

Alabama Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! You will need to provide an address when you register to vote – this is used to assign your voting districts and to send any election mail. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or can include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address.

In Alabama, an address or map/diagram of place of residence is all you need to register, but you will need current approved form of photo ID. (From <http://nationalhomeless.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-State-table-of-registration-requirements-for-report.pdf>)

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – this includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a Post Office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life Office) asserting that you live at your dorm address. For more info on how to vote in your specific state, check out <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/>. Keep in mind you can register to vote and vote at your school *or* home/permanent addresses but not at both.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they do not register to vote in both states. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires California residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#i-have-recently-moved,-am-i-still-eligible-to-vote?>, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote)

You may need to update your voter registration. Check with the Board of Registrars for the county you currently reside in. Contact information can be found here:

https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/board-of-registrars-all-counties?_ga=2.205616467.1177135240.1602518933-391495470.1602518933

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote)

Contact the Board of Registrars in your new county and update your voter registration record. If you've moved across county lines, you must register to vote in your new county of residence. Voter registration does not follow you from one county to another. Voter registration in Alabama closes 14 days prior to an election: <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/faqs>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Residency rules vary by state. In some states, you may be eligible to register to vote in your new state immediately upon moving. In others, you may need to wait a certain number of days or be living in the state for a certain amount of days before you register to vote in the next election. A state cannot require you to live there for more than 30 days to register to vote. Check out Rock the Vote's Election Center at <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/> for information on your state.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#i-have-recently-moved,-am-i-still-eligible-to-vote>)

If you've moved across county lines, you must register to vote in your new county of residence. Voter registration does not follow you from one county to another. Voter registration in Alabama closes 14 days prior to an election. <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/faqs>

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>)

You have two questions to think about: first, where to vote; and second, what form of identification you will need to vote. Contact the Board of Registrars in your new county to register to vote at least 14 days prior to an election: <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/faqs>. You will need a current and valid approved form of photo ID to vote. If you are not able to get an approved ID, you can still vote at your correct polling place if two election officials identify you and complete a signed affidavit: <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/photo-voter-id>.

Other**Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?**

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voter-id>)

Even if your ID does not meet your state's requirements, you may still be able to cast a provisional ballot.

Alabama has specific approved forms of photo ID that are required to vote (including a valid Alabama driver's license or one that has been expired less than 60 days). For the full list of approved forms of ID, see <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/photo-voter-id> Even if your ID does not meet your state's requirements, you may still be able to cast a provisional ballot.

My housing is changing and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>)

Alabama requires that you be a resident of the state of Alabama and the county in which you are voting at the time of registration: www.vote.org/state/alabama For questions, please contact the Board of Registrars for your county.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf/>)

During the registration process, complete and submit the Domestic Violence Voter Affirmation form to protect your voter information from the public. The form can be found here: <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/register-to-vote>

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must list a physical address. The form contains a section for your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>)

Contact the Board of Registrars in your new county to register to vote at least 14 days prior to an election: <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/faqs> You will need a current and valid approved form of photo ID to vote.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail; how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

Although typically voters must provide an approved excuse to vote absentee in Alabama, during the 2020 election all voters may use the excuse “physical illness/disability” to request an absentee ballot. The deadline to return an absentee ballot is five days prior to the election, but emergency absentee voting applications can be made no later than 5 p.m. the day before the election in certain very limited circumstances (such as the death of a family member or medical emergency). <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/absentee-voting>

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your county's absentee election manager as soon as possible to inquire about your options. If it's not too late, some states may mail you a replacement ballot. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your county's absentee election manager's contact information local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your county's absentee election manager's office to inquire about your options. If it is not too late, some states may mail you a replacement ballot. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your county's absentee election manager's contact information at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot**What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?**

If you made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your county's absentee election manager's office to inquire about your options. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. You can find your county's absentee election manager's contact information at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

If your state or local election officials have not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate postage is affixed to your return envelope. If you do not have stamps, do not worry! You can return your absentee ballot in person to the absentee election manager for your county. Contact information can be found at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

If you cannot remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. Deadlines to register to vote vary by state. Alabama's voter registration deadline is 15 days before election day.

To verify an absentee ballot in Alabama, voters must submit a copy of their photo ID along with an affidavit signed by the voter and two witnesses or a notary public.

Alabama does not require voters to be notified of a problem with their absentee ballots.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

In Alabama, Absentee ballots must be received by noon on election day AND postmarked by the day before the election. If you miss the deadline, you must vote in person.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

In Alabama, you can return your absentee ballot in person to the absentee election manager for your county. The contact information can be found at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

In Alabama, you can return your absentee ballot in person to the absentee election manager for your county. The contact information can be found at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Yes! In most states this year, it is easier than ever to check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted. In Alabama, to confirm your registration status, ballot status, polling location and address, visit <https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview>.

Voting Early In-Person**What hours and days can I vote early in-person?**

Alabama does not offer early in-person voting but does offer early absentee voting by mail and through in-person drop off at the office of the absentee election manager for your county. The contact information can be found at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>.

Other Early Voting Questions**What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I am worried it wasn't received).** (From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, in most states this year, it is easier than ever to check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted.

To confirm your registration status, ballot status, polling location and address, visit <https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

Some states have a process for voters to “cure” their signature in time for the ballot to be counted. These states will notify voters if there is a problem and provide voters with a process and timeframe to verify that the ballot is indeed theirs. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> for a list of states that require voters to be notified when there is a missing signature or a signature discrepancy and provide an opportunity to correct it.

Alabama does not require voters to be notified of a problem with their absentee ballots or provide an opportunity to cure problems with their ballots.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved.)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact the absentee election manager for your county. Contact information can be found at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved within your state and need to update your mailing address, contact the absentee election manager for your county. Contact information can be found at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager> as soon as possible. You may be required to re-register to vote.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))

In Alabama, to confirm your registration status, ballot status, polling location and address, visit <https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview>

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the contact information at

<https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview>. For issues with your polling place, contact 1-800-274-8683.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Visit <https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview> to confirm that you are registered to vote and to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

For general voting issues in Alabama, contact 1-800-274-8683.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. As long as you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately. For general voting issues in Alabama, contact 1-800-274-8683.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also

use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

In Alabama, accessible voting machines are offered at every polling site in the State of Alabama and will be available for use on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Voters who are disabled or over the age of 70 may move to the front of the line at a polling place upon notifying a poll worker. A voter may request assistance at the polling place from anyone except the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union. A poll worker may also assist the voter upon request. <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/assistance-disability>

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)

Yes! A voter may request assistance at the polling place from anyone except the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union. A poll worker may also assist the voter upon request. <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/assistance-disability>

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

In Alabama, a voter may request assistance at the polling place from anyone except the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union. A poll worker may also assist the voter upon request. <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/assistance-disability>

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

In Alabama, Absentee and regular ballots are available in Spanish. Spanish-language interpreters may be available at some polling locations. Contact your local polling place for additional information. Information about your polling place can be found here: <https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview>

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

In Alabama, every voter must submit their own ballot, either by mail or at an in-person drop off box. You can also contact your local election office. You can find contact information at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/board-of-registrars-all-counties>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location. ALABAMA: Contact 1-800-274-8683.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

In Alabama, you can also contact your county's absentee election manager. This information can be found at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/city-county-lookup/absentee-election-manager>

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce people in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Arizona Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/> and <https://www.azcleaselections.gov/how-to-vote/voters-without-an-address>)

Yes! When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and to mail any election materials. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or can include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address. You can also list the county courthouse in the county in which you reside. Learn more about voting and homelessness at <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a Post Office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life office) asserting that you live at your dorm address. For more information on how to vote in Arizona, check out <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/arizona>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they do not register to vote in both locations or states. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition who require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires in-state residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx> and https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf)

Generally, you should update your voter registration with your new address. The voter registration deadline for the General Election has been extended by a court order to 11:59 p.m. on October 15, 2020. All voter registration forms sent by U.S. mail must be received on or before the deadline. You can see all voter registration deadlines, including for local elections at <https://azsos.gov/elections/elections-calendar-upcoming-events>.

If you are not able to register to vote at your new address before the deadline, you will still be able to vote. The new polling place will not have you on its roster, but you will be able to vote using a provisional ballot. The new address you provide on the provisional ballot will automatically update your voter information for future elections.

I got evicted but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote, <https://azsos.gov/votebymail> and <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election/register-vote-or-update-your-current-voter-information>)

It may depend on where you were evicted from and where you have relocated to, and whether your relocation is temporary or if you intend to establish permanent residency where you have relocated. Call both your old and new local election official's offices to explain your situation and ask about your options and next steps. You can find your old and new local election officials' contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Generally, you should update your voter registration with your new address. The voter registration deadline for the General Election has been extended to 11:59 p.m. on October 15, 2020, by a court order. All voter registration forms sent by U.S. mail must be received on or before the deadline. You can see all voter registration deadlines, including for local elections at <https://azsos.gov/elections/elections-calendar-upcoming-events>.

Once you have registered with your new address, you can request a replacement ballot by mail, by contacting your County Recorder's Office directly. You can find your County Recorder's contact information at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>. Requests must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 23, 2020. If there is insufficient time to receive a mail-in ballot by mail, you can still vote in person.

If you are not able to register to vote at your new address before the deadline, you will still be able to vote. The new polling place will not have you on its roster, but you will be able to vote using a provisional ballot. The new address you provide on the provisional ballot will automatically update your voter information for future elections.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election/register-vote-or-update-your-current-voter-information> and <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election>)

You should vote at the assigned location for your new address. The location of your new polling place can be found through the new Voter Information Portal at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://my.arizona.vote) or by contacting your County Recorder at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

The voter registration deadline for the General Election has been extended to 11:59 p.m. on October 15, 2020 by a court order. If you are not able to register to vote at your new address before the deadline, you will still be able to vote. The new polling place will not have you on its roster, but you will be able to vote using a provisional ballot. The new address you provide on the provisional ballot will automatically update your voter information for future elections.

If you are able to register before the deadline, you can request a ballot by mail, by contacting your County Recorder's Office directly. You can find your County Recorder's contact information at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>. Requests must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 23, 2020. If there is insufficient time to receive a mail-in ballot by mail, you can still vote in person as described above.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election/register-vote-or-update-your-current-voter-information> and <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election>)

You should vote at the assigned location for your new address. The location of your new polling place can be found through our new Voter Information Portal at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://my.arizona.vote) or by contacting your County Recorder at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

The voter registration deadline for the General Election has been extended to 11:59 p.m. on October 15, 2020, by a court order. All voter registration forms sent by U.S. mail must be received on or before the deadline. If you are not able to register to vote at your new address before the deadline, you will still be able to vote. The new polling place will not have you on its roster, but you will be able to vote using a provisional ballot. The new address you provide on the provisional ballot will automatically update your voter information for future elections.

If you are able to register before the deadline, you can request a ballot by mail, by contacting your County Recorder's Office directly. You can find your County Recorder's contact information at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>. Requests must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 23, 2020. If there is insufficient time to receive a mail-in ballot by mail, you can still vote in person as described above.

I moved recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election/register-vote-or-update-your-current-voter-information> and <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election>)

You should vote at the assigned location for your new address. The location of your new polling place can be found through the new Voter Information Portal at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/) or by contacting your County Recorder at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

The address on your ID must match your registration address. However, even if your ID lists an old address, there are still many other forms of ID that you can use to vote. A complete list of acceptable forms of ID is available at <https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/>. If you are not able to present an acceptable form of ID, you will only be eligible to cast a provisional ballot. This provisional ballot will be valid and counted as long you provide valid identification to your polling location before 7:00 pm on Election Day. Alternatively, you can present an acceptable form of identification to your County Recorder's Office by 5 p.m. on the 5th business day following the election if the election included a federal race, or by 5 p.m. on the 3rd business day after any other election.

Other**Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?**

(From <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election>)

The address on your ID must match your registration address. However, even if your ID lists an old address, there are still many other forms of ID that you can use to vote. A complete list of acceptable forms of ID is available at <https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/>. If you are not able to present an acceptable form of ID, you will only be eligible to cast a provisional ballot. This provisional ballot will be valid and counted as long you provide valid identification to your polling location before 7 p.m. on Election Day. Alternatively, you can present an acceptable form of identification to your County Recorder's Office by 5 p.m. on the 5th business day following the election if the election included a federal race, or by 5 p.m. on the 3rd business day after any other election.

My housing is changing and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election/register-vote-or-update-your-current-voter-information> and <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election>)

If you do not know if you will be able to access your mail at your old housing address to receive a mail-in ballot, it is probably safer to make a plan to vote in person, if possible. The first step is to try to determine what polling district you will be residing in on Election Day.

You should vote at the assigned location for your new address. The location of your new polling place can be found through the new Voter Information Portal at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/) or by contacting your County Recorder at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

The voter registration deadline for the General Election has been extended to 11:59 p.m. on October 15, 2020, by a court order. All voter registration forms sent by U.S. mail must be received on or before the deadline. If you are not able to register to vote at your new address before the deadline, you will still be able to vote. The new polling place will not have you on its roster, but you will be able to vote using a provisional ballot. The new address you provide on the provisional ballot will automatically update your voter information for future elections.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf/>)

Yes. Arizona has a Confidential Voter Registration program that enable survivors of domestic violence to register while maintaining the confidentiality of their address. Information regarding the program is available at <https://azsos.gov/services/acp/protected-voter-registration>.

Can I use a PO Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>)

Call your local election official's office for guidance. (You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.) If you move within the state, you'll need to update your voter registration. If you move permanently to another state, you'll need to register to vote in that state. The voter registration deadline in Arizona for the General Election has been extended to 11:59 p.m. on October 15, 2020, by a court order.

If you are able to register in time, you may be able to vote at your local polling site. Check out the U.S. Vote Foundation's Election Dates & Deadlines at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm> for more information. Note that voting twice in federal elections is illegal under federal law and most state laws.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/> and <https://azsos.gov/votebymail>)

No excuse is needed to vote a ballot-by-mail in Arizona. To request a ballot by mail in Arizona, apply online, call or email your County Recorder, or submit a printed form. The application must include your original, non-digital signature if submitted by mail. If submitting the application email or fax, a scanned version of the signature is sufficient. Request must be received by 5 p.m. on October 23, 2020.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to ask about your options. If it's not too late, you may be able to request a replacement ballot. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Keep in mind that federal and Arizona state law prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://azsos.gov/votebymail>)

If you have lost or damaged your ballot-by-mail, you may request a replacement ballot via mail or in-person.

To request a replacement ballot by mail, contact your County Recorder's Office directly. Requests must be made by Friday, October 23, 2020. Your County Recorder's contact information can be found at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

You may also visit a voting location on or before Election Day to vote in-person. Visit [My.Arizona.Vote](#) to find your correct voting location.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

(From <https://azsos.gov/votebymail>)

You may request a replacement ballot via mail or in-person.

To request a replacement ballot by mail, contact your County Recorder's Office directly. Requests must be made by Friday, October 23, 2020. Your County Recorder's contact information can be found at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

You may also visit a voting location on or before Election Day to vote in-person. Visit [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.myarizona.vote) to find your correct voting location.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://www.arizona.vote/>)

You do not need postage to mail your ballot back in Arizona.

All early ballots come with a postage-paid return envelope. There is no need to add postage. Voters should remember to sign and date the return envelope, and to include a phone number in case election officials need to follow up with you. If you are mailing a ballot back, do so as soon as possible and no later than Oct. 27, 2020, to help ensure election officials receive it by 7 p.m. on Nov. 3, 2020.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

If you can't remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. The voter registration deadline for the General Election has been extended to 11:59 p.m. on October 15, 2020, by a court order.

If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, your ballot may not count. Absentee ballots include an affidavit that must be signed by the voter under penalty of perjury. Upon receipt, the signature on the affidavit is compared to the signature on the voter's registration form. The vote is counted only if the affidavit is found sufficient.

Election officials will make reasonable efforts to contact you to advise you of the inconsistent signature and allow you to correct or the county to confirm the inconsistent signature. You have until the fifth business day after an election to correct a signature.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://azsos.gov/votebymail>)

Your ballot-by-mail must be received by county election officials by 7 p.m. on Election Day. If you are going to mail back your ballot-by-mail for the General Election, it is recommended that you do so by October 27, 2020. Otherwise, you should take your ballot to any ballot drop-off location or voting location in your county by 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Ballot drop-off locations and voting locations can be found through the new Voter Information Portal at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.myarizona.vote) or by contacting your County Recorder at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, <https://azsos.gov/votbymail>, and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>)

You can skip the line and turn in your ballot at any polling location within your county. The poll workers will be able to assist and show you where to drop off your early ballot. In addition, your family member, household member or caregiver may return an absentee ballot on your behalf. Ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Ballot drop-off locations can be found through the new Voter Information Portal at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.myarizona.vote) or by contacting your County Recorder at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://azsos.gov/votbymail>)

You may drop off your ballot at any ballot drop-box, drop-off location, early voting location, or Election Day voting location in your county on or before Election Day. Ballot drop-off locations can be found through the new Voter Information Portal at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.myarizona.vote) or by contacting your County Recorder at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

Ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://azsos.gov/votbymail>)

Yes! You may track the status of your ballot at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.myarizona.vote) to confirm that it was received and counted.

Voters in Maricopa County can receive automatic updates on their ballot status via text. Text the word "JOIN" to 628-683 or visit TextSignUp.Maricopa.Vote to subscribe.

Voting Early In-Person

What hours and days can I vote early in-person?

(From <https://azsos.gov/votbymail>)

Each county has different in-person early voting options starting 27 days before Election Day up through 5 p.m. on the Friday before Election Day. Visit your County Recorder's website or contact your County Recorder directly to learn more about in-person early voting options in your

county: <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>. You can also find specific polling hours for your local polling place at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received). (From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. You can check the status of your mail ballot at [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.arizona.vote) to see if it has been received and counted. If you are still not sure, contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> and Ariz. Rev. Stat. §16-550)

Arizona has a process for voters to “cure” their signatures in time for their ballots to be counted. Election officials will make reasonable efforts to contact you, advise you of the inconsistent signature, and allow you to correct or the county to confirm the inconsistent signature. You have until the fifth business day after an election to correct a signature.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved.)

(From <https://www.arizona.vote/>)

You may request a replacement ballot via mail or in-person.

To request a replacement ballot by mail, contact your County Recorder's Office directly. Requests must be made by Friday, October 23, 2020. Your County Recorder's contact information can be found at <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>.

You may also visit a voting location on or before Election Day to vote in-person. Visit [My.Arizona.Vote](https://www.arizona.vote) to find your correct voting location.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))

Polling hours are from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to [My.Arizona.Vote](#). Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Issues at the Polling Place**What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?**

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Arizona's Voter Information Portal at [My.Arizona.Vote](#) to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, do not

leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Arizona offers "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car. If you want to use this method of voting, you should call your local election office to see if they allow curbside voting and let them know you want to use it. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm and <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election>)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or the agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility> and <https://azsos.gov/elections/voting-election>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place; or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx> and Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-1005)

Yes, a family member, household member, or caregiver may return an absentee ballot on behalf of a voter.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce others in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Arkansas Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/>;
<https://www.acluarkansas.org/en/know-your-rights/know-your-rights-voting-when-homeless>)

Yes! On the voter registration form, homeless registrants can list a shelter address or include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address or can draw a map of the area where you live in Section C of the voter registration form.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a Post Office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life Office) asserting that you live at your dorm address.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school>;
<https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they don't register to vote in both states. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires California residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>; <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>; https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/>)

Contact the Arkansas Secretary of State's office at email address voterservices@sos.arkansas.gov or contact your local election office for further information and ask about the residency requirements for voting in Arkansas. You can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>; https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf; <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>; https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/>)

Contact the Arkansas Secretary of State's office at email address voterservices@sos.arkansas.gov or contact your local election office for further information and ask about the residency requirements for voting in Arkansas. You can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>; <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>; https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/voting_101_8-2020_grayscaleb.pdf)

If you have moved to Arkansas from another state, notify the voter registrar in your previous state of residence to request cancellation. Be sure to submit a new registration application to your county clerk in Arkansas. You must submit your application to an official voter registration agency or mail it no later than 30 days prior

to an election in which you wish to vote. The postmark on a mailed application will be its submission date.

You can contact the Arkansas Secretary of State's office at email address voterservices@sos.arkansas.gov or contact your local election office for further information and ask about the residency requirements for voting in Arkansas. You can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/voting_101_8-2020_grayscaleb.pdf)

If you are changing your residence to another county within the state, you can vote in the county of your new residence if your updated registration must be received by the county clerk's office in the new county no later than 4 days before the election. If you submit your application close to an election registration deadline, you are strongly advised to follow up with your county clerk BEFORE Election Day. When an election deadline is near, there is one method of application that will ensure your eligibility: apply in person with your county clerk. You should also notify the county clerk in your old county and confirm that your registration has been transferred.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#i-have-recently-moved,-am-i-still-eligible-to-vote>)

Contact the Arkansas Secretary of State's office at email address voterservices@sos.arkansas.gov or contact your local election office to learn where you should vote. You can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm?submission=true&stateId=5>; <https://www.vote411.org/arkansas#id-needed-for-voting>)

In Arkansas, you need to show a valid ID to vote. You can use any ID from this list and the expiration date on the ID must not be more than 4 years before Election Day:

- Current and Valid Photo ID
- U.S. Passport

- License to Carry Concealed Weapon or Firearm
- Valid Arkansas Driver's License
- Valid Military ID
- Public Assistance ID
- Valid Student ID from State School

If you do not have an Arkansas Driver's License, Arkansas ID or Social Security number and need help getting ID, go to www.voteriders.org.

If you do not show one of these forms of ID, you may vote a provisional ballot.

My housing is changing, and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>)

If you are a registered voter, you may be able to vote with a provisional ballot at a polling place.

You can also contact the Arkansas Secretary of State's office at email address voterservices@sos.arkansas.gov or contact your local election office for further information and ask about the residency requirements for voting in Arkansas. You can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Library_Safety_Net_ACP_Chart_April_2020.pdf; <https://codes.findlaw.com/ar/title-27-transportation/ar-code-sect-27-16-811.html>)

Yes, if you apply to the Confidential License Registration program, a P.O. Box address will be assigned to you and you can register to vote using the P.O. Box address. You can apply to: Revenue Division – DL Services Dept. of Finance and Admin. P.O. Box 1272, Little Rock, AR. 72203 (501) 682-7052.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No, unless you are a member of the Confidential License Registration program. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to list your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>)

Contact your local election official's office for guidance. (You can find the contact information at <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/voter-registration-information/voting-in-arkansas>.) If you move within your state, you'll need to update your voter registration. If you move permanently to another state, you'll need to register to vote in that state. In some states, you may be eligible to register to vote in a new state immediately upon moving. In others, you may need to wait a certain number of days before you register to vote in the next election. The registration deadline could be as far in advance as a month before Election Day or as close as Election Day. If you are able to register in time, you may be able to vote at your local polling site. Check out the U.S. Vote Foundation's Election Dates & Deadlines at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm> for more information. Note that voting twice in federal elections is illegal under federal law and most state laws.

Early Voting Questions:**Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot****What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?**

(From https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/voting_101_8-2020_grayscaleb.pdf)

The deadline for submitting an application for an absentee ballot depends on how you'll return it to the county clerk:

- a) In person by you: By close of business the day BEFORE the election
- b) By designated bearer or administrator: By close of business the day BEFORE the election
- c) By mail, email or by fax: By 7 days before the election
- d) By authorized agent: By 1:30 p.m.

On Election Day Note: The law does not prohibit county clerks from mailing absentee ballot applications during the 7 days prior to an election. However, if you receive the application during that window, you or your chosen bearer must deliver it personally to the county clerk.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.washingtoncountyar.gov/government/departments-a-e/county-clerk/voting/absentee-voting>;
https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf)

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local county clerk's office as soon as possible to ask about your options. You can find your local county clerk's contact information at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone may have stolen your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.washingtoncountyar.gov/government/departments-a-e/county-clerk/voting/absentee-voting>;
https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf)

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local county clerk's office to ask about your options. You can find your local county clerk's contact information at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot**What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?**

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local county clerk's office to ask about your options. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. You can find your local county clerk's contact information at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>; <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

You can drop off your ballot at your local county clerk's office up to 5 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2020. You can find your local county clerk's contact information at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

Arkansas does not require election officials to notify you regarding any signature discrepancies. If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, in many states, your ballot may not count. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx> for a listing of how states verify voted absentee ballots.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-11-receipt-and-postmark-deadlines-for-absentee-ballots.aspx>)

You can drop off your ballot at your local county clerk's office up to 5 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2020. You can find your local county clerk's contact information at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-11-receipt-and-postmark-deadlines-for-absentee-ballots.aspx>)

The deadline to drop off your ballot is the day *before* Election Day. The ballot must be dropped off at your local county clerk's office no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2020. You can find your local county clerk's contact information at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx#permit>; https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf.)

No, but you can drop off your ballot at your local county clerk's office up to 5 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2020. You can find your local county clerk's contact information at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/wheres-my-ballot>; <https://www.voterview.ar-nova.org/VoterView>)

Yes! You can check online at <https://www.voterview.ar-nova.org/VoterView>.

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

(From: <https://www.vote411.org/arkansas#early-voting>)

Beginning Monday, October 19, at 8 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m. on Monday, November 2. Voting hours Monday through Friday are between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and on Saturday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received). (From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, in Arkansas you can check online to see the status of your mail ballot at <https://www.voterview.ar-nova.org/VoterView>.

If you're still not sure, contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

No.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved.)

(From https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/voting_101_8-2020_grayscaleb.pdf)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local county clerk's office. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved to another county within Arkansas, you must re-register. Your updated registration must be received by the county clerk's office in the new county no later than 4 days before the election. If you submit your application close to an election registration deadline, you are strongly advised to follow up with your county clerk BEFORE Election Day. When

an election deadline is near, there is one method of application that will ensure your eligibility: apply in person.

You can find your local county clerk's contact information at [https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County Clerk Contact List - Rev. 8-28-2020 .pdf](https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf)

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/arkansas#polling-place-hours>)

The polls will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/election-commissioner>; <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/contact-us/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.voterview.ar-nova.org/VoterView>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the county board of election commissioners contact information at <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/election-commissioner> and the Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners contact information at <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/contact-us/>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/voting_101_8-2020_grayscaleb.pdf)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, following is the process for casting a provisional ballot:

1. An election official will inform the voter.
2. The election official will write the voter's name and address on the list of provisional voters.
3. The voter will complete a Voter Affirmation form on which the voter affirms that he or she is registered in the precinct and is eligible to vote in the election.
4. If applicable, voters unable to verify their voter registration may complete a Verification of Identity Affirmation.
5. The election official will give the voter the proper ballot after removing the stub and placing it in the ballot stub box.
6. The voter will mark the ballot, then place it in the Provisional Ballot Envelope and seal it.
7. The sealed Provisional Ballot Envelope should be placed in the Provisional Voter Envelope, the Voter Affirmation, and the Verification of Identity Affirmation (if applicable). It is likely that the Voter Affirmation, and the Verification of Identity Affirmation will be printed on the outside of the Provisional Voter Envelope.
8. The poll workers will set the Provisional Voter Envelope aside, separated from the regular ballots, until the county board of election commissioners determines whether the votes may be counted.
9. The election official will provide the voter with written instructions on how to determine whether the provisional vote was counted, and, if not, the reason the vote was not counted. (In most cases, the election commission will mail a notice to the voter.)
10. Before the results of the election are certified, the election commission must determine whether the provisional ballots are valid and should be counted.

Your rights when casting a provisional ballot: Even if your name does not appear on the precinct voter registration list and the poll worker cannot verify that you are a registered voter in that precinct, you have the right to cast a provisional ballot. If you cast a Provisional Ballot, you have the right to be informed in writing of whether or not your ballot was counted and, if not, the reason it was not counted.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/arkansas#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

If you are at the polling site and find that you are unable to stand in line for an extended period of time due to physical, sensory or other disability, you can inform an election official and they will put you at the head of the line of any voters.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/arkansas#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

If you are unable to mark your ballot, you may be assisted by two election officials or by any person selected by you, who will mark the ballot in accordance with your voting wishes.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/>)

If you are unable to read the ballot, the election official will have the entire ballot read to you, unless you instruct otherwise. The election official shall then assist you without comment or interpretation in marking the ballot. If you designate a person to assist, the election official shall allow that person to assist you, and the person designated shall read the entire ballot to you, unless you instruct otherwise, and then assist you without comment or interpretation in marking the ballot.

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/County_Clerk_Contact_List_-_Rev._8-28-2020_.pdf

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>)

For absentee ballots, you may authorize a person to drop off an absentee ballot directly to the county clerk. The authorized person must show photo ID to the county clerk and sign an oath when returning the absentee ballot. Such authorized person may not have more than two (2) absentee ballots in his/her possession at any time.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.acluarkansas.org/en/know-your-rights/know-your-rights-voting-when-homeless>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location. If the poll worker is the problem, tell the election judge, and also call your county clerk. You can ask for the names of any poll worker.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.

- You can make a complaint online at www.acluarkansas.org/get-help and/or with your county board of election commissioners and the Arkansas State Board of Elections. A written complaint with the Arkansas State Board of Elections must be filed within thirty (30) days of the incident. Information on making a complaint to the Arkansas State Board of Election can be found at www.arkansas.gov/sbec/election-information/complaints/.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/election-commissioner>; <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/contact-us/>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your county board of election commissioners and the Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners. You can find the county board of election commissioners contact information at <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/election-commissioner> and the Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners contact information at <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/contact-us/>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/election-commissioner>; <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/contact-us/>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your county board of election commissioners and the Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners. You can find the county board of election commissioners contact information at <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/election-commissioner> and the Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners contact information at <https://www.arkansas.gov/sbec/contact-us/>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

California Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voting-law-compliance/voting-law-compliance.pdf>,
<https://www.abc10.com/article/news/local/vote/homeless-voter-registration/103-1fc547b3-c072-435d-8d88-7ddcf3360d6a>)

Yes! Both state law and judicial rulings support the rights of people experiencing homelessness to register to vote. You may register to vote if you maintain a fixed location where you can receive mail and where you can be properly assigned to a precinct. (Elections Code § 2027.)

For example, the Sacramento County elections website lets people register to vote online at <https://elections.saccounty.net/VotingInformation/Pages/Registering.aspx> and provides insight into voting for those who do not have a home address.

Even though an address is required to vote, the residence you report on your Voter Registration Form does not have to be a home or apartment. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address where they could receive election mail. You can also simply provide a description of the location you consider to be your home. This includes cross streets, landmarks, or any place that you recognize as your place of residence. However, people who provide cross streets or landmarks must also include a mailing address to receive election materials. A P.O. box, business, or mail drop address is required. In addition, voters must also provide a valid California driver's license or state ID when registering to vote in California. If applicants do not have either, they can use the last four digits of their Social Security numbers.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>, <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voting-law-compliance/voting-law-compliance.pdf>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student.

You should re-register by filling out a new voter registration card with your new residence and filling in the prior registration information so your prior registration will be revised. You can also re-register online.

However, you may remain registered at your permanent residence, such as your home, and simply request that a vote-by-mail ballot be sent to you. The decision about where you register and where you vote is up to you, but you can only be registered in one location and vote once. (Elections Code §§ 349, 2020-2024, 2032)

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>, <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voting-law-compliance/voting-law-compliance.pdf>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they do not register to vote in both locations or states. However, you may remain registered at your permanent residence, such as your home, and simply request that a vote-by-mail ballot be sent to you. The decision about where you register and vote is up to you, but you can only be registered in one location and vote once. (Elections Code §§ 349, 2020-2024, 2032).

Recently Moved or Evicted**I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?**

(From <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voting-law-compliance/voting-law-compliance.pdf>)

It depends on how recently you moved. If you moved on or before the registration deadline, which is 15 days prior to the election, the wisest action would be for you to re-register at your new address. You will receive your county voter information guide there with information about where you can go to vote.

If you moved after the 15-day voter registration deadline, you can conditionally register (or re-register) to vote and vote provisionally at the polling location for your new residence. Moreover, if you live in a county that conducts elections under the California Voter's Choice Act, conditional registration is offered at all locations within the county. Visit <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg/> and <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voters-choice-act> for more information. However, after the 15-day voter registration deadline, you also have the legal right to return to your old polling place for just that election. (Elections Code §§ 2035, 14311)

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voting-law-compliance/voting-law-compliance.pdf>)

You may re-register to vote by filling in the online application at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>. If you have any questions, visit <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/frequently-asked-questions> or contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at (800) 345-VOTE (8683) or by email. You can submit an email inquiry at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/contact/email-elections-division>. If you want to delete your earlier voter registration and learn more about voting locations, contact your local county elections official, whose contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections->

[offices](#). You can also check your most up-to-date voter registration status at <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>)

In California, you may be eligible to register to vote immediately upon moving. If you are registering or re-registering less than 15 days before an election, you will need to complete the Same-Day Voter Registration process at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg/> and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact your local county elections official, whose contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-officescounty-elections-official>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>)

In California, you may be eligible to register to vote immediately upon moving. If you are registering or re-registering less than 15 days before an election, you will need to complete the Same-Day Voter Registration process at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg/> and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact your local county elections official, whose contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-officescounty-elections-official>.

I had to move recently, but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://registertovote.ca.gov/> and https://ballotpedia.org/Election_governance_in_California)

California does not require photo identification to vote. You may re-register to vote by filling in the online application at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>.

In California, you may be eligible to register to vote immediately upon moving. You will need your California driver license or California identification card number to register to vote. If you are registering or re-registering less than 15 days before an election, you will need to complete the Same-Day Voter Registration process at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg/> and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact your local county elections official, whose contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-officescounty-elections-official>.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://registertovote.ca.gov/> and https://ballotpedia.org/Election_governance_in_California)

California does not require photo identification to vote. You may re-register to vote by filling in the online application at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>.

In California, you may be eligible to register to vote immediately upon moving. You will need your California driver license or California identification card number to register to vote. If you are registering or re-registering less than 15 days before an election, you will need to complete the Same-Day Voter Registration process at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg/> and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact your local election official, whose contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>.

My housing is changing, and I am not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>)

If you do not know if, or where, you will be able to receive a mail-in ballot, it is safest to plan to vote in person. In California, you may be eligible to register to vote immediately upon moving. You will need your California driver license or California identification card number to register to vote. If you are registering or re-registering less than 15 days before an election you will need to complete the Same-Day Voter Registration process at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg/> and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact your local county elections official, whose contact information is available at https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-officescounty_elections_official. You can also check your most up-to-date voter registration status at <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>.

If you are not sure where to vote and you do not have a fixed address before the registration deadline, you may register for a provisional ballot. A voter may cast a provisional ballot if he or she did not receive the ballot or does not have the ballot with them (and the elections official is unable to verify that they have not returned their vote-by-mail ballot). See https://ballotpedia.org/Election_governance_in_California#Provisional_ballot_rules.

Provisional ballots are counted after elections officials have confirmed that you are registered to vote in that county and you did not already vote in that election. Provisional ballots are rejected when the signature on the ballot does not match the voter registration signature. Visit the secretary of state's website <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ballot-status> to check the status of your provisional ballot.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://elections.saccounty.net/VotingInformation/Pages/VoterRegistration.aspx>)

In California, certain voters facing life-threatening situations may qualify for confidential voter status. For more information, please contact the Secretary of State's Safe at Home program at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/registries/safe-home> or visit the Secretary of State's website at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/>. Safe at Home is a confidential address program administered by the California Secretary of State's office and is most effective when used as part of an overall safety plan. Safe at Home offers victims of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, human trafficking & elder and dependent abuse, as well as reproductive health care workers, a substitute mailing address to receive first class, certified, and registered mail. This address is also accepted by California state, county, and city government agencies in lieu of a residential or other mailing address where a victim can be tracked down, keeping the residence address confidential and out of the hands of someone who might want to harm the victim.

For more information about voter registration, call:

English: (800) 345-8683

Spanish: (800) 339-2857

Chinese: (800) 232-8682

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voting-law-compliance/voting-law-compliance.pdf>)

No. The Elections Code requires you to register to vote using the address of your domicile in the county in which you reside. "Domicile" is defined as the place where you live, where your habitation is fixed, and where you intend to remain and return to whenever you are absent from it. (Elections Code §§ 321, 349, 2020-2034).

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I have moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>)

You may re-register to vote by filling in the online application at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>. If you have any questions, visit <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/frequently-asked-questions> or contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at (800) 345-VOTE (8683) or by email at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/contact/email-elections-division>. If you want to delete your earlier voter registration and to know more about voting locations, contact your local county elections official, whose contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>. You can also check your most up-to-date voter registration status at <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact your local county elections official.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail; how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-info/ways-vote?fbclid=IwAR22AA_HZlclAZNRhs_NNNsZioCl4AbKl1LYRyy4rT26KYnZAKd7ZhAFSlS and <https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/election/article245380065.html>)

In California, for the November 3, 2020, General Election, all active registered voters will receive a ballot in the mail. Every voter in California will be mailed a Vote by Mail ballot for each election they are qualified to vote in. Counties must begin sending ballots to voters by Oct. 5.

You may also request a vote-by-mail ballot by October 27, 2020. You can fill out the California Vote By Mail Application at <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/vote-by-mail/pdf/vote-by-mail-application.pdf> or the application printed on your county voter information guide and return it to your county elections official. You can also contact your county elections official to see if your county allows you to apply by telephone. Your county elections official's contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(<https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voting-law-compliance/voting-law-compliance.pdf>)

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local county elections official as soon as possible to ask about your options. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, you may complete the Same-Day Voter Registration process at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg/> and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact your local county elections official. Your county elections official's contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(<https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/vote-mail#lost>)

If you have lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local county elections official to ask about your options. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, you may complete the Same-Day Voter Registration process at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg/> and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact your local county

elections official. Your county elections official's contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>.

