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Apply for photo ID to vote (called a 'Voter Authority Certificate')

Use this service to apply for a 'Voter Authority Certificate'. You can use it to vote in person in some UK elections and referendums. You cannot use it as proof of identification for any other reason.

This service is also available in [Welsh \(Cymraeg\)](#).

You only need to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate if:

- you do not have accepted photo ID
- you no longer look like the photo on your ID
- the name on your photo ID is different to your name on the electoral register

If the name on your photo ID is different, you can [register to vote](#) again or take a document with you to vote that proves that you have changed your name.

Check if you have accepted photo ID

Before you apply for a Voter Authority Certificate, [check if you already have accepted photo ID](#) and when you need it to vote.

Apply for photo ID to vote

It's free to apply. You'll need:

- a recent, digital photo of yourself
- your National Insurance number

You can still apply if you do not have a National Insurance number. You'll need to provide other documents to prove your identity, for example a birth certificate, bank statement and utility bill.

[Start now](#)

Other ways to apply

You can also [apply by post](#).

There's a different form for [applying by post if you live abroad, you're in the armed forces, a Crown Servant or a British Council employee](#).

You'll need to print, fill out and send the form to your [local Electoral Registration Office](#).

Get help applying

You can get help applying from your local [Electoral Registration Office](#).

There's an [easy read guide about applying for a Voter Authority Certificate](#).

Related content

[How to vote \(/how-to-vote\)](#)

[Register to vote \(/register-to-vote\)](#)

[Contact your local Electoral Registration Office \(/contact-electoral-registration-office\)](#)

Explore the topic

[Voting \(/browse/citizenship/voting\)](#)

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