

In **Washington state** (including **Seattle/King County**), you can confirm your vote was counted by tracking your ballot status through official online tools. Washington uses a secure, transparent process: your ballot is accepted only after signature verification, and once **accepted**, your vote is officially credited and will be counted in the final tally.

Key Statuses That Confirm Your Vote Counted

- **Sent** — Ballot mailed to you (or marked as sent).
- **Received** — Ballot arrived at the elections office (signature not yet reviewed; allow 3–5 business days after you return it).
- **Accepted** — Signature verified, ballot accepted for counting, and **you are credited with voting**. This is the status that means your vote **will be counted** (barring extremely rare post-acceptance issues like duplicate ballots, which are prevented by safeguards).
- **Rejected/Challenged** — Signature or other issue; the county contacts you to cure/fix it (e.g., by providing a new signature or affidavit). If not cured, it won't count.

The final "accepted" status is what you're looking for to know your vote was successfully processed.

How to Check Your Ballot Status

1. Use the Official Statewide Tool (VoteWA.gov) — Recommended for everyone in WA

Go to: <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>

- Enter your **first name, last name, and date of birth** (no full address or ID number needed).
- Once logged in, look for the "Your Ballot and Voting Materials" or "Ballot Status" section.
- It shows real-time updates: when your ballot was sent, received, accepted (or any issues).
- Updates happen as processing occurs, often daily or more frequently during elections.

2. King County-Specific Tool (My Voter Information)

Visit: <https://info.kingcounty.gov/kcelections/vote/myvoterinfo.aspx>

- Log in using **any 3** of: first name, last name, date of birth, or voter ID (if known).
- This shows your registration details, ballot tracking, and upcoming contests.
- Ballot status refreshes **every 1 hour** between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. during active election periods.

Both tools are free, secure, and directly pull from official election records.

Additional Ways to Stay Informed

- **Sign up for Ballot Alerts** (King County and statewide):

Through the My Voter Information page or VoteWA.gov, opt in for **text** and/or **email** notifications when your ballot is sent, received, accepted, or if there's an issue (e.g., signature mismatch).

Quick text option: Text **VOTE** to **868392** to get updates (works for WA voters).

- If you dropped it in a ballot box: No instant receipt, but the online tracker will update once processed (usually within days).

What If There's a Problem?

If status shows "challenged" or no update after a reasonable time (e.g., 5+ business days post-drop-off), contact **King County Elections** immediately:

- Phone: (206) 296-VOTE (8683)

- Email: elections@kingcounty.gov

They'll help resolve issues like signature cures (you usually have until a few days after Election Day to fix them).

This system is one of the most voter-friendly in the U.S., with high transparency and multiple ways to verify. Since no major election is active right now (next big one is 2026 midterms), try logging in anyway to see your registration and practice the process. If you check and see something confusing, describe it (no personal details needed) and I can help interpret!