If you failed to receive vote-by-mail ballot or you have lost or destroyed your original vote-by-mail ballot, the timeframe to request a vote-by-mail ballot has passed, and you are unable to vote in person at the polls, you may apply in writing for a late vote-by-mail ballot. This application will need to be provided in person to the county elections official by you or your representative. (Elec. Code, § 3021.) Once you mark your ballot, fill out and sign the envelope, you can personally or through your authorized representative, submit your ballot either to your elections official or any polling place within your jurisdiction. See the Application Form at <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/vote-by-mail/pdf/late-vote-by-mail-application.pdf>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local county elections official to ask about your options. Your county elections official's contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.ca.gov/administration/news-releases-and-advisories/2019-news-releases-and-advisories/no-stamp-no-problem-all-vote-mail-ballots-now-come-prepaid-postage-return-envelopes> and <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

All California vote-by-mail ballots will come with prepaid postage return envelopes. No stamp is required for you to mail back your ballot.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

If you cannot remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there is still time. Deadlines to register to vote vary by state. Check out <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/> for voter registration deadlines.

In California, voters of ballots with mismatching signatures are notified a minimum of eight days prior to certification of the election. Voters have until 5 p.m. two days prior to certification of the election to provide a signature verification statement in person. If a voter fails to sign the

absentee ballot envelope, they have until 5 p.m. on the eighth day after the election to submit an unsigned ballot statement.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

Deadlines to return mail-in ballots in California is the Election Day (before polls close) or three days after the election if postmarked on or before Election Day. See <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-11-receipt-and-postmark-deadlines-for-absentee-ballots.aspx> and <https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot-deadlines/> for state-by-state receipt and postmark deadlines for mail ballots.

If you miss the date to mail your ballot back, it may not be too late! In California, you may be able to drop off your ballot at your local election office, a secure ballot drop box, an early voting location, or a polling place on Election Day. Check out <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx> for more information about your particular jurisdiction.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

In California, you may be able to drop off your ballot at your local election office, a secure ballot drop box, an early voting location, or a polling place on Election Day. (<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>). Contact your local county elections official to ask about your options. Your local county elections official's contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that is different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/>)

California allows you to return to any polling place, local County Elections Office, or via County drop boxes. Contact your local county elections official to ask about your options. Your local county elections official's contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

California does not provide a tracking system on your ballot.

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/early-voting-in-state-elections.aspx>; <https://caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov/>)

The California Voter's Choice allows early in-person voting. The early voting generally starts 29 days before election and ends the day before election. The hours and days vary from county to county. To find out the early voting locations in California, please check out <https://caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov/> or contact your local county elections official. Your local county elections official's contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>.

One or more early voting locations will be available in all counties for at least four days beginning the Saturday before the November 3, 2020, election. Voting locations will offer voter registration, replacement ballots, accessible voting machines, and language assistance.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received). (From

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. California does not provide tracking system on your ballot. Contact your local county elections official to ask about your options. Your local county elections official's contact information is available at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

In California, voters of ballots with mismatching signatures are notified a minimum of eight days prior to certification of the election. Voters have until 5 p.m. two days prior to certification of the election to provide a signature verification statement in person. If a voter fails to sign the absentee ballot envelope, they have until 5 p.m. on the eighth day after the election to submit an unsigned ballot statement.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I have already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From <https://caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov/>)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local county elections official to request a replacement. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved within your state and need to update your mailing address, contact your county elections official as soon as possible. You may be required to re-register to vote.

Additionally, one or more early voting locations will be available in all counties for at least four days beginning the Saturday before the November 3, 2020, election. Voting locations will offer voter registration, replacement ballots, accessible voting machines, and language assistance.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))

In California, the general hours of polling places are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You can find your local polling place at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/polling-place/> and <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

In California, you can check the polling locations at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/polling-place/>. To see additional locations, you may visit your county elections official's website or visit CaEarlyVoting.sos.ca.gov.

Any registered voter can go to a county elections office in person to request and receive a vote by-mail ballot. To find same day voter registration location(s) in your county, early voting locations, or ballot drop-off locations, please visit <https://caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov/>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/> and <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote. You can also use Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(<https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/publications-and-resources/polling-place-accessibility-guidelines/polling-place-accessibility-checklist>; <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/voting-law-compliance/voting-law-compliance.pdf>; <https://voterguide.sos.ca.gov/voter-info/assistance-for-voters-w-disabilities.htm>)

Yes, in California you may have someone to take you to the polling place to vote.

The [Polling Place Accessibility Checklist \(Checklist\)](#), is designed to help county elections officials follow the [Polling Place Accessibility Guidelines](#) and make it easier to comply with

federal and state requirements for accessible polling places. You may check on the guidelines and check list to see what would be provided in the polling places. For more information, contact your local county elections official. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you have questions about the Checklist or Guidelines, please send them to ppagcomments@sos.ca.gov or contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at (916) 657-2166.

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

California offers "curbside voting which allows you to park as close as possible to the voting area. Elections officials will bring you a roster to sign, a ballot, and any other voting materials you may need, whether you are actually at a curb or in a car. Contact your county elections office to see if curbside voting is available at your polling place or vote center.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your county elections official to learn more about language assistance in your area. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

Yes, in California, a vote-by-mail voter who is unable to return the ballot may designate another person to return the ballot. However, a person designated to return a vote-by-mail ballot shall not receive any form of compensation based on the number of ballots that the person returns and an individual, group, or organization shall not provide compensation on this basis. You can look up your state's rules at <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>. You can also contact your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Connecticut Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Homeless-Voter-Fact-Sheet>)

Yes! If you have some connection to a particular town (including some town that you have spent time in or slept in) and intend to return to that town even if not presently there, you do not need a “home” address. However, you do need a physical address. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or can include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address. Visit myvote.ct.gov, for more information.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Student-Voter-Fact-Sheet>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room or apartment number. Some colleges use your dorm room or apartment number as both your physical and mailing address, where some do not. An example would be that you live in Smith Hall, but you get your mail delivered to the Student Center. Your mailing address could be 5555 Education Circle, College in CT, Anytown, CT, 06000; while your physical address would be 101 Smith Hall, College in CT. Visit myvote.ct.gov, for more information.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I’m now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voting-Eligibility>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Student-Voter-Fact-Sheet>)

If you are a college student living away from home, you may choose to vote in one of two ways:

- Either complete an absentee ballot for the election in your hometown

OR

- Register to vote in your college town

Any citizen has the right to cast their vote by absentee ballot if they meet one of the following reasons: You are an active member of the armed forces of the U.S.; you will be out of town during all hours of voting on election day; your illness prevents you from

voting in person on election day; your religious beliefs prevent you from voting on election day; you are performing duties as an election official at a polling location other than your own; or you have a physical disability that prevents you from voting in person on election day. Visit myvote.ct.gov for more information and links to the application.

There are some college students who would prefer to vote in their home state. Each State's deadlines for registering to vote and obtaining an absentee ballot are different. Make sure you check with that State's election officials. If you are already registered to vote in another state, you may choose to vote by casting an absentee ballot in that state. Visit myvote.ct.gov, for more information and links to other Secretary of States' websites.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voting-Eligibility>)

- You will have to update your voter registration to reflect your new address.
- If you moved to Connecticut from another state, if you moved to a different town within Connecticut, or even if you moved within the same town, your polling location may have changed.
- Your voter registration should always reflect your current home address.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Election-Day-Registration/Election-Day-Registration>; <http://www.govote.ct.gov/>)

You may update your registration using Connecticut's online voter registration system located at: <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do>. You may, for example, change your name, address, or party affiliation. You may also update your status using a mail in card or by visiting your registrar of voter's office or town clerk.

Also, Election Day Registration permits anyone to register and vote in person on Election Day who meets the eligibility requirements for voting in Connecticut and is not already registered OR is registered in one town but has moved to another town. By law, a person is eligible to register and vote if he or she is (1) a U.S. citizen, (2) age 18 or older, (3) a bona fide resident of the town in which he or she applies for admission, and (4) has completed confinement and parole if previously convicted of a disenfranchising felony.

Election Day Registration is not available at your polling place but is available at a designated EDR location in each town, beginning at 6 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m. You will register and vote at the designated EDR location in your town. Please plan to arrive early in the day as there may be long lines. You must be registered by 8 p.m. to vote. You will need to provide proof of identity and residency.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voting-Eligibility>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Election-Day-Registration/Election-Day-Registration>)

- You will have to update your voter registration to reflect your new address.
- If you moved to Connecticut from another state, if you moved to a different town within Connecticut, or even if you moved within the same town, your polling location may have changed.
- Your voter registration should always reflect your current home address.

Another option is Election Day Registration permits anyone to register and vote in person on Election Day who meets the eligibility requirements for voting in Connecticut and is not already registered OR is registered in one town but has moved to another town. By law, a person is eligible to register and vote if he or she is (1) a U.S. citizen, (2) age 18 or older, (3) a bona fide resident of the town in which he or she applies for admission, and (4) has completed confinement and parole if previously convicted of a disfranchising felony.

Election Day Registration is not available at your polling place, but is available at a designated EDR location in each town, beginning at 6 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m. You will register and vote at the designated EDR location in your town. Please plan to arrive early in the day as there may be long lines. You must be registered by 8 p.m. to vote. You will need to provide proof of identity and residency.

I had to move recently, but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Election-Day-Registration/Election-Day-Registration>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/FAQ/FAQ---Voter-Identification>)

- You will have to update your voter registration to reflect your new address.
- If you moved to Connecticut from another state, if you moved to a different town within Connecticut, or even if you moved within the same town, your polling location may have changed.
- Your voter registration should always reflect your current home address.

Another option is Election Day Registration, which permits anyone to register and vote in person on Election Day who: (1) meets the eligibility requirements for voting in Connecticut and is not already registered OR (2) is registered in one town but has moved to another town. By law, a

person is eligible to register and vote if he or she is (1) a U.S. citizen, (2) age 18 or older, (3) a bona fide resident of the town in which he or she applies for admission, and (4) has completed confinement and parole if previously convicted of a disenfranchising felony.

Election Day Registration is not available at your polling place but is available at a designated EDR location in each town, beginning at 6:00 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m. You will register and vote at the designated EDR location in your town. Please plan to arrive early in the day as there may be long lines. You must be registered by 8 p.m. to vote. You will need to provide proof of identity and residency.

Also, when you arrive at the polling place the poll worker will request that you present ID but if you do not have any, then in most cases you may sign an affidavit in lieu of presenting ID. There are several options for identification and they do not need to be a driver's license or have a photo.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/FAQ/FAQ---Voter-Identification>)

If your ID includes a photo, it does not need to include your address. Please see the chart below.

IN-PERSON VOTER ID REQUIREMENTS

| Two Types of ID Requirements in CT: | |
|---|---|
| <p>A. <u>First time voters</u> who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. registered by mail after January 1, 2003, <u>and</u> b. are voting for the first time in a primary/election with <i>federal candidates on the ballot</i> <u>and</u> c. have a "mark" next to their name on the official registry list: | <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>All other voters</u> (THIS INCLUDES MOST VOTERS)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must present: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Your social security card, <u>or</u> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A copy of a current and valid photo identification that shows your name and address; <p><u>Or</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or government document that shows your name and address; <p><u>Or</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cast a provisional ballot | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any pre-printed form of identification that shows your: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ name and address, <u>or</u> ▪ name and signature, <u>or</u> ▪ name and photograph <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign a statement under penalty of false statement on Form ED-681 entitled, "Signatures of Electors Who Did Not Present ID", provided by the Secretary of the State that the elector whose name appears on the official check list is the same person who is signing the form. |
|--|--|

My housing is changing, and I’m not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Election-Day-Registration/Election-Day-Registration>)

Election Day Registration permits anyone to register and vote in person on Election Day who meets the eligibility requirements for voting in Connecticut and is not already registered OR is registered in one town but has moved to another town. By law, a person is eligible to register and vote if he or she is (1) a U.S. citizen, (2) age 18 or older, (3) a bona fide resident of the town in which he or she applies for admission, and (4) has completed confinement and parole if previously convicted of a disenfranchising felony.

Election Day Registration is not available at your polling place but is available at a designated EDR location in each town, beginning at 6 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m. You will register and vote at the designated EDR location in your town. Please plan to arrive early in the day as there may be long lines. You must be registered by 8 p.m. to vote. You will need to provide proof of identity and residency.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Business-Services/ACP/Address-Confidentiality-Program>)

Yes. The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) provides services to victims of crime. Program participants are residents of the State of Connecticut who have recently relocated and whose new location is unknown to the abuser and undocumented in

government records. ACP's two services help keep the victim's new location secret. One part is the participant's use of an ACP substitute mailing address. The ACP provides cost-free mail forwarding services. The Office of the Secretary of the State serves as each program participant's legal agent for service of process and receipt of first class mail. The second part of the program prevents public access to a participant's actual address on government records including voter registry lists and keeps marriage records confidential. For more information, please visit <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Business-Services/ACP/Address-Confidentiality-Program>.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Homeless-Voter-Fact-Sheet>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Student-Voter-Fact-Sheet>)

No. You will need a physical address or "home address", which determines where you vote, not your mailing address. For example, your mailing address could be a post office or where you are able to receive mail, while your physical address is where you are located. You must be responsible to check for mail at the address provided. A registration confirmation letter will be mailed to you once you are registered. Visit myvote.ct.gov, for more info.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voting-Eligibility>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Election-Day-Registration/Election-Day-Registration>)

- You will have to update your voter registration to reflect your new address.
- If you moved to Connecticut from another state, if you moved to a different town within Connecticut, or even if you moved within the same town, your polling location may have changed.
- Your voter registration should always reflect your current home address.

Another option is Election Day Registration, which permits anyone to register and vote in person on Election Day who: (1) meets the eligibility requirements for voting in Connecticut and is not already registered OR (2) is registered in one town but has moved to another town. By law, a person is eligible to register and vote if he or she is (1) a U.S. citizen, (2) age 18 or older, (3) a bona fide resident of the town in which he or she applies for admission, and (4) has completed confinement and parole if previously convicted of a disenfranchising felony.

Election Day Registration is not available at your polling place but is available at a designated EDR location in each town, beginning at 6 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m. You will register and vote at the designated EDR location in your town. Please plan to arrive early

in the day as there may be long lines. You must be registered by 8 p.m. to vote. You will need to provide proof of identity and residency.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/connecticut/>)

Typically, voters in Connecticut must provide an approved excuse to vote absentee/by-mail in Connecticut. All voters may use the excuse "COVID-19" to request an absentee ballot. The deadline for request of an absentee ballot is Nov. 2, 2020. The deadline for receipt of an absentee ballot by fax is on Nov. 3, 2020.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local town clerk's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options. You can find your town clerk's contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Town-Clerk/Town-Clerks-List.pdf>.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone may have stolen your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you have lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local town clerk's office to inquire about your options. You can find your local town clerk's contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Town-Clerk/Town-Clerks-List.pdf>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you have made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local town clerk's office to inquire about your options. You can find your local town clerk's contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Town-Clerk/Town-Clerks-List.pdf>.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Voting>)

Your town clerk should provide a postage pre-paid envelope. If your town clerk has not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate

postage is affixed to your return envelope. If you do not have stamps, do not worry! You may return your absentee ballot application by using the safe and secure absentee ballot drop box that is stationed outside your town hall. You can find your local town clerk's contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Town-Clerk/Town-Clerks-List.pdf>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Election-Day-Registration/Election-Day-Registration>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>)

If you cannot remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. The deadline to register in Connecticut is seven days before Election Day.

If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, your ballot may not count. In Connecticut, the inner envelope of an absentee ballot return envelope is printed with a statement under false statement penalty. Absentee ballot applicants are required to sign the form on the inner envelope. If the statement on the inner envelope is not signed as required, the ballot is rejected.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/connecticut/>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Voting>)

The deadline to return an absentee ballot is Nov. 3 (by which the ballot must be received). You may also return your absentee ballot application by using the safe and secure absentee ballot drop box that is stationed outside your town hall. You can find your local town clerk's contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Town-Clerk/Town-Clerks-List.pdf>.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Voting>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>)

You may return your absentee ballot application by using the safe and secure absentee ballot drop box that is stationed outside your town hall. You can find your local town clerk's contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Town-Clerk/Town-Clerks-List.pdf>.

In Connecticut, an absentee ballot may be returned by a voter's "designee," which includes a person who is caring for the applicant because of the applicant's illness or physical disability, including but not limited to, a licensed physician or a registered or practical nurse; a member of the applicant's family; or if no such person consents or is available, then a police officer, registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters or assistant registrar of voters in the municipality in which the applicant resides.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Voting>)

You may return your absentee ballot application by using the safe and secure absentee ballot drop box that is stationed outside your town hall. You can find your local town clerk's contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Town-Clerk/Town-Clerks-List.pdf>. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/connecticut/>)

Yes! In Connecticut, you can track your ballot here: <https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx>.

Voting Early In Person**What hours and days can I vote early in person?**

(From <https://www.vote.org/connecticut/>)

Connecticut does not have in-person early voting or no-excuse absentee voting.

Other Early Voting Questions**What if I mailed in my ballot, but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or worried it was not received).** (From

<https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/connecticut/>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, it is easier than ever to check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted. In Connecticut, you can track your ballot at <https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

Connecticut does not have a designated process for voters to "cure" their signature in time for the ballot to be counted.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I have already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved.)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local town clerk's office to request a replacement. You may be required to return your ballot before the town clerk's office will issue you a new one.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved within your state and need to update your mailing address, contact your local town clerk's office as soon as possible. You may be required to re-register to vote.

You can find your local town clerk's contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Town-Clerk/Town-Clerks-List.pdf>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Where-and-how-do-I-vote>)

The polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Each voter must vote at his/her precinct polling place. Check your polling place location with the election authority for your jurisdiction at <https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx>. Check with your town clerk for the hours of voting on a referendum, as they may vary by town.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/en/SOTS/Common-Elements/V5-Template---Redesign/Elections--Voting--Home-Page>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional, but are a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. In Connecticut, you may apply for and cast a provisional ballot upon the execution of a written affirmation at the polling place

affirming that you are qualified to vote in the election and you have neither offered yourself to vote nor voted in person or by absentee ballot. Also, ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted. You can find more information on provisional ballot voting from the election authority for your jurisdiction at <https://portal.ct.gov/en/SOTS/Common-Elements/V5-Template---Redesign/Elections--Voting--Home-Page>.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Where-and-how-do-I-vote> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Where-and-how-do-I-vote> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voters-with-Disabilities-Fact-Sheet>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/HAVA/HAVA-Help-America-Vote-Act> and <https://www.vote411.org/connecticut#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

If you are a disabled voter, you may request the opportunity to register at home and have registration materials brought to you. You may also request to register to vote by mail.

The Help America Vote Act requires that election authorities have voting equipment in place for voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently, and Connecticut is no exception. Additionally, there are options for a seated voting booth, voting assistance from a person of your choosing (other than your employer or agent of your employer, an officer or agent of your union or a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, unless they are a member of your immediate family), and "curbside voting", where a poll worker brings everything you need to

vote to your car, is available for voters that are unable to access the polling place due to a temporary incapacity.

Language assistance is also available where required under amendments to the Federal Voting Act of 1992.

For more information on the provisions available for disabled voters, please check <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voters-with-Disabilities-Fact-Sheet> or contact your local election authority at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

If you have questions or concerns about the accessibility of your polling place, contact your Registrar of Voters.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voters-with-Disabilities-Fact-Sheet>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Where-and-how-do-I-vote> and <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Ballot-Fact-Sheet>.)

Yes! At the polling location, there are options for voting assistance from a person of your choosing (other than your employer or agent of your employer, an officer or agent of your union or a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, unless they are a member of your immediate family). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

An accessible ballot marking device is also available at every polling place for voters with disabilities or for any voter who prefers this option. This ballot marking system allows for the voter to make their choices audibly or by using a touchscreen display, rather than by pen and paper. The voting device features a touchscreen display that includes alternatives such as audio, tactile keys, and customizable displays to accommodate voters with a wide range of physical, sensory, cognitive, language and literacy abilities.

If you send a mail-in ballot and receive assistance in voting your ballot, the name, phone number and address of the individual providing the assistance must be placed on the ballot application. The person assisting you must sign the application form if they assist with a ballot application. Only a designee may assist the voter in completing their application or ballot. A “designee” is a person who is caring for the applicant because of the applicant’s illness or physical disability; an applicant’s family member, designated by the applicant, and who agrees to act as a designee; or if no such person consents or is available, then a police officer, registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters or assistant registrar of voters in the municipality in which the applicant resides.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voters-with-Disabilities-Fact-Sheet>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/HAVA/HAVA-Help-America-Vote-Act> and <https://www.vote411.org/connecticut#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

Yes! The Help America Vote Act requires that election authorities have voting equipment in place for voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently, and Connecticut is no exception. You have the right to receive assistance if you need help casting your ballot from a person of your choosing (other than your employer or agent of your employer, an officer or agent of your union or a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, unless they are a member of your immediate family). Additionally, voters can request curbside voting if they are unable to access the polling place due to a temporary incapacity and voters who have difficulty standing may ask to move to the front of the line or ask poll workers to direct them to a chair.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's office contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/en/SOTS/Common-Elements/V5-Template---Redesign/Elections--Voting--Home-Page>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent, an officer or agent of your union or a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, unless they are a member of your immediate family). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

If you encounter an issue at the polls, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) for assistance.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx> and <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Ballot-Fact-Sheet>)

Yes. But the person delivering the ballot must be a “designee” of the applicant, which includes a person who is caring for the applicant because of the applicant’s illness or physical disability, an applicant’s family member, designated by the applicant, and who agrees to act as a designee, or if no such person consents or is available, then a police officer, registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters or assistant registrar of voters in the municipality in which the applicant resides.

Voter Suppression Questions**What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?**

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>; <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Guide/Voter-Rights/Voter-Rights> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election authority. You can find contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/en/SOTS/Common-Elements/V5-Template---Redesign/Elections--Voting--Home-Page>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

If any of your rights have been violated, you have the right to file an official complaint with the State Elections Enforcement Commission at 1-866-733-2463 or the United States Department of Justice at 1-800-253-3931. In addition, before leaving the polling place, you may notify the moderator of the violation.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election authority. You can find the contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/en/SOTS/Common-Elements/V5-Template---Redesign/Elections--Voting--Home-Page>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney’s office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice’s Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid will not make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election authority. You can find the contact information at <https://portal.ct.gov/en/SOTS/Common-Elements/V5-Template---Redesign/Elections--Voting--Home-Page>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Florida Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://homelessvoice.org/how-to-vote-in-florida-if-you-are-currently-experiencing-homelessness/>)

Yes! Florida requires voter registration to be complete 29 days before an election. You'll need to provide an address when you register to vote. If you are currently at a shelter, you can register using the shelter's address. If you are unsheltered, a street crossing (e.g., "corner of Main Street and Main Drive") can be used as an address or anywhere else where you receive mail that is not a P.O. box.

To vote, Florida requires a valid photo ID with a signature (e.g., a driver's license, state ID, passport, student ID, etc.). If you do not have an ID, Florida still allows you to cast a provisional ballot as long as you are voting in the proper precinct, and the signature on your ballot matches the signature on your registration record. You can find your voting precinct and polling stations at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/florida>)

Yes! Students attending college in Florida may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their permanent or home address. However, you can only register to vote in one location. To register, you'll need your Florida driver's license, ID number, or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

When voting, you'll need to provide a photo ID with your signature. Acceptable photo IDs include your student ID, your Florida driver's license, a U.S. passport, a debit or credit card, or a military ID.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they don't register to vote in both states. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires California residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/frequently-asked-questions/faq-voting/>)

In Florida, you still have the right to vote even if your address has changed. You can vote a regular ballot if your new address is within the same county and corresponds to the same precinct as your old address. You will be asked to complete an address change to update your old address to your new address before voting.

If your new address places you outside of your former precinct, a poll worker may direct you to the precinct for your former address. You can still vote at the precinct connected to your new address, but you will be required to vote a provisional ballot and you will be asked to complete an address change update before voting. If you do not complete the address change or you vote in the precinct that does not match the address on your voter registration, you will still be allowed to vote a provisional ballot but your ballot may not count.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, and <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and

Residency rules vary by state. It may depend on where you were evicted from and where you have relocated to, and whether your relocation is temporary or if you intend to establish permanent residency where you have relocated. Call both your old and new local election official's offices to explain your situation and inquire about your options and next steps. You can find your old and new local election officials' contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Voter registration requirements also vary from state to state. In some states, if you move within the state but do not update your voter registration, you can vote at your old polling place for one election. In other states, you cannot vote at your old polling place if you moved away within a certain period of time before the election. Also, depending on your state, the registration deadline could be as far in advance as a month before Election Day or as close as the same day as Election Day. Check out the U.S. Vote Foundation's Election Dates & Deadlines at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm> for more information.

If you are registered to vote in Florida, have been evicted in Florida and plan to vote by mail in Florida, you can contact your Supervisor of Elections' office to make them aware of your new address and inquire about obtaining a new mail-in ballot. You can find your Supervisor of Elections' contact information here: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

Rules and deadlines for voting by mail also differ from state to state. If you have permanently relocated to a new state, you'll need to determine whether you are eligible to vote by mail in your state. In some states, everyone can vote by mail, and ballots or ballot applications are automatically mailed to voters; in others, everyone can vote by mail, but you will have to request a ballot, either by mail, phone, or online, depending on your state. In certain states, you can only vote by mail if you have a valid excuse. Check out Rock The Vote's Guide to Absentee Voting Rules at <http://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/> to find the rules and deadlines for voting by mail in your state. If there is insufficient time to receive a mail-in ballot by mail, you may still be eligible to vote in person.

I just moved to Florida from another state. Where should I vote?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/frequently-asked-questions/faq-voter-registration/>)

If you intend to vote in Florida, you must first be registered to vote. In Florida, the deadline to register is 29 days before the upcoming election. If you are unable to register in Florida in time, check rules of the state from which you moved.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/frequently-asked-questions/faq-voter-registration/>)

You do not need to re-register to vote, regardless of whether you moved within the same county or moved to another county in Florida, but you will need to update the address on your voter registration record.

You can update your voter registration record here: <https://registertovoteflorida.gov/home>

You can also call or email an address change to your county Supervisor of Elections. Contact information by county can be found here: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

You may also be able to complete a change of address form at the polls. Contact your Supervisor of Elections in advance to confirm the process for making a last minute update to your registration information: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/frequently-asked-questions/faq-voting/>)

At the polls you will be asked to provide a current and valid picture identification with a signature. Approved ID's include (i) your Florida driver's license; (ii) Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; (iii) a United States

passport; (iv) a debit or credit card; (v) a military ID; or (vi) your student identification card. If your ID does not contain a signature, you will be asked to provide an additional form of identification with your signature.

You may be challenged by a poll worker if the address on your ID is not within the precinct where you are voting. By law, you still have the right to vote but you may be asked to complete an address change update before voting. If your new address corresponds to the precinct where you are voting, you should be allowed to vote a regular ballot. If your new address does not correspond to the current precinct where you are voting, you may go to the correct precinct or you may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/frequently-asked-questions/faq-voting/>)

At the polls you will be asked to provide a current and valid picture identification with a signature. Approved ID's include (i) your Florida driver's license; (ii) Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; (iii) a United States passport; (iv) a debit or credit card; (v) a military ID; or (vi) your student identification card. If your ID does not contain a signature, you will be asked to provide an additional form of identification with your signature.

You may be challenged by a poll worker if the address on your ID is not within the precinct where you are voting. By law, you still have the right to vote but you may be asked to complete an address change update before voting. If your new address corresponds to the precinct where you are voting, you should be allowed to vote a regular ballot. If your new address does not correspond to the current precinct where you are voting, you may go to the correct precinct or you may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

My housing is changing and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>)

In Florida, you can pick up your mail-in ballot in person as soon as they are made available, including on Election Day. If you wait until election day to pick up your vote-by-mail ballot, you will also need to complete the following form affirming the reasons why you were unable to vote at your polling place on Election Day:

- English Language Form: <https://www.dos.myflorida.com/media/701775/dsde37.pdf>

- Spanish Language Form:
https://www.dos.myflorida.com/media/701768/dsde37_spa.pdf

You can also request your mail in ballot be mailed to you as late as 10 days before the election.

You can find your in-person polling place here:
<https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus>

You can update your voter registration information, including your address here:
<https://registertovoteflorida.gov/home>

You can also contact your local Supervisor of Elections if you have other questions or concerns about where to vote: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voter-registration/voter-information-as-a-public-record/>)

Yes. Survivors of domestic violence can keep their voter information confidential if they participate in the Florida Attorney General's Address Confidentiality Program. Contact the Florida Attorney General's Office's Bureau of Advocacy and Grants Management at +1.850.414.3300 for instructions on how to become a participant.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://fndusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/voterregistration.pdf>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you list a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to list your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>, and <https://www.mymove.com/moving/guides/voter-registration-by-state/#florida>)

If your requested ballot is lost or damaged, you may request a replacement ballot by contacting your Supervisor of Elections' office:
<https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

You may also vote in person. At the polls you will be asked to provide a current and valid picture identification with a signature. Approved ID's include (i) your Florida driver's license; (ii) Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; (iii) a United States passport; (iv) a debit or credit card; (v) a military ID; or (vi) your student identification card. If your ID does not contain a signature, you will be asked to provide an additional form of identification with your signature.

You may be challenged by a poll worker if the address on your ID is not within the precinct where you are voting. By law, you still have the right to vote but you may be asked to complete an address change update before voting. If your new address corresponds to the precinct where you are voting, you should be allowed to vote a regular ballot. If your new address does not correspond to the current precinct where you are voting, you may go to the correct precinct or you may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>)

In Florida you can pick up a vote-by-mail ballot as soon as the ballot becomes available, including on Election Day. A returned voted ballot must be received by the Supervisor of Elections' office no later than 7 p.m. (local time) on Election Day. The vote-by-mail ballot can be mailed or dropped off in person, as well as in secured drop boxes at Supervisors of Elections' main and branch offices.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options (<https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>).

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local election official's office to request a replacement ballot. Contact information can be found here: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to request a replacement ballot. Contact information can be found here: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

If your state or local election officials have not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate postage is affixed to your return envelope. If you don't have stamps, don't worry! A mail-in ballot may be delivered in person to your local election authority or returned to secure drop boxes at Supervisors of Elections' main and branch offices until 7 p.m. on Election Day. Vote-by-mail ballots may also be deposited at secure drop boxes at designated early voting sites in the county. Visit your county Supervisors of Elections' website for the location, days, and hours of all secure drop boxes in the county. Contact information can be found at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

If you can't remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. Deadlines to register to vote vary by state. Check out <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/> for voter registration deadlines.

In Florida, a Supervisor of Elections must notify you as soon as possible if your signature is missing or does not match the one on record. If you become aware of a missing or mismatched signature, you may complete and return a "Vote-by-Mail Ballot Cure" Affidavit along with a copy of your ID:

English version: <https://dos.myflorida.com/media/700479/dsde139.pdf>

Spanish version: https://dos.myflorida.com/media/701778/dsde139_spa.pdf

The deadline to submit documentation to correct your signature must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. (local time) on the 2nd day after an election.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/> and https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

In Florida, your ballot must be received by the Supervisor of Elections office by 7 p.m. (local time) on Election Day. The U.S. Postal Service recommends that you mail your ballot at least one (1) week before the Election Day deadline. For more information visit: <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>

If you miss the date to mail your ballot back, it may not be too late! A mail-in ballot may be delivered in person to your local election authority or returned to secure drop boxes at

Supervisors of Elections' main and branch offices until 7 p.m. on Election Day. Vote-by-mail ballots may also be deposited at secure drop boxes at designated early voting sites in the county. Visit your county Supervisors of Elections' website for the location, days, and hours of all secure drop boxes in the county. Contact information can be found at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>)

In Florida, you can return your ballot by mail or in person. If delivering in person, your ballot can be returned at secure drop boxes at your Supervisors of Elections' main and branch offices up to and until 7 p.m. (local time) on Election Day. You can also drop off your ballot to a secure drop box at your designated early voting site. Review your county Supervisors of Elections' website for the location, days, and hours of all secure drop boxes in your county: <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>)

Yes! Florida allows you to return your Vote-by-mail ballot at any secure drop box at any designated early voting site in your county. You may also return your Vote-by-mail ballot at secure drop boxes at Supervisors of Elections' main and branch offices all the way until 7 p.m. (local time) on Election Day. To find a list of the county-specific secure drop box location for drop off during early voting or on Election Day, including the days and hours of operation, check out <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/> where you can search by county.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>)

Yes! To track the status of your returned ballot, you can visit the Florida Division of Elections' Voter Information Lookup at <https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus>. Note that you will need to provide your first and last name and birth date to access the status of your returned ballot. Another way of tracking your returned ballot to confirm it was counted is to visit your county's Supervisor of Elections' website which can be found at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/election-dates/>)

In-person early voting in Florida varies by county. Although each county is required by law to have early voting October 24-31, each county Supervisor of Elections may offer additional days of early voting from one or more days October 19- 23 and November 1. For a complete list of early voting hours and days in your county, check out the Supervisor of Elections

website at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/> to access county specific information.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received).

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. You can track the status of your vote-by-mail ballot to confirm it has been received and counted at <https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus> or <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>. If you used the wrong signature, a Supervisor of Elections will be required to notify you as soon as practical. Once you become aware of the missing or mismatched signature, you may complete and return a "Vote-by-Mail Ballot Cure" Affidavit (Form DS-DE 139) along with a copy of your identification to your county Supervisor of Elections by mail, email, fax, or in person. An English copy of this form can be found at <https://dos.myflorida.com/media/700479/dsde139.pdf> and a Spanish copy of this form can be found at https://dos.myflorida.com/media/701778/dsde139_spa.pdf. Address, fax numbers, and email addresses for each Supervisor of Elections can be found at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>. The deadline to submit the form and the ID is no later than 5 p.m. (local time) on the 2nd day after the election. It is very important to follow all of the instructions to ensure your ballot is counted.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>)

Yes. For any vote-by-mail ballot that is missing or has a mismatched signature, a Supervisor of Elections is required to notify you as soon as practical. Once you become aware of the missing or mismatched signature, you may complete and return a "Vote-by-Mail Ballot Cure" Affidavit (Form DS-DE 139) along with a copy of your identification to your county Supervisor of Elections by mail, email, fax, or in person. An English copy of this form can be found at <https://dos.myflorida.com/media/700479/dsde139.pdf> and a Spanish copy of this form can be found at https://dos.myflorida.com/media/701778/dsde139_spa.pdf. Address, fax numbers, and email addresses for each Supervisor of Elections can be found at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>. The deadline to submit the form and the ID is no later than 5 p.m. (local time) on the 2nd day after the election. It is very important to follow all of the instructions to ensure your ballot is counted.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>)

If your requested ballot has been lost or damaged (e.g., return envelope is sticking, mismarked, or wet), you may request a replacement ballot. The request should be made to

your county Supervisor of Elections. County-specific contact information can be found at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>. A request for a new ballot should be made as soon as possible to ensure you have enough time to receive and return the vote-by-mail ballot by the recommended mailing deadline (*i.e.*, one week before Election Day) so that it is received by the Supervisor of Elections' office no later than 7 p.m. (local time) on Election Day.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/election-day-voting/>)

The polls will be open on Election Day, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. As long as you are in line waiting to vote by 7 p.m., you will have the opportunity to cast your ballot.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/election-day-voting/>)

Confirm that you are in the correct polling place for your precinct by using the Voter Information Lookup at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>. If you are not sure where your polling place is, you can also contact your county Supervisor of Elections. Information for your county-specific Supervisor of Elections can be located at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/frequently-asked-questions/faq-voting/>; <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/>; <https://www.vote411.org/florida#provisional-voting> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If your eligibility to vote is challenged, you have the right to vote a provisional ballot. You may be asked to complete a provisional ballot if (i) you have moved in from another county and the new precinct only has a paper poll book (instead of an electronic poll book), (ii) you have moved to a new address that is outside of the precinct where you are casting your vote, do not execute a change of address and insist on voting in the precinct that does not correspond to your address, or (iii) your eligibility to vote is challenged on other grounds. You can check your voting status at <https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/en/CheckVoterStatus/Index>.

If you are required to complete a provisional ballot, you will be provided written notice of your rights as a provisional ballot voter and will have the right to present further evidence to support your eligibility up to 2 days after the election. If you voted a provisional ballot due to not providing an acceptable photo and signature identification at the polls, then you do not need to

provide any further evidence of your eligibility for your ballot to count. The local canvassing board will simply compare your signature on the provisional ballot certificate with your signature on file. If the signatures match, your provisional ballot will be counted so long as you are otherwise eligible. If your signature on the Provisional Ballot Certificate is missing or does not match the one on file, you can cure the deficiency by submitting a completed DS-DE 210 Provisional Ballot Cure Affidavit to the Supervisor of Elections no later than 5 p.m. on the second day after the election. An English version of this form can be located at <https://dos.myflorida.com/media/701639/dsde210.pdf>. A Spanish version of this form can be located at https://dos.myflorida.com/media/701779/dsde210_spa.pdf.

If you vote a provisional ballot for other reasons, such as your eligibility being challenged by another person, if you are in the wrong precinct to vote, or if your name does not appear on the precinct register, then you will have the opportunity to bring in evidence to your Supervisor of Elections no later than 5 p.m. on the second day following the election. The local canvassing board will examine your provisional ballot certificate, the cure affidavit, if applicable, and any and all other information and evidence, if available. The board will then make its determination based on the law.

