans bravely fought for freedoms, including our right to vote," said Secretary Pate. "It's our turn to step up and ensure they have all the resources they need to exercise their fundamental rights to vote. I commend organizations across the state, like [Organization name], for joining us in honoring Iowa veterans and recognizing the importance of voter registration and participation."

[Organization Name] [Person's name] stated, "We are proud of our state's veterans and believe in supporting them and their families enhance the quality of their lives through ensuring they are able to exercise their right to vote."

For more information about [Organization]'s participation in the *Veterans for Voting* initiative, please contact [contact person] at [phone number] or [email address].

[Contact person]
[Title]
[Organization]



POSSIBLE EMAIL TO MEMBERS

E-mail Subject Heading: Veterans for Voting

Dear (member's name),

[Organization's name] will be participating in the Veterans for Voting initiative established by Iowa Secretary of State Paul D. Pate.

"Our Veterans bravely fought for freedoms, including our right to vote," said Secretary Pate. "It's our turn to step and ensure they have all the resources they need to exercise their fundamental rights to vote. I commend organizations across the state, like [Organization's Name], for joining us in honoring Iowa veterans and recognizing the importance of voter registration and participation."

As a member of (Organization's name), how can we assist you this election season? Do you have questions regarding election security? Need to register to vote? Need a ride to your polling precinct on November 5th? We are here to help you this election!

For more information on the Veterans for Voting initiative, please email Jaime Nicolet Rutan, jaime.rutan@sos.iowa.gov.

Best,

(Organization contact name)



POSSIBLE NEWSLETTER BLURB

Iowa Secretary of State Paul D. Pate and the (Insert veteran organization name) are debuting a new initiative, Veterans for Voting, to engage Iowa veterans this election. Veterans for Voting works to aid veterans and service members exercise their right to vote through providing access to information about voting in Iowa, facilitating transportation to the polls on election day, and being an aid for a veteran requiring assistance voting.

As a member of (Organization's name), how can we assist you this election season. Do you have questions regarding election security? Need to register to vote? Need a ride to your polling precinct on November 5th? We are here to help you this election!





ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION

In Iowa, voters are required to provide one of the following forms of identification:

IOWA DRIVER'S LICENSE OR NONOPERATOR ID

U. S. PASSPORT

U. S. MILITARY ID OR VETERAN ID (with valid expiration date)

TRIBAL ID CARD/DOCUMENT

IOWA VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD

An Iowa Voter Identification Card is provided automatically by the county auditor to each voter who does not have either an Iowa driver's license or non-operator ID. Any voter may request an Iowa Voter Card by contacting their county auditor's office.

A voter without one of the above forms of ID may have the voter's identity attested to by another registered voter in the precinct or may prove identity and residence using Election Day Registration documents.

****Other forms of ID may be acceptable.**

Be sure to check requirements here: [**www.voterready.iowa.gov/voting-at-the-polls/**](http://www.voterready.iowa.gov/voting-at-the-polls/)



VOTER REGISTRATION AND VOTING FAQ

CAN REGISTRATION FORMS BE MAILED ON THE VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE?

Registrations postmarked 15 days before election are considered on time. It is encouraged to mail them earlier as postmarks are not guaranteed. Election Day Registration procedures are available after the pre-registration deadline at the polls on election day. You can access registration codes by visiting this QR code.



VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

DO I HAVE TO SELECT A POLITICAL PARTY IN ORDER TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

You do not have to register with a political party to vote in the election this November 5, 2024.

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHERE I CAN VOTE?

Find your polling place by visiting this QR code.



WHAT IF I CAN'T GO TO MY POLLIN PLACE?

Visit VoterReady.Iowa.Gov to download an Absentee Ballot Request Form. If requesting by mail, the request must be received by the county auditor's office 15 days before election day, November 5, 2024. You may also request and cast an absentee ballot in person at the auditor's office until the day before election. Contact your county auditor for their early voting schedule.

FIND MY POLLING PLACE

WHAT IF I WANT TO CHANGE MY POLITICAL PARTY OR UPDATE MY ADDRESS?

You can update your political party and address on Election Day at the polling site or online at VoterReady.Iowa.Gov.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A POLL WORKER?

REQUIREMENTS

Be registered to vote in Iowa
Be at least 17 years old
Be a resident of the county you serve in
Complete the required training



DAY OF DUTIES

Polls open at 7:00 am and close at 8:00 pm. Election officials start setting up at 6:00 am.

On Election Day, poll workers check in voters and issue them ballots. Designated election officials provide instruction on how to use special ballot marking devices for individuals with disabilities.

When a voter requests to vote from their car, poll workers will be sent outside to assist with curbside voting.



**FOLLOW THE
QR CODE TO
LEARN MORE**



Thank you!

We are excited to partner with you to support our veterans and service members as they exercise their civil right of voting.

If you have questions about the Veterans for Voting initiative, please contact Jaime Nicolet Rutan at jaime.rutan@sos.iowa.gov or 515-725-0183.

For questions on voting in Iowa, election security, registering to vote, or a list of candidates, please visit

<https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/voterinformation/index.html#>

or follow the QR code to the Iowa Secretary of State website.

