

Tips on Assisting Individuals with Developmental Disabilities when they vote

- ❖ Reading the voters' pamphlet to me helps me understand the measures and qualifications of the candidates.
- ❖ A support person can assist a person by gathering information and helping her/him read up on both sides of each issue. Do not influence the vote of the person you are supporting. Remember, this is their vote, not yours.
- ❖ A support person can assist us by reading both sides of the issue or candidate and then asking us to point (anyway they can) to their choice.
- ❖ If the person does not fully understand what he/she is voting on, he/she should leave it blank. Your ballot will be counted, even if you do not vote for every issue or candidate!
- ❖ Make sure the person knows where their vote is on the punch card, so that they will take more interest in their voting process. Then, make sure the ballot is in the secure envelope, and seal the envelope in their eyesight. Make sure the person signs the envelope the right way, or else their vote will not count. (The person's voting precinct will know how they are to sign.) Place secure envelope in the mailing envelope, and have the person supervise the placing of the envelope in the mailbox. Don't forget the stamp! Get it in before the deadline!

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Put together by Self-Advocates As Leaders.