If you need assistance at the polls, you may contact the Voter Assistance Hotline through the U.S. Election Assistance Commission toll free at 1.866.308.6739 (services are available in English and Spanish). If you have confirmed that you are registered to vote and are in the right polling place and are still experiencing issues, you should call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-687-8683 and ask for help voting.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/election-day-voting/> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The polls will be open on Election Day, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. As long as you are in line waiting to vote by 7 p.m., you will have the opportunity to cast your ballot. If you leave the line at your polling place, you may not be able to vote.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(from <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/frequently-asked-questions/faq-voting/> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

The polls will be open on Election Day, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. As long as you are in line waiting to vote by 7 p.m., you will have the opportunity to cast your ballot. If your polling place runs out of ballots, remain in line so that you are able to cast a vote once your polling place receives additional ballots. If you are still experiencing issues, you should call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-687-8683 and ask for help voting.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/accessible-voting-for-persons-with-disabilities/>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

The State of Florida does not offer "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car. If you want to use this method of voting, you should call your county's SOE to see if they allow curbside voting and let them know you want to use it. You can find your local SOE's contact information at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal and state law require polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm and <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/accessible-voting-for-persons-with-disabilities/>)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act and Florida law requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability (including the inability to read or write) to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility> and <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/accessible-voting-for-persons-with-disabilities/>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union).

You will have to fill out a declaration affirming that you need help unless you wrote on your voter registration application that you would need assistance at the polls. The clerk can help you fill out the form. In addition, the person you choose to help you will have to fill out a declaration (unless that person is election staff) saying he or she will provide help. If you have any questions about receiving help in voting, please ask the clerk or inspector at the polling place.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you

have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. Alternatively, you can also contact your county's Supervisor of Elections, whose contact information is available at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/language-assistance-for-voting/>)

The following thirteen Florida counties must provide Spanish language assistance, including oral and written assistance and the provision of Spanish language election-related materials such as instructions, forms, ballots and notices:

- Broward
- DeSoto
- Hardee
- Hendry
- Hillsborough
- Lee
- Miami-Dade
- Orange
- Osceola
- Palm Beach
- Pinellas
- Polk
- Seminole

Spanish language assistance is also available through the Florida statewide voter assistance and voter hotlines.

Voter assistance hotline: 1-866-308-6739.

Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (EST) with extended hours during statewide elections.

Florida Relay Service (TDD or voice) is available to persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf/blind, or speech disabled. Dial 7-1-1.

English and Spanish language versions of the Florida Voter Registration and Voting Guide are available at:

English: <https://www.dos.myflorida.com/media/699606/2018-voterregguide-1-18-2019.pdf>

Spanish: <https://www.dos.myflorida.com/media/699607/voter-registration-guide-spanish.pdf>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From

https://www.myfloridaelections.com/portals/fsase/documents/doe_guidelinesabsentee_ballots_and_requests_fact_sheet_2012.pdf; <https://dos.myflorida.com/media/695953/de-guide-0001-absentee-ballots-request-pick-up-delivery-and-return.pdf>; and <https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/BillSummaries/2016/html/1295>)

Yes, but only if your ballot is a vote by mail ballot (previously called an "absentee ballot"). To request a vote by mail ballot, please visit <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/>. After you have completed the vote by mail ballot, you can have someone else drop your vote by mail ballot off for you. There are no limits on such returns.

If you are casting your ballot at the polling booth and require assistance to drop your ballot into a ballot box for you, you may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place; or (2) bring someone to help you vote for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). See "*Can someone assist me in the polling booth?*" above.

For further information, you can also contact your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. Alternatively, you can also contact your county's Supervisor of Elections, whose contact information is available at <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.dos.myflorida.com/media/699606/2018-voterregguide-1-18-2019.pdf>)

You may report voter fraud or other violations in the following ways:

- To report fraud or irregularity involving voter registration, voting, candidate petitions or issue petitions, or removal procedures under the Florida Election Code, or to report a violation of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 or the Help America Vote Act of 2002, submit a written complaint to the Florida Division of Elections, Room 316, R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, 850-245-6200.

Complaint forms are available on the Division of Elections' website at: dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/elections-fraud-complaint. The Division of Elections also operates a Voter Fraud Hotline (in English and Español): Toll Free 1-877-868-3737, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern Time M-F. If you are someone who is deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled, please contact the Division using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800.955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800.955.8770 (Voice). For more information, visit the Florida Relay Service.

- For a violation involving campaign financing, candidates, committees, or other political activities, submit a sworn written complaint to the Florida Elections Commission, Suite 224 Collins Building, 107 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, 850-922-4539. The Florida Elections Commission has jurisdiction only to impose civil penalties (i.e., fines). (See section 106.25, Fla. Stat.) Note: The Florida Elections Commission is a separate entity from the Department of State, Division of Elections.
- All other violations should be reported to the local state attorney. (Chapter 104, Florida Statutes, contains criminal violations within Florida's Election Code.) Violations of Chapter 104 may be reported to the Florida Elections Commission or the state attorney, or both.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you think someone has tampered with or stolen your absentee or mail-in ballot, submit a written complaint to the Florida Division of Elections, Room 316, R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, 850-245-6200.

Complaint forms are available on the Division of Elections' website at:

dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/elections-fraud-complaint. The Division of Elections also operates a Voter Fraud Hotline (in English and Español): Toll Free 1-877-868-3737, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern Time, M-F. If you are someone who is deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled, please contact the Division using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800.955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800.955.8770 (Voice). For more information, visit the Florida Relay Service.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, submit a written complaint to the Florida Division of Elections, Room 316, R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050, 850-245-6200.

Complaint forms are available on the Division of Elections' website at: dos.myflorida.com/elections/contacts/elections-fraud-complaint. The Division of Elections also operates a Voter Fraud Hotline (in English and Español): Toll Free 1-877-868-3737, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Eastern Time, M-F. If you are someone who is deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled, please contact the Division using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800.955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800.955.8770 (Voice). For more information, visit the Florida Relay Service.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or

the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Georgia Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>, <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/how-to-register-to-vote-if-you-experience-homelessness>

<https://www.wabe.org/how-to-register-to-vote-in-georgia-when-youre-homeless/>

https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/GA_VR_APP_2019.pdf

https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/georgia_voter_identification_requirements2

<https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/georgia/>

https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/GAID_Req_Brochure.pdf

Yes! When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and to mail any election materials. If you routinely stay somewhere that has a street address, make sure to use that address as your residence address and mailing address (unless you receive mail somewhere else). Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or the address of a church, friend, or relative. If you do not stay somewhere with a mailing address, you can include the address where you sleep most often, like a street corner or park address. Unfortunately, if this scenario applies to you, you will not be able to register to vote online in Georgia. But you can register to vote on paper. You can find a printable version of the Georgia voter registration form at

https://registertovote.sos.ga.gov/GAOLVR/images/reg_form.pdf, or by visiting your county registrar's office. You can also visit a public library and they will help register you to vote. You will, however, still need to provide a mailing address where you can receive mail. The U.S. Postal Service also provides P.O. box services for homeless persons.

If you submit Georgia's voter registration form by mail and you are registering for the first time in Georgia, you are required to submit proof of residence either with the voter registration form OR when you vote for the first time. Proof of residence includes one of the following: a COPY of a current and valid photo ID; or a COPY of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address. You are exempt from this requirement if you are entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, or if you provide your Georgia driver's license/ID number (or the last four digits of your social security number if you do not have a driver's license/ID) on the voter registration form and your identifying information is verified with a state database

If you choose to vote in person, Georgia law requires Georgia residents to show photo identification when voting in person. If you go to your polling place without an approved form of ID, you can vote a provisional ballot. You will have three days from the close of the polls to present acceptable identification to your county registrar office for your vote to count. You are not required to include any identification when voting absentee by mail.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>),
<https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Georgia>
<https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/georgia/>

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room. Students attending college may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their permanent or home address. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a Post Office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life office) asserting that you live at your dorm address. However, you may only be registered and vote in one location. For more info on how to vote in your specific state, check out <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/georgia/>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school>,
<https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>, <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Georgia>, and
<https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they don't register to vote in both locations or states. If you are registered at your campus address, make sure that you have a mail-in ballot delivered to an address that you are confident you can access mail from in any scenario.

If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Registering to vote in Georgia will not affect your federal financial aid or your dependency status for FAFSA and does not prevent your parents from claiming you as a dependent on their taxes. However, students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires in-state residency in another state, you should ensure that registering to vote in Georgia will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Georgia Student Voting Guide at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Georgia>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote and <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/faq>)

It depends. In Georgia, voters are required to notify the board of registrars of their county of residence whenever they move.

If you move within the same county in which you are registered to vote and don't notify the registrar at least 30 days prior to an election, you may vote in your old polling place for that election. You must file a notice of your new address. This can be done by writing to your county board of registrars' office or by submitting a new voter registration application. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

If you move outside the county in which you are registered to vote within 30 days of an election, you may vote in your old precinct for that election.

If you move outside the county in which you are registered to vote in excess of 30 days prior to an election, you have lost your eligibility to vote in the county of your old residence. You must register to vote in your new county of residence. You will be assigned a new voting precinct and polling location. Remember, if you don't register to vote by the deadline, you cannot vote in that particular election. Georgia's voter registration deadline for the 2020 Election was October 5, 2020.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote)
<https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/GAInfoguide.pdf>
https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf
<https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/faq>

Call both your old and new local election official's offices to explain your situation and inquire about your options and next steps. You can find your old and new local election officials' contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>

If you have re-located outside of your municipality temporarily, you may be able to request another absentee ballot. In Georgia, absentee ballots cannot be mailed to an address other than the permanent mailing address of the elector as recorded on the elector's voter registration record or a temporary out-of-county or out- of-municipality address.

Georgia voters can request an absentee ballot until October 30, 2020, without providing a reason for the request. All written requests must be submitted (by mail, fax, email) or personally delivered to the registrar office in the county where you are registered to vote.

Addresses and contact information for your county registrar's office can be found at:
<https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>

You can request that a new absentee ballot be sent to your temporary location if you have temporarily relocated to an out- of-municipality address. You will need to sign an affidavit affirming that you lost, destroyed, or did not receive the first absentee ballot. In this instance, another ballot will be issued.

In addition, if you did not receive the first absentee ballot, you may cancel the absentee ballot by making a written request to your county registrar's office to have the ballot marked "cancelled." The managers of your precinct shall permit you to vote in person at the precinct where you are registered.

Alternatively, you can also choose to vote in person. If you moved within the same county in which you are registered to vote and don't notify the registrar at least 30 days prior to an election, you may vote in your old polling place for that election. You must file a notice of your new address. This can be done by writing to your county board of registrars' office or by submitting a new voter registration application.

If you moved outside the county in which you are registered to vote within 30 days of an election, you may vote in your old precinct for that election.

If you moved outside the county in which you are registered to vote in excess of 30 days prior to an election, you have lost your eligibility to vote in the county of your old residence. You must register to vote in your new county of residence. You will be assigned a new voting precinct and polling location. Remember, if you don't register to vote by the deadline, you cannot vote in that particular election.

Voters are required to notify the board of registrars of their county of residence whenever they move.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>, <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/faq>, and <https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/2020%20Revised%20Short%20Calendar.pdf>)

To register to vote in Georgia, you must be: 1) a citizen of the United States; 2) a legal resident of Georgia and of the county in which you wish to vote; and 3) at least 17 1/2 years of age to register and 18 to vote. However, Georgia's voter registration deadline for the 2020 Election was October 5, 2020. If you have recently moved to Georgia and have missed the October 5, 2020, voter registration deadline, you may need to request an absentee ballot from the state you moved from if you are registered to vote back in that state.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote> and <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/faq>)

The answer depends on whether you moved within the same county or if you moved to a different county in Georgia. If you moved within the same county in which you are registered to vote and don't notify the registrar at least 30 days prior to an election, you may vote in your old polling place for that election. You must file a notice of your new address. This can be done by writing to your county board of registrars' office or by submitting a new voter registration application.

If you moved outside the county in which you are registered to vote within 30 days of an election, you may vote in your old precinct for that election.

If you moved outside the county in which you are registered to vote in excess of 30 days prior to an election, you have lost your eligibility to vote in the county of your old residence. You must register to vote in your new county of residence. You will be assigned a new voting precinct and polling location. Remember, if you don't register to vote by the deadline, you cannot vote in that particular election.

Voters are required to notify the board of registrars of their county of residence whenever they move.

I had to move recently but my identification, and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://georgia.gov/early-voting>, (<https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/voter-id>), <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/advancedVotingInfo.do>, and <https://sos.ga.gov/cgi-bin/countyregistrarsindex.asp>, <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/faq>, and https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Voting_3_panel_for_website.pdf)

If you have temporarily relocated outside of your municipality, you may be able to request an absentee ballot. In Georgia, absentee ballots cannot be mailed to an address other than the permanent mailing address of the elector as recorded on the elector's voter registration record or a temporary out-of-county or out- of-municipality address.

Georgia voters can request an absentee ballot until October 30, 2020, without providing a reason for the request. All written requests must be submitted (by mail, fax, email) or personally delivered to the registrar office in the county where you are registered to vote. Addresses and contact information for your county registrar's office can be found at: <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>

If you have permanently relocated within Georgia, you should plan on voting early in person or in person on Election Day.

If you have moved within the same county in which you are registered to vote and have not notified the registrar at least 30 days prior to an election, you may vote in your old polling place for that election. You must file a notice of your new address. This can be done by writing to your county board of registrars' office or by submitting a new voter registration application.

If you have moved outside the county in which you are registered to vote within 30 days of an election, you may vote in your old precinct for that election.

When casting your vote in person, you must present an appropriate photo ID. The address on your Georgia driver's license or ID doesn't have to match the address where you're registered to vote.

Voters may vote at early voting locations beginning on October 12, 2020. Early voting ends on October 30, 2020. Unlike Election Day, you do not have to vote at an assigned polling location during early voting. You may vote at any early voting location within your county. Find available early voting locations by selecting your county of residence from the list at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/advancedVotingInfo.do>. Voters are not required to provide a reason for voting early.

If you do not vote early, you should do so in person on Election Day. On Election Day, you must vote at your designated polling place. Your assigned polling place is shown on your voter registration card. You can find your polling location at www.sos.ga.gov and clicking on MVP – My Voter Page, on your GA Votes app, or by contacting your county registrar's office. Addresses and contact information for your county registrar's office can be found at: <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>. Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voter-id>, https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Voting_3_panel_for_website.pdf, and <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/faq>)

Yes. Georgia law requires registered voters to show photo identification to vote in person, which includes a Georgia Driver's License, even if expired. You can also use:

- Any valid state or federal government issued photo ID, including one issued by the Department of Driver Services or your Voter Registrar;
- A valid U.S. passport;
- A valid employee photo ID from any branch, department, agency, or entity of the U.S. Government, this state, or any county, municipality, board, authority or other entity of this state;
- A valid U.S. military photo ID; or
- A valid tribal photo ID.

If you do not have a photo ID listed above, you can still vote by provisional ballot. You have three days after the election to bring the required photo ID to your county registrar's office for your provisional ballot to be counted.

If you have to vote a provisional ballot because you don't have one of the forms of Photo ID listed above, you can go to your county voter registration office, get a FREE photo ID and present it within three days after the election and your provisional ballot will be counted.

My housing is changing, and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://georgia.gov/early-voting>, (<https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/voter-id>), <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/advancedVotingInfo.do>, and <https://sos.ga.gov/cgi-bin/countyregistrarsindex.asp>, <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/faq>, and https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Voting_3_panel_for_website.pdf)

Call your local election office and ask about the residency requirements for voting in your state. You can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>

If your housing is changing and you are not sure where you will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day, you should plan on voting early in person.

Georgia voters may vote at early voting locations beginning on October 12, 2020. Early voting ends on October 30, 2020. Unlike Election Day, you do not have to vote at an assigned polling location during early voting. You may vote at any early voting location within your county. Find available early voting locations by selecting your county of residence from the list at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/advancedVotingInfo.do>. Voters are not required to provide a reason for voting early.

If you do not vote early, you should do so in person on Election Day. On Election Day, you must vote at your designated polling place. Your assigned polling place is shown on your voter registration card. You can find your polling location at www.sos.ga.gov and clicking on MVP—My Voter Page, on your GA Votes app, or by contacting your county registrar's office. Addresses and contact information for your county registrar's office can be found at: <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>. Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.

If you have moved within the same county in which you are registered to vote and have not notified the registrar at least 30 days prior to an election, you may vote in your old polling place for that election. You must file a notice of your new address. This can be done by writing to your county board of registrars' office or by submitting a new voter registration application.

If you have moved outside the county in which you are registered to vote within 30 days of an election, you may vote in your old precinct for that election.

When casting your vote in person, you must present an appropriate photo ID. The address on your Georgia driver's license or ID doesn't have to match the address where you're registered to vote.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf/> and https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Library_Safety_Net_ACP_Chart_April_2020.pdf)

Unfortunately, you cannot do so in Georgia. Georgia does not have any laws in place that permit voters to maintain the confidentiality of their address.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/> and <https://www.cobbcounty.org/elections/voter-registration/change-address-name>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the voter registration form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

Business addresses, P.O. boxes, and rural routes are also not accepted as residence addresses for voter registration purposes.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>)

Call your local election official's office for guidance. You can find the contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>

If you have already received a mail-in-ballot for your old address, but have recently moved, don't worry! There is no need to request a new absentee ballot. Simply fill out your ballot and mail the completed ballot to the registrar's office in the county where you are registered to vote. You can also drop your absentee ballot off at a drop-off location in your county. Contact your county registrar for available drop-off locations. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>. Your county registrar must receive your absentee ballot by 7 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots received after the polls close at 7 p.m. cannot be counted. Make sure to return your ballot as soon as possible – don't wait until the deadline if you can return it earlier!

Alternatively, if you have not yet returned your completed ballot, you can change my mind and still vote at your regular polling place. If you still have the absentee ballot and give it to the poll manager of the precinct in which your name appears on the electors list, then you may vote a regular ballot.

If you have already received a mail-in-ballot for your old address, have moved and have decided to go vote in person, you should only do so if your ballot has not been received by the and counted by the board of registrars in your county. You can check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted by using <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do>. If your ballot has not been received, you may cancel your submitted absentee ballot by making a

written request to have the ballot marked “cancelled.” The managers of your precinct shall then permit you to vote in person at that precinct.

You should then plan on voting early. Voters may vote at early voting locations beginning on October 12, 2020. Early voting ends on October 30, 2020. Unlike Election Day, you do not have to vote at an assigned polling location during early voting. You may vote at any early voting location within your county. Find available early voting locations by selecting your county of residence from the list at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/advancedVotingInfo.do>. Voters are not required to provide a reason for voting early.

If you do not vote early, then you should plan on voting on Election Day. If you vote on Election Day, you will have to vote in the county where you are registered to vote. If you have moved within Georgia within 30 days of an election, you may vote in your old precinct for that election. Use www.sos.ga.gov/mvp to confirm that you are registered to vote and to confirm that you are at the right polling place. Your assigned polling place is also shown on your voter registration card.

However, you are also required to file a notice of your new address. This can be done by writing to your county board of registrars' office or by submitting a new voter registration application. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/georgia/>, https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Voting_3_panel_for_website.pdf, https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf, and <https://georgia.gov/vote-absentee-ballot>)

In Georgia, paper absentee ballots will be mailed to voters only upon request. Voters can request an absentee ballot 180 days before an election without providing a reason. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Friday October 30, 2020.

To request an absentee ballot, send or bring a written request to your county registrar's office that includes your name, address, signature, and the election for which you are requesting an absentee ballot. You can also go online at www.sos.ga.gov/elections, print and complete the application, and return it to your county registrar's office via mail, fax, email, or in person. The application must include your original, non-digital signature if submitted by mail. If submitting the application via email or fax, a scanned version of the signature is sufficient. An online absentee ballot request tool is now also available at <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do>.

The county registrar's office will mail your ballot after the application is approved and ballots are available.

Next, mail your completed ballot. If mailing, you must affix postage to the ballot envelope. Voters are not required to provide photo identification when voting by mail. For voters within the country, all absentee ballots must arrive at your county election office by Election Day. Your county registrar must receive your absentee ballot by 7 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots received after the polls close at 7 p.m. cannot be counted. Make sure to return your ballot as soon as possible – don't wait until the deadline if you can return it earlier!

You can also drop your absentee ballot off at a drop-off location in your county. Contact your county registrar for available drop-off locations. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/state-statutes-prohibiting-tampering-with-voting-systems.aspx>)

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options. If it's not too late, you may be able to receive a replacement absentee ballot. Georgia will require you to sign an affidavit affirming that you lost, destroyed, or did not receive the first absentee ballot. In this instance, another ballot will be issued. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to vote in person after you cancel the absentee ballot. You may cancel the absentee ballot by making a written request to have the ballot marked "cancelled." The managers of your precinct must permit you to vote in person at that precinct. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>.

Keep in mind that federal law and Georgia law prohibits mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf)

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. If it's not too late, you may be able to receive a replacement absentee ballot. Georgia will require you to sign an affidavit affirming that you lost, destroyed, or did not receive the first absentee ballot. In this instance, another ballot will be issued. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to vote in person after you cancel the absentee ballot. You may cancel the absentee ballot by making a written request to have the ballot marked "cancelled." The managers of your precinct must permit you to vote in person at that precinct. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf)

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. If the ballot has been voted and returned to and received by the board of registrars, then the absentee ballot shall be deemed to have been voted. No other ballot shall be issued.

If you still have the absentee ballot and give it to the poll manager of the precinct in which your name appears on the electors list, then you may vote a regular ballot.

If you have returned the absentee ballot, but the registrars have not received the ballot, you may cancel the absentee ballot by making a written request to have the ballot marked "cancelled." The managers of your precinct shall permit you to vote in person at that precinct.

Canceled absentee ballots are handled in the same manner as those returned too late to be cast.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://georgia.gov/early-voting>, (<https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/voter-id>), <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/advancedVotingInfo.do>, and <https://sos.ga.gov/cgi-bin/countyregistrarsindex.asp>, <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/faq>, https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Voting_3_panel_for_website.pdf, and https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf)

If your state or local election officials have not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate postage is affixed to your return envelope. If you don't have stamps, don't worry! You can also drop your absentee ballot off at a drop-off location in your county. Contact your county registrar for available drop-off locations. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

Your county registrar must receive your absentee ballot by 7 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots received after the polls close at 7 p.m. cannot be counted. Make sure to return your ballot as soon as possible – don't wait until the deadline if you can return it earlier!

Alternatively, if you have not yet returned your completed ballot, you can change my mind and still vote at your regular polling place. If you still have the absentee ballot and give it to the poll manager of the precinct in which your name appears on the electors list, then the elector may vote a regular ballot.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-8-how-states-verify-absentee-ballot-applications.aspx>, and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

In Georgia, absentee ballot return envelopes are printed with an oath which must be signed by you. Once your absentee ballot is received by the county office, the registrar will compare your signature on your absentee ballot oath envelope to your signature on your voter registration card and your application for absentee ballots to verify your signature. If the signature on the absentee ballot oath envelope is missing or does not match the previous signatures, your county will contact you and provide a document whereby you can provide a signature and ID to verify your ballot. You will then have until 3 days after the election to submit voter ID in conjunction with an affidavit confirming the ballot was in fact yours to cure the ballot.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf and <https://georgia.gov/vote-absentee-ballot>)

In Georgia, mail-in ballots must be received by your county registrar no later than close of the polls on Election Day, which is 7 p.m. If you miss the date to mail your ballot back, it may not be too late! You can also drop your absentee ballot off at a drop-off location in your county. Contact your county registrar for available drop-off locations. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

Your county registrar must receive your absentee ballot by 7 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots received after the polls close at 7 p.m. cannot be counted. Make sure to return your ballot as soon as possible – don't wait until the deadline if you can return it earlier!

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf)

You may be able to drop off your ballot at your local election office at a drop-off location in your county. Contact your county registrar for available drop-off locations. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

Further, in Georgia, a voted absentee ballot can be returned, by mail or in person, by the voter's mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or an individual residing in the household of the absentee voter. If the absentee voter is physically disabled, their voted absentee ballot may be returned by a family member or housemate (as described above) OR by the voter's caregiver, regardless of whether the caregiver resides with the voter.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf and <https://georgia.gov/vote-absentee-ballot>)

No, in Georgia, voted absentee ballots must be returned to the registrar's office in the county where you are registered to vote. You can also drop your absentee ballot off at a drop-off location in your county. Contact your county registrar for available drop-off locations. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Yes! you can check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted. You can look up your absentee ballot status, by using <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf and <https://georgia.gov/vote-absentee-ballot>)

In Georgia, voting any time prior to Election Day, even at a precinct, is absentee or advance (early) voting. You will complete an absentee ballot application in person at the early voting location immediately prior to casting your vote. You will need to provide proper photo identification anytime you vote in person.

Advance voting will be available beginning October 12 and will run October 30, 2020. Early voting times and locations vary by county and can be found at www.mvp.sos.ga.gov, at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/advancedVotingInfo.do>, or by contacting your county at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>. After voting in person during advance voting, you will be marked in the voter registration system as "voted" and your votes will be tabulated on Election Day.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received).

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, in Georgia, it is easier than ever to check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted. You can check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted by using <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do>. If your ballot has been voted and returned to and

received by the board of registrars in your county, then the absentee ballot will be deemed to have been voted. No other ballot shall be issued.

If your signature is missing from the absentee ballot or if you used the wrong signature, your county will contact you and provide a document whereby you can provide a signature and ID to verify your ballot. Ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted. You should also continue to check online to see if your ballot has been counted.

If your ballot has not been received and counted by the board of registrars in your county, you should first contact your county registrar's office. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

You may also consider voting in person if your ballot has not been received and counted. You may cancel your submitted absentee ballot by making a written request to have the ballot marked "cancelled." The managers of your precinct shall then permit you to vote in person at that precinct.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-8-how-states-verify-absentee-ballot-applications.aspx>, and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

Yes. In Georgia, absentee ballot return envelopes are printed with an oath which must be signed by you. Once your absentee ballot is received by the county office, the registrar will compare your signature on your absentee ballot oath envelope to your signature on your voter registration card and your application for absentee ballots to verify your signature.

If the signature on the absentee ballot oath envelope is missing or does not match the previous signatures, your county will contact you and provide a document whereby you can provide a signature and ID to verify your ballot. You will then have until 3 days after the election to submit voter ID in conjunction with an affidavit confirming the ballot was in fact yours to cure the ballot.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee_Voting_A_Guide_for_Registered_Voters_2020.pdf)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local county registrar's office to request a replacement. Your county registrar's may then issue you a new one. However, you must sign an affidavit affirming that you lost, destroyed, or did not receive the first absentee ballot. Another ballot will then be issued.

You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/GAInfoguide.pdf>)

On Election Day, you must vote at your designated polling place. Your assigned polling place is shown on your voter registration card. You can find your polling location at www.sos.ga.gov/mvp, or you may contact your county registrar's office. Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. If you are in line at 7 p.m., you will be allowed to cast your vote. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>), and <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/common-voting-problems-and-solutions>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to www.sos.ga.gov/mvp or by contacting your county registrar's office. Your assigned polling place is shown on your voter registration card, however, some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find your county registrar's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyregistrars.do>.

If possible, please take a picture or video of the locked door. This will establish a timestamp. Either way, please call the Voter Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) or text "Our Vote" to: 97779 to report the issue. This is very important!

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>, <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/common-voting-problems-and-solutions>, and <https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/GAInfoguide.pdf>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. First, use www.sos.ga.gov/mvp to confirm that you are registered to vote and to confirm that you are at the right polling place. Your assigned polling place is shown on your voter registration card. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. Ask if you could be on another paper-based list, often called a supplemental list, if you don't show up in the computer. If they still can't find you then you should ask to speak with a Poll Supervisor. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. If you voted a provisional ballot because your name did not appear on the list of registered voters in the precinct, the county registrar has up to three days after the election to determine if you were properly registered to vote in that election. If you were, your vote will count. If you were not eligible to vote in that election, your vote will not be counted, and you will be notified in writing. If you were eligible to vote but voted in the wrong precinct, only the votes for candidates for which you were entitled to vote will be counted, and you will be notified in writing that your ballot was partially counted for your correct precinct. In federal elections only, if the polling place is kept open after 7 p.m. because of a court order, anyone arriving after 7 p.m. will vote by provisional ballot. If you are eligible to vote and the order stands, your vote will be counted. Ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

It is always best to double check your voter registration status on a frequent basis, and always before the voter registration cut-off date. You can check it here: <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov> If the website says you are NOT registered to vote, or your current address is out of date, you can update it by going to <https://indivisiblegeorgia.turbovote.org>

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/common-voting-problems-and-solutions>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave. Call the Voter Protection Hotline immediately at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) or text "Our Vote" to: 97779. Please encourage others to stay in line as well. Your vote is your voice!

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/common-voting-problems-and-solutions>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Remind the poll workers that Georgia law requires them to allow people to vote who were in line before closing time. Then call the Voter Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) or text "Our Vote" to: 97779 to report the issue. This is very important!

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/voters-with-disabilities>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. If your polling place is not accessible, and you are unable to enter it to cast your vote, your local election officials must provide you with an alternative method of voting. Federal and Georgia law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue. A second call should be made to the Georgia Advocacy Office at (800) 537-2329 or (404) 885-1234. The Georgia Advocacy Office is an independent, federally-mandated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities in Georgia.

If you are not able to vote in person at a polling place, then absentee (mail-in) voting is your best choice. Note that when you're filling out your absentee ballot application, you should choose a Disability exception. This will ensure that the state mails absentee ballots to you automatically for future elections in the current election cycle. You will need to submit a new absentee ballot application request for each election cycle (typically each calendar year). Remember that your county registrar must receive your absentee ballot by 7 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots received after the polls close at 7 p.m. cannot be counted.

If you are 75 years of age or older, or have a disability, you can go to your polling place between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and you will not be required to wait in line. Upon arrival you can tell a poll worker that you want to move to the front of the line and they will assist you.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm, https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/voters_with_disabilities.)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

To register to vote, you must first fill out a voter registration application. Voters with disabilities can receive assistance to complete the voter registration application. The person providing assistance must sign the oath contained on the voter registration application next to the signature of the applicant. Georgia's voter registration deadline for the 2020 Election was October 5, 2020.

If you are uncertain of your registration status, you may confirm your registration status through the Secretary of State's website, or you may contact your county voter registration office. You may also contact the Secretary of State's office at 404-656-2871 or (V/TTY) 656-1787 for additional assistance.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility> and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/voters_with_disabilities)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

Georgia law requires all polling places to be fully accessible and equipped with poll workers that are trained to take care of the needs of all voters. On Election Day, polling places in Georgia are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. If you are age 75 years or older or have a disability and you show up at the polling place between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., you will not be required to wait in line. Such voters should tell a poll officer if he or she wants to move to the front of the line. For information on the accessibility of your polling place, please contact your county elections office. You may contact the Secretary of State's office at 404-656-2871 or (V/TTY) 656-1787 for additional assistance.

In Georgia, a voter who is unable to sign his or her name, unable to see or mark the ballot, operate the voting equipment, or enter the voting booth without assistance, can receive assistance voting. The individual assisting a voter with a disability must record his or her name on the disabled elector's voter certificate. In federal elections, a voter with a disability can receive assistance from any individual EXCEPT his or her employer, representative of his or her employer, or a representative of his or her union. In all other elections, a voter with a disability can receive assistance from any voter, EXCEPT a poll worker or poll watcher, who is a resident of the precinct in which the voter requiring assistance is attempting to vote; or, a voter with a disability can receive assistance from his or her mother, father, sister, brother, spouse, or child.

Voters with disabilities have the option of using an accessible touch screen voting unit designed to assist with the goal of voting independently and privately. These accessible voting

units provide several different ways for voters to cast a ballot. An audio ballot is available for voters who are visually impaired or blind. With the audio ballot, voters are given headphones and a number keypad. A voter hears candidates' names and questions through the headphones, and then the voter responds to prompts by touching the keypad similar to an automated phone service. In addition, a magnifying feature is available on every touch screen voting unit that allows the voter to magnify the print on the ballot. Additionally, every polling place in Georgia is required to maintain a magnifying glass for use by visually impaired voters.

Every polling place in Georgia is equipped with at least one touch screen voting unit that will allow a voter to vote while sitting in a chair or wheelchair.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/kemp_unveils_first_of_four_new_multi-language_election_videos?utm_source=Copy+of+Multi-lingual+-+GaPundit+for+Oct+5%2C+2016&utm_campaign=GaPundit+Todd+Rehm+Georgia+Politics+04202015&utm_medium=email, <https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/web/gwinnett/Departments/Elections/LanguageAssistance>, <https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/web/gwinnett/Departments/Elections/FrequentlyAskedQuestions/ElectionsandVoting>, and <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/common-voting-problems-and-solutions>)

Georgia is not a "covered jurisdiction" under the federal Voting Rights Act and is not required to offer election information in other languages. Therefore, ballots and related election materials are printed in English. However, Gwinnett County has been designated as a Section 203 jurisdiction under the Voting Rights Act. Gwinnett County voters will now be provided and/or offered registration and election information in both English and Spanish, including but not limited to registration applications, forms, instructions, signage, and ballots. Spanish language assistance, both oral and written, is also available in Gwinnett County for those voters who request it.

In addition, Georgia law allows a voter to be assisted by a friend, family member, or poll worker if they're unable to read the ballot. If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

Yes. In Georgia, a voted absentee ballot can be returned, by mail or in person, by the voter's mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or an individual residing in the household of the absentee voter. If the absentee voter is physically disabled, their voted absentee ballot may be returned by a family member or housemate (as described above) OR by the voter's caregiver, regardless of whether the caregiver resides with the voter.

You can also contact your local election office. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/countyelectionoffices.do>

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>, <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/common-voting-problems-and-solutions>, and <https://georgia.gov/vote-election-day>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.
- Contact your County Board of Registrar's Office or the Georgia Secretary of State. Call the Secretary of State at 404-656-2871 (in metro Atlanta) or 877-725-9797 (elsewhere in Georgia) to report an issue. You can also submit a complaint online to the Secretary of State Elections Division.

Georgia law says that as long as the person is 25 feet away from the last voter in line and/or 150 feet away from the door to the polling place, or beyond the posted "no electioneering" sign, then that person is allowed to wear shirts, hats, buttons, hold signs, hand out materials, etc. This law was put into place to set perimeters around the voting precincts that then gives voters a protective "bubble" at their polling place away from any unnecessary influences or pressures, so they can vote the way they want.

However, if someone comes inside that "no electioneering" boundary (comes past the sign that is posted 150 feet from the door of the polling place, for example) and the precinct official does not take action to stop them – please bring it directly to the precinct official's attention and then also call the Voter Protection Hotline immediately at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) or text "Our Vote" to: 97779 to report what you witnessed. Problems cannot be solved if people do not report them.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

If it's not too late, you may be able to receive a replacement absentee ballot. Georgia will require you to sign an affidavit affirming that you lost, destroyed, or did not receive the first absentee ballot. In this instance, another ballot will be issued.

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://faq.georgiavoter.guide/en/article/common-voting-problems-and-solutions>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

Raise your hand and tell the poll supervisor what is happening. There should be some sort of an identifying number on your voting machine (example: "Voting Machine #1") - please make sure you write down that identifying number or at least write down where in the room your machine was located, if at all possible. Please be sure to call the Voter Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) or text "Our Vote" to: 97779 to report the issue. This is very important! Problems cannot be solved if people do not call.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Voting FAQ: Illinois

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.chicagohomeless.org/election-day-2020-is-november-3-heres-how-to-vote-if-you-are-experiencing-homelessness/>)

Yes! You will need to provide two forms of identification (ID), including one that shows proof of residence or a mailing address. If you are experiencing homelessness, a letter from a service provider is one acceptable form of identification. The letter can be from a drop-in center, shelter, or the person in whose home you are living. The letter must confirm that you have permission to use their address for the purpose of registering to vote. Other acceptable forms of ID include Illinois driver's license or state ID card, a municipal ID card (for example, the Chicago CityKey), an employee or student ID, a Social Security card or birth certificate.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://campuselect.org/voter-education/candidate-issue-guides/student-voter-guide-for-illinois-2020-primary-election/>)

Yes! College students can register and vote at **either** their campus address or their permanent home address, which may be out of state. However, voters can only be registered at one address. If you will not physically be in the state where you plan to vote, you will need to be registered in that state and request an absentee ballot or, if you plan to vote in Illinois, a vote-by-mail application. If you intend to vote in a state other than Illinois, you will need to check registration and voting rules and requirements in that state.

It's your choice where to register. Registering at your campus address will not:

- Affect your federal financial aid
- Prevent your parents from claiming you as a dependent on their taxes
- Cost you any scholarships, unless they're tied to specific residency requirements
- Affect your tuition status as an in-state or out-of-state student

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/illinois>)

College students have a choice about where to vote. Students attending college may register at their campus or choose to remain registered, or may register, at their permanent or home address. However, you may only be registered and vote in one location. If you intend to vote in a state other than Illinois, you will need to check registration and voting rules and requirements in that state.

Due to Covid-19, Illinois voters are encouraged to vote by mail. Any registered Illinois voter can vote by mail without an excuse. All requests for a mail-in ballot must be received by the election authority in which you are registered by October 29, 2020. For more information on voting by mail in Illinois, check out

<https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/VotingByMail.aspx>.

Students with scholarships who require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires state residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/> to make sure there is still time to register. If you are not going to physically be in the state where you plan to vote, you will need to request an absentee ballot or, if you plan to vote in Illinois, a vote by mail application.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/ElectionOperations/PDF/RegisteringToVote.pdf>)

Illinois requires you to have been a resident of the precinct in which you vote at least 30 days prior to Election Day. If any change in your address has occurred, you can contact your local election authority to update your registration year-round except during the 27-day period prior to an election or 16 days prior to the election for online registration. However, even if you have not updated your address, you may update your registration to your new address through Election Day and do "Grace Period Registration and Voting," or vote a full ballot at your old polling place after completing an affidavit at the site.

"Grace Period Registration and Voting" is an extension of the regular registration deadline and is available through Election Day. Grace period registration is only available in person at sites authorized by each election authority. You can check with your local election authority or go online at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

If you have already updated your address with your election authority but the mail ballot has gone to your previous address, you can vote in person. You will be asked to sign an affidavit certifying you have not received your ballot. You will then be issued a regular ballot.

