



# Applying for a Voter Authority Certificate

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A Voter Authority Certificate is a free document you can get to use as photo ID for voting in an election.



You need to be registered to vote before you can apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate**.

If you need a **Voter Authority Certificate** to vote in the election it is a good idea to apply as soon as possible.



You can apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate** online on the Government's website:

**[www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate](https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate)**



or by filling in a paper application form.



If you need help to apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate**, or want a paper application form

contact your local council.

Contact information  
email: **[campaigns@mencap.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@mencap.org.uk)**  
telephone: **0207 696 6009**

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To find the contact details for your local council, go to the Electoral Commission's website:

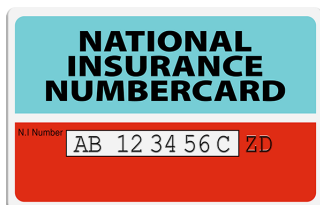
[www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter)



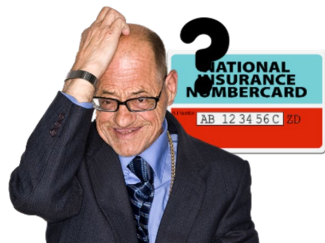
or phone our helpline on **0800 328 0280**.

When you apply for your **Voter Authority Certificate**, you will need to know your:

- name
- address
- date of birth



It is a good idea if you know your **National Insurance Number** when you apply for your **Voter Authority Certificate**.



You can apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate** if you do not know your National Insurance Number.

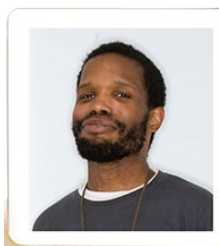
If you do not know your National Insurance Number, your local council will contact you to ask for something else to prove your identity.



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email: [campaigns@mencap.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@mencap.org.uk)  
telephone: **0207 696 6009**

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When you apply for a Voter Authority Certificate, you will need to send a photo with the form.



There are rules about the photo you can send.

The rules are like the rules for a passport photo.



If you do not have a photo which keeps to the rules, your local council can take a photo for you.



To find out more about the rules for the photo, go to the **Electoral Commission's website:**

**[www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterid](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterid)**

or phone our helpline on **0800 328 0280**.





The  
Electoral  
Commission

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telephone: 0207 696 6009