



ASSISTING VOTERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE ELECTION INSPECTORS' PROCEDURE MANUAL
and THE POLLING PLACE SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

*THIS DOCUMENT IS FOR GENERAL REFERENCE, PLEASE SEE THE
ABOVE-MENTIONED RESOURCE AND YOUR CLERK FOR SPECIFIC DIRECTION*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Election inspectors should maintain a “customer service” approach.

Advise voters who indicate that they will need help casting their ballot that a voter assist terminal (VAT) is available in the polling place that can be used to vote independently without assistance.

Voters may receive assistance from election inspectors or other any person of their choosing, as long as the person rendering assistance is **not** the voter’s employer or an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of a labor union to which the voter belongs.

When a voter asks the precinct board for voting assistance, he or she does not need to provide a reason for the request.

PROCEDURES

Unless a voter uses the VAT, if voter receives assistance with voting, a record must be entered in the Remarks section of the ePollbook.

If a voter wishes to receive voting assistance from another person:

- Ask, “Are you requesting assistance with voting by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write?” A “yes” or “no” answer is sufficient.
- Ask the person rendering assistance, “Are you the voter’s employer or an agent of the employer, or are you an officer or agent of a labor union to which the voter belongs?” If the answer to this question is “no,” the voter may be assisted by the person. If the answer is “yes,” they may receive assistance from two election inspectors of differing political party affiliations.

If a voter is unable to enter the polling location and asks the precinct board for voting assistance – also called curbside voting, help must be provided by two inspectors who must take the ballot and secrecy sleeve to the voter in their vehicle in the parking lot and return to deposit the ballot into the tabulator.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Do not push a person’s wheelchair, or grab the arm of someone walking with difficulty, without asking if you can be of assistance.

Use the polling place accessibility checklist to ensure accessible voting in the polling place.

Pre-printed signs or a notepad should be available to assist communication with a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing

Greet a person who is visually impaired by letting the person know who and where you are.

Listen and pay attention to a person who has difficulty speaking.

Thank you for ensuring the safety of Michigan’s voters