If your mail arrives late at your new address after you have voted in person but on or before Election Day, you must discard the mail ballot. Do not attempt to vote your mail ballot after you have voted in person. Doing so is a Class 3 felony. And because voting systems will not allow more than one vote per voter, your mail ballot will be rejected.

If you have not already updated your address, you can contact your election authority to update your registration year-round except during the 27-day period prior to an election or 16 days prior to the election for online registration. However, even if you have not updated your address, you may update your registration to your new address through Election Day and do “Grace Period Registration and Voting,” or vote a full ballot in your old polling place after completing an affidavit at the site.

“Grace Period Registration and Voting” is an extension of the regular registration deadline and is available through Election Day. Grace period registration is only available in person at sites authorized by each election authority. You can check with your local election authority or go online at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/ElectionOperations/PDF/RegisteringToVote.pdf>)

Illinois requires you to be a resident of a precinct at least 30 days prior to Election Day. Otherwise, you may still receive an absentee ballot to vote in your old state. Check your old state’s deadline requirements for registration and absentee ballot requests at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/sviddomestic.htm>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/ElectionOperations/PDF/RegisteringToVote.pdf>)

If you have not already updated your address, you can contact your election authority to update your registration year-round except during the 27-day period prior to an election or 16 days prior to the election for online registration.

However, even if you have not updated your address, you may update your registration to your new address through Election Day and do “Grace Period Registration and Voting,” or vote a full ballot in your old polling place after completing an affidavit.

“Grace Period Registration and Voting” is an extension of the regular registration deadline and is available through Election Day. Grace period registration is only available in person at sites authorized by each election authority. You can check with your local election authority or go online at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/illinois>)

If you were registered to vote in Illinois prior to your move and you updated your registration address but have not updated the address on your ID, you can still vote at the designated polling place for your new address. Although ID is required to register, it is not required to vote in Illinois.

However, even if you have not updated your address, you may update your registration to your new address through Election Day and do “Grace Period Registration and Voting,” or vote a full ballot in your old polling place after completing an affidavit at the site.

If you are asked to show ID at the polls but do not bring it, you can vote a provisional ballot and submit additional information to the election authority later. The additional information must be received by the election authority no later than the close of business on the Tuesday following the election. The election authority has 14 days following the election to determine voter eligibility, and thus if the ballot should be counted. The provisional voter may find out if their ballot was counted, or, if it was not counted, the reason that it was not counted. If the ballot is not counted, the provisional voter affidavit will be used as a registration application and the voter will be sent a voter registration ID card.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/illinois>)

If you have updated your registration address, but have not updated the address on your ID, you can still vote at the designated polling place for your new address. Although ID is required to register, it is not required to vote in Illinois.

However, even if you have not updated your address, you may update your registration to your new address through Election Day and do “Grace Period Registration and Voting,” or vote a full ballot in your old polling place after completing an affidavit at the site.

If you are asked to show ID at the polls but do not bring it, you can vote a provisional ballot and submit additional information to the election authority later. The additional information must be received by the election authority no later than the close of business on the Tuesday following the election. The election authority has 14 days following the election to determine voter eligibility, and thus if the ballot should be counted. The provisional voter may find out if their ballot was counted, or, if it was not counted, the reason that it was not counted. If the ballot is not counted, the provisional voter affidavit will be used as a registration application and the voter will be sent a voter registration ID card.

My housing is changing, and I’m not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/illinois> and <https://www.elections.il.gov/Main/FAQ.aspx>)

If you’re eligible to vote in Illinois but have not yet registered, you can register and vote during “Grace Period Registration and Voting,” which begins on the 27th day before the election. You can register during the Grace Period at the office of the election authority or at a permanent polling place established by the election authority. You can also register at any early voting location beginning 15 days before the election, at some polling places on Election Day, or at another specially-designated location.

“Grace Period Registration and Voting” is an extension of the regular registration deadline and is available through Election Day. Grace period registration is only available in person at sites authorized by each election authority. You can check with your local election authority or go online at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/address_confidentiality.html)

Illinois has an Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) that provides survivors of domestic violence and their household members with a substitute address to use as their home and work addresses, instead of the address where they actually live. The ACP provides a substitute address can be used by participants for creating or updating public records and also provides a mail-forwarding service for all first-class mail sent to the substitute address. State and local government agencies are required to use the substitute address when creating a new public record related to the survivor or household member and when corresponding with the individual. For more information and to download an application, please visit https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/address_confidentiality.html.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/> and <https://www.vote.org/state/illinois/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

If you're a student, you may register if one of your two forms of identification is a student ID with (i) a copy of your lease or (ii) postmarked mail at the current residence.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

If you have already received your mail ballot and you've had a change of address, you can only vote in person. Take the mail-in ballot with you to an early voting site or your polling place on Election Day and surrender it to an election judge. Your mail ballot will be voided, and you will receive a regular ballot.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting a Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/VotingByMail.aspx>)

All requests for a mail ballot must be received by the election authority in which you are registered by October 29, 2020. For more information on voting by mail in Illinois, check out <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/VotingByMail.aspx>.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election authority's office as soon as possible to ask about your options. If it's not too late, your local election authority may mail you a replacement ballot. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election authority may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election authority's contact information at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election authority may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

If you received your mail ballot but lost it and it's not too late, your local election authority may mail you a replacement ballot. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election authority may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You may also vote in person and sign an affidavit certifying you have not yet voted in this election. You will then be issued a provisional ballot.

Submitting a Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

If you've made a mistake or damaged your ballot and can't mark it, contact your local election authority immediately. If time permits, you may receive a replacement ballot. If there is not sufficient time to deliver a new ballot, you can surrender the damaged ballot at an early voting location or precinct polling place on Election Day and vote in person.

Emergencies like these are why the Illinois State Board of Elections recommends applying early for a mail ballot and returning it as soon as possible.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>
and <https://www.demandthevote.com/voting-in-illinois>)

Whether you have to pay postage to mail back a ballot or not varies from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Some provide postage-prepaid envelopes to return ballots, and others require that the voter pay for postage. Your mail ballot will contain instructions on postage, which is typically about \$1.40.

If you don't have stamps, don't worry! The U.S. Postal Service will deliver all ballots it receives. Local election authorities are required by law in 2020 to accept all ballots, even those that arrive with postage due. Alternatively, local election authorities will accept mailed or hand-delivered forms. Also, you may authorize any person to return your ballot to the election authority, as long as you have signed the affidavit on the ballot envelope affirming that authorization was given to deliver the ballot at the secure drop box or in person.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

The election authority is required to notify a voter within two days if a ballot has been rejected. If there is an issue with a signature, the voter will be given the opportunity to submit a statement that the ballot was completed and sent by the voter to have the ballot counted.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

Ballots sent through the U.S. Postal Service must be postmarked on or before Nov. 3 and must arrive at the office of the local election authority by Nov. 17 to be counted.

Voters can deposit ballots into a secure drop box, where available, until the close of polls at 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check the State Board of Elections website for an online list of drop box locations at

<https://www.elections.il.gov/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/VoteByMailBallotDropBoxLocations.aspx>.

You may also drop off your ballot in person at the polling place.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

Voters can deposit ballots into a secure drop box, where available, until the close of polls at 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check the State Board of Elections website for an online list of drop box locations at

<https://www.elections.il.gov/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/VoteByMailBallotDropBoxLocations.aspx>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

You can mail it, deliver it in person to the office of your local election authority or, in many election jurisdictions, drop it in a secure drop box. About half of Illinois election jurisdictions offer the drop box option. Check the State Board of Elections website for an online list of drop box locations at

<https://www.elections.il.gov/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/VoteByMailBallotDropBoxLocations.aspx>.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/how-do-i-verify-my-vote-was-counted-in-illinois/>)

After you have cast a vote by mail ballot, you have the ability to verify that your ballot was received and counted. You may call your local election authority to verify this information at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

If you cast a ballot by mail, yet the election authority has no record, there could be a few explanations. Though unlikely, it is possible for a ballot to be lost in the mail. The more likely case is that the U.S. Postal Service was unable to deliver the ballot in time.

The best ways to prevent this from happening is to vote by mail well in advance of election day, drop mail ballots off in person at the election authority or in a secure drop box or to vote in person.

Voting Early In Person**What hours and days can I vote early in person?**

(From <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/how-do-i-verify-my-vote-was-counted-in-illinois/>)

Early voting begins September 24 and extends through the end of the day November 2 and days and hours vary by precinct for temporary branch polling places.

Permanent polling places for early voting are open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., starting October 19. Starting October 26 through the day before Election Day,

they are open from weekday from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. or 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturdays and holidays from 9 a.m. to noon; and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about early voting locations and hours, check your local election authority at

<https://www.elections.il.gov/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/EarlyVotingLocationsSearch.aspx>.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received). (From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf> and <https://elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/VotingByMail.aspx>)

If you have already mailed in your ballot, your in-person ballot will not be counted.

If you have already received your mail ballot, take it with you to an early voting site or your polling place on Election Day and surrender it to an election judge. Your mail ballot will be voided, and you will receive a regular ballot. In addition, you will only be eligible to vote provisionally.

If you have not yet received your mail ballot, you will be asked to sign an affidavit certifying you have not received your ballot. You will then be issued a regular ballot. If you received your mail ballot but lost it, you may sign an affidavit certifying you have not yet voted in this election. You will then be issued a provisional ballot.

If your mail ballot arrives after you have voted but on or before Election Day, you must discard the mail ballot. Do not attempt to vote your mail ballot after you have voted in person. Doing so is a Class 3 felony. (And because voting systems will not allow more than one vote per voter, your mail ballot will be rejected.)

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

The election authority is required to notify a voter within two days if a ballot has been rejected. If there is an issue with a signature, the voter will be given the opportunity to submit a statement that the ballot was completed and sent by the voter in order to have the ballot counted.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

Contact your local election authority immediately. If time permits, you may receive a replacement ballot. If there is not sufficient time to deliver a new ballot, you can surrender the

damaged ballot at an early voting location or precinct polling place on Election Day and vote in person.

If you have already mailed it in and if the ballot is damaged or arrives improperly sealed, the voter will be given options including voting in person or reissuing a mail ballot if time permits. However, a damaged or unsealed ballot that arrives after November 3 cannot be cured.

You can find your local election authority's contact information at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionDayVoting.aspx>)

The polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Each voter must vote at his/her precinct polling place. Check your polling place location with the election authority for your jurisdiction at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://ova.elections.il.gov/PollingPlaceLookup.aspx>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election authority's office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. You can also confirm your vote has been counted by going to

<https://www.elections.il.gov/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/ProvisionalBallotSearch.aspx>.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. As long as you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/illinois#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

If you are a disabled voter, you may request the opportunity to register at home and have registration materials brought to you. You may also request to register to vote by mail.

The Help America Vote Act requires that election authorities have voting equipment in place for voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently, and Illinois is no exception. Additionally, there are options for a seated voting booth, voting assistance from a friend, relative, or two election judges (one from each party), and curbside voting.

Language assistance is also available where required under amendments to the Federal Voting Act of 1992.

For more information on the provisions available for disabled voters, please check <https://www.elections.il.gov/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PPALocator.aspx> or contact your local election authority at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/illinois#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>, <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility> and <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/VotingByMail.aspx>)

Yes! At the polling location, there are options for voting assistance from a friend, relative, or two election judges (one from each party). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

If you send a mail-in ballot and receive assistance in voting your ballot, the name and address of the individual providing the assistance must be placed on the ballot certification envelope. Only a spouse, parent, child or sibling may assist with a mail-in ballot.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility> and <https://www.vote411.org/illinois#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

Yes! The Help America Vote Act requires that election authorities have voting equipment in place for voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently, and Illinois is no exception. Additionally, there are options for a seated voting booth, voting assistance from a friend, relative, or two election judges (one from each party), and curbside voting.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/illinois#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Additionally, there are options for voting assistance from a friend, relative, or two election judges (one from each party).

If you encounter an issue at the polls, check out <https://www.aclu-il.org/en/know-your-voting-rights-non-english-speakers> for numbers to call for assistance.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From

<https://www.elections.il.gov/DocDisplay.aspx?Doc=/Downloads/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/PDF/VoteByMailFAQ.pdf>)

Yes. But the voter and the person delivering the ballot must fill out an affidavit on the ballot envelope acknowledging third-party delivery.

Voter Suppression Questions**What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?**

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election authority. You can find the contact information at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election authority. You can find the contact information at <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce others in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election authority. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Indiana Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and to mail any election materials. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or can include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address. If you are applying online, you can provide the intersections closest to where you are in Indiana most often. Please be aware that you may not use a post office box to prove your residence in Indiana, but you may use a post office box for your mailing address.

Learn more about voting and homelessness starting on Page 14 of the 2020 Indiana Voter Registration Guidebook at

<https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Voter%20Registration%20Guidebook.MOVEDPRIMARY.pdf>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a post office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's residential life office) asserting that you live at your dorm address. For more info on how to vote in your specific state, check out <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/>. Please also refer to Page 6 of the 2020 Indiana Voter Registration Guidebook:

<https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Voter%20Registration%20Guidebook.MOVEDPRIMARY.pdf>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home, but I am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs/>)

College students may only be registered in one of two places. They may be registered at their address back home OR at their campus address. College students may not be registered to vote in Indiana and another state. Remember that a person who resides in a precinct continuously before a general, municipal, or special election for at least thirty (30) days may apply to register to vote in that precinct. Please refer to page 6 of the 2020 Indiana Voter Registration Guidebook:

<https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Voter%20Registration%20Guidebook.MOVED%20PRIMARY.pdf>. If you are uncertain of your precinct, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>.

If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition who require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires California residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out Campus Vote Project's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and Campus Vote Project's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote)

You will have to check with your county Election Administrator or the Indiana Election Division. If you have moved outside the precinct shown on your registration record to any other precinct in Indiana less than 30 days before the election, you must sign an "Affidavit of Request of Transfer of Registration" before an inspector or a judge prior to voting in a new precinct. That form can be found at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=11372>. You will also have to use this same process even if you are now residing in the same county and congressional district as your former home address (but are now in a different precinct). If you are uncertain of your precinct, or have a question as to whether this process can be completed on Election Day, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>. For more information on this process please contact the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote)

If you have an absentee-by-mail application already on file, you should complete an ABS-5 form (Statement Concerning Defective, Lost, Destroyed, or Spoiled Absentee Ballot) with county election officials indicating that your ballot has either been lost or not received so that

the county election board can authorize use of a replacement ballot. That form is available at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/ABS-5.pdf>.

If you have moved outside the precinct shown on your registration record to any other precinct in Indiana less than 30 days before the election, you must sign an "Affidavit of Request of Transfer of Registration" before an inspector or a judge prior to voting in a new precinct. That form can be found at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=11372>. You will also have to use this same process even if you are still in the same county and congressional district as your former home address (but are now in a different precinct). If you are uncertain of your precinct, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>. For more information on this process please contact the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

Please be aware that all voters will not receive an absentee-by-mail ballot automatically. If you meet the absentee-by-mail requirements in Indiana, then you will be eligible to cast an absentee ballot by mail in the General Election. The absentee-by-mail requirements include having a specific reason to request an absentee-by-mail ballot which include the following:

- You have a specific, reasonable expectation that you will be absent from the county on Election Day during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open (6 a.m. until 6 p.m.).
- You have a disability.
- You are at least 65 years of age.
- You will have official election duties outside of your voting precinct.
- You are scheduled to work at your regular place of employment during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You will be confined due to illness or injury or you will be caring for an individual confined due to illness or injury during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are prevented from voting because of a religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are a participant in the state's address confidentiality program.
- You are a member of the military or a public safety officer.
- You are a "serious sex offender" as defined in Indiana Code 35-42-4-14(a).
- You are prevented from voting due to the unavailability of transportation to the polls.

To vote by mail, you must complete and submit a one-page application before or on Thursday, October 22, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. to your County Clerk's office. Check out <https://indianavoters.in.gov/MVPHome/PrintDocuments> which provides the application that must be completed to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot. Also refer to <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2402.htm> for more information about the process.

If there is insufficient time to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot, you may still be eligible to vote in person.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Residency rules vary by state. In some states, you may be eligible to register to vote in your new state immediately upon moving. In others, you may need to wait a certain number of days or be living in the state for a certain amount of days before you register to vote in the next election. A state cannot require you to live there for more than 30 days to register to vote. Check out Rock the Vote's Election Center at <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/> for information on your state.

In Indiana, you may register to vote in a precinct only if you have lived there continuously before a general, municipal, or special election for at least thirty (30) days. Please refer to page 6 of the 2020 Indiana Voter Registration Guidebook, <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Voter%20Registration%20Guidebook.MOVEDPRIMARY.pdf>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>)

You will have to check with your county election administrator or the Indiana Election Division. If you have moved outside the precinct shown on your registration record to any other precinct in Indiana less than 30-days before the election, you must sign an "Affidavit of Request of Transfer of Registration" before an inspector or a judge prior to voting in a new precinct. That form can be found at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=11372>. You will also have to use this same process even if you are still in the same county and congressional district as your former home address (but are now in a different precinct). If you are uncertain of your precinct, please contact your county Election Administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>. For more information on this process, please contact the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>)

On Election Day you are required to present a government-issued photo ID before casting your ballot at the polls, but the address on your photo ID does NOT need to match the address on your voter registration record. On the other hand, if you registered to vote absentee-by-mail, you will be required to provide additional documentation that DOES match your address on your voter registration record when you return your ballot. Check out Page 8 and Chapter 4 of the 2020 Indiana Election Day Handbook at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Election%20Day%20Handbook.pdf>.

Your government-issued photo ID must (i) display your photo; (ii) display your name, and the name must be the same as the one provided on your voter registration record; (iii) either be unexpired, if not unexpired, then it must not have expired before November 6, 2018; and (iv) must be issued by the State of Indiana or the U.S. government. Check out the Indiana Election Division website for more information on voter ID requirements at

<https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2401.htm>. Also check out Page 8 of the 2020 Indiana Election Day Handbook at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Election%20Day%20Handbook.pdf>.

On Election Day, if you are unable or unwilling to present an ID meeting these requirements, you may cast a provisional ballot. If you cast a provisional ballot, you have until noon 10 days after the election to follow up with your county's election board and provide the correct information and documents. For more information, check out <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2624.htm>.

Please remember that you must live in a precinct continuously before a general, municipal, or special election for at least thirty (30) days before being eligible to register to vote. Please refer to Page 6 of the 2020 Indiana Voter Registration Guidebook, <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Voter%20Registration%20Guidebook.MOVEDPRIMARY.pdf>.

If you have moved outside the precinct shown on your registration record to any other precinct in Indiana less than 30-days before the election, you must sign an "Affidavit of Request of Transfer of Registration" before an inspector or a judge prior to voting in a new precinct. That form can be found at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=11372>. You will also have to use this same process even if you are still in the same county and congressional district as your former home address (but are now in a different precinct). If you are uncertain of your precinct or have any additional questions, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>. For more information on this process, you can also contact the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voter-id>)

Most likely, yes! But make sure that your voter ID meets the requirements we describe here. On Election Day you are required to present a government-issued photo ID before casting your ballot at the polls. Your government-issued photo ID must (i) display your photo; (ii) display your name, and the name must be the same as the one provided on your voter registration record; (iii) either be unexpired, if not unexpired, then it must not have expired before November 6, 2018; and (iv) must be issued by the State of Indiana or the U.S. government. Check out the Indiana Election Division website for more information on voter ID requirements at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2401.htm>.

If you are unable or unwilling to present ID meeting these requirements, you may cast a provisional ballot. If you cast a provisional ballot, you have until noon 10 days after the election to follow up with your county's election board and provide the correct information and documents. For more information, check out <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2624.htm>.

Also remember that if you moved outside the precinct shown on your registration record to any other precinct in Indiana less than 30-days before the election, you must sign an “Affidavit of Request of Transfer of Registration” before an inspector or a judge prior to voting in a new precinct. That form can be found at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=11372>.

If you are uncertain of your precinct or have any additional questions, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>. For more information on this process, you can also contact the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

My housing is changing and I am not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>)

If you have moved outside the precinct shown on your registration record to any other precinct in Indiana less than 30-days before the election, you must sign an “Affidavit of Request of Transfer of Registration” before an inspector or a judge prior to voting in a new precinct. That form can be found at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=11372>. You will also have to use this same process even if you are still in the same county and congressional district as your former home address (but are now in a different precinct). If you are uncertain of your precinct or have any additional questions, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>. For more information on this process, you can also contact the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

Please be aware that all voters will not receive an absentee-by-mail ballot automatically. If you meet the absentee-by-mail requirements in Indiana, then you will be eligible to cast an absentee ballot by mail in the General Election. The absentee-by-mail requirements include having a specific reason to request an absentee-by-mail ballot which include the following:

- You have a specific, reasonable expectation that you will be absent from the county on Election Day during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open (6 am until 6 p.m.).
- You have a disability.
- You are at least 65 years of age.
- You will have official election duties outside of your voting precinct.
- You are scheduled to work at your regular place of employment during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You will be confined due to illness or injury or you will be caring for an individual confined due to illness or injury during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are prevented from voting because of a religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are a participant in the state's address confidentiality program.
- You are a member of the military or a public safety officer.
- You are a "serious sex offender" as defined in Indiana Code 35-42-4-14(a).

- You are prevented from voting due to the unavailability of transportation to the polls.

To vote by mail, you must complete and submit a one-page application before or on Thursday, October 22, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. to your county clerk's office. Check out <https://indianavoters.in.gov/MVPHome/PrintDocuments>, which provides the application that must be completed to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot. Also refer to <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2402.htm> for more information about the process more generally.

If there is insufficient time to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot, you may still be eligible to vote in person.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf/>)

Yes. Indiana's Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) will provide you with a private post office box that will be your legal mailing address for voting. Through this program, you can request that your voter registration information be made private. To apply please visit the following website, <https://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/3093.htm>. You may then use this protected mailing address to apply for and submit an absentee-by-mail ballot. For more information on this process, check out <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/4812.htm#:~:text=The%20Address%20Confidentiality%20Program%20%28ACP%29%20is%20administered%20by,harassment%2C%20human%20trafficking%2C%20intimidation%2C%20or%20invasion%20of%20privacy.>

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. For voter registration purposes you may not use a post office box to prove your residence in Indiana, but you may use a post office box for your mailing address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>)

If you have moved outside the precinct shown on your registration record to any other precinct in Indiana less than 30-days before the election, you must sign an "Affidavit of Request of Transfer of Registration" before an inspector or a judge prior to voting in a new precinct. That form can be found at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=11372>. You will also have to use this same process even if you are still in the same county and congressional district as your former home address (but are now in a different precinct). If you are uncertain of your precinct or have any additional questions, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>. For more information on this process, you

can also contact the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

Please be aware that all voters will not receive an absentee-by-mail ballot automatically. If you meet the absentee-by-mail requirements in Indiana, then you will be eligible to cast an absentee ballot by mail in the General Election. The absentee-by-mail requirements include having a specific reason to request an absentee-by-mail ballot which include the following:

- You have a specific, reasonable expectation that you will be absent from the county on Election Day during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open (6 a.m. until 6 p.m.).
- You have a disability.
- You are at least 65 years of age.
- You will have official election duties outside of your voting precinct.
- You are scheduled to work at your regular place of employment during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You will be confined due to illness or injury or you will be caring for an individual confined due to illness or injury during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are prevented from voting because of a religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are a participant in the state's address confidentiality program.
- You are a member of the military or a public safety officer.
- You are a "serious sex offender" as defined in Indiana Code 35-42-4-14(a).
- You are prevented from voting due to the unavailability of transportation to the polls.

To vote by mail, you must complete and submit a one-page application before or on Thursday, October 22, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. to your County Clerk's office. Check out <https://indianavoters.in.gov/MVPHome/PrintDocuments> which provides the application that must be completed to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot. Also refer to <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2402.htm> for more information about the process more generally.

If you have not mailed the absentee ballot back to the county election board, you may vote in person. You must return the absentee ballot to the county election board inspector, which will allow you to vote in person at the precinct. The absentee ballot should be marked "CANCELLED" by poll workers and placed in a bag with other defective ballots at your polling place. Check out Chapter 10 of the 2020 Indiana Election Day Handbook at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Election%20Day%20Handbook.pdf>.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

To vote by mail, you must complete and submit a one-page application before or on Thursday, October 22, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. to your county clerk's office. Check out <https://indianavoters.in.gov/MVPHome/PrintDocuments> which provides the application that must be completed to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot. Also refer to <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2402.htm> for more information about the process more generally.

If there is insufficient time to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot, you may still be eligible to vote in person.

If you meet the absentee-by-mail requirements in Indiana, then you will be eligible to cast an absentee ballot by mail in the General Election. The absentee-by-mail requirements include having a specific reason to request an absentee-by-mail ballot which include the following:

- You have a specific, reasonable expectation that you will be absent from the county on Election Day during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open (6 a.m. until 6 p.m.).
- You have a disability.
- You are at least 65 years of age.
- You will have official election duties outside of your voting precinct.
- You are scheduled to work at your regular place of employment during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You will be confined due to illness or injury or you will be caring for an individual confined due to illness or injury during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are prevented from voting because of a religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are a participant in the state's address confidentiality program.
- You are a member of the military or a public safety officer.
- You are a "serious sex offender" as defined in Indiana Code 35-42-4-14(a).
- You are prevented from voting due to the unavailability of transportation to the polls.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you have an absentee application already on file, you should complete an ABS-5 form (Statement Concerning Defective, Lost, Destroyed, or Spoiled Absentee Ballot) with county election officials indicating that your ballot has either been lost or not received so that the

county election board can authorize use of a replacement ballot. That form is available at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/ABS-5.pdf>.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you have an absentee application already on file, you should complete an ABS-5 form (Statement Concerning Defective, Lost, Destroyed, or Spoiled Absentee Ballot) with county election officials indicating that your ballot has either been lost or not received so that the county election board can authorize use of a replacement ballot. That form is available at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/ABS-5.pdf>.

You may also vote in person by completing the PRE-5 affidavit (Voter's Affidavit Requesting to Vote in Person at Polls After Failing to Receive Mailed Absentee Ballot) at your polling location on Election Day and vote with a regular ballot. A copy of that form is available at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=12356#:~:text=VOTER%E2%80%99S%20AFFIDAVIT%20REQUESTING%20TO%20VOTE%20IN%20PERSON%20AT,POLLS%20AFTER%20FAILING%20TO%20RECEIVE%20MAILED%20ABSENTEE%20>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you have made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and have an absentee application on file, most issues may be fixed by filing an ABS-5 form (Statement Concerning Defective, Lost, Destroyed, or Spoiled Absentee Ballot) with county election officials. Examples that are covered by this form include spoiling a ballot because an error was made while completing the ballot, mistakenly signing your name on your spouse's ballot envelope, forgetting to sign your ballot envelope, or receiving the wrong ballot or a ballot lacking two sets of initials. That form is available at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/ABS-5.pdf>. More information about mistakes when completing the absentee-by-mail ballot can be found at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2402.htm>.

If your absentee-by-mail ballot was rejected by county election officials, you may also appear before the county election board not later than 5:00 p.m. on Election Day to request an ABS-21 (Certificate of Absentee Ballot Rejection or Failure to Timely Receive Absentee Ballot by Mail) form. You can then take that form to your polling place, where an inspector will then sign it, allowing you to vote using a regular in person ballot. You may be able to fill out an ABS-21 form directly at your polling place, but call ahead to make sure they have the forms there. Check out <https://www.indystar.com/story/news/politics/2020/10/06/indiana-election-2020-track-absentee-by-mail-ballot-troubleshoot-problems/3626238001/> for more information.

In Indiana, your absentee-by-mail ballot may not be rejected for mismatching signatures unless you are notified and given an opportunity to contest the decision. If you become aware

that a mismatch has prevented you from voting without proper notification, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>, or the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting. We also recommend continuing to check your registration and ballot status at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/#> to ensure that your ballot has been received and not rejected.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

No need to worry! If your application for an absentee-by-mail ballot is approved, a ballot packet will be mailed to you. This packet will include your ballot, the absentee voter bill of rights, and a first-class postage pre-paid return security envelope. Check out <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2402.htm> for more information about returning your absentee-by-mail ballot.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

Your absentee-by-mail ballot may not be rejected for mismatching signatures unless you are notified and given an opportunity to contest the decision.

If you cannot remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. To vote by mail in Indiana, you must complete and submit a one-page application before or on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. to your county clerk's office. Check out <https://indianavoters.in.gov/MVPHome/PrintDocuments> which provides the application that must be completed to receive an absentee-by-mail ballot. Also refer to <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2402.htm> for more information about the process more generally.

If you become aware that a mismatch has prevented you from voting without proper notification, please contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>, or the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

County election officials must receive an absentee-by-mail ballot not later than noon (local prevailing time) on Election Day, November 3, 2020. County election officials must have possession of the ballot by this deadline; postmarks – even if dated on or before the date of the election – are not accepted.

There are different steps that you should be aware of depending on the circumstances concerning why you could not make the absentee-by-mail ballot deadline.

If your absentee-by-mail ballot was mailed to you but has not been received by your county by noon on Election Day, you may choose to appear before the county election board not later than 5:00 p.m. on Election Day to request an ABS-21 (Certificate of Absentee Ballot Rejection or Failure to Timely Receive Absentee Ballot by Mail) form. You can then take that form to your polling place, where an inspector will then sign it, allowing you to vote using a regular in person ballot. You may be able to fill out an ABS-21 form directly at your polling place, but call ahead to make sure they have the forms there. Check out <https://www.indystar.com/story/news/politics/2020/10/06/indiana-election-2020-track-absentee-by-mail-ballot-troubleshoot-problems/3626238001/> for more information.

If you missed the date to mail your ballot back because you never received it, you may vote in person by completing the PRE-5 affidavit (Voter's Affidavit Requesting to Vote in Person at Polls After Failing to Receive Mailed Absentee Ballot) at your polling location on Election Day and vote with a regular ballot. A copy of that form is available at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=12356#:~:text=VOTER%E2%80%99S%20AFFIDAVIT%20REQUESTING%20TO%20VOTE%20IN%20PERSON%20AT,POLLS%20AFTER%20FAILING%20TO%20RECEIVE%20MAILED%20ABSENTEE%20>.

Finally, if you are worried about putting your ballot in the mail and it being delivered on time, you can always hand-deliver your absentee-by-mail ballot to the county clerk's office during business hours. Please note that there are no unmanned ballot drop-boxes in Indiana. For more information check out <https://wsbt.com/news/local/indiana-voters-everything-you-need-to-know-about-early-and-absentee-voting#:~:text=There%20are%20no%20unmanned%20ballot%20drop-boxes%20in%20the,you%20or%20a%20member%20of%20your%20immediate%20household>

Once an absentee-by-mail ballot is received, the county clerk's office scans it in and you can check your personal voting portal online to see if it has been received. You can check your status on <https://indianavoters.in.gov/>.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

If you are worried about putting your ballot in the mail and it being delivered on time, you can always hand-deliver your absentee-by-mail ballot to the county clerk's office during business hours. Please note that there are no unmanned ballot drop-boxes in Indiana. For more information check out <https://wsbt.com/news/local/indiana-voters-everything-you-need-to-know-about-early-and-absentee-voting#:~:text=There%20are%20no%20unmanned%20ballot%20drop-boxes%20in%20the,you%20or%20a%20member%20of%20your%20immediate%20household>

Once an absentee-by-mail ballot is received, the county clerk's office scans it in and you can check your personal voting portal online to see if it has been received. You can check your status on <https://indianavoters.in.gov/>.

Some voters could be eligible to cast their vote through the use of a “travelling board.” The travelling board consists of two poll workers, one from each major party. The poll workers bring a ballot to your house; assist you in filling out your ballot, if needed; and return it to election officials to be counted. You may be eligible to vote through the use of the travelling board if you are: (1) experiencing illness or injury; (2) caring for a person who will be confined at home on Election Day; or (3) a voter with a disability who’s polling place is not accessible.

To vote using a travelling board, you must complete and submit a one-page application by noon on Monday, November 2, 2020, to your county clerk’s office. The application to vote by travelling board is available at <https://www.in.gov/idr/files/Vote%20by%20Travelling%20Board%20application.pdf>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that’s different than where I registered?

Unfortunately, no. County election officials must receive an absentee-by-mail ballot not later than noon (local prevailing time) on Election Day, November 3, 2020. County election officials must have possession of the ballot by this deadline; postmarks – even if dated on or before the date of the election – are not accepted.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Once an absentee-by-mail ballot is received, the county clerk's office scans it in and you can check your personal voting portal online to see if it has been received. You can check your status on <https://indianavoters.in.gov/>.

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

Voting early in-person is available from October 6 to November 2, 2020. All registered Indiana voters are eligible to vote early in-person. Contact your county clerk’s office to find locations and hours for early voting. Remember, a valid photo ID is required to vote early in person. Check out <https://www.in.gov/idr/voteearly.htm> for more information.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I am worried it was not received.) (From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, once an absentee-by-mail ballot is received, the county clerk's office scans it in and you can check your personal voting portal online to see if it has been received. You can check your status on <https://indianavoters.in.gov/>. You should contact your county Election Administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index> to explore your options otherwise. However, if you wish to vote on Election Day because you are concerned about a defect on your ballot, you will be offered the opportunity vote using a provisional ballot. You will be asked to complete a PRE-4 form (Challenge Affidavit of a Voter by a Challenger or Member of the Precinct Election Board/Affidavit of a Challenged Voter). Check out Chapter 10 of the 2020 Indiana Election Day Handbook at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/2020%20Election%20Day%20Handbook.pdf>.

In Indiana, your absentee-by-mail ballot may not be rejected for mismatching signatures unless you are notified and given an opportunity to contest the decision. If you become aware that a mismatch has prevented you from voting without proper notification, please contact your county Election Administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>, or the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting. We also recommend continuing to check your registration and ballot status at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/#> to ensure that your ballot has been received and not rejected.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

Your absentee-by-mail ballot may not be rejected for mismatching signatures unless you are notified and given an opportunity to contest the decision. If you become aware that a mismatch has prevented you from voting without proper notification, please contact your county Election Administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>, or the Indiana Election Division: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved.)

If you have an absentee application already on file, you should complete an ABS-5 form (Statement Concerning Defective, Lost, Destroyed, or Spoiled Absentee Ballot) with county election officials indicating your specific issue so that the county election board can authorize use of a replacement ballot. That form is available at <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/files/ABS-5.pdf>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))

Check with your local polling place by visiting <https://indianavoters.in.gov/#> and clicking on the link labeled “voting hours.”

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://indianavoters.in.gov/#> and clicking on the link entitled “voting location.” Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, contact your county Election Administrator by using <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Check your voter registration status at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/#> or Vote.org’s website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote. Also visit <https://indianavoters.in.gov/#> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions**What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?**

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Finally, some voters could be eligible to cast their vote through the use of a "travelling board." The travelling board consists of two poll workers, one from each major party. The poll workers bring a ballot to your house; assist you in filling out your ballot, if needed; and return it to election officials to be counted. You may be eligible to vote through the use of the travelling board if you are: (1) experiencing illness or injury; (2) caring for a person who will be confined at home on Election Day; or (3) a voter with a disability who's polling place is not accessible.

To vote using a travelling board, you must complete and submit a one-page application by noon on Monday, November 2, 2020, to your county clerk's office. The application to vote by travelling board is available at

<https://www.in.gov/idr/files/Vote%20by%20Travelling%20Board%20application.pdf>.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)

Yes! The Federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

In Indiana some voters could be eligible to cast their vote through the use of a "travelling board." The travelling board consists of two poll workers, one from each major party. The poll workers bring a ballot to your house; assist you in filling out your ballot, if needed; and return it to election officials to be counted. You may be eligible to vote through the use of the travelling board if you are: (1) experiencing illness or injury; (2) caring for a person who will be confined at home on Election Day; or (3) a voter with a disability who's polling place is not accessible.

To vote using a travelling board, you must complete and submit a one-page application by noon on Monday, November 2, 2020, to your county clerk's office. The application to vote by travelling board is available at <https://www.in.gov/idr/files/Vote%20by%20Travelling%20Board%20application.pdf>.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>)

Yes! If you require assistance or are experiencing mobility issues, you are welcome at the polls on Election Day. Poll workers will be available to assist you throughout the voting process. You may designate a relative or friend to assist you at the polling place other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union). If you request assistance but do not designate someone else to help you, two poll workers (one from each political party) will be available to assist. If you are uncomfortable receiving assistance at the polls, you may request an absentee ballot from your local county clerk's office. For more information, check out <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2655.htm>.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your county election administrator may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. Your county election administrator may be found at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>, or contact the Indiana Election Division for more information: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union). Poll workers will be available to assist you throughout the voting process. You may designate a relative or friend to assist you at the polling place. If you request assistance but do not designate someone else to help you, two poll workers (one from each political party) will be available to assist. For more information, check out <https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2655.htm>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

A member of your household or your attorney-in-fact may deliver the sealed envelope containing your absentee-by-mail ballot to the county election board, but the person that delivers your marked ballot needs to also complete Form ABS-19 (Affidavit of Individual Delivering a Voter's Marked Absentee Ballot to County). A copy of that form is available at <https://forms.in.gov/download.aspx?id=11887>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>, or contact the Indiana Election Division for more information: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your county election administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>, or contact the Indiana Election Division for more information: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I am concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your county Election Administrator at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/CountyContact/Index>, or contact the Indiana Election Division for more information: Phone (317) 232-3939 or Email elections@iec.in.gov. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Massachusetts Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! You will need to provide an address when you register to vote – this is used to assign your voting districts and to send any election mail. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address. Learn more about voting and homelessness from <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – this includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a Post Office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life office) asserting that you live at your dorm address. Learn more about voting as a student in Massachusetts at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/massachusetts> or <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they do not register to vote in both locations. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires in-state residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>, and <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>.)

Yes! In Massachusetts, state law allows you to vote from a previous address in a state election for up to six months after you have moved, as long as you have not registered elsewhere. You can find more information at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleifv/howreg.htm>.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, and <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>.)

In Massachusetts, you are allowed to vote using your old address where you are registered to vote if either you have moved within the same city or town or you have moved to a new city or town in Massachusetts within six months of the election. If the voter registration deadline hasn't passed, you should register to vote at your current address. In addition, you may vote in person as long as you have not already voted by mail. For more information on voting by mail in Massachusetts, see <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm>.

If you can still access the mail-in ballot that was sent to your old address, you can use that mail-in ballot to vote from your old address. If you do not have access to the mail-in ballot that was sent to your old address, you can register to vote at your new address by the registration deadline and request a new mail-in ballot no later than October 20. You can vote in person as long as you have not already voted by mail.

In Massachusetts, every registered voter is eligible to vote by mail this year, but you must request a ballot by mail, email, fax, or online. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm> and <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-by-mail.htm> for more information on voting by mail in Massachusetts.

You can also call both your old and new local election official's offices to explain your situation and inquire about your options and next steps. You can find your old and new local election officials' contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Massachusetts does not have a residency waiting period. You may register to vote when you move to Massachusetts. The voter registration deadline is October 24. You can find more information about voting in Massachusetts at <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/states/massachusetts/>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>)

In Massachusetts, you may vote from a previous address for up to six months, as long as you have not registered at a new address. If you have not registered to vote at your new address, you may vote at your previous polling place. More information on voting in Massachusetts can be found at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevotingprocess/votingprocessidx.htm>.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>)

You have two questions to think about: first, where to vote, and second, what form of identification you will need to vote.

Assuming you have moved within the state of Massachusetts, you may vote from a previous address for up to six months, as long as you have not registered at a new address. If you have not registered to vote at your new address, you may vote at your previous polling place. More information on voting in Massachusetts can be found at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevotingprocess/votingprocessidx.htm>.

The voter registration deadline in Massachusetts is October 24. Check out the U.S. Vote Foundation's Election Dates & Deadlines at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm> for more information. You can find more information on voting in Massachusetts at <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/states/massachusetts/>.

Once you know where to vote, find out which type of identification is needed to vote in person or by mail, if any. You can ask your local election office or check out <https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/>. In Massachusetts, you may be asked to show identification for any of the following reasons:

- You are voting for the first time in Massachusetts in a federal election
- You are an inactive voter
- You are casting a provisional or challenged ballot
- The poll worker has a reasonable suspicion that leads them to request identification.

In Massachusetts, identification must include your name and the address at which you are registered to vote. Examples include a driver's license, recent utility bill, or rent receipt. You can check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidreq/idrequirementsidx.htm> for more information on identification requirements.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voter-id>)

No. In Massachusetts, identification must include your name and the address at which you are registered to vote. If you have changed your voter registration to a new address, the ID must show the new address. If you have not changed your voter registration to your new address, and you have moved within the last 6 months, you must vote at your old address voting location. Examples of ID include a driver's license, state-issued ID card, recent utility bill, rent receipt, lease, a copy of a voter registration affidavit, or any other printed identification containing your name and address.

You may be asked to show identification for any of the following reasons:

- You are voting for the first time in Massachusetts in a federal election
- You are an inactive voter
- You are casting a provisional or challenged ballot
- The poll worker has a reasonable suspicion that leads them to request identification.

If you are asked to show ID because you are voting for the first time in Massachusetts, but you are unable to do so, you may cast a provisional ballot and return later with acceptable identification by close of polls.

If you are asked to show ID because you are on the list of inactive voters or if a poll worker has reasonable cause to request it, but you are unable to do so, you may vote but your ballot may be challenged. Your ballot will be cast normally, and will only be re-examined in the case of a recount, court order, or audit.

You can check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidreq/idrequirementsidx.htm> for more information on identification requirements. You can also check Massachusetts's rules by calling your local election office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>) or looking at <https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/>.

My housing is changing, and I am not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>)

Make a plan to vote in person if you do not know whether you will be able to access a mail-in ballot that was sent to your old address. In Massachusetts, you may vote from a previous address for up to six months, as long as you have not registered at a new address. If you have not registered to vote at your new address, you may vote at your previous polling place. More information on voting in Massachusetts can be found at

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevotingprocess/votingprocessidx.htm>.

You must register to vote in Massachusetts 10 days before the date of the election.

Registration in person on the day of the election is not permitted. Check out

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleifv/howreg.htm> for more information on registering to vote in Massachusetts.

You can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf/>)

Yes. Massachusetts has an Address Confidentiality Program that enables survivors of domestic violence to register while maintaining the confidentiality of their address. To participate in the Massachusetts Address Confidentiality Program, you must show that disclosure of your address threatens your safety or the safety of your children. If you are in the program, you will be assigned a substitute mailing address that you may use when interacting with government agencies. A protective order is required. You can find more information on the Massachusetts Address Confidentiality Program at

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/acp/acpabtidx.htm#about>. The National Network to End Domestic Violence provides a list of currently available programs by state: https://nnedv.org/resources-library/h_address_voter_protection/.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>)

If you are moving within the state of Massachusetts and the voter registration deadline hasn't passed yet, you should register to vote at your new address. This year's voter registration deadline is October 24. If you would like a new mail-in ballot, you must apply by October 20. If it is too late to register at your new address, you may vote from a previous address for up to six months, as long as you have not registered at a new address. In addition, you may vote in person as long as you have not already voted by mail. If you have not registered to vote at your new address, you may vote at your previous polling place. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm> for more on voting by mail in Massachusetts.

If you are moving to Massachusetts from another state, you may register to vote as soon as you move to Massachusetts. Massachusetts does not have a residency waiting period. You can find more information about voting in Massachusetts at <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/states/massachusetts/>.

More information on voting in Massachusetts can be found at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevotingprocess/votingprocessidx.htm>. Note that voting twice in federal elections is illegal under federal law and most state laws.

Early Voting Questions:**Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot****What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail. How late can I get an emergency ballot?**

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

Every registered voter in Massachusetts is eligible to vote by mail this year. To vote by mail, you must submit an application to your local election official by mail, email, fax, or online through the mail-in ballot application system. You should apply for your ballot as soon as possible. It is best to try to apply at least 2-3 weeks before the election, and Massachusetts recommends submitting your application no later than October 20. Your local election official must receive your application at least four business days before the election. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-by-mail.htm>, along with the Voting by Mail FAQ for Massachusetts at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm> for more information. You can also check out Rock The Vote's Guide to Absentee Voting Rules at <http://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/> to find the rules and deadlines for voting by mail in your state.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options. You can find your local Massachusetts election official's contact information at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/electclk/clkidx.htm>. You can also find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. If it is not too late, some states may mail you a replacement ballot. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you have lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. If it is not too late, some states may mail you a replacement ballot. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local Massachusetts election official's contact information at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/electclk/clkidx.htm>. You can also find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you have made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. In Massachusetts, you may receive up to two replacement ballots if you make a mistake and spoil your ballot. See <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elerights/rightsidx.htm> for more information. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

Massachusetts provides a pre-addressed and pre-stamped return envelope that you can use to mail back your ballot. In addition, you may hand-deliver your ballot to your local election office, in an official ballot return drop box, or at any early voting location during early voting hours. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevv/early-voting-faq.htm> for more information. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/electclk/clkidx.htm>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

In Massachusetts, if there is a discrepancy between your ballot signature and your ballot application signature, your ballot will be rejected. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx> for a listing of how states verify voted absentee ballots.

If you cannot remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. The deadline to register to vote in Massachusetts is October 24. Check out <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/> for voter registration deadlines.

In Massachusetts, you will be notified that your ballot was rejected. If sufficient time allows, you will be sent a new ballot. You may submit a new absentee ballot. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> for a list of states that require that voters be notified when there is a missing signature or a signature discrepancy and provide an opportunity to correct it.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

In Massachusetts, your ballot needs to be postmarked by November 3, and it must reach your local election office by November 6. You can also hand-deliver your ballot to your local election office or drop it in a drop-box by 8 p.m. EST on November 3. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm> for more information.

You can also find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

In Massachusetts, you can drop off your ballot at your local election office or in an official ballot return drop box. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm> for more information and <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/ev-find-my-election-office.htm> to find your local Massachusetts election office. You can also find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

In Massachusetts, you can drop off your ballot at your local election office, in an official ballot return drop box in your city or town, or at any early voting location in your city or town during early voting hours. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm> for more information and <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/ev-find-my-election-office.htm> to find your local Massachusetts election office.

You can also find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Yes! In Massachusetts, you can track your ballot at www.TrackMyBallotMA.com.

Voting Early In-Person

When can I vote early in-person?

Early in-person voting in Massachusetts will take place October 17-30. You can vote early at any early voting location in your community. You can find early voting locations, dates, and times at www.MassEarlyVote.com. For more information on early voting in Massachusetts, check out the Massachusetts early voting website at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/evidx.htm> and The National Conference of State Legislatures website at <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/early-voting-in-state-elections.aspx>.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I am worried it wasn't received). (From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, if your ballot never reached your local election office, or if it was rejected for some reason, then you can vote in person. In Massachusetts, you can check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted by tracking your ballot at www.TrackMyBallotMA.com. If you're still not sure, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm> for more information.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

No. In Massachusetts, you will be notified if your mail-in ballot was rejected. If there is enough time left before the election, you will also be sent a new ballot, which you may submit. You will also have the option to vote in person until 8 p.m. on Election Day. Check out Massachusetts's voting by mail FAQ at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elev/early-voting-faq.htm>. Also check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> for a list of states that require voters to be notified when there is a missing signature or a signature discrepancy and provide an opportunity to correct it.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved.)

In Massachusetts, you may receive up to two replacement ballots if you make a mistake and spoil your ballot. If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local election official's office to request a replacement. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elerights/rightsidx.htm> for more information.

If you moved within the state of Massachusetts and the voter registration deadline hasn't passed yet, you can register to vote and request a mail-in ballot at your new address. If you would like a new mail-in ballot, you must apply by October 20. This year's voter registration deadline is October 24. If it is too late to register at your new address, you may vote from a previous address for up to six months, as long as you have not registered at a new address. Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevv/early-voting-faq.htm> for more on voting by mail in Massachusetts.

You can find your local Massachusetts election official's contact information at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/electk/clkidx.htm>.

Election Day Questions**Polling Locations****When is my polling place open?**

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))

Polling places in Massachusetts are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information on voting in Massachusetts, check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevotingprocess/votingprocessidx.htm>.

You can find your local polling place at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/WhereDoIVoteMA/bal/MyElectionInfo.aspx> or <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>.

My normal polling place is closed; what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/WhereDoIVoteMA/bal/MyElectionInfo.aspx> or <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/electk/clkidx.htm>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Massachusetts's website at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx> to confirm that you are registered to vote and its website at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/WhereDoIVoteMA/bal/MyElectionInfo.aspx> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If your polling place houses more than one precinct, check with the poll workers to be sure that you are in the correct line. If you are in the correct precinct and your name is not on the list, ask the poll workers to contact city or town hall to confirm your registration.

If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Local election officials in Massachusetts must resolve all provisional ballots within twelve days of an election. All provisional ballots are investigated and those found to be cast by eligible voters are counted, no matter how close the election may be.

After Election Day, you may contact the Massachusetts Elections Division at 1-800-462-VOTE (8683) to determine the disposition of your ballot.

Check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleprovisionalballots/provisionalballotsidx.htm> for more information on provisional ballots in Massachusetts.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave. If you are in line when polls are closed at 8 p.m., you will be allowed to vote. For more information on the voting process in Massachusetts, check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevotingprocess/votingprocessidx.htm>.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close at 8 p.m., you must be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately. For more information on the voting process in Massachusetts, check out <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elevotingprocess/votingprocessidx.htm>.

Voting Accommodations Questions**What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?**

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

In Massachusetts, you can choose someone to assist you when entering the polling location, checking in, entering the voting booth, preparing the ballot, exiting the booth and checking out. You can find more information on voting for persons with disabilities in Massachusetts at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleaccessible/accessibleidx.htm>.

Some states offer "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car. If you want to use this method of voting, you should call your local election office to see if they allow curbside voting and let them know you want to use it. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

Maybe. In Massachusetts, you must submit your own ballot by mail, but a family member may drop off your ballot at your local election office. You can look up your state's rules at <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx> or at <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleVIII/Chapter54/Section92>. You can also contact your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. Their contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid will not make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I am concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Missouri Voting FAQs

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.findlaw.com/voting/missouri-voting-guide.html>)

If you are homeless or do not have a traditional street address, you can still register to vote. You will need a mailing address where you can receive an address verification card. Once you have been verified, you will be registered and will receive a voter ID card. You can use the address of a homeless shelter or day center. Learn more about voting and homelessness from <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a Post Office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life Office) asserting that you live at your dorm address. For more information on how to vote in Missouri, check out <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/missouri/>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they do not register to vote in both states or locations. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition who require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires in-state residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingquestions#4_1 and <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/missouri/>)

You will need to update your voter registration with your new address.

If you have moved to a different address within the same county, you are permitted to change your registration address on Election Day at your new polling place or the central polling location. It is recommended that you contact your local election official with any address changes prior to Election Day to determine your assigned polling place. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>.

To change your address if you move outside the boundaries of the election jurisdiction in which you were previously registered, you will need to fill out a new voter registration application at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register>.

If you moved before the deadline to register for the election (October 7, 2020), you must complete your new registration prior to the registration deadline to be eligible to vote a full ballot in your new jurisdiction. If you moved after the registration deadline (October 7, 2020), you will be entitled to vote a limited ballot, containing only federal and statewide candidates and issues once you submit a completed voter registration application in person with the local election authority. People moving from one election jurisdiction to another prior to the registration deadline who fail to register to vote by the registration deadline will not be able to vote in that particular election. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingquestions#4_1 and <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/missouri/>)

Generally, you should update your voter registration with your new address. If you have moved to a different address within the same county, you are permitted to change your registration address on Election Day at your new polling place or the central polling location. It is recommended that you contact your local election authority with any address changes prior to Election Day to determine your assigned polling place. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>.

To change your address if you move outside the boundaries of the election jurisdiction in which you were previously registered, you will need to fill out a new voter registration application at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register>. If you moved *before* the deadline to register for the election (October 7, 2020), you must complete your new registration prior to the registration deadline to be eligible to vote a full ballot in your new

jurisdiction. If you moved after the registration deadline (October 7, 2020), you will be entitled to vote a limited ballot, containing only federal and statewide candidates and issues once you submit a completed voter registration application in person with the local election authority. People moving from one election jurisdiction to another prior to the registration deadline who fail to register to vote by the registration deadline will not be able to vote in that particular election. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/locaelectionauthority>.

If you moved before the deadline to register, and you register to vote by the registration deadline, you may be able to request a new mail-in ballot. If your ballot is lost or not received (e.g., sent to the wrong address), you may obtain a replacement ballot from the election authority. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/locaelectionauthority>. You will need to sign a statement verified on oath or affirmation, on a form prescribed by the election authority that your ballot was lost or not received. You must deliver the statement to the election authority before noon on the date of the election. You may also mail the statement to the election authority; but, no election authority shall transmit a ballot by mail unless the application is received prior to the close of business on the fifth day prior to the election. When an application is timely received, the election authority shall deliver the ballot to you in person in the office of the election authority, or promptly transmit the ballot by mail to you at the address contained in the application.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingquestions#4_1 and <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/missouri/>)

With the exception of St. Louis County, where voters can vote at any polling place, voters everywhere else in Missouri must cast a ballot at their assigned polling place. To find your polling place, visit the Missouri Secretary of State's voter outreach portal, available at <https://voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov/PRD/VoterOutreach/VOSearch.aspx>.

You must register to vote by October 7, 2020. If you moved to Missouri after the deadline to register for a presidential election, you are entitled to register and vote only a presidential and vice-presidential ballot in your new jurisdiction. For more information, contact your local election authority at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/locaelectionauthority>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingquestions#4_1 and <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/missouri/>)

With the exception of St. Louis County, where voters can vote at any polling place, voters everywhere else in Missouri must cast a ballot at their assigned polling place.

If you have moved to a different address within the same county, you are permitted to change your registration address on Election Day at your new polling place or the central polling location. To find your polling place, visit the Missouri Secretary of State's voter outreach portal,

available at <https://voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov/PRD/VoterOutreach/VOSearch.aspx>. It is recommended that you contact your local election official with any address changes prior to Election Day to determine or confirm your assigned polling place. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>.

To change your address if you move outside the boundaries of the election jurisdiction in which you were previously registered, you will need to fill out a new voter registration application at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register>.

If you moved before the deadline to register for the election (October 7, 2020), you must complete your new registration prior to the registration deadline to be eligible to vote a full ballot in your new jurisdiction. If you moved after the registration deadline (October 7, 2020), you will be entitled to vote a limited ballot, containing only federal and statewide candidates and issues once you submit a completed voter registration application in person with the local election authority. People moving from one election jurisdiction to another prior to the registration deadline who fail to register to vote by the registration deadline will not be able to vote in that particular election. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>.

To find out more information about how you can update your registration to vote because of a change of address, visit <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register>.

I had to move recently, but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingquestions#4> 1, <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/missouri/>, <https://www.sos.mo.gov/showit2vote>)

The first issue is determining where you should vote. With the exception of St. Louis County, where voters can vote at any polling place, voters everywhere else in Missouri must cast a ballot at their assigned polling place. To find your polling place, visit the Missouri Secretary of State's voter outreach portal, available at <https://voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov/PRD/VoterOutreach/VOSearch.aspx>.

If you have moved to a different address within the same county, you are permitted to change your registration address on Election Day at your new polling place or the central polling location. It is recommended that you contact your local election official with any address changes prior to Election Day to determine your assigned polling place. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>.

If you moved before the deadline to register for the election (October 7, 2020), you must complete your new registration prior to the registration deadline to be eligible to vote a full ballot in your new jurisdiction. If you moved after the registration deadline (October 7, 2020), you will be entitled to vote a limited ballot, containing only federal and statewide candidates and issues once you submit a completed voter registration application in person with the local

election authority. People moving from one election jurisdiction to another prior to the registration deadline who fail to register to vote by the registration deadline will not be able to vote in that particular election.

If you moved to Missouri after the deadline to register for a presidential election (October 7, 2020), you are entitled to register and vote only a presidential and vice-presidential ballot in your new jurisdiction. For more information, contact your local election authority at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/locaelectionauthority>.

Please note that you still need to bring an acceptable form of ID to vote. Acceptable forms of ID include the following:

- Identification issued by the state of Missouri, an agency of the state, or a local election authority of the state;
- Identification issued by the United States government or agency thereof;
- Identification issued by an institution of higher education, including a university, college, vocational and technical school, located within the state of Missouri; or
- A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that contains the name and address of the voter.

While you should update your ID and other documents timely to reflect your new address, that should not prevent you from voting as long as your registration has been properly updated.

If you do not possess any of these forms of identification, but are a registered voter, you may cast a provisional ballot. If you do not have an approved form of ID, you can send a form (available at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/voteridhelp>) to the Secretary of State's office and they will assist you in obtaining one.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.sos.mo.gov/showit2vote> and http://www.stlamerican.com/news/local_news/three-voting-myths-that-should-not-keep-you-home-on-election-day/article_66ab79d4-dbc0-11e8-b191-67c82cf7b2bf.html)

Yes. A current address on your photo identification is not required to vote. The law does not even mention the voter's address for any form of primary identification (e.g., driver's license, non-driver license, military identification, passport, etc.). In fact, neither passports nor military IDs even list addresses.

Acceptable forms of ID include the following:

- Identification issued by the state of Missouri, an agency of the state, or a local election authority of the state;
- Identification issued by the United States government or agency thereof;
- Identification issued by an institution of higher education, including a university, college, vocational and technical school, located within the state of Missouri; or

- A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that contains the name and address of the voter.

If you do not possess any of these forms of identification but are a registered voter, you may cast a provisional ballot. If you do not have an approved form of ID, you can send a form (available at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/voteridhelp>) to the Secretary of State's office and they will assist you in obtaining one.

My housing is changing, and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingquestions#4_1 and <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/missouri/>)

If you do not know if you will be able to access your mail at your old housing address to receive a mail-in ballot, it is probably safer to make a plan to vote in person, if possible. The first step is to try to determine what county (and preferably, what polling district) you will be residing in on Election Day.

With the exception of St. Louis County, where voters can vote at any polling place, voters everywhere else in Missouri must cast a ballot at their assigned polling place. To find your polling place, visit the Missouri Secretary of State's voter outreach portal, available at <https://voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov/PRD/VoterOutreach/VOSearch.aspx>.

If you have moved to a different address within the same county, you are permitted to change your registration address on Election Day at your new polling place or the central polling location. It is recommended that you contact your local election official with any address changes prior to Election Day to determine your assigned polling place. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>.

If you moved before the deadline to register for the election (October 7, 2020), you must complete your new registration prior to the registration deadline to be eligible to vote a full ballot in your new jurisdiction. If you moved after the registration deadline (October 7, 2020), you will be entitled to vote a limited ballot, containing only federal and statewide candidates and issues once you submit a completed voter registration application in person with the local election authority. People moving from one election jurisdiction to another prior to the registration deadline who fail to register to vote by the registration deadline will not be able to vote in that particular election.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From https://nnedv.org/resources-library/h_address_voter_protection/)

Yes. Missouri has the "Safe at Home" Address Confidentiality Program. You are eligible for this program if you are a victim of domestic abuse, rape, sexual assault or stalking and fears further violent acts from assailant; have relocated or are about to relocate to an address unknown to the assailant and that is not already part of any public record; are a resident of

Missouri or are about to become a resident; have a valid Missouri address where you can immediately begin receiving mail; are an adult person (age 17 years or older) or a parent or guardian acting on behalf of a minor (age 16 years or younger) or incapacitated person; are willing to designate the secretary of state as your legal agent to receive legal documents, service of process and first class and certified mail; and understand there will be a 5- to 7-day mail delay, as mail first comes to Safe at Home and is then forwarded to her or his confidential mailing address. You can find additional information regarding the “Safe at Home” program at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/business/safeathome>.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I’ve moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingquestions#4_1)

The only way to get a replacement ballot is to sign a statement swearing or affirming that the ballot was destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received. You may obtain a replacement ballot in person by presenting the application to the election authority before noon on Election Day. You may also obtain a replacement ballot by mail if the application is received by the election authority no later than the close of business five days before Election Day. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localectionauthority>.

Alternatively, you may vote in person on Election Day, but keep in mind that you will need to update your voter registration to your new address. To find out how you can update your registration to vote because of a change of address, visit <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register>.

With the exception of St. Louis County, where voters can vote at any polling place, voters everywhere else in Missouri must cast a ballot at their assigned polling place. To find your polling place, visit the Missouri Secretary of State’s voter outreach portal, available at <https://voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov/PRD/VoterOutreach/VOSearch.aspx>.

If you have moved to a different address within the same county, you are permitted to change your registration address on Election Day at your new polling place or the central polling location. It is recommended that you contact your local election official with any address changes prior to Election Day to determine your assigned polling place.

To change your address if you move outside the boundaries of the election jurisdiction in which you were previously registered, you will need to fill out a new voter registration application at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register>.

If you moved before the deadline to register for an election (October 7, 2020), you must complete your new registration prior to the registration deadline to be eligible to vote a full ballot in your new jurisdiction. If you moved after the registration deadline (October 7, 2020), you will be entitled to vote a limited ballot, containing only federal and statewide candidates and issues once you submit a completed voter registration application in person with the local election authority. People moving from one election jurisdiction to another prior to the registration deadline who fail to register to vote by the registration deadline will not be able to vote in that particular election.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/howtovote>)

Absentee voters must provide one of the following reasons for voting absentee:

- Absence on Election Day from the jurisdiction of the election authority in which such voter is registered to vote;
- Incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability, including a person who is primarily responsible for the physical care of a person who is incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability;
- Religious belief or practice;
- Employment as an election authority, as a member of an election authority, or by an election authority at a location other than such voter's polling place;
- Incarceration, provided all qualifications for voting are retained.
- Certified participation in the address confidentiality program established under sections 589.660 to 589.681 because of safety concerns.
- For an election that occurs during the year 2020, the voter has contracted or is in an at-risk category for contracting or transmitting severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (COVID-19).

In addition, Governor Parson signed Senate Bill 631 into law on June 4, 2020, that authorizes mail-in ballots for the November 3, 2020, general election to avoid the risk of contracting or transmitting severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (COVID-19).

Absentee ballot requests may be made in person, by mail, by fax or by email, while mail-in-ballot requests can only be made in person or by mail. Mail-in and absentee ballot requests must be received by the election authority no later than 5 p.m. on the second Wednesday prior to any election. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to ask about your options. If it is not too late, your local election office may mail you a replacement ballot. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Keep in mind that federal and Missouri state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://law.justia.com/codes/missouri/2013/title-ix/chapter-115/section-115.655/>)

If your ballot is lost or not received, you may obtain a replacement ballot from the election authority. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>. You will need to sign a statement verified on oath or affirmation, on a form prescribed by the election authority that your ballot was lost or not received. You must deliver the statement to the election authority before noon on the date of the election. You may also mail the statement to the election authority; but, no election authority shall transmit a ballot by mail unless the application is received prior to the close of business on the fifth day prior to the election. When an application is timely received, the election authority shall deliver the ballot to you in person in the office of the election authority, or promptly transmit the ballot by mail to you at the address contained in the application.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot**What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?**

(From <https://law.justia.com/codes/missouri/2013/title-ix/chapter-115/section-115.655/>)

If your ballot is spoiled (e.g. you make an error), you may obtain a replacement ballot from the election authority. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority>. You will need to sign a statement verified on oath or affirmation, on a form prescribed by the election authority that your ballot was spoiled. You must deliver the statement to the election authority before noon on the date of the election. You may also mail the statement to the election authority; but, no election authority shall transmit a ballot by mail unless the application is received prior to the close of business on the fifth day prior to the election. When an application is timely received, the election authority shall deliver the ballot to you in person in the office of the election authority, or promptly transmit the ballot by mail to you at the address contained in the application.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-12-states-with-postage-paid-election-mail.aspx>)

Missouri provides a prepaid return envelope for your ballot. Mailing envelopes for use in returning ballots shall be printed with business reply permits so that any ballot returned by mail does not require postage. All fees and costs for establishing and maintaining the business reply and postage-free mail for all ballots cast shall be paid by the secretary of state through state appropriations.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://tracker.votingrightslab.org/states/missouri>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>, and <https://www.washingtonpost.com/elections/2020/how-to-vote/missouri/>)

If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, your ballot may not count. Absentee/mail-in ballot envelopes must be signed by election official, notary or other officer authorized to administer oaths, except for individuals who have declared themselves to be permanently disabled.

An application for an absentee/mail-in ballot must be signed by the voter and witnessed by an authorized individual (election official, notary or other officer authorized to administer oaths). Absentee/mail-in ballot return envelopes are printed with a statement that must be signed by the voter under penalty of perjury. The affidavit of each person voting an absentee/mail-in ballot shall be subscribed and sworn to before the election official receiving the ballot, a notary public or other officer authorized by law to administer oaths. The ballot is rejected if the statement is not completed.

Missouri law does not provide a process to cure problems with an absentee or mail-in ballot. In addition, the state does not require election officials to contact you before rejecting your ballot due to issues like a missing signature.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/missouri/>)

If you are voting an absentee ballot, you have two options:

1. Vote a new ballot on Election Day: If you requested and received, but did not submit an absentee ballot, you can bring the ballot to the polls or local election authority, surrender that ballot and vote a regular ballot at the polls. If you requested but did *not* receive an absentee ballot, you can complete a “Lost Ballot Affidavit” at the polls or election authority and vote a regular ballot on Election Day. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/locaelectionauthority>.
2. An absentee ballot may be returned in person by a relative of the voter who is within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity (*i.e.* your spouse, parent, child, grandparent, brother, sister, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law,

or son-in-law). Please note that Missouri does not allow voters to drop off ballots at polling locations or drop boxes. Completed absentee ballots returned must be returned to your local election officer. Your election office address and contact details can be found at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>.

Mail-in ballots can only be returned by mail. If you are voting a mail-in ballot and missed the date to mail the ballot back, you must vote a new ballot on Election Day.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx#permit>, <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options> and <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/missouri/>)

Mail-in ballots can only be returned by mail. An absentee ballot may be returned in person by a relative of the voter who is within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity (*i.e.* your spouse, parent, child, grandparent, brother, sister, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, or son-in-law).

Please note that Missouri does not allow voters to drop off ballots at polling locations or drop boxes. Completed absentee ballots returned must be returned to your local election officer. Your election office address and contact details can be found at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

Mail-in ballots can only be returned by mail. An absentee ballot may be returned in person by a relative of the voter who is within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity (*i.e.* your spouse, parent, child, grandparent, brother, sister, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, or son-in-law).

Please note that Missouri does not allow voters to drop off ballots at polling locations or drop boxes. Completed absentee ballots returned must be returned to your local election officer. Your election office address and contact details can be found at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/wheres-my-ballot>)

No. Missouri does not have a ballot tracking system at the state or county level in use for the November election.

Voting Early In-Person

What hours and days can I vote early in-person?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/early-voting-in-state-elections.aspx> and <https://howto.vote/vote/en/mo.html>)

Missouri does not offer an early voting period. If you will be unable to vote in person on Election Day, you can request an absentee ballot/mail-in ballot by mail or by visiting your local election office. Mailed requests for absentee ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, for the general election. Voters can vote by absentee in the office of the local election authority until 5 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2020. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/locaelectionauthority>.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received).

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. Contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/locaelectionauthority>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://tracker.votingrightslab.org/states/missouri>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>, and <https://www.washingtonpost.com/elections/2020/how-to-vote/missouri/>)

Missouri does not have a process to cure problems with your mail-in ballot. In addition, Missouri does not require election officials to contact you before rejecting your ballot due to issues like a missing signature.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From <https://law.justia.com/codes/missouri/2013/title-ix/chapter-115/section-115.655/>)

You may only request a new ballot if your ballot was destroyed, spoiled, lost or not received. In such cases, you may obtain a replacement ballot from the election authority. You will need to sign a statement verified on oath or affirmation, on a form prescribed by the election authority that your ballot was destroyed, spoiled, lost or not received. You will deliver the statement to the election authority before noon on the date of the election. You may also mail the statement to the election authority; but, no election authority shall transmit a ballot by mail unless the application is received prior to the close of business on the fifth day prior to the election. When an application is timely received, the election authority shall deliver the ballot to you in person in the office of the election authority, or promptly transmit the ballot by mail to you at the address contained in the application. The contact information for your local election authority can be found at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/locaelectionauthority>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/electionday>

Polling hours are from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority> or <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Missouri's polling place locator at <https://voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov/PRD/VoterOutreach/VOSearch.aspx> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines

could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/electionday>

If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/howtovote>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Missouri offers "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car. If you want to use this method of voting, you should call your local election office to see if they allow curbside voting and let them know you want to use it. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority> or <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility> and <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/votingrights>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place; or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority> or <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/missouri#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri/localelectionauthority> or <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx> and MO Rev Stat § 115.013)

Yes. A ballot may be returned in person by a relative of the voter who is within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity (*i.e.* your spouse, parent, child, grandparent, brother, sister, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, or son-in-law).

Voter Suppression Questions**What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?**

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.
- File a complaint with the Missouri Secretary of State Elections Division at https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/elections_integrity/complaint

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or

“your kid will not make the football team if you vote.” *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I’m concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney’s office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice’s Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Montana Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>)

Yes! You will need to provide an address when you register to vote – this is used to assign your voting districts and to send any election mail. The form contains a section for your mailing address, in addition to your physical address. In Montana, you must provide a residence address that is in the county where you are registering or specific geographic location information from which your residence address may be determined. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or can include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address. Learn more about voting and homelessness from <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>)

Yes! In Montana, you may choose to vote either in person or by absentee ballot in the county where you registered and are going to college or in your county of permanent residence. You have the right to register to vote at your school address – this includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a Post Office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life office) asserting that you live at your dorm address. For more information on how to vote in your specific state, check out <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they do not register to vote in both states. In Montana, you may choose to vote either in person or by absentee ballot in the county where you registered and are going to college or in your county of permanent residence. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires Montana residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#i-have-recently-moved,-am-i-still-eligible-to-vote?>, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-vote>)

In Montana, if you have changed your residence but have not yet updated your voter registration, you can still vote one last time at your old polling place if your name appears on the register. You will need to fill out a voter registration application with your new residence address before voting. If your name does not appear on the register at the new polling place, to vote in the election you must go to the county election office, update your registration information and cast a ballot based on your updated residence address, or go to your old polling place and vote one last time at the old polling place.

You will also need to present a current ID. If you do not have a photo ID with your name and current address on it, you can provide a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, voter confirmation notice, tribal ID, government check or other government document that shows your name and current address. If you do not have any of the items listed above, you can still vote by requesting and filling out a "Polling Place Elector ID" form or you can vote a provisional ballot and provide one of the items listed above. Your provisional ballot will be counted if you provide one of the items on the list to the county election office by 5 p.m. on November 4, 2020, or mail it to the county election office postmarked by November 4, 2020.

You can confirm with your location election official. The contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

I got evicted but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-vote>; and <https://sosmt.gov/Elections/Vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>; and <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-vote>)

In Montana, if you have changed your residence but have not yet updated your voter registration, you can still vote one last time at your old polling place if your name appears on the register. You will need to fill out a voter registration application with your new residence

address before voting. If your name does not appear on the register at the new polling place, in order to vote in the election you must go to the county election office, update your registration information and cast a ballot based on your updated residence address, or go to your old polling place and vote one last time at the old polling place.

The deadline for regular registration is October 26, 2020. If you miss that deadline, you can still register and vote in the election by late registering at your county election office or designated location. Late registration is available at any time right up through the close of polls on election day, except between noon and 5 p.m. the day before the election.

You will also need to present a current ID. If you do not have a photo ID with your name and current address on it, you can provide a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, voter confirmation notice, tribal ID, government check or other government document that shows your name and current address. If you do not have any of the items listed above, you can still vote by requesting and filling out a "Polling Place Elector ID" form or you can vote a provisional ballot and provide one of the items listed above. Your provisional ballot will be counted if you provide one of the items on the list to the county election office by 5 p.m. on November 4, 2020, or mail it to the county election office postmarked by November 4, 2020.

For absentee ballots in Montana, anyone can vote by mail. Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained at <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/Application-for-Absentee-Ballot.pdf> and mailed or dropped off at your county election office, as noted here: <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/electionadministrators.pdf>. Applications must be received by noon on November 2, 2020. The absentee ballot will be mailed to the address you provided on your application or you can pick up the absentee ballot from the county election office if you drop off the application in person, if ballots are available at that time. You must sign the affirmation on the return envelope before returning your absentee ballot. The election office or polling place must receive your completed absentee ballot by 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020.

You can confirm with your location election official. The contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/>)

Residency rules vary by state. In Montana, you must have lived in the state for at least 30 days before you register to vote in the next election.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From [https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote](https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote;); https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; and <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-vote>)

In Montana, if you have changed your residence but have not yet updated your voter registration, you can still vote one last time at your old polling place if your name appears on the register. You will need to fill out a voter registration application with your new residence

address before voting. If your name does not appear on the register at the new polling place, in order to vote in the election you must go to the county election office, update your registration information and cast a ballot based on your updated residence address, or go to your old polling place and vote one last time at the old polling place.

You will also need to present a current ID. If you do not have a photo ID with your name and current address on it, you can provide a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, voter confirmation notice, tribal ID, government check or other government document that shows your name and current address. If you do not have any of the items listed above, you can still vote by requesting and filling out a "Polling Place Elector ID" form or you can vote a provisional ballot and provide one of the items listed above. Your provisional ballot will be counted if you provide one of the items on the list to the county election office by 5 p.m. on November 4, 2020, or mail it to the county election office postmarked by November 4, 2020.

You can confirm with your location election official. The contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>; https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; <https://sosmt.gov/Elections/Vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>; and <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-vote>)

You have two questions to think about: first, where to vote, and second, what form of identification you will need to vote.

In Montana, if you have changed your residence but have not yet updated your voter registration, you can still vote one last time at your old polling place if your name appears on the register. You will need to fill out a voter registration application with your new residence address before voting. If your name does not appear on the register at the new polling place, in order to vote in the election you must go to the county election office, update your registration information and cast a ballot based on your updated residence address, or go to your old polling place and vote one last time at the old polling place.

The deadline for regular registration is October 26, 2020. If you miss that deadline, you can still register and vote in the election by late registering at your county election office or designated location. Late registration is available at any time right up through the close of polls on election day, except between noon and 5 p.m. the day before the election.

You will also need to present a current ID. If you do not have a photo ID with your name and current address on it, you can provide a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, voter confirmation notice, tribal ID, government check or other government document that shows your name and current address. If you do not have any of the items listed above, you can still vote by requesting and filling out a "Polling Place Elector ID" form or you can vote a provisional ballot and provide one of the items listed above. Your provisional ballot will be counted if you

provide one of the items on the list to the county election office by 5 p.m. on November 4, 2020, or mail it to the county election office postmarked by November 4, 2020.

You can confirm with your location election official. The contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-vote>)

In Montana, you will need to present a current ID. If you do not have a photo ID with your name and current address on it, you can provide a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, voter confirmation notice, tribal ID, government check or other government document that shows your name and current address. If you do not have any of the items listed above, you can still vote by requesting and filling out a “Polling Place Elector ID” form or you can vote a provisional ballot and provide one of the items listed above. Your provisional ballot will be counted if you provide one of the items on the list to the county election office by 5 p.m. on November 4, 2020, or mail it to the county election office postmarked by November 4, 2020.

In Montana, if you have changed your residence but have not yet updated your voter registration, you can still vote one last time at your old polling place if your name appears on the register. You will need to fill out a voter registration application with your new residence address before voting. If your name does not appear on the register at the new polling place, in order to vote in the election you must go to the county election office, update your registration information and cast a ballot based on your updated residence address, or go to your old polling place and vote one last time at the old polling place.

My housing is changing and I’m not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>; https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; <https://sosmt.gov/Elections/Vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>; and <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-vote>)

In Montana, the deadline for regular registration is October 26, 2020. If you miss that deadline, you can still register and vote in the election by late registering at your county election office or designated location. Late registration is available at any time right up through the close of polls on election day, except between noon and 5 p.m. the day before the election.

For absentee ballots in Montana, anyone can vote by mail. Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained at <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/Application-for-Absentee-Ballot.pdf> and mailed or dropped off at your county election office, as noted here: <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/electionadministrators.pdf>. Applications must be received by noon on November 2, 2020. The absentee ballot will be mailed to the address you provided on your application or you can pick up the absentee ballot from the county election

office if you drop off the application in person, if ballots are available at that time. You must sign the affirmation on the return envelope before returning your absentee ballot. The election office or polling place must receive your completed absentee ballot by 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020.

Call your local election official's office for guidance. (You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.)

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf>; <https://dojmt.gov/victims/address-confidentiality-program/>)

In Montana, yes, if you meet the requirements of the Address Confidentiality Program. The application must be notarized and is available here: <https://dojmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/addressapplication.pdf>.

Can I use a PO Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address. In Montana, you must provide a residence address that is in the county where you are registering or specific geographic location information from which your residence address may be determined.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>; and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; <https://sosmt.gov/Elections/Vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>; and <https://sosmt.gov/elections/vote/#how-to-vote>)

In Montana, you must have lived in the state for at least 30 days before you register to vote in the next election. If you have changed your residence within the state but have not yet updated your voter registration, you can still vote one last time at your old polling place if your name appears on the register. You will need to fill out a voter registration application with your new residence address before voting. If your name does not appear on the register at the new polling place, in order to vote in the election you must go to the county election office, update your registration information and cast a ballot based on your updated residence address, or go to your old polling place and vote one last time at the old polling place.

The deadline for regular registration is October 26, 2020. If you miss that deadline, you can still register and vote in the election by late registering at your county election office or designated location. Late registration is available at any time right up through the close of polls on election day, except between noon and 5 p.m. the day before the election.

You will also need to present a current ID. If you do not have a photo ID with your name and current address on it, you can provide a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, voter confirmation notice, tribal ID, government check or other government document that shows your name and current address. If you do not have any of the items listed above, you can still vote by requesting and filling out a "Polling Place Elector ID" form or you can vote a provisional ballot and provide one of the items listed above. Your provisional ballot will be counted if you provide one of the items on the list to the county election office by 5 p.m. on November 4, 2020, or mail it to the county election office postmarked by November 4, 2020.

For absentee ballots in Montana, anyone can vote by mail. Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained at <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/Application-for-Absentee-Ballot.pdf> and mailed or dropped off at your county election office, as noted here: <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/electionadministrators.pdf>. Applications must be received by noon on November 2, 2020. The absentee ballot will be mailed to the address you provided on your application or you can pick up the absentee ballot from the county election office if you drop off the application in person, if ballots are available at that time. You must sign the affirmation on the return envelope before returning your absentee ballot. The election office or polling place must receive your completed absentee ballot by 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://sosmt.gov/elections/absentee/>)

In Montana, anyone can vote by mail. Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained at <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/Application-for-Absentee-Ballot.pdf> and mailed or dropped off at your county election office, as noted here: <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/electionadministrators.pdf>. Applications must be received by noon on November 2, 2020. The absentee ballot will be mailed to the address you provided on your application or you can pick up the absentee ballot from the county election office if you drop off the application in person, if ballots are available at that time. You must sign the affirmation on the return envelope before returning your absentee ballot. The election office or polling place must receive your completed absentee ballot by 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020.

(From <https://missoulacurrent.com/government/2020/09/mail-ballots-election/>)

Some counties will automatically mail an absentee ballot to all voters who have registered by October 26, 2020. If you are not in a county that is automatically mailing absentee ballots, you can request a ballot as described above.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>)

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>. In Montana, if you did not already return the absentee ballot, you can fill out a form to request a replacement absentee ballot (<https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>). The form must be returned in person, by mail, email, or fax before 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020. If there is sufficient time, they will mail you a replacement ballot. If not, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone may have stolen your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>)

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>. In Montana, if you did not already return the absentee ballot, you can fill out a form to request a replacement absentee ballot (<https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>). The form must be returned in person, by mail, email, or fax before 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020. If there is sufficient time, they will mail you a replacement ballot. If not, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

(From <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>)

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>. In Montana, if you did not already return the absentee ballot, you can fill out a form to request a

replacement absentee ballot (<https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>). The form must be returned in person, by mail, email, or fax before 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020. If there is sufficient time, they will mail you a replacement ballot. If not, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/faq/#absentee-voting>)

If your state or local election officials have not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate postage is affixed to your return envelope. If you do not have stamps, do not worry! In Montana, you can drop off your ballot at your local election office, a polling place in the county where you're registered on Election Day, or where available, a secure ballot drop box. Check with your local election office for drop box locations. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>; and <https://sosmt.gov/Elections/Vote/#how-to-register-to-vote>)

If you cannot remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there is still time. In Montana, the deadline for regular registration is October 26, 2020. If you miss that deadline, you can still register and vote in the election by late registering at your county election office or designated location. Late registration is available at any time right up through the close of polls on election day, except between noon and 5 p.m. the day before the election.

Your signature on the absentee ballot will be compared with your signature on your absentee ballot request application. If the signatures match, the ballot is counted. If the signatures do not match, election administrators must notify you if your signature is missing or does not match. You will have until 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020 to complete and return the ballot rejection notice (<https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Documents/Officials/Ballot-Rejection-Notice.pdf>). If you do not provide the completed form by 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020, your ballot will be considered a provisional ballot. You will then have until 5 p.m. on November 4, 2020 to complete and return the form by mail, fax, email, or in person at the county election office.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>; <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/faq/#absentee-voting>)

In Montana, the election office or polling place must receive your completed absentee ballot by 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020. If you miss the date to mail your ballot back, it is not too late! You can drop off your ballot at your local election office, a polling place in the county where you're registered on Election Day, or where available, a secure ballot drop box. Check with your local election office for drop box locations. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/faq/#absentee-voting>)

In Montana, you can drop off your ballot at your local election office, a polling place in the county where you're registered on Election Day, or where available, a secure ballot drop box. Check with your local election office for drop box locations. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/faq/#absentee-voting>)

In Montana, you can drop off your ballot at your local election office, a polling place in the county where you're registered on Election Day, or where available, a secure ballot drop box. Check with your local election office for drop box locations. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>)

Yes! In Montana, you can check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted at <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>.

Voting Early In-Person**What hours and days can I vote early in-person?**

(From <https://sosmt.gov/elections/faq/#absentee-voting>)

Montana does not offer true early in-person voting. However, anyone can request an absentee ballot, which you can mail in, drop off at your local election office, a polling place in the county where you're registered on Election Day, or where available, a secure ballot drop box. Check with your local election office for drop box locations. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received). (From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>; <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, it is easier than ever to check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted. In Montana, you can check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted at <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>. If you're still not sure, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

In Montana, election administrators must notify you if your signature is missing or does not match. You will have until 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020, to complete and return the ballot rejection notice (<https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Documents/Officials/Ballot-Rejection-Notice.pdf>). If you do not provide the completed form by 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020, your ballot will be considered a provisional ballot. You will then have until 5 p.m. on November 4, 2020, to complete and return the form by mail, fax, email, or in person at the county election office.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local election official's office to request a replacement. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. In Montana, if you did not already return the absentee ballot, you can fill out a form to request a replacement absentee ballot (<https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>). The form must be returned in person, by mail, email, or fax before 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020. If there is sufficient time, they will mail you a replacement ballot. If not, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved within your state and need to update your mailing address, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible. You may be required to re-register to vote.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)); <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>)

Check with your local polling place, because it varies in different states and cities. You can find your local polling place at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>; <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>; <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. In Montana, you can also find this information on the Secretary of State's My Voter Page, located at <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>.

If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. As long as you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions**What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?**

(From <https://sosmt.gov/elections/disabilities/>; <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/EBRS-Voter-FAQs.pdf>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

In Montana, if you cannot enter a polling place, election officials will assist you with "curbside voting." You can also bring any individual (other than your employer or employer's agent or union agent) who can go into the voting booth with you and help you vote, with the permission of the election official. You may designate someone to help with the voting process by filing out a form (available at <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/attachments/Designation-of-Agent.pdf?dt=1519325257513>) and delivering it to your local election office.

Montana also has a new Electronic Ballot Request System (EBRS), which allows you to vote with an electronic ballot that you can fill out on your computer. You can request this ballot until noon on November 2, 2020 by filing out a form (available at <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Documents/Officials/Absentee-Application-for-Electronic-Ballot-for-Individual-with-Disability.doc>). You will receive an email notifying you that your ballot request was received.

You will receive an access code to get your electronic ballot until 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020. When you receive your electronic ballot, you can mark it by touchscreen, mouse, or keyboard. If you need to change your ballot, you can use the access code to mark a new ballot, but only if you have not already mailed or delivered your voted ballot.

You must print the completed electronic ballot and return it by mail or in person to the county election office. Your completed ballot must be received before 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020.

You can also contact your local election official (contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>).

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/disabilities/>; <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/EBRS-Voter-FAQs.pdf>)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or the agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

In Montana, every polling place has at least one specialized voting machine, called an AutoMARK™ or ExpressVote®, that enables people with disabilities to vote independently and privately. If you cannot enter a polling place, election officials will assist you with “curbside voting.” If you have a physical disability or are unable to read or write, you may ask an election official to help you mark your ballot. Or, you can bring any individual (other than your employer or employer's agent or union agent) who can go into the voting booth with you and help you vote, with the permission of the election official. You may also designate someone to help with the voting process by filing out a form (available at <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/attachments/Designation-of-Agent.pdf?dt=1519325257513>) and delivering it to your local election office.

Montana also has a new Electronic Ballot Request System (EBRS), which allows you to vote with an electronic ballot that you can fill out on your computer. You can request this ballot until noon on November 2, 2020, by filing out a form (available at <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Documents/Officials/Absentee-Application-for-Electronic-Ballot-for-Individual-with-Disability.doc>). You will receive an email notifying you that your ballot request was received.

You will receive an access code to get your electronic ballot until 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020. When you receive your electronic ballot, you can mark it by touchscreen, mouse, or keyboard. If you need to change your ballot, you can use the access code to mark a new ballot, but only if you have not already mailed or delivered your voted ballot.

You must print the completed electronic ballot and return it by mail or in person to the county election office. Your completed ballot must be received before 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>; <https://sosmt.gov/elections/disabilities/>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

In Montana, every polling place has at least one specialized voting machine, called an AutoMARK™ or ExpressVote®, that enables people with disabilities to vote independently and privately. If you have a physical disability or are unable to read or write, you may ask an election official to help you mark your ballot. Or, you can bring any individual (other than your employer or employer's agent or union agent) who can go into the voting booth with you and help you vote, with the permission of the election official. You may also designate someone to help with the voting process by filing out a form (available at <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/attachments/Designation-of-Agent.pdf?dt=1519325257513>) and delivering it to your local election office.

You can also contact your local election office to learn more about assistance in your area. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://sosmt.gov/elections/disabilities/>)

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

If you have a physical disability or are unable to read or write, you may ask an election official to help you mark your ballot. Or, you can bring any individual (other than your employer or employer's agent or union agent) who can go into the voting booth with you and help you vote, with the permission of the election official. You may also designate someone to help with the voting process by filing out a form (available at <https://sosmt.gov/wp->

[content/uploads/attachments/Designation-of-Agent.pdf?dt=1519325257513](#)) and delivering it to your local election office.

You can also find the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>)

In Montana, you may authorize a caregiver, family member, household member, or acquaintance to submit your ballot. You can also contact your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>; <https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

In Montana, if you did not already return the absentee ballot, you can fill out a form to request a replacement absentee ballot (<https://sosmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Ballot-Replacement-Request209-18-18.pdf>). The form must be returned in person, by mail, email, or fax before 8 p.m. on November 3, 2020. If there is sufficient time, they will mail you a replacement ballot. If not, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce people in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid will not make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> or <https://sosmt.gov/#r5>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

New Mexico Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.bernco.gov/clerk/new-voter-registration.aspx>; <https://www.abqjournal.com/1171563/homeless-have-the-right-to-vote.html>)

Yes! New Mexico does not require that a citizen have a “permanent home” to register to vote. An address or other description of where the homeless person resides is sufficient so long as it allows officials to identify and assign a voting precinct to the voter. The precinct assignment will enable the voter to receive the correct ballot. Homeless citizens have several options for identifying where they live. New Mexico’s Voter Registration Application allows applicants to (1) use the physical address of a homeless shelter, (2) describe the general location of where they most frequently spend the night and include a mailing address, or (3) draw a map in the space provided on the back of the registration form of where they live and include a mailing address in order for us to assign them a precinct.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.bestcolleges.com/resources/voting-by-state/>)

Yes, as long as you registered to vote in New Mexico using that address. Students may vote in New Mexico if they:

1. Are a citizen of the United States
2. Are a legal New Mexico resident
3. Are 18 years of age on or prior the next election date
4. Have not been convicted of a felony (unless voting rights have been restored)
5. Have not been judged to be mentally incompetent
- 6.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home, but I am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://howto.vote/vote/en/nm.html>; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/same-day-registration/>; <https://laws.nmonesource.com/w/nmos/Chapter-1-NMSA-1978#!fragment/zoupio->

[_Toc52446770/BQCwhgziBcwMYgK4DsDWszIQewE4BUBTADwBdoAvbRABwEtsBaAfX2zgFYAmAFh4DYA7IIAMASgA0ybKUIQAiokK4AntADk6iREJhcCRcrWbtu-SADKeUgCE1AJQCiAGUcA1AIIA5AMKOJpGAARtCk7GJiQA\)](#)

If your college is in New Mexico and you registered to vote there, you may request an absentee ballot and vote by mail. (You may be able to re-register in your home state but be sure to check the deadlines as most have passed and voting by mail in New Mexico is likely to be your best option. Check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register.)

- a. Request your mail-in ballot with a mail ballot application, [available at https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/\(X\(1\)S\(kms4fqb0qbyrrg2wrfdy2nc4\)\)/WebPages/AbsenteeApplication.aspx?](https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/(X(1)S(kms4fqb0qbyrrg2wrfdy2nc4))/WebPages/AbsenteeApplication.aspx?)
- b. Fill out the application completely.
- c. Submit the request to your local election office. You should request your ballot as far in advance of the election as possible. A request for a ballot by mail must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2020.
- d. When your ballot arrives, read it carefully and follow the instructions to complete it and return it.
- e. Your ballot must be received by Tuesday, November 3, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. You may also return your ballot in person by Tuesday, November 3, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. You can find ballot tracking information at [https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/\(X\(1\)S\(n54ptqa1pc3syoxoizcqr1zk\)\)/wheretovote.aspx?](https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/(X(1)S(n54ptqa1pc3syoxoizcqr1zk))/wheretovote.aspx?)

If your home state is New Mexico but you registered at your college in another state and you wish to vote in New Mexico, you may register and vote the same day during early voting until three days before the election on November 3rd.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires California residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/same-day-registration/>)

If you have a new address, you can update your registration and vote in early voting until October 31. If you have not officially moved, then you may be able to use your old address and vote where you are currently registered. For more information, contact your local election official. Contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Cavass_May_2016.pdf, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/absentee-and-early-voting/>; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/same-day-registration/>)

Call both your old and new local election official's offices to explain your situation and inquire about your options and next steps. You can find your old and new local election officials' contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. If you have moved to or are living in a new location, you may still update your registration the same day as you vote in person until October 31. If you wish to use the same address at which you are registered (for example, in case you believe you are going to return to that residence soon), you may vote in person. You may have to fill out an affidavit to clarify that you did not use the mail-in ballot.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/voter-registration/>)

You may register immediately upon moving to the state. You may register the same day as casting an in person vote until October 31. Unless you use same day registration, the voting registration deadline is October 6, 2020.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/voter-registration/>)

If you have moved to or are living in a new location, you will need to update your registration and should do so by means of same-day registration, which is available through October 31 at your local polling place. Unless you use same day registration, the voting registration deadline is October 6, 2020.

**I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address.
Where should I vote?**

(From https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?_https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/)

If you have moved to or are living in a new location, you will need to update your registration and should do so by means of same-day registration, which is available through October 31 at your local polling place. Unless you use same day registration, the voting registration deadline is October 6, 2020.

New Mexico doesn't require voter ID at the state level unless you are a first-time New Mexico voter who registered by mail without providing identification with your application form. In that case, you will be asked to provide one of the following forms of identification: (1) a current and valid photo identification; or (2) a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, student identification card or other government document, including identification issued by an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo that shows your name and current address. Identification will also be required to vote in municipal elections in the cities of Albuquerque and Rio Rancho.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/>; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/voting/>; <https://www.usa.gov/voter-id>; https://absentee.vote411.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm?_ga=2.171361248.1304849949.1602630016-1631473233.1602630016)

New Mexico doesn't require voter ID at the state level unless you are a first-time New Mexico voter who registered by mail without providing identification with your application form. In that case, you will be asked to provide one of the following forms of identification: (1) a current and valid photo identification; or (2) a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, student identification card or other government document, including identification issued by an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo that shows your name and current address. Identification will also be required to vote in municipal elections in the cities of Albuquerque and Rio Rancho.

My housing is changing and I am not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?_https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/)

If you have moved to or are living in a new location, you will need to update your registration and should do so by means of same-day registration, which is available through October 31 at

your local polling place. Unless you use same day registration, the voting registration deadline is October 6, 2020.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf>;
<https://www.sos.state.nm.us/safe-at-home/safe-at-home-information/>)

Participants in the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) may keep their addresses private. You must actively register to participate in the ACP in New Mexico. Participation in the program allows eligible voters to apply to vote as an absentee voter. The participant's confidential address will not appear on any list of registered voters made available to the public. After you become a participant and have received your signature card, you will need to register, in person, at the county clerk's office in your area if you wish to vote.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>;<https://www.fvap.gov/guide/chapter2/new-mexico>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>;<https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/>;
<https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

If you have moved to or are living in a new location, you will need to update your registration and should do so by means of same-day registration, which is available through October 31 at your local polling place. Unless you use same-day registration, the voting registration deadline is October 6, 2020. You may need to sign an affidavit regarding the mail-in ballot when you go to vote in person.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

There is not a separate “emergency” ballot in New Mexico. Your application for an absentee ballot must be received by your local election office no later than 5:00 p.m. October 20, 2020.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

If you apply for, but do not receive the absentee ballot, you may apply for a replacement absentee ballot by communicating with the county clerk and requesting a replacement mailed ballot be delivered (Section 1-6-16 (B), NMSA 1978). You may also go to your polling place and vote on a replacement absentee ballot on Election Day, after signing an affidavit of non-receipt of absentee ballot (Section 1-6-16.1(A), NMSA 1978). In both cases, you will be required to sign a sworn statement, under penalty of perjury, that you did not receive your ballot.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

Lost, stolen, or damaged ballots are all handled the same way. If you apply for, but do not receive the absentee ballot, you may apply for a replacement absentee ballot by communicating with the county clerk and requesting a replacement mailed ballot be delivered (Section 1-6-16 (B), NMSA 1978). You may also go to your polling place and vote on a replacement absentee ballot on Election Day, after signing an affidavit of non-receipt of absentee ballot (Section 1-6-16.1(A), NMSA 1978). In both cases, you will be required to sign a sworn statement, under penalty of perjury, that you did not receive your ballot.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

You may apply for a replacement absentee ballot by communicating with the county clerk and requesting that a replacement mailed ballot be delivered to you. You will have to execute an affidavit and the county clerk will void the mailed ballot previously issued. (Section 1-6-16 (B), NMSA 1978). If the deadline has passed to request the replacement ballot, the best choice is to vote in person. You may go to your polling place and vote on a replacement absentee ballot on

Election Day, after signing an affidavit stating that you did not and will not vote the mailed ballot that was issued. (Section 1-6-16 (A) NMSA 1978).

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

No stamp? No problem. Return postage is pre-paid. Please ensure you return the ballot with enough time for it to arrive at your county clerk's office before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 3, 2020. For more details, log on to the Voter Information Portal at <https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/WhereToVote.aspx>

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>)

Applications for absentee ballots must be signed by the applicant and require the applicant's printed name, registration address and year of birth to be supplied by the applicant, which shall constitute the required form of identification. Absentee ballot envelopes contain a form that must be executed by the voter. If the signature is missing, the ballot is rejected.

Try to use the same signature on your ballot that you used on your application. Make sure you sign the absentee ballot so that it can be counted.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/absentee-and-early-voting/>)

Please make every effort to get your ballot to your county clerk's office before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 3, 2020. Ballots received after 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 3, 2020, will not be counted. For those voters using an absentee ballot, Intelligent Mail Barcodes will be used on all mailed ballots. This technology gives voters detailed information about the status of their ballot (when their application was received, when their ballot was sent to them, when it was received by their county clerk, etc.). This will allow you to track your absentee ballot from the application stage all the way to when it is counted by your county clerk. If you mail your ballot back but it still has not been received by Election Day, you still have the option to go to a polling place and cast a ballot in person. You will just need to sign an affidavit cancelling the mailed ballot you submitted.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

You may personally deliver your ballot to your county clerk's office. The address and contact information are listed here: <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/county-clerk-information/>

In New Mexico, a member of your immediate family or your caregiver may hand-deliver your absentee ballot; provided that the voter has subscribed the official mailing envelope of the absentee ballot. An unrelated third party may not deliver another voter's absentee ballot. (Section 1-6-10.1, NMSA 1978).

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

Ballots must be returned to the county clerk or voter's precinct by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day to be counted (Section 1-6-10 (B), NMSA 1978).

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/WhereToVote.aspx>)

Yes! The New Mexico secretary of state has a useful portal where, after signing in, you can do just that: <https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/WhereToVote.aspx>.

Voting Early In Person**What hours and days can I vote early in person?**

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/absentee-and-early-voting/>)

Early voting begins in the office of the county clerks on **Tuesday, October 6, 2020**, and alternate early voting locations open on **Saturday, October 17, 2020**. Early voting continues through **Saturday, October 31, 2020**. Please check locations and hours of operation by visiting NMVote.org or by contacting your county clerk's office at <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/county-clerk-information/>.

2. Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I am worried it was not received). (From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/absentee-and-early-voting/>)

You still have the option to go to a polling place and cast a ballot. You will just need to sign an affidavit cancelling the mailed ballot you submitted.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

If you believe you made an error on your ballot, the best choice is to vote in person. You may go to your polling place and vote on a replacement absentee ballot on Election Day, but must execute an affidavit stating that you did not and will not vote the mailed ballot that was issued. (Section 1-6-16 (A) NMSA 1978)

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

You may apply for a replacement absentee ballot by communicating with the county clerk and requesting a replacement mailed ballot be delivered to you. You will have to execute an affidavit and the county clerk will void the mailed ballot previously issued to the voter. (Section 1-6-16 (B), NMSA 1978). If the deadline has passed to request the replacement ballot, the best choice is to vote in person. You may go to your polling place and vote on a replacement absentee ballot on Election Day, after signing an affidavit stating that you did not and will not vote the mailed ballot that was issued. (Section 1-6-16 (A) NMSA 1978).

Election Day Questions

3. Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/county-clerk-information/>)

Most Election Day Voting Convenience Centers will be open Tuesday, November 3, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Confirm the times on your county clerk's website:

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/county-clerk-information/>)

Fewer polling places are open this year due to Covid-19. The secretary of state sent out letters indicating your proper polling place. If you have that, check to be sure you have the right location. If you're not sure, check with the county clerk's website in your county:

4. Issues at the Polling Place**What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?**

(From https://866ourvote.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/NM_FAQ-2020_5.22.2020.pdf)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. Politely ask why you are being offered a provisional ballot. If it is your first time to vote in New Mexico, you registered by mail and do not provide the required identification, the provisional ballot will only be counted if you bring an acceptable form of identification to (1) the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, or (2) the county clerk's office by 5:00 p.m. on the second day following the election. If possible, go and get identification to cast a regular ballot instead of a provisional ballot. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

The New Mexico secretary of state also has a free system available at <https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/ProvisionalSearch.aspx> for a voter to check whether the provisional ballot was counted. The county clerk must notify each voter whose provisional ballot was not counted and provide the reason it was not counted within ten days following the election.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/guidance-on-voter-intimidation-and-discriminatory-conduct/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. As long as you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, If you believe you should be able to vote (because you were in line before the polling place closed), or believe they are falsely claiming there are not enough ballots, report the incident to the secretary of state's office, their county clerk's office and county district attorney.

The New Mexico secretary of state's office is charged with investigating complaints related to elections and ethics under New Mexico law. Please submit your complaint, in writing, to our office, on the complaint form. Complaints are accepted in both original and electronic form, but e-mail is preferred. Anonymous complaints will not be investigated. You may also report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/voters-with-disabilities/>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

In New Mexico, you may request assistance in voting at the polls if you are blind, physically disabled, unable to read or write or a member of a language minority (Section 1-12-12, NMSA 1978). Any person of your choice may assist you, except your employer, an agent of the employer, an officer or agent of your union, or a candidate whose name is on the ballot (Section 1-12-15, NMSA 1978).

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/voters-with-disabilities/>)

Yes! You may request assistance in voting at the polls if you are blind, physically disabled, unable to read or write or a member of a language minority (Section 1-12-12, NMSA 1978). Any person of your choice may assist you, except your employer, an agent of the employer, an officer or agent of your union, or a candidate whose name is on the ballot (Section 1-12-15, NMSA 1978).

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/voters-with-disabilities/>)

Yes! You may request assistance in voting at the polls if you are blind, physically disabled, unable to read or write or a member of a language minority (Section 1-12-12, NMSA 1978). Any person of your choice may assist you, except your employer, an agent of the employer, an officer or agent of your union, or a candidate whose name is on the ballot (Section 1-12-15, NMSA 1978). You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/voters-with-disabilities/>)

You may request assistance in voting at the polls if you are unable to read or write or a member of a language minority (Section 1-12-12, NMSA 1978). Any person of your choice may assist you, except your employer, an agent of the employer, an officer or agent of your union, or a candidate whose name is on the ballot (Section 1-12-15, NMSA 1978). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

In addition, if you are a member of one of the New Mexico tribes, election documents have already been translated into your tribal language dialect. You can visit this website to determine if your language dialect is represented: <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/native-american-election-information-program/>.

For more information on this subject, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voting-faqs/absentee-voting-by-mail/>)

A member of your immediate family or your caregiver may hand-deliver your absentee ballot; provided that the voter has subscribed the official mailing envelope of the absentee ballot. An unrelated third party may not deliver another voter's absentee ballot (Section 1-6-10.1, NMSA 1978).

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/guidance-on-voter-intimidation-and-discriminatory-conduct/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Report the incident to the New Mexico secretary of state's office, the county clerk's office and county district attorney. The New Mexico secretary of state's office is charged with investigating complaints related to elections and ethics under New Mexico law. Please submit your complaint, in writing, to the office, on the complaint form. Complaints are accepted in both original and electronic form, but e-mail is preferred. Anonymous complaints will not be investigated.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. Their contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/guidance-on-voter-intimidation-and-discriminatory-conduct/>)

You may vote in person by going to your polling place and voting on a replacement absentee ballot on Election Day, after signing an affidavit so that your mail-in absentee ballot will be voided (Section 1-6-16.1(A), NMSA 1978).

In addition, report the incident to the New Mexico secretary of state's office, the county clerk's office and county district attorney. The New Mexico secretary of state's office is charged with investigating complaints related to elections and ethics under New Mexico law. Please submit your complaint, in writing, to the office, on the complaint form. Complaints are accepted in both original and electronic form, but e-mail is preferred. Anonymous complaints will not be investigated.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/guidance-on-voter-intimidation-and-discriminatory-conduct/>)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid will not make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

Examples may include the following:

- Aggressive behavior inside or outside the polling place.
- Blocking the entrance to the polling place.
- Direct confrontation or questioning of voters or asking voters for documentation where none is required.

- Disrupting voting lines inside or outside of the polling place.
- Disseminating false or misleading election information.
- Election workers treating voters differently in any way based on race or other protected characteristics.
- Brandishing of weapons.
- Photographing or videotaping voters to intimidate them.
- Poll watchers or party challengers confronting, hovering or directly speaking to voters.
- Posting signs inside the polling place of penalties for “voter fraud” based on voting or support for a candidate.
- Challenges to voters by election workers and party challengers that are made without a stated good faith basis.
- Challenges by anyone other than a member of the precinct board or by a party challenger.
- Using raised voices, insulting offensive or threatening language, or making taunting chants inside the polling place.
- Vandalism of polling places.
- Verbal or physical confrontation of voters by persons dressed in official-looking uniforms.
- Violence or using the threat of violence to interfere with a person’s right to vote.

I am concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>; <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/guidance-on-voter-intimidation-and-discriminatory-conduct/>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to the New Mexico secretary of state’s office, the county clerk’s office and county district attorney. The New Mexico secretary of state’s office is charged with investigating complaints related to elections and ethics under New Mexico law. Please submit your complaint, in writing, to the office, on the complaint form. Complaints are accepted in both original and electronic form, but e-mail is preferred. Anonymous complaints will not be investigated.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

New York Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/get-help/know-your-rights/voting-rights/>)

Yes! As long as you registered to vote before this year's deadline, you do not need to show identification to vote. Ideally, you should vote in the district where you registered or previously voted. However, you can instead vote in the district where you now live by using an affidavit or paper ballot. Voters can also participate in early voting, but the poll site for early voting may be different. For more information about your poll site, contact the NYC Board of Elections at 1-866-VOTE-NYC or use <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/> outside New York City.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://vote.nyc/page/faqs#q4> and <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingDeadlines.html>)

Yes, if you have already registered at your school address. If you are a student in New York but have a residence in another state and wish to register in New York, you must fill out a registration form indicating your New York City residency. That registration will be treated as any other registration. The new registration will cancel out the registration in the other state. (Note that the deadline for new voter registrations in New York has passed.)

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home, but I am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingDeadlines.html>)

If you are registered at an address in New York State but will not be there on Election Day, you might be able to vote by absentee ballot. You can request an absentee ballot online, or by email, fax, or mail, as long as your request is submitted (or postmarked) by October 27. It is best to submit your request as early as possible because the post office cannot guarantee timely delivery of ballots applied for less than 15 days before an election. You can apply at <https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/>.

If you are registered outside New York State, but will be in New York on Election Day, you might still have options. For more information, check out Campus Vote Project's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and Campus Vote Project's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://vote.nyc/page/register-vote> and <https://www.elections.ny.gov/votingregister.html>)

It depends. In New York, voters are required to update the address on their voter registration within 25 days of moving, so your first step should be to fill out a change of address form. Look for one on the website of your county board of elections. If you submit the change of address more than 20 days before the election (October 14, 2020, at the latest), then you should vote at your new local polling place. If you moved less than 20 days before the election, the law is unclear about whether you can vote using your old address. Call your local county election board to find out their policy on voting after a last-minute move. You can find their contact information at <https://www.elections.ny.gov/CountyBoards.html>.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://vote.nyc/page/register-vote> and <https://www.elections.ny.gov/votingregister.html>)

If you have some time before Election Day, you should update your registration with the address where you are currently staying and then request a new ballot. You should be able to find a change of address form on your local election board's website. The deadline for updating your address is October 14, 2020 (20 days before the election), and the deadline for requesting a new absentee ballot is October 27, 2020.

Also, remember that you can always vote in person, even if you already received a mail-in ballot. If you vote in person, you will need to decide whether to vote at the precinct for your old address or for the place where you are currently staying. Call your local election official to find out their policy on voting after a last-minute move. You can find the contact information at <https://www.elections.ny.gov/CountyBoards.html>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingRegister.html> and N.Y. Elec. Law § 11-104)

To vote in New York, you must have resided in the state and in your county, city or village for at least 30 days before the election. So, if you just moved to New York from another state, and you haven't already registered, you will not be able to vote in New York through the usual process. You may still be able to vote in your previous state of residence; check out Rock the Vote's Election Center at <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/> for information on your previous state's residency requirements.

In addition, New York voters who do not meet the 30-day residency requirement are allowed to vote for president and vice president (but not in other contests, like state or local offices). If you would like to do this, call your local election official to find out how to register for a special presidential ballot. You can find the contact information at <https://www.elections.ny.gov/CountyBoards.html>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://ag.ny.gov/election-protection> and N.Y. Elec. Law § 11-104)

Registered New York voters that moved from one county to another in New York but have not yet updated their address on their voter registration are still eligible to vote in person. To cast an effective ballot, you must cast an affidavit ballot at the poll site assigned to your new current address. Be sure to fill out the ballot envelope fully and completely.

In addition, New York voters who do not meet the 30-day residency requirement are allowed to vote for president and vice president (but not in other contests, like state or local offices). If you would like to do this, call your local election official to find out how to register for a special presidential ballot. You can find the contact information at <https://www.elections.ny.gov/CountyBoards.html>.

I had to move recently, but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/>)

Registered New York voters that moved from one county to another in New York but have not yet updated their address on their voter registration are still eligible to vote in person. To cast an effective ballot, you must cast an affidavit ballot at the poll site assigned to your new current address. You should bring an ID to the polls, but it does not have to be a driver's license. Acceptable ID includes a copy of your photo ID, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document that shows your name and your new address.

Other**Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?**

(From <https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/>)

Yes, but you should bring something additional showing your new address to be safe. Acceptable ID includes a copy of your photo ID, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document that shows your name and address when you vote.

My housing is changing and I am not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>)

Assuming you are already registered to vote, your best bet is to request a mail-in ballot. The deadline for requesting one is October 27, and you can have it sent to the address where you are most likely to be able to access it. You can have the ballot sent to any address, even if it is not the address you used when registering to vote.

Another option is to pick up your ballot from your local board of elections' office. You can also designate someone to pick up your mail-in ballot for you. You must write that person's name on your mail-in ballot application.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/FAQ.html>)

New York Election Law allows victims of domestic violence who obtain a court order from the N.Y. Supreme Court in the county where they are registered to have their voter registration record kept separate and apart from other registration records and not be made available for inspection or copying by the public or any other person, except election officials acting within the course and scope of their official duties. Under a separate section of the law, you can also be excused from going to your polling place to vote and get a special ballot. For further information, you should contact your local board of elections for their confidential registration and special ballot procedures. The National Network to End Domestic Violence also provides a list of currently available programs by state: https://nnev.org/resources-library/h_address_voter_protection/.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I have moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>)

Call your local election official's office for guidance. It is probably too late to change the address on your voter registration, because address changes submitted after October 14, 2020, are not guaranteed to be processed before the election, but your local board of elections may be able to provide faster processing. If you are able to update your address, then you have until October 27 to request a new mail-in ballot.

Note that anyone who is registered to vote can vote in person, even after requesting a mail-in ballot.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>)

October 27 is the last day to apply for an absentee ballot in New York. You can apply online, or by email or fax on that day. If you apply by mail, your application must be postmarked by that day. You can apply online, or download the application, at <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options. If it is not too late, they may mail you a replacement ballot or allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

Note that anyone who is registered to vote in New York can vote in person, even after requesting a mail-in ballot.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. If it is not too late, they may mail you a replacement ballot or allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Note that anyone who is registered to vote in New York can vote in person, even after requesting a mail-in ballot.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you have made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://ag.ny.gov/election-protection>)

Be sure to apply the necessary postage if you return your ballot by mail! Two forever stamps are recommended given the weight and shape of the absentee ballot packages.

Your other options are: (1) bringing the ballot to your local board of elections no later than November 3 by 9 p.m.; (2) bringing it to an early voting poll site within your county between October 24, 2020 and November 1, 2020; and (3) bringing it to a poll site within your county on November 3, 2020, by 9 p.m.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

If you cannot remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration. Call your local election office to see there's any way to provide a new signature.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://ag.ny.gov/election-protection>)

The deadline to mail a ballot back is Election Day (November 3). However, to meet this deadline, your ballot will need to be postmarked on November 3. The best way to ensure that the ballot is postmarked is to mail it on November 1 or 2 at the latest.

If you do not put your ballot in the mail before November 3, your safest option is to drop it off in person by bringing it to your local board of elections or to any poll site within your county no later than 9 p.m. on November 3.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://ag.ny.gov/election-protection>, <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>, and https://www.vote.nyc/sites/default/files/pdf/Absentee_voting/Drop_Your_Ballot.pdf)

You can drop it off in person by bringing it to your local board of elections (check their website for hours) or to any poll site within your county no later than 9 p.m. on November 3. In New York City, the board of elections states that you will not have to wait in line when bringing your ballot to a drop box.

You can also designate someone else to drop off your ballot for you. You will need to write their name on the request form when you request your absentee ballot.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://ag.ny.gov/election-protection>)

You can submit a mail-in ballot by dropping it off at any in person at your local Board of Elections no later than 9 p.m. on November 3rd. You can also drop it off at any early voting

poll site within your county between October 24, 2020, and November 1, 2020, or at any poll site within your county on Election Day, no later than 9 p.m.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Yes! New York now allows you to track your ballot online. Go to <https://nysballot.elections.ny.gov/TrackMyBallot/Search>.

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

(From <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>)

In New York State, you can vote before Election Day at an early voting poll site. The ballot is the same, no matter when you choose to vote.

You can find your early voting site using <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>. Early voting hours can vary by early voting poll site, so it is important to consult your local board of elections for details.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot, but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it was not received).

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>)

Even if you request or cast and return an absentee ballot, you may still go to the polls and vote in person. If you cast an absentee ballot and then vote in person, either on Election Day or during early voting, the absentee ballot is set aside and not counted.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>)

No, New York does not offer this. If you think there might be a problem with your signature, consider voting in person. If you cast an absentee ballot and then vote in person, either on Election Day or during early voting, the absentee ballot is set aside and not counted.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I have already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/FAQ.html> and <https://ag.ny.gov/election-protection>)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local election official's office to request a replacement. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved and need to update your mailing address, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible. Address changes submitted after October 14 are not guaranteed to be processed before Election Day, so it might be too late. If you are not able to update the address on your registration, you are still eligible to vote in person. To cast an effective ballot, you must cast an affidavit ballot at the poll site assigned to your new current address.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://ag.ny.gov/election-protection> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

All poll sites in New York should be open from 6 a.m. though 9 p.m. on Election Day, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://ag.ny.gov/election-protection> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, you can call your local board of elections, or contact New York Attorney General's Office for assistance, including by calling the hotline at 1-800-771-7755.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots (also called "affidavit ballots" in New York) are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683), or the New York Attorney General's Office hotline at 1-800-771-7755, and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. As long as you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling the New York Attorney General's Office hotline at 1-800-771-7755 or 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Some states offer "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car. If you want to use this method of voting, you should call your local election office to see if they allow curbside voting and let them know you want to use it. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call the New York Attorney General's Office hotline at 1-800-771-7755 or 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)

Yes! The Federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact the New York Attorney General's Office hotline at 1-800-771-7755 or your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>)

Yes, but you must designate the person in advance. When you request a mail-in ballot, write the name of the person who will drop off you ballot in the appropriate space.

Voter Suppression Questions**What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?**

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid will not make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to

vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I am concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Ohio Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/> and <https://www.acluohio.org/jailvoting/voter-registration-and-ohio-law>)

Yes! When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and to mail any election materials. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or can include the address where they are a consistent and regular inhabitant and to which they have the intention of returning, like a street corner or park address. Learn more about voting and homelessness from <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/ohio> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/voter-eligibility-residency-regs/#where> and <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school>)

Students attending college may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their permanent or home address.

A college student may vote using his or her Ohio school residence address if the student does not intend to return to a different permanent address. When a college student registers to vote from his or her school address, the school residence is considered to be the place to which the student's habitation is fixed and to which, whenever the student is absent, the student intends to return, and is considered by the student to be his or her permanent residence at the time of voting. Any other previous residence for voting purposes is no longer valid. Remember, it is illegal for a person to register and vote from two different addresses.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/ohio> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/voter-eligibility-residency-regs/#where> and <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school>)

Students attending college may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their permanent or home address.

A college student may vote using his or her Ohio school residence address if the student does not intend to return to a different permanent address. When a college student registers to vote from his or her school address, the school residence is considered to be the place to which the student's habitation is fixed and to which, whenever the student is absent, the student intends to return, and is considered by the student to be his or her permanent residence at the time of voting. Any other previous residence for voting purposes is no longer valid. Remember, it is illegal for a person to register and vote from two different addresses.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://cohhio.org/evicted-or-in-between-places-you-still-have-the-right-to-vote/> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/register/> and <https://www.acluohio.org/archives/blog-posts/individuals-experiencing-homelessness-face-unfair-hurdles-when-casting-a-ballot> and https://my.lwv.org/sites/default/files/leagues/wysiwyg/%5Bcurrent-user%3Aog-user-node%3A1%3Atitle%5D/where_should_i_vote_if_i_moved.pdf)

If you've been evicted or are between places, you still have the right to vote in the upcoming General Election! Simply go to the polling location for your new address. If you've only moved within the same precinct, you will get to vote a regular ballot. If you've moved farther away within the state, you will vote a provisional ballot that will also serve to update your registration.

To find the polling location for your new address, check out this tool: <https://www.sos.state.oh.us/elections/voters/toolkit/polling-location/>. Find your county and enter your current address to find your polling location.

For future elections, keep in mind that Ohio has a 30-day voter registration requirement, so be sure to keep your voter registration updated for future elections. You can use the address of the place you are currently staying, whether it's a friend's house or a shelter. If you are homeless, you can provide a brief description of where you reside as a form of residence.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.acluohio.org/archives/blog-posts/individuals-experiencing-homelessness-face-unfair-hurdles-when-casting-a-ballot> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/voter-eligibility-residency-reqs/>)

If you are recently unhoused due to any circumstance and have already sent in a mailed ballot application, but have no way to receive or retrieve it, your only option is to exercise a backup in person voting plan. Of note, this means you would have to cast a provisional ballot at your new polling location, and your ballot will be officially cast once there is confirmation by the county board of elections that you did not also send in a vote by mail ballot.

Your new polling location will depend on your new residence. Your residence is important because it determines which offices and issues you are eligible to vote on (e.g., the proper congressional district, school district, etc.). Under Ohio law, your residence is (1) the location that you consider to be a permanent, not a temporary, residence and (2) the place where your habitation is fixed and where, whenever you are absent, you intend to return. If you do not have a fixed place of habitation, but you are a consistent or regular inhabitant of a shelter or other location where you intend to return, you may use that location as your residence for the purposes of registering to vote.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/ohio>)

To register to vote in Ohio, you must be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote. You must register to vote at least 30 days before the election in which you wish to vote. However, if the voter registration deadline falls on a Sunday or a legal holiday, then the deadline is extended to the next day that is not a Sunday or a legal holiday.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/ohio/>)

The answer depends on which of the following situations applies to you:

- (1) Moved within the same precinct
- (2) Moved to a different precinct but within the same county
- (3) Moved between counties

If you are not sure whether you have moved to a new precinct, contact your county board of elections (you can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>). You can find your current precinct by using Ohio's voter lookup tool at <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/VoterLookup.aspx>.

(1) If you have moved within the same precinct:

Any registered voter who moves within a precinct on or prior to Election Day and has not filed a change of residence form may vote a regular ballot by going to their assigned polling place, completing and signing a change of residence form, showing identification in the form of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and current address of the elector, and casting a ballot. The identification used by the voter should reflect their current/new address.

(2) If you have moved to a different precinct but within the same county:

A voter who moves from one precinct to another in the same county and has not filed a change of residence form before the registration deadline has two options: the voter may appear at the board of elections office, update his or her voter registration, and vote a provisional ballot; or the voter may go to his or her new polling location on Election Day and vote a provisional ballot.

(3) If you have moved to a different county:

The voter should file a change of residence form. If that has not happened, then starting 28 days before Election Day the voter may go in person to the Board of Elections (or another place if the Board has so designated) and do the following: completing and signing the written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope, voting a provisional ballot, and completing and signing a statement attesting to the change of address. A voter who has not completed a change of address at the Board of Elections may vote on Election Day by going to the assigned polling place for their new address and voting a provisional ballot.

I had to move recently, but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/id-requirements/> and <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/ohio/>)

If you have updated your voter registration, an unexpired Ohio Driver License, State ID Card, or Interim Documentation with your former address is an acceptable form of identification (note that, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, driver's licenses or state identification cards set to expire on or after March 9, 2020, are automatically extended and remain valid through the November 3, 2020, General Election).

If you have not yet updated your voter registration, the deadline to do so in time for the upcoming General Election has passed. But you can still vote! Your next steps depend on which of the following situations applies to you:

- (1) Moved within the same precinct
- (2) Moved to a different precinct but within the same county
- (3) Moved between counties

If you are not sure whether you have moved to a new precinct, contact your county board of elections (you can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>). You can find your current precinct by using Ohio's voter lookup tool at <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/VoterLookup.aspx>.

(1) If you have moved within the same precinct:

Any registered voter who moves within a precinct on or prior to Election Day and has not filed a change of residence form may vote a regular ballot by going to their assigned polling place, completing and signing a change of residence form, showing identification in the form of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the

name and current address of the elector, and casting a ballot. The identification used by the voter should reflect their current/new address.

(2) If you have moved to a different precinct but within the same county:

A voter who moves from one precinct to another in the same county and has not filed a change of residence form before the registration deadline has two options: the voter may appear at the board of elections office, update his or her voter registration, and vote a provisional ballot; or the voter may go to his or her new polling location on Election Day and vote a provisional ballot.

(3) If you have moved to a different county:

The voter should file a change of residence form. If that has not happened, then starting 28 days before Election Day the voter may go in person to the Board of Elections (or another place if the Board has so designated) and do the following: completing and signing the written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope, voting a provisional ballot, and completing and signing a statement attesting to the change of address. A voter who has not completed a change of address at the Board of Elections may vote on Election Day by going to the assigned polling place for their new address and voting a provisional ballot.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/id-requirements/>)

If you are voting in person in Ohio and have updated your voter registration with your new address, an unexpired Ohio Driver License, State ID Card, or Interim Documentation with your former address is an acceptable form of identification.

If you are voting in person in Ohio and you have not updated your voter registration with your new address, you must present one of the following forms of ID at the time you vote:

- An unexpired Ohio driver's license or ID that includes your name and current address (note that, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, driver's licenses or state identification cards set to expire on or after March 9, 2020, are automatically extended and remain valid through the November 3, 2020, General Election)
- An unexpired photo ID issued by Ohio or the US government that includes your name and current address (note that, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, driver's licenses or state identification cards set to expire on or after March 9, 2020, are automatically extended and remain valid through the November 3, 2020, General Election)
- A military ID

- A current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check that includes your name and current address
- Any other current government document that shows your name and address, except a voter registration notice or confirmation

When you send in your absentee ballot application, you will have to provide one of the following forms of ID:

- your driver's license number (which begins with two alphabet letters followed by six numbers)
- the last four digits of your Social Security number
- a photocopy of a current and valid photo ID or a military ID
- a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows your name and current address

For more information on acceptable forms of identification for voting purposes in Ohio, visit <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/id-requirements/>.

My housing is changing, and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/ohio/>)

You should plan to vote in person. Your next steps will depend on which of the following situations will apply to you:

- (1) I have moved within the same precinct
- (2) I have moved to a different precinct but within the same county
- (3) I have moved between counties

If you are not sure whether you have moved to a new precinct, contact your county board of elections (you can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>). You can find your current precinct by using Ohio's voter lookup tool at <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/VoterLookup.aspx>.

(1) If you have moved within the same precinct:

Any registered voter who moves within a precinct on or prior to Election Day and has not filed a change of residence form may vote a regular ballot by going to their assigned polling place, completing and signing a change of residence form, showing identification in the form of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the

name and current address of the elector, and casting a ballot. The identification used by the voter should reflect their current/new address.

(2) If you have moved to a different precinct but within the same county:

A voter who moves from one precinct to another in the same county and has not filed a change of residence form before the registration deadline has two options: the voter may appear at the board of elections office, update his or her voter registration, and vote a provisional ballot; or the voter may go to his or her new polling location on Election Day and vote a provisional ballot.

(3) If you have moved to a different county:

The voter should file a change of residence form. If that has not happened, then starting 28 days before Election Day the voter may go in person to the Board of Elections (or another place if the Board has so designated) and do the following: completing and signing the written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope, voting a provisional ballot, and completing and signing a statement attesting to the change of address. A voter who has not completed a change of address at the Board of Elections may vote on Election Day by going to the assigned polling place for their new address and voting a provisional ballot.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/secretary-office/office-initiatives/safe-at-home/>)

Ohio's Safe at Home address confidentiality program was created to assist victims of domestic violence, stalking, human trafficking, rape, or sexual battery by shielding their personal information from public record and providing them with a safe and secure way to participate in our democratic process. Program participants are assigned a substitute address designated by the Secretary of State's Office to serve as their address.

The substitute address is intended to help program participants shield their address from public records. Additionally, Safe at Home allows a program participant who is eligible to vote to register without his/her voter registration record appearing in public voter registration lists, and to vote absentee without his/her residence address being compromised.

Victims must apply in person to participate in the program only through a certified Application Assistant. An Application Assistant is defined in the law as "...an employee or volunteer at an agency or organization that serves victims of domestic violence, menacing by stalking, human trafficking, trafficking in persons, rape, or sexual battery who has received training and certification from the secretary of state to help individuals complete applications to be program participants."

For more information, check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/secretary-office/office-initiatives/safe-at-home/>.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/voter-eligibility-residency-reqs> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-ballot/>)

No, but you can designate a separate mailing address for purposes of receiving your absentee ballot.

When registering to vote, you must provide the address of your residence. Your residence is important because it determines which offices and issues you are eligible to vote on (e.g., the proper congressional district, school district, etc.). Ohio's absentee ballot application also requires that you enter the address at which you are registered to vote, which means that P.O. Boxes and other addresses are not permitted. However, Ohio's absentee ballot application allows you to enter a separate mailing address, including a P.O. Box, to which your ballot may be sent.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.acluohio.org/archives/blog-posts/individuals-experiencing-homelessness-face-unfair-hurdles-when-casting-a-ballot> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/voter-eligibility-residency-reqs/>)

In general, once an absentee ballot is requested, you cannot get a second absentee ballot sent to a different address. Your only option is to vote in person for your new address.

Note that Ohio has a 30-day voter registration requirement. If you have not yet updated your voter registration with your new address, you may have to cast a provisional ballot at your new polling location.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/> and <https://www.aclu.org/voter/oh/>)

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is by noon three days before the election in which you want to vote (i.e., by October 31, 2020, for the upcoming General Election). For more information, check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/>, where you can follow the steps to request and vote an absentee ballot!

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If someone has taken your absentee ballot without your permission, contact your county board of elections as soon as possible. You can find your county board of election's contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your county board of elections may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you have lost your ballot, contact your county board of elections. To find the contact information for your county board of elections, visit <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

(From <https://elections.bcoho.gov/Absentee%20ballot%20instructions%20for%20vote%20by%20mail%201.pdf>)

If you make a mistake when marking your ballot, contact your county board of elections for a replacement ballot. You may request a replacement ballot up to two times. You may be required to return your spoiled ballot. To find the contact information for your county board of elections, visit <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx#pay> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/>)

Ohio does not provide prepaid postage for voters to return their mail ballots. Therefore, it is up to the voter to pay for postage to return a mail ballot envelope. But don't worry! If you don't have stamps, you can still return your ballot in person by bringing it to your county board of elections anytime between now and up to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. You can drop it off in a drop box at your county board of elections or hand it to a county board of elections employee during business hours. You cannot return your ballot to your polling place.

To find the physical address for your county board of elections, check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> and <https://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3509.06>)

In Ohio, the signature on your ballot envelope is compared with the signature on your voter registration form to determine your voter eligibility. If you can't remember the signature you used to register, call your county board of elections to ask about your options. If they advise that you need update your voter registration, the deadline may have passed to do so in time for this year's General Election. To find the telephone number for your county board of

elections, check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

Ohio law requires that the election officials mail you a written notice if they discover a potential defect with your ballot, including a signature mismatch. The notice is required to inform you that in order for your ballot to be counted, you must provide information to the board of elections in writing and in the form requested no later than the seventh day after the election. You may deliver the form to the office of the board in person or by mail (in person may be best!). If you deliver the information in time and the ballot is not challenged on another basis, your ballot must be processed and counted!

Note that each county in Ohio has implemented its own ballot tracking system. Outputs provided by the tracking system vary by county, but you can check out the following link to track your ballot, including to see if the system will tell you if your ballot has been counted: <http://VoteOhio.gov/Track>

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/> and <https://elections.bcoho.gov/Absentee%20ballot%20instructions%20for%20vote%20by%20mail%201.pdf> and <https://www.vote411.org/ohio>)

A voted absentee ballot must be postmarked no later than the day before Election Day AND received no later than 10 days after Election Day. The day before Election Day this year is November 2, 2020. If you missed the deadline or want to be confident that your ballot is timely delivered, you can return your ballot to your county board of elections in person anytime between now and up to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. You can drop it off in a drop box or hand it to a county board of elections employee during business hours. You can find the address for your county board of elections here: <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>. You cannot return your ballot to your polling place.

You may also decide to vote early in person. If you would like to vote early, you can vote a regular ballot. Check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/early-voting/> to find your county's early in-person voting location. You will be asked for your absentee ballot during early voting, but if you do not have it with you, you can still vote a regular ballot.

If you would like to vote on Election Day, you can, but you must vote a provisional ballot.

If you do decide to mail your ballot in the end, the U.S. Postal Service recommends postmarking your ballot by purchasing a postage label at a U.S. Postal Service customer service window or vending machine. If you use postage stamps, ask that your envelope be postmarked. Your voted absentee ballot postage will likely cost \$0.70.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/> and <https://elections.bcoho.gov/Absentee%20ballot%20instructions%20for%20vote%20by%20mail%201.pdf>)

If you want to skip the line on Election Day, you can return your ballot to your county board of elections anytime between now and up to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. You can drop it off in a drop box or hand it to a county board of elections employee during business hours. You cannot return your ballot to your polling place. In Ohio, a near relative may also legally deliver your ballot for you. "Near relatives" include your spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the whole or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece.

To find the address for your county board of elections, check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/> and <https://elections.bcoho.gov/Absentee%20ballot%20instructions%20for%20vote%20by%20mail%201.pdf>)

No. If you are not mailing back your ballot, you should return your ballot to your county board of elections anytime between now and up to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. You can drop it off in a drop box or hand it to a county board of elections employee during business hours. You cannot return your ballot to your polling place.

To find the address for your county board of elections, check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/ballot-tracking/>)

Maybe. Each county in Ohio has implemented its own ballot tracking system. Outputs provided by the tracking system vary by county. Check out the following link to track your ballot in Ohio. Click on the county in which you are registered to vote to be taken to that county's ballot tracking site. <http://VoteOhio.gov/Track>

If you still have questions, contact your county board of elections. You can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

Voting Early In Person**What hours and days can I vote early in person?**

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/current-voting-schedule/2020-schedule/>)

Starting October 6th, registered voters may vote early in person. See below for early in-person voting hours statewide!

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING HOURS

October 6-9: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
October 12-16: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
October 19-23: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
October 24: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
October 25: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
October 26-30: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
October 31: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
November 1: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
November 2: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/early-voting/> to find your county's early in-person voting location!

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received). (From <https://elections.bcoho.gov/Absentee%20ballot%20instructions%20for%20vote%20by%20mail%201.pdf> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>)

If you mailed in your ballot and are concerned about whether your vote was counted, try tracking your ballot at <http://VoteOhio.gov/track>. Select your county and enter your first and last name to see where your ballot is or if it has been processed.

If Election Day is approaching and you are still not sure about the status of your ballot after checking out <http://VoteOhio.gov/track>, contact your county board of elections and explain your situation. You can find your county board of elections contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>. Note that Ohio is one of the few states that requires that election officials mail you a written notice if they discover a discrepancy between the signature on your voter registration and the signature on your ballot envelope and allows you an opportunity to cure in accordance with the instructions contained in the notice.

Remember, federal and state law prohibit voting twice in the same election.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> and <https://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3509.06>)

Ohio is one of the few states that requires that election officials mail you a written notice if they discover a discrepancy between the signature on your voter registration and the signature on your ballot envelope. The notice is required to inform you that in order for your ballot to be counted, you must provide information to the board of elections in writing and in the form

requested no later than the seventh day after the election. You may deliver the form to the office of the board in person or by mail (in person may be best!). If you deliver the information in time and the ballot is not challenged on another basis, your ballot must be processed and counted!

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From <https://elections.bcoho.gov/Absentee%20ballot%20instructions%20for%20vote%20by%20mail%201.pdf> and <https://866ourvote.org/state-information/ohio/>)

Contact your county board of elections for more information. In general, you may request a replacement ballot up to two times. You may be required to return your spoiled ballot. To find the contact information for your county board of elections, visit <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>

If you have moved and have not updated your voter registration, you may be required to vote a provisional ballot in person, unless you have moved within the same precinct. Contact your county board of elections to ask about your next steps. If you are told that you need to vote provisionally in person, your next steps may depend on which of the following situations will apply to you:

- (1) I have moved within the same precinct
- (2) I have moved to a different precinct but within the same county
- (3) I have moved between counties

If you are not sure whether you have moved to a new precinct, contact your county board of elections (you can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>). You can find your current precinct by using Ohio's voter lookup tool at <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/VoterLookup.aspx>.

(1) If you have moved within the same precinct:

Any registered voter who moves within a precinct on or prior to Election Day and has not filed a change of residence form may vote a regular ballot by going to their assigned polling place, completing and signing a change of residence form, showing identification in the form of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and current address of the elector, and casting a ballot. The identification used by the voter should reflect their current/new address.

(2) If you have moved to a different precinct but within the same county:

A voter who moves from one precinct to another in the same county and has not filed a change of residence form before the registration deadline has two options: the voter may appear at the board of elections office, update his or her voter registration, and vote a

provisional ballot; or the voter may go to his or her new polling location on Election Day and vote a provisional ballot.

(3) If you have moved to a different county:

The voter should file a change of residence form. If that has not happened, then starting 28 days before Election Day the voter may go in person to the Board of Elections (or another place if the Board has so designated) and do the following: completing and signing the written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope, voting a provisional ballot, and completing and signing a statement attesting to the change of address. A voter who has not completed a change of address at the Board of Elections may vote on Election Day by going to the assigned polling place for their new address and voting a provisional ballot.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/current-voting-schedule/2020-schedule/>)

On Election Day (which is Tuesday, November 3rd), polls will open statewide at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.

If you're planning on early in-person voting, hours vary. See below for early in-person voting hours statewide:

October 6-9: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
October 12-16: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
October 19-23: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
October 24: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
October 25: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
October 26-30: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
October 31: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
November 1: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
November 2: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/VoterLookup.aspx>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/VoterLookup.aspx>. Enter your first name, last name and county. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your county board of elections for more information. You can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/provisional-voting/> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/VoterLookup.aspx>)

A provisional ballot is used to record a vote if a voter's eligibility is in question and the voter would otherwise not be permitted to vote at his or her polling place. The content of a provisional ballot is no different from a regular ballot, but it is cast "provisionally" until election officials can verify the voter's eligibility to vote in the particular precinct at that election. There are several scenarios in which a voter may cast a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot may be used on Election Day if a voter's eligibility is in question, or before (or on) Election Day if a voter has recently changed his or her address and did not update his or her voter registration.

Because provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes, you should do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. If you're told you're not in the precinct's official poll book, verify that you are registered to vote and confirm that you are at the right polling place by visiting <https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/VoterLookup.aspx>. Enter your first name, last name and county. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If you believe your rights are being compromised, call the non-partisan Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort and are able to provide acceptable proof of identity, you typically do not need to provide any additional information to the board of elections.

If you cast a provisional ballot and are not able to provide acceptable proof of identity at the time of voting, you must appear in person at the board of elections to provide such proof within the seven days immediately following Election Day.

Acceptable forms of identification to validate your provisional ballot are:

- An Ohio driver's license or state identification card number (begins with two letters followed by six numbers);
- The last four digits of the voter's Social Security number; or
- A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that shows the voter's name and current address.

Before you leave the polling center, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/early-voting/> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/current-voting-schedule/2020-schedule/> and <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/DocumentCenter/View/54389/PEOFlipchart?bidId> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Prior to Election Day, registered voters may vote early in person. See below for early in-person voting hours statewide:

October 6-9: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
October 12-16: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
October 19-23: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
October 24: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
October 25: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
October 26-30: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
October 31: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
November 1: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
November 2: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/early-voting/> to find your county's early in-person voting location!

On Election Day, polls will close at 7:30 p.m. Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave. If you were in line before 7:30 p.m. and are being denied access to the voting polls, report the incident to the non-partisan Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/election-day-voting/> and <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/DocumentCenter/View/54389/PEOFlipchart?bidId>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close at 7:30 p.m., you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or falsely claiming that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to the non-partisan Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://www.aarp.org/politics-society/government-elections/info-2018/voting-transportation.html> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/voters-with-disabilities/> and <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/voting-rights/>)

To get to your polling place, consider one of the following available services:

- Lyft: Lyft is offering a discount of 50% off rides to the polls. In certain underserved areas, the company is working with nonprofit partners to provide free transportation. For details, visit <https://www.lyft.com/blog/posts/get-out-the-vote>.
- Uber: The ride service has committed to mobilizing voters by offering Election Day promo codes worth \$10 off a ride to your polling place. Be sure to read Uber's instructions at <https://www.uber.com/newsroom/update-uber-drives-vote/> on how to take advantage of the promotion, which will apply only to the lowest-cost ride type available in your city.
- GoGoGrandparent: This concierge service allows you to request a ride with Uber or Lyft, but without having to use a smartphone. Registered users can call the hotline from a cellphone or landline to request a car. Rides can also be booked in advance. For details, visit <https://gogograndparent.com/>.
- Paratransit: For voters with disabilities, paratransit services offered by local transit agencies can be a way to use public transportation to get to the polls. For more information, contact your local transit provider or find your Area Agency on Aging at https://www.payingforseniorcare.com/find_aging_agencies_adrc_aaa for more information.
- Local companies: Many local companies offer dial-a-ride or van services for the elderly. To find one, visit the Eldercare Locator at <https://eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx> and enter your zip code.
- Volunteer services: A network of volunteer-run ride services provides no-cost rides nationwide. Search for programs in your state using this map at <https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=17FOUGEJh2mgrp0XOnH6kBW-Bq8vc&ll=32.009463890355505%2C-78.16738237205942&z=4>.

In Ohio, at any polling place that is exempt from the accessibility requirements, if you have a disability and are unable to enter the polling place, you may vote curbside. Two precinct election officials from the major political parties will bring a ballot to you. You may sit in your car and vote, or you may vote at the door of the building. Call your county board of elections ahead of time to ask about accessibility at your polling place. You can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Simply allowing curbside voting is not enough to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements. For assistance or to report an issue, call the non-partisan Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) or Disability Rights Ohio at 1-614-466-7264 or 1-800-282-9181.

Disability Rights Ohio operates a voter hotline every Election Day from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. If you need help, you can contact them at 1-614-466-7264 or 1-800-282-9181. Their normal intake line is open from 9 a.m. to noon p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you can't reach a live person, leave a message, and someone will return your call.

For a helpful guide describing the kind of help you can get when you go to vote at the polls in Ohio, check out Disability Rights Ohio's guide at <https://www.disabilityrightsohio.org/assets/documents/what-kind-of-help-can-i-get-when-i-go-to-vote-at-the-polls-831.pdf>.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/voters-with-disabilities/>)

Yes! If you cannot mark your ballot or if you need assistance because of your disability, you may bring someone with you to help you vote, or you may ask for assistance from precinct election officials. You may ask anyone to help you vote, except for the following people:

- Your employer
- An agent of your employer
- An agent of your union
- Any candidate whose name appears on the ballot in your precinct.

You may also get help in marking your ballot from precinct election officials from two different political parties. By law, no one who helps you vote can tell you how to mark your ballot or provide information to others about how you voted.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/voters-with-disabilities/>)

Yes! If you cannot mark your ballot or if you need assistance because of your disability, you may bring someone with you to help you vote, or you may ask for assistance from precinct election officials. You may ask anyone to help you vote, except for the following people:

- Your employer
- An agent of your employer
- An agent of your union
- Any candidate whose name appears on the ballot in your precinct.

You may also get help in marking your ballot from precinct election officials from two different political parties. By law, no one who helps you vote can tell you how to mark your ballot or provide information to others about how you voted.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/voting-rights/>)

Under federal law, voters who have difficulty reading or writing in English may receive in-person assistance at the polls from the person of their choice, including a family member or friend. This person cannot be any of the following persons:

- Your employer
- An agent of your employer
- An agent of your union
- Any candidate whose name appears on the ballot in your precinct.

If you encounter an issue at your polling place due to a lack of English fluency, you can call one of these non-partisan Election Protection hotlines for assistance:

- English: 1-866-OUR-VOTE / 1-866-687-8683
- Spanish: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA / 1-888-839-8682
- Arabic: 1-844-YALLA-US / 1-844-925-5287
- Bengali, Cantonese, Hindi, Urdu, Korean, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese: 1-888-API-VOTE / 1-888-274-8683

For more information about your polling place, contact your county board of elections. You can find your county board of elections contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

For a general guide to federal elections, check out the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/>)

In Ohio, a near relative may legally deliver your ballot for you to your county board of elections. "Near relatives" include your spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the whole or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece.

To find the address for your county board of elections, check out <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.ohiosos.gov/globalassets/elections/eoresources/peo-training/peotrainingmanual.pdf> and <https://www.co.lucas.oh.us/DocumentCenter/View/54389/PEOflychart?bidId> and <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

The following people are not allowed in the polling location: (1) pollsters; (2) candidates or campaign workers who are campaigning or electioneering; (3) persons collecting signatures for a petition; or (4) persons distributing food. Pollsters conducting exit polling are permitted to be outside of the polling location – even within 100 feet of the entrance – but they should not interfere with or disrupt the election or otherwise violate the law. Further, they should not be wearing anything that may be construed as campaigning for or against any candidate or issue on the ballot. The polling location is a neutral zone. Electioneering or campaigning is prohibited within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling location or within 10 feet of voters waiting in line – even if the line extends past the 100-foot boundary.

If you witness or suspect electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place, there are several ways you can report it:

- Notify a precinct election official at your polling location immediately.
- Call the non-partisan Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your county board of elections. You can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.
- Contact the Secretary of State's Office, Elections Division. You can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/secretary-office/contact-our-office/>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

On Election Day, voters may be challenged ONLY by a precinct election official or the voting location manager and ONLY for the following four reasons: (1) the voter is not a resident of the precinct; (2) the voter is not a resident of Ohio; (3) the voter is not a U.S. citizen; or (4) the voter is not of legal voting age.

If you are challenged by a precinct election official for one of the four reasons above, you should be asked to complete the Affidavit-Oath-Examination of Person Challenged (Form 10-U). If you complete the Form 10-U and a majority of the precinct election officials is able to determine that you are eligible to cast a ballot, you MUST be given a regular ballot. If a majority of the precinct election officials is unable to determine your eligibility to cast a ballot, you MUST be provided a provisional ballot.

A provisional ballot is used in situations where there is a question about a voter's eligibility to vote on Election Day in the precinct or in a precinct within the polling location. If you are not in

the correct precinct and polling location, the precinct election official should direct you to the correct precinct and polling location. Before you leave the polling center, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your county board of elections immediately. You can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>. You may also contact the Secretary of State's Office, Elections Division. You can find the contact information at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/secretary-office/contact-our-office/>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594 and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/globalassets/elections/eoresources/peo-training/peotrainingmanual.pdf>)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. Intimidation may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. Threats may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." Coercion may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

On Election Day, voters may be challenged ONLY by a precinct election official or the voting location manager and ONLY for the following four reasons: (1) the voter is not a resident of the precinct; (2) the voter is not a resident of Ohio; (3) the voter is not a U.S. citizen; or (4) the voter is not of legal voting age.

If you are challenged by a precinct election official for one of the four reasons above, you should be asked to complete the Affidavit-Oath-Examination of Person Challenged (Form 10-U). If you complete the Form 10-U and a majority of the precinct election officials is able to determine that you are eligible to cast a ballot, you MUST be given a regular ballot. If a majority of the precinct election officials is unable to determine your eligibility to cast a ballot, you MUST be provided a provisional ballot.

A provisional ballot is used in situations where there is a question about a voter's eligibility to vote on Election Day in the precinct or in a precinct within the polling location. If you are not in the correct precinct and polling location, the precinct election official should direct you to the correct precinct and polling location. Before you leave the polling center, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://electionlab.mit.edu/landscapes/ohio> and <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting-by-mail/secure-absentee-voting/> and <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

Ohio uses a mix of optical scan ballots and touch screen ballots, with each county choosing its own voting system. Ohio counties also may opt to use electronic poll books instead of paper poll lists or signature books. All voting equipment and electronic poll books must be certified by the Secretary of State pursuant to the criteria in O.R.C. §3506.10. The Ohio Board of Voting Machine Examiners examines and approves voting equipment for use in Ohio elections. The Board of Voting Machine Examiners maintains a website with extensive information about voting systems and electronic poll books used in the state, including lists of systems used by the counties. For more information, including the list of the members of the Board of Voting Machine Examiners, visit <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-voting-equipment>.

In addition, Ohioans have utilized absentee voting for nearly two decades. The following requirements and processes, as well as laws against voter fraud, have made absentee voting secure in Ohio and instances of voter fraud "exceedingly rare," according to Ohio's Secretary of State:

- Voter identification and signature are checked twice during the process
- Voter list maintenance allows for accurate voter rolls
- Ballot harvesting is against the law in Ohio
- Voters able to track their ballot on <http://VoteOhio.gov/track>

The integrity of our voting systems is a legitimate and important concern. If you have reason to believe that your vote has been hacked, you can report the incident to any or all of the following authorities:

- Your county board of elections (<https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>)
- Your local FBI field office (<https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>)
- Your local U.S. attorney's office (<https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>)
- The Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (<https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>)

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Oklahoma Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and to mail any election materials. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address, or can include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address. Learn more about voting and homelessness at <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/>.

Note that voter registration in Oklahoma closed on Oct. 9.
https://www.ok.gov/elections/Election_Info/2020_Election_Calendar.html

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail in a Post Office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life office) asserting that you live at your dorm address. For more info on how to vote in Oklahoma, check out <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oklahoma>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I am now at school). Where can I vote?

College students have dual residency and therefore can register back home or on campus as long as they do not register to vote in both states. The deadline to register to vote in Oklahoma was Oct. 9. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot. Citizens in Oklahoma can request mail-in ballots until Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020, at 5 p.m. (the Tuesday before Election Day) by either filling out a written form at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Oklahoma%20Absentee%20Ballot%20Application%20-%20fillable.pdf> or an online form at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>.

The mail-in ballot must be received by Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, by 7 p.m. or returned in person to the county board of elections by Monday, Nov, 2, 2020, by close of business. You must bring ID to return the ballot in person.

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OR 2 - The Voter ID card you received from the County Election Board when you registered to vote.

If you do not have an ID or refuse to show it, you may vote by provisional ballot and prove your identity by signing a sworn affidavit.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires Oklahoma residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

In Oklahoma, citizens with a new address in the same county as their old address can update their address through the OK Voter Portal (OVP), available online at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>. Citizens whose new address is in a different county than their old address must complete a paper application, which can be completed online, or downloaded, at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>. The date to change your address may have passed so please consult your local election officials for more information at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Oklahoma%20Absentee%20Ballot%20Application%20-%20fillable.pdf>

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

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https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

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I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

In Oklahoma, citizens with a new address in the same county as their old address can update their address through the OK Voter Portal (OVP), available online at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>. Citizens whose new address is in a different county than their old address must complete a paper application, which can be completed online, downloaded, at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>. However, the date to change your address may have passed so please consult your local election officials for more information at https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

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https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voter_Verification.html

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

Note that Oklahoma's voter registration deadline has passed (Oct. 9). Call your local election office to find out what the rules are in Oklahoma under these circumstances.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Election_Info/2020_Election_Calendar.html

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Voter_Registration_Application.pdf

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

If you move before an election, you may be allowed to vote from your old address. Call your local election office to find out what the rules are in Oklahoma.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

Also, you can find the locations for early voting here.

<https://www.ok.gov/elections/support/earlyvote.html>

Registered voters may change their address using our online system [OK Voter Portal](#) if they have not moved to a different county. Address changes can only be made online if you have not moved to a different county. For all other changes, use the [OK Voter Portal "Wizard"](#) or a paper [Voter Registration Application](#).

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Register_to_Vote/index.html

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Voter_Registration_Application.pdf

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https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voter_Verification.html

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

You have two questions to think about: first, where to vote, and second, what form of identification you will need to vote. Call your local election office to learn where you should vote. You can find your local election official's contact information at

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

Depending on the laws in your state, you might be able to vote at your old address or you might need to re-register at your new address. If you are required to re-register, keep in mind that the deadline for registering to vote in Oklahoma has passed.

Once you know where to vote, find out which type of identification is needed to vote in person or by mail, if any. In Oklahoma, all registered voters must prove their identity before voting **in person** at the precinct polling place on election day or during **early voting** at the County Election Board. <https://www.ok.gov/elections/faqs.html>

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Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

Oklahoma will not accept an expired ID. You may use the Voter ID card received from the County Election Board when you registered to vote.

Check Oklahoma's rules by calling your local election office (whose contact information is available at

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

Even if your ID does not meet Oklahoma's state requirements, you may still be able to cast a provisional ballot. https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/index.html

My housing is changing, and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

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https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voter_Verification.html

State law requires all registered voters to prove their identity before voting *in person* at the precinct polling place on election day or during early voting at the County Election Board.

<https://www.ok.gov/elections/faqs.html>

Oklahoma requires:

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If you do not have an ID or refuse to show your ID, you may vote by provisional ballot and prove your identity by signing a sworn affidavit.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

You can find your local election officials' contact information at

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

Oklahoma offers an Address Confidentiality Program, a program administered by the state that enables survivors of domestic violence to register while maintaining the confidentiality of their address. Participation in the program allows eligible voters to apply to vote as an absentee

voter. Neither the participant's name nor address will appear on any list of registered voters made available to the public.

See more on Oklahoma and the office to contact at https://nnev.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Library_Safety_Net_ACP_Chart_April_2020.pdf. Also, see below:

Address Confidentiality Program

P.O. Box 60189, Oklahoma City, OK 73146-0189

(405) 557-1700; (866) 227-7784 (Oklahoma Only)

<http://www.oag.ok.gov/address-confidentiality-program-acp>

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address?

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box or rural route as your address of residence. If you do not have a street address or 911 address, you may write directions to your home or provide the legal description (section, township, range) of the location of your home.

See Oklahoma Voter Registration Application, https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Voter_Registration_Application.pdf

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

In Oklahoma, citizens with a new address in the same county as their old address can update their address through the OK Voter Portal (OVP), available online at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>. Citizens whose new address is in a different county than their old address must complete a paper application, which can be completed online, or downloaded, at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>.

State law requires all registered voters to prove their identity before voting *in person* at the precinct polling place on election day or during early voting at the County Election Board. <https://www.ok.gov/elections/faqs.html>

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If you do not have an ID or refuse to show your ID, you may vote by provisional ballot and prove your identity by signing a sworn affidavit.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

Call your local election official's office for guidance. You can find your local election official's contact information at

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

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OR 2 - The voter identification card received from the County Election Board when you registered to vote.

If you do not have an ID or refuse to show your ID, you may vote by provisional ballot and prove your identity by signing a sworn affidavit.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

Due to the governor's COVID-19 state of emergency, Oklahoma provides an alternate option for absentee voter verification for the General Election. For standard absentee ballot affidavits (yellow stripe), the affidavit may be notarized **OR** you may submit a copy of a valid ID. Attach a copy of your valid ID to the outside of your affidavit envelope with a staple, tape, or paperclip.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voter_Verification.html

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voting/.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local County Election Board and visit the OK Voter Portal to see if you can request another mail-in ballot.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

https://www.ok.gov/elections/County_Election_Board_Email_Addresses.html

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https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voter_Verification.html

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voting/

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local County Election Board and visit the OK Voter Portal to see if you can request another mail-in ballot.

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https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voting/.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you've made a mistake in completing your mail-in ballot, contact your local County Election Board and visit the OK Voter Portal to see if you can request another mail-in ballot.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

https://www.ok.gov/elections/County_Election_Board_Email_Addresses.html

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https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voter_Verification.html

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voting/.

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

If your state or local election officials have not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate postage is affixed to your return envelope. If you don't have stamps, don't worry! Voters who requested a "standard" absentee ballot (Yellow Affidavit), which is the most common type of absentee ballot, may hand-deliver **their own** absentee ballot in person to the county election board during regular business hours. The mail-in ballot must be returned in person to the county board of elections by Monday, Nov. 2, 2020. See County Board locations here,

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

OR voters may cast an absentee ballot in person at the county election board office from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday before all elections. For state and federal elections only, in-person absentee voting also is available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. In-person absentee voters must fill out and sign an application form when they arrive to vote.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voting/index.html

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

In Oklahoma, check your registration through the OK Voter Portal (OVP), available online at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>.

If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, your ballot may not count. In Oklahoma, for standard absentee ballot affidavits (yellow stripe), the affidavit that you execute must be notarized or you can submit a copy of a valid ID along with your affidavit.

Also keep in mind, your name on the photo ID must match your name in the Precinct Registry. https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/index.html

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

Mail-in ballots in Oklahoma must be received by Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, by 7 p.m. In Oklahoma, citizens can also return ballots in person to their county board of elections by Monday, Nov. 2, 2020, by close of business (see <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>). You must bring ID to do this in person (see <https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Oklahoma%20Absentee%20Ballot%20Application%20-%20fillable.pdf>).

Oklahoma requires:

EITHER 1 - A government-issued photo ID from the State of Oklahoma, the U.S. Government, or a federally recognized tribal government that is not expired. Your name on the photo ID must match your name in the Precinct Registry

OR 2 - The voter identification card received from the County Election Board when you registered to vote.

If you do not have an ID or refuse to show your ID, you may vote by provisional ballot and prove your identity by signing a sworn affidavit.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

You can find your local election official's contact information at

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/County_Election_Board_Email_Addresses.html

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

Mail-in ballots in Oklahoma must be received by Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, by 7 p.m. In Oklahoma, citizens can also return ballots in person to their county board of elections by Monday, Nov. 2, 2020, by close of business (see <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot->

[return-options](#)). You must bring ID to do this in person (see <https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Oklahoma%20Absentee%20Ballot%20Application%20-%20fillable.pdf>). Voters do not need a reason or excuse to vote early whether in person or as an absentee. <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oklahoma>

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

In Oklahoma, citizens can return ballots in person to their county board of elections by Monday, Nov. 2, 2020, by close of business (see <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>). You must bring ID to do this in person (see <https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Oklahoma%20Absentee%20Ballot%20Application%20-%20fillable.pdf>). Remember, plan ahead!

You can find your local election official's contact information at https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Check the OK Voter Portal (OVP) Access site to check on the status of your absentee ballot. <https://okvoterportal.okelections.us/>

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

You can vote early at your [County Election Board](#) office or other designated early voting location from **8 a.m. to 6 p.m.** on **Thursday**, Oct. 29, and **Friday**, Oct. 30, for **ALL** elections. **You must vote in the county where you are registered.** <https://www.ok.gov/elections/support/earlyvote.html>

For state and federal elections, early voting is also available from **9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** on **Saturday**, Oct. 31, before the election. https://www.ok.gov/elections/Early_Voting.html

State law requires all registered voters to prove their identity before voting in person at the precinct polling place on election day or during early voting at the County Election Board. <https://www.ok.gov/elections/faqs.html>

Oklahoma requires:

EITHER 1 - A government-issued photo ID from the State of Oklahoma, the U.S. Government, or a federally recognized tribal government that is not expired. Your name on the photo ID must match your name in the Precinct Registry

OR 2 - The voter identification card received from the County Election Board when you registered to vote.

If you do not have an ID or refuse to show your ID, you may vote by provisional ballot and prove your identity by signing a sworn affidavit.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received).

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, in most states this year, it is easier than ever to check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted. Check the OK Voter Portal (OVP) Access site to check on the status of your absentee ballot.

<https://okvoterportal.okelections.us/>

If you are still not sure, contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

Some states have a process for voters to "cure" their signature in time for the ballot to be counted. Oklahoma does not have a specific process for this. You can contact your local County Election Board.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

Contact your local County Election Board and visit the OK Voter Portal to see if you can request another mail-in ballot.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

https://www.ok.gov/elections/County_Election_Board_Email_Addresses.html

<https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>

Citizens in Oklahoma can request **mail-in ballots** until Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020, at 5 p.m. (the Tuesday before Election Day) by either filling out a written form at

<https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/Oklahoma%20Absentee%20Ballot%20Application%20-%20fillable.pdf> or an online form at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/OVP.html>. The mail-in ballot must be received by Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, by 7 p.m. or returned in person to the

county board of elections by Monday, Nov. 2, 2020, by close of business. You must bring ID to return the ballot in person.

Oklahoma requires:

EITHER 1 - A government-issued photo ID from the State of Oklahoma, the U.S. Government, or a federally recognized tribal government that is not expired. Your name on the photo ID must match your name in the Precinct Registry

OR 2 - The voter identification card received from the County Election Board when you registered to vote.

If you do not have an ID or refuse to show your ID, you may vote by provisional ballot and prove your identity by signing a sworn affidavit.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

Due to the governor's COVID-19 state of emergency, Oklahoma provides an alternate option for absentee voter verification for the General Election. For standard absentee ballot affidavits (yellow stripe), the affidavit may be notarized **OR** you may submit a copy of a valid ID. Attach a copy of your valid ID to the outside of your affidavit envelope with a staple, tape, or paperclip.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voter_Verification.html

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voting/

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

On regular and special election days, polling places are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

<https://www.ok.gov/elections/faqs.html>

You can find polling place information on the OK Voter Portal (OVP) Access site <https://okvoterportal.okelections.us/> and you can locate your local County Election Board here.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to the OK Voter Portal (OVP) Access site <https://okvoterportal.okelections.us/>

Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local County Election Board

during their business hours. You can find their contact information at https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

You can also contact the Oklahoma State Election Board here: <https://www.ok.gov/elections/>

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Check to make sure that you are registered to vote and have the right location by going to the OK Voter Portal (OVP) Access site <https://okvoterportal.okelections.us/>. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Oklahoma election officials are working to locate all polling places in buildings that are accessible to voters with disabilities. In rare, extreme circumstances, some voters with physical disabilities still may be unable to enter their polling places. These voters may be assisted by two Precinct Officials outside the polling place. Call your local County Election Board for more information.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Accessibility_for_Disabled_Voters/index.html

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

Oklahoma voters who have visual or physical disabilities may vote independently and privately at their polling places on election day and during early voting at the County Election Board office preceding every election. Some voters choose to vote with the assistance of another person. The Precinct Officials at your polling place are trained to offer assistance to voters who request it. Assistance is available at all elections for:

- voters who have physical disabilities and are unable to mark their own ballots
- voters who have visual impairment
- voters who have physical disabilities or infirmities and are unable to enter the polling place
- voters who cannot read

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Accessibility_for_Disabled_Voters/index.html

If you need help to fill out the Oklahoma Voter Registration Application form, you may ask a friend or relative to help. The helper must write his or her name and address in the space provided on the application form. If you want to apply for voter registration but are unable to sign the form or even to make a mark on the form, contact your local or the State Election Board for more information. However, note that voter registration in Oklahoma closed on Oct. 9.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

Yes. If you need assistance to vote, you may choose anyone you want to help you, as long as the person is not your employer or an agent of your employer or an agent of your union. You may be assisted by a relative, a friend, or by one of the Precinct Officials at your polling place. Oklahoma voters who have visual or physical disabilities may vote independently and privately

at their polling places on election day and during early voting at the County Election Board office preceding every election.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Accessibility_for_Disabled_Voters/index.html

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

If you need assistance to vote, you may choose anyone you want to help you, as long as the person is not your employer or an agent of your employer or an agent of your union. You may be assisted by a relative, a friend, or by one of the Precinct Officials at your polling place. The Precinct Officials at your polling place are trained to offer assistance to voters who request it. Assistance is available at all elections for voters who cannot read.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Accessibility_for_Disabled_Voters/index.html

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

You can contact your local County Election Board for more information.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

Hand-delivered ballots must be returned no later than the end of business hours on the day before the election, and you must show the same [identification](#) required for in person voting. Generally, it is unlawful to hand-deliver another person's absentee ballot.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Absentee_Voting/index.html

Oklahoma requires:

EITHER 1 - A government-issued photo ID from the State of Oklahoma, the U.S. Government, or a federally recognized tribal government that is not expired. Your name on the photo ID must match your name in the Precinct Registry

OR 2 - The voter identification card received from the County Election Board when you registered to vote.

If you do not have an ID or refuse to show your ID, you may vote by provisional ballot and prove your identity by signing a sworn affidavit.

https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Proof_of_Identity/

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find their contact information at https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. Their contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at

https://www.ok.gov/elections/documents/CEB_Physical%20Addresses_09112020.pdf

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I am concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Oregon Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes, as long as you were registered to vote at least 21 days before the election, which for this election was October 13. You must provide both a residence address and a mailing address.

Residence address: The residence address of a person who is homeless or resides in a shelter, park, motor home, marina or other identifiable location may be any place within the county describing the physical location of the person. The residence address does not have to be where the voter sleeps, since some people without homes do not always sleep in the same location. The residence address also does not have to be a place that has a standard postal address.

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=535>;

<https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/ors-247.pdf>

Mailing address: Homeless voters may decide to make a county elections office their mailing address and pick up their ballots there. Alternatively, a homeless voter may receive mail by General Delivery. This is a USPS program for people who can't afford a PO Box that allows them to pick up their mail at a post office.

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=535>.

See also <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/homeless-confidential.aspx>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes. Students have a choice about where to register to vote. Students attending college may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their permanent or home address. You may only be registered and vote in one location.

<https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Oregon>. To learn more, go to

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/student-voters.aspx>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they don't register to vote in both states. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires California residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Oregon;> <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/student-voters.aspx>.

Recently Moved or Evicted**I just got evicted so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?**

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote)

No because you no longer consider that address to be your home, so you should make sure you are registered under the proper address(es). If you have found a new place you intend to make your home (as opposed to a temporary place to live), then you should update your registration to reflect that new address. If you have not found such a place, you should update your registration following the instructions under the Homelessness section above.

You can update your voter registration information until 8 p.m. on Election Day and still cast a ballot. When an address is updated after the initial ballot labeling process is complete, the county elections official will automatically reissue and mail a ballot through the 5th day before the election. <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewAttachment.action>. However, if your registration is updated close to an election, your ballot might have to be issued at the county elections office. For information about how to update your registration, go to <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/updatevoterregistration.aspx>.

If you fail to update your registration, you may still be able to vote under your old address if you were able to obtain the ballot mailed to your old address and if, at the time of the election, the county clerk has not received evidence that your address has changed. The chances of this being the case are obviously greater if your eviction was relatively recent, if you have not

updated your address on your driver license, and you haven't filed a change of address with the US Postal Service or another government agency.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/ors-247.pdf>.

I got evicted but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>, and https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/register_to_vote)

You should update your registration with your new address(es) because you no longer consider the address you were evicted from to be your home. So, if you have found a new place you intend to make your home (as opposed to a temporary place to live), then you should update your registration with that new address. If you have not found such a place, you should update your registration following the instructions under the Homelessness section above. <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/ors-247.pdf>.

You can update your voter registration information until 8 p.m. on Election Day and still cast a ballot in person. When an address is updated after the initial ballot labeling process is complete, the county elections official will automatically reissue and mail a ballot through the 5th day before the election. <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewAttachment.action>. However, if your registration is updated close to an election, your ballot might have to be issued at the county elections office. For information about how to update your registration, go to <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/updatevoterregistration.aspx>. You may request a mail-in ballot up until October 29. <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oregon>

If you fail to update your registration but can manage to obtain your mail-in ballot sent to your old address, you may still be able to vote under your old address if, at the time of the election, the county clerk has not received evidence that your address has changed. The chances of this being the case are obviously greater if your eviction was relatively recent, if you have not updated your address on your driver license, and you haven't filed a change of address with the US Postal Service or another government agency.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/ors-247.pdf>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

If your new state is Oregon, but you have not registered to vote in Oregon yet, you cannot vote in Oregon in this election because the deadline for registrations was October 13.

<https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oregon>. If Oregon is your old state, you should check

out Rock the Vote's Election Center at <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/> for information on your new state.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>)

If you were already registered in Oregon, you need only update your registration with your new address and vote there. You can update your voter registration information until 8 p.m. on Election Day and still cast a ballot. When the voter's address is updated after the initial ballot labeling process is complete, the county elections official will automatically reissue and mail a ballot through the 5th day before the election.

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewAttachment.action>. However, if your registration is updated close to an election, your ballot might have to be issued at the county elections office. For information about how to update your registration, go to <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/updatevoterregistration.aspx>.

If you don't update your registration, there is a chance you may be able to use the ballot mailed to your old address if, at the time of the election, the county clerk has not received evidence that your address has changed. The chances of this being the case are obviously greater if your move was relatively recent, if you have not updated your address on your driver license, and you haven't filed a change of address with the US Postal Service or another government agency. <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/ors-247.pdf>.

If you are not already registered to vote in Oregon, you have missed the deadline to file a new registration. <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oregon>

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>)

Update your registration with your new address and vote there. You can update your voter registration information until 8 p.m. on Election Day and still cast a ballot. When a voter's address is updated after the initial ballot labeling process is complete, the county elections official will automatically reissue and mail a ballot through the 5th day before the election. <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewAttachment.action>. However, if your registration is updated close to an election, your ballot might have to be issued at the county elections office. For information about how to update your registration, go to <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/updatevoterregistration.aspx>.

If you are not already registered to vote in Oregon, you have missed the deadline to file a new registration. <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oregon>

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voter-id>)

ID is not required to vote in Oregon, with the exception of federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requirements for first-time voters. The act lists a "current and valid photo identification" or "a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter" as acceptable forms of ID. <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oregon>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id.aspx#First>

My housing is changing and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>)

You may apply for absentee voter status if you live out of state or if you know that you will be absent for the election (i.e., you will be out of town prior to the election and are putting your mail on hold.) Absentee ballots are available 45 days before the election. To apply for absentee voter status: Fill out the Absentee Ballot Request Form and return it to the county elections office in person, via US mail or fax, or update online using My Vote. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#absentee-ballot-process>. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is October 29. <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oregon>

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf/>)

Under certain circumstances, a voter can register and vote while maintaining privacy. To maintain privacy, complete the exemption form: Application to Exempt Residence Address from Disclosure. Return it to your county elections office, or ask a county elections official for more information. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/homeless-confidential.aspx>

Can I use a PO Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

You can use a PO Box as your mailing address, but you must also provide a physical address for your residence (which can't be a PO Box). If you don't receive mail at the residence address, you must also provide your mailing address (which can be a PO Box), but this would be in addition to the physical residence address, not instead of it. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/student-voters.aspx>

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>)

You cannot vote in person in Oregon; Oregon has all mail-in ballots. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#early-voting>. You can get a new ballot by updating your registration, which can be done until 8 p.m. on Election Day. When a voter's address is updated after the initial ballot labeling process is complete, the county elections official will automatically reissue and mail a ballot through the 5th day before the election. <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewAttachment.action>. However, if your registration is updated close to an election, your ballot might have to be issued at the county elections office. For information about how to update your registration, go to <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/updatevoterregistration.aspx>.

Early Voting Questions:**Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot****What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?**

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

You cannot vote in person in Oregon; Oregon has all mail-in ballots. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#early-voting>. All voters receive their ballots through the vote by mail process. Ballots will be mailed to voters 14 to 18 days before an election. You can either return your ballot by mail or at one of the many official drop boxes throughout the state. Voted ballots must be received by Election Day in order to be counted. You can sign up to track your mail ballot on your Secretary of State website. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#absentee-ballot-process>.

You may apply for absentee voter status if you live out of state or if you know that you will be absent for the election (i.e., you will be out of town prior to the election and are putting your mail on hold.) Absentee ballots are available 45 days before the election. To apply for absentee voter status: Fill out the Absentee Ballot Request Form and return it to the county elections office in person, via US mail or fax, or update online using My Vote. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>; <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#absentee-ballot-process>. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is October 29. <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/oregon>

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If your ballot arrives damaged, you make a mistake, spill something, lose your ballot, or for any other reason, contact your county elections office for a replacement ballot.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/ballot-help.aspx>. Find yours here:
<https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/countyofficials.aspx>

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If your ballot arrives damaged, you make a mistake, spill something, lose your ballot, or for any other reason, contact your county elections office for a replacement ballot.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/ballot-help.aspx>. Find yours here:
<https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/countyofficials.aspx>

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If your ballot arrives damaged, you make a mistake, spill something, lose your ballot, or for any other reason, contact your county elections office for a replacement ballot.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/ballot-help.aspx>. Find yours here:
<https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/countyofficials.aspx>

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

Voters who do not wish to buy postage for their ballots can drop them at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. The ballot return envelope can be dropped off at any official drop box across the state. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

If a voter returns a ballot and did not sign the return identification envelope, or if the signature of the elector on the envelope did not match the signature in the voter registration record, the county clerk shall mail the elector a notice. In order for the vote of the elector to be counted, the elector must provide evidence sufficient to disprove the challenge not later than the 14th calendar day after the date of the election. In the case of an unsigned return identification envelope, providing sufficient evidence may include completing a certified statement on a form provided by the county clerk. <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

Drop your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. The ballot return envelope can be dropped

off at any official drop box across the state. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

Drop your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. The ballot return envelope can be dropped off at any official drop box across the state. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

Yes. Drop your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. The ballot return envelope can be dropped off at any official drop box across the state. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Yes. Go to Oregon's My Vote website: <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/myvote.aspx?lang=en>.

Voting Early In-Person

What hours and days can I vote early in-person?

There is no early in-person voting in Oregon. You cannot vote in person in Oregon; Oregon has all mail-in ballots. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#early-voting>. All voters receive their ballots through the vote by mail process. Ballots will be mailed to voters 14 to 18 days before an election. You can either return your ballot by mail or drop your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. The ballot return envelope can be dropped off at any official drop box across the state. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#absentee-ballot-process>. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received). (From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

Track your ballot on Oregon's My Vote website.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/myvote.aspx?lang=en>. If a voter returns a ballot and did not sign the return identification envelope, or if the signature of the elector on the envelope did not match the signature in the voter registration record, the county clerk shall mail the elector a notice. In order for the vote of the elector to be counted, the elector must provide evidence sufficient to disprove the challenge not later than the 14th calendar day after the date of the election. In the case of an unsigned return identification envelope, providing sufficient evidence may include completing a certified statement on a form provided by the county clerk. <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>. You can also contact your county election office to inquire about a replacement ballot. Find yours here: <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/countyofficials.aspx>

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

Yes. If a voter returns a ballot and did not sign the return identification envelope, or if the signature of the elector on the envelope did not match the signature in the voter registration record, the county clerk shall mail the elector a notice. In order for the vote of the elector to be counted, the elector must provide evidence sufficient to disprove the challenge not later than the 14th calendar day after the date of the election. In the case of an unsigned return identification envelope, providing sufficient evidence may include completing a certified statement on a form provided by the county clerk. <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

Contact your county election office to request a replacement ballot. Find yours here: <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/countyofficials.aspx>.

If you have moved, update your registration with your new address and vote there. You can update your voter registration information until 8 p.m. on Election Day and still cast a ballot. When a voter's address is updated after the initial ballot labeling process is complete, the county elections official will automatically reissue and mail a ballot through the 5th day before the election. <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewAttachment.action>. However, if your registration is updated close to an election, your ballot might have to be issued at the county elections office. For information about how to update your registration, go to <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/updatevoterregistration.aspx>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))

There are no polling places because Oregon votes solely by mail. Instead you can complete your ballot anywhere you choose. There are privacy booths available at your county elections office. <http://oregonvotes.gov/voters-guide/english/votersguide.html#Frequently%20Asked%20Questions>. Drop your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

There are no polling places because Oregon votes solely by mail. Instead you can deliver your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

There are no polling places because Oregon votes solely by mail. Instead you can complete your ballot anywhere you choose. There are privacy booths available at your county elections office. <http://oregonvotes.gov/voters-guide/english/votersguide.html#Frequently%20Asked%20Questions>. Drop your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

There are no polling places because Oregon votes solely by mail. Instead you can complete your ballot anywhere you choose. There are privacy booths available at your county elections office. <http://oregonvotes.gov/voters->

[guide/english/votersguide.html#Frequently%20Asked%20Questions](https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx). Drop your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

There are no polling places because Oregon votes solely by mail. Instead you can complete your ballot anywhere you choose. There are privacy booths available at your county elections office. <http://oregonvotes.gov/voters-guide/english/votersguide.html#Frequently%20Asked%20Questions>. Drop your ballot at one of the many official ballot drop box sites in Oregon.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#drop-boxes>. Use the Oregon Drop Box Locator. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

You cannot vote in person in Oregon; Oregon has all mail-in ballots.

<https://www.vote411.org/oregon#early-voting>. However, any Oregon voter can get assistance to: register to vote, vote a ballot, or return a ballot. You can also get help from a care provider, family member or someone else you choose. Call your County Elections Office or 866-673-8683 to get assistance. TTY: 800-735-2900 for the hearing impaired. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/disabilities.aspx>.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)

Yes. Any Oregon voter can get assistance to: register to vote, vote a ballot, or return a ballot. You can also get help from a care provider, family member or someone else you choose. Call your County Elections Office or 866-673-8683 to get assistance. TTY: 800-735-2900 for the hearing impaired. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/disabilities.aspx>.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>)

You cannot vote in person in Oregon; Oregon has all mail-in ballots.

<https://www.vote411.org/oregon#early-voting>. However, any Oregon voter can get assistance to: register to vote, vote a ballot, or return a ballot. You can also get help from a care provider, family member or someone else you choose. Call your County Elections Office or 866-673-8683 to get assistance. TTY: 800-735-2900 for the hearing impaired. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/disabilities.aspx>.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

You cannot vote in person in Oregon; Oregon has all mail-in ballots. <https://www.vote411.org/oregon#early-voting>. However, any Oregon voter can get assistance to: register to vote, vote a ballot, or return a ballot. You can also get help from a care provider, family member or someone else you choose. Call your County Elections Office or 866-673-8683 to get assistance. TTY: 800-735-2900 for the hearing impaired. <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/disabilities.aspx>.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

Yes. A person may return a ballot on behalf of another voter. <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>.

Voter Suppression Questions**What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?**

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Oregon has a vote by mail process and does not have traditional polling places that require staffing by poll workers. If you do witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find their contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. Their contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If your ballot arrives damaged, you make a mistake, spill something, lose your ballot, or for any other reason, contact your county elections office for a replacement ballot.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/ballot-help.aspx>. Find yours here: <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/countyofficials.aspx>

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at

<https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Oregon has a vote by mail process and does not have traditional polling places that require staffing by poll workers. Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

To protect the integrity of Oregon's elections and other systems, the Office of Oregon Secretary of State (SOS) has multiple layers of defense controls, including hardware and software designed to prevent cybercriminals from gaining access or misusing those systems. <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/security.aspx>. You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Pennsylvania Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx> and https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Voter_Registration_Application_English.pdf)

In Pennsylvania, if you live in a rural area, do not have a street address or are experiencing homelessness, you can show where you live or spend most of your time on a map in the Pennsylvania Voter Registration Application.

To register using this method, please use the following link to print a blank Voter Registration Application and mail it in to your county voter registration office.

https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Voter_Registration_Application_English.pdf

The deadline to complete your application is October 19, 2020.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/College-Student.aspx>)

As a college student who attends school in Pennsylvania, you may register to vote where you live while attending school in Pennsylvania.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/College-Student.aspx>)

To be eligible to vote in Pennsylvania, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States for at least one month before the next election
- Be a resident of Pennsylvania and the election district in which you want to register and vote for at least 30 days before the next election.
- Be at least 18 years of age on or before the day of the next election

You have a choice of which address to use to register to vote:

- You can register to vote where you live while attending college in Pennsylvania or at your prior home address, provided your family or guardian still reside there.
- If you are registering where you live while attending college in Pennsylvania, you can use either an on-campus or off-campus address.

- You can only be registered in one place at a time.

Whatever you choose, you have to register to vote at least 15 days before the election.

- If you first moved to Pennsylvania fewer than 30 days before the next election, you will not be eligible to vote in PA for the next election.
- If you moved within Pennsylvania to a new election district fewer than 30 days before the next election:
 - You can go to your former polling place in person on election day and vote in your former district.
 - You must inform the judge of elections that your address has changed before you vote.
 - You can also vote using a mail-in ballot in your former district on a one-time basis.
- If you are registered in another jurisdiction besides your college voting district:
 - You will not be able to register to vote in your college voting district
 - Contact the board of elections in your previous voting district to cancel your previous registration before registering to vote in Pennsylvania.
 - You will still need to meet the requirements of eligibility.

You can vote by mail:

- Any qualified Pennsylvania voter can request a mail-in ballot
- If you are studying abroad and will be out of the country on Election Day, visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program for information on how to vote at <https://www.fvap.gov/>
- If studying away from college temporarily, such as with your family at their home due to COVID-19 mandated online or distance learning or undertaking an internship or similar program elsewhere in the U.S., you can use the temporary address for your ballot.

You can vote in-person:

- For more information see <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-at-a-Polling-Place.aspx>

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>)

If you move to a new address in Pennsylvania, you must update your voter registration.

- If you move to a different state, you must register to vote in that state.
- On the voter registration form, select the box that says “Change of Address”
- <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx>

The following guidelines cover situations in which you move or change your address close to an election. If you move:

- Within 30 days before an election, you will vote at the polling place of your old address.
- To Pennsylvania from another state, you must be a resident of Pennsylvania and your election district for at least 30 days before the next election to be able to vote in Pennsylvania.
- Within Pennsylvania less than 30 days before an election, you must vote at the polling place for your old address. Fill out a change of address form at the polling place to update your voter registration to your new address.
 - If you moved within Pennsylvania more than 30 days before an election but did not update your registration, you can vote at the polling place for your old address for one election.
 - If you moved within the same county, you must tell the election officials at the polling place of your new address. They will update your voter registration and send you a new voter registration card.
 - If you moved to a different county, you need to fill out a form telling election officials your new address and the county where you moved. After the election, the county election office for both your old and new addresses will update your voter registration. You will receive a new voter registration card matching your new address.
- Out of Pennsylvania to a different state, you may need to register before you can vote in your new state. You can cancel your registration in Pennsylvania by filling out a form
 - https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Voter%20Request%20to%20Cancel%20Registration_English.pdf
 - https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Voter%20Request%20to%20Cancel%20Registration_Spanish.PDF

I got evicted but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>)

If you didn't receive or lost your mail-in ballot, you can only vote by provisional ballot at your polling place. Your county board of elections will then verify that you did not vote by mail before counting your provisional ballot.

Please note that in Pennsylvania,

- If you move to a new address in Pennsylvania, you must update your voter registration.
- If you move to a different state, you must register to vote in that state.
- On the voter registration form, select the box that says “Change of Address.” See <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx> or https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Voter_Registration_Application_English.pdf

For information about absentee ballots and voting by mail, please see <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/Voter-Registration-Requirements.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>)

If you moved:

- To Pennsylvania from another state, you must be a resident of Pennsylvania and your election district for at least 30 days before the next election to be able to vote in Pennsylvania.
- Out of Pennsylvania to a different state, you may need to register before you can vote in your new state. You can cancel your registration in Pennsylvania by filling out a form
 - https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Voter%20Request%20to%20Cancel%20Registration_English.pdf
 - https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Voter%20Request%20to%20Cancel%20Registration_Spanish.PDF

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>)

If you moved:

- Within Pennsylvania less than 30 days before an election, you must vote at the polling place for your old address. Fill out a change of address form at the polling place to update your voter registration to your new address.
 - If you moved within Pennsylvania more than 30 days before an election but did not update your registration, you can vote at the polling place for your old address for one election.
 - If you moved within the same county, you must tell the election officials at the polling place of your new address. They will update your voter registration and send you a new voter registration card.

- If you moved to a different county, you need to fill out a form telling election officials your new address and the county where you moved. After the election, the county election office for both your old and new addresses will update your voter registration. You will receive a new voter registration card matching your new address.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/Voter-ID-for-First-Time-Voters.aspx>)

You have 2 questions to think about: first, where to vote, and second, what form of identification you will need to vote.

If you moved:

- To Pennsylvania from another state, you must be a resident of Pennsylvania and your election district for at least 30 days before the next election to be able to vote in Pennsylvania.
- Within Pennsylvania less than 30 days before an election, you must vote at the polling place for your old address. Fill out a change of address form at the polling place to update your voter registration to your new address.
 - If you moved within Pennsylvania more than 30 days before an election but did not update your registration, you can vote at the polling place for your old address for one election.
 - If you moved within the same county, you must tell the election officials at the polling place of your new address. They will update your voter registration and send you a new voter registration card.
 - If you moved to a different county, you need to fill out a form telling election officials your new address and the county where you moved. After the election, the county election office for both your old and new addresses will update your voter registration. You will receive a new voter registration card matching your new address.

Once you know where to vote, if you are voting at a polling place for the first time, you must show proof of identification, either with photo or not. If the address on your identification does not match your registration, tell your election officials and they will update your voter registration.

Approved forms of photo identification include:

- Pennsylvania driver's license or PennDOT ID card
- Issued by any Commonwealth agency
- ID issued by the U.S. Government
- U.S. passport
- U.S. Armed Forces ID
- Student ID
- Employee ID

If you do not have a photo ID, you can use a non-photo identification that includes your name and address:

- Confirmation issued by the County Voter Registration Office
- Non-photo ID issued by the Commonwealth
- Non-photo ID issued by the U.S. Government
- Firearm permit
- Current utility bill
- Current bank statement
- Current paycheck
- Government check

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/Voter-ID-for-First-Time-Voters.aspx>)

Once you know where to vote, if you are voting at a polling place for the first time, you must show proof of identification, either with photo or not. If the address on your identification does not match your registration, tell your election officials and they will update your voter registration.

Approved forms of photo identification include:

- Pennsylvania driver's license or PennDOT ID card
- Issued by any Commonwealth agency
- ID issued by the U.S. Government
- U.S. passport
- U.S. Armed Forces ID
- Student ID
- Employee ID

If you do not have a photo ID, you can use a non-photo identification that includes your name and address:

- Confirmation issued by the County Voter Registration Office
- Non-photo ID issued by the Commonwealth
- Non-photo ID issued by the U.S. Government
- Firearm permit
- Current utility bill
- Current bank statement
- Current paycheck
- Government check

My housing is changing and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>)

If you requested a mail-in or absentee ballot but didn't receive a ballot, lost your ballot, or changed your mind and want to vote in-person:

- If you already submitted a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, you cannot vote at your polling place on election day
- If you did not return your mail-in or absentee ballot and you want to vote in person, you have 2 options:
 - Bring your ballot and the pre-addressed outer return envelope to your polling place to be voided. After you surrender your ballot and envelope and sign a declaration, you can then vote a regular ballot.
 - If you don't surrender your ballot and return envelope, you can only vote by provisional ballot at your polling place. Your county board of elections will then verify that you did not vote by mail before counting your provisional ballot.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.ova.pa.gov/SafetyandSupport/Address%20Confidentiality/Pages/default.aspx> and https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Library_Safety_Net_ACP_Chart_April_2020.pdf)

The Pennsylvania Address Confidentiality Program can be used for voter registration. However, please note that

- Program participants cannot register to vote at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) or with other state agencies, the program works directly with the county voter registration office.
- Before an election, ACP participants will receive a ballot and use this ballot to vote.

- The participant returns the ballot to the director at the county voter registration office.
- There are penalties for providing false information/fraud.

Can I use a PO Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx> and https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Voter_Registration_Application_English.pdf and https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Documents/PADOS_mailinapplication.pdf)

You cannot use a PO Box on the Pennsylvania Voter Registration Application or the Pennsylvania Application for Mail-In Ballot.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>)

If you move within Pennsylvania

- less than 30 days before an election, you must vote at the polling place for your old address. Fill out a change of address form at the polling place to update your voter registration to your new address.
- more than 30 days before an election but did not update your registration, you can vote at the polling place for your old address for one election
- to a different county, you need to fill out a form telling them your new address and the county where you moved. After the election, the county election office for both your old and new addresses will update your voter registration. You will receive a new voter registration card matching your new address.

If you requested a mail-in or absentee ballot but didn't receive a ballot, lost your ballot, or changed your mind and want to vote in-person:

- If you already submitted a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, you cannot vote at your polling place on election day
- If you did not return your mail-in or absentee ballot and you want to vote in person, you have 2 options:
 - Bring your ballot and the pre-addressed outer return envelope to your polling place to be voided. After you surrender your ballot and envelope and sign a declaration, you can then vote a regular ballot.
 - If you do not surrender your ballot and return envelope, you can only vote by provisional ballot at your polling place. Your county board of elections will then verify that you did not vote by mail before counting your provisional ballot.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx> and https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/PADOS_EmergencyAbsenteeBallotApplication_English.pdf and https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/PADOS_AuthorizeRepresentativeforEmergencyAbsenteeBallot.pdf)

Deadlines for mail-in or absentee ballots are:

- **October 27 at 5 p.m.** – **Applications** for a mail-in or absentee ballot must be received by your county election board or other designated locations
- **November 3** – deadline for returning your voted mail-in or absentee ballot
 - By mail: your mail-in ballot must be postmarked by 8 p.m. on November 3 and received by your county election office by 5 p.m. on Friday November 6 to be counted
 - In-person: you must return your mail-in ballot to your county election office or other designated location by 8 p.m. on November 3.
- **November 6** – Mail-in ballots (postmarked by 8 p.m. on November 3) must be received by the county election office by 5 p.m.

In emergency situations (such as an unexpected illness or disability and last-minute absence) following October 27 at 5 p.m., you can request an Emergency Absentee Ballot. The deadline to submit your Emergency Absentee Ballot Application to the county election board is 8 p.m. on November 3.

Please note that the deadline to return/postmark your absentee or mail-in ballot is also 8 p.m. on November 3.

See

https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/PADOS_EmergencyAbsenteeBallotApplication_English.pdf

https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/PADOS_AuthorizeRepresentativeforEmergencyAbsenteeBallot.pdf

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>)

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options. Keep in mind that state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone may

have stolen your ballot, your local election office may request more information. See <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>.

If you requested a mail-in or absentee ballot but didn't receive a ballot, lost your ballot, or changed your mind and want to vote in-person:

- If you already submitted a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, you cannot vote at your polling place on election day
- If you did not return your mail-in or absentee ballot and you want to vote in person, you have 2 options:
 - Bring your ballot and the pre-addressed outer return envelope to your polling place to be voided. After you surrender your ballot and envelope and sign a declaration, you can then vote a regular ballot.
 - If you don't surrender your ballot and return envelope, you can only vote by provisional ballot at your polling place. Your county board of elections will then verify that you did not vote by mail before counting your provisional ballot.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>)

If you requested a mail-in or absentee ballot but didn't receive a ballot, lost your ballot, or changed your mind and want to vote in-person:

- If you already submitted a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, you cannot vote at your polling place on election day
- If you did not return your mail-in or absentee ballot and you want to vote in person, you have 2 options:
 - Bring your ballot and the pre-addressed outer return envelope to your polling place to be voided. After you surrender your ballot and envelope and sign a declaration, you can then vote a regular ballot.
 - If you do not surrender your ballot and return envelope, you can only vote by provisional ballot at your polling place. Your county board of elections will then verify that you did not vote by mail before counting your provisional ballot.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>)

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. See <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>.

If you requested a mail-in or absentee ballot but didn't receive a ballot, lost your ballot, or changed your mind and want to vote in-person:

- If you already submitted a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, you cannot vote at your polling place on election day
- If you did not return your mail-in or absentee ballot and you want to vote in person, you have 2 options:
 - Bring your ballot and the pre-addressed outer return envelope to your polling place to be voided. After you surrender your ballot and envelope and sign a declaration, you can then vote a regular ballot.
 - If you don't surrender your ballot and return envelope, you can only vote by provisional ballot at your polling place. Your county board of elections will then verify that you did not vote by mail before counting your provisional ballot.

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx#> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Early-Voting.aspx>)

You can

- Mail in your ballot – the Pennsylvania Department of State will provide **pre-paid postage** on mail ballot return envelopes. Your ballot must be postmarked by 8 p.m. on election day (November 3);
- Hand-deliver your ballot before 8 p.m. on election day (November 3) to your
 - County election office, or
 - Other official designated site, or
 - Some counties are providing drop-boxes for mail ballots
 - <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Return-Ballot.aspx>
- Vote early in-person at your county election office or satellite office
 - The deadline to vote early in-person is October 27 at 5 p.m.
 - You will need to bring your PennDOT ID number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

For more information on county election offices and other official designated sites see <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx#>

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx> and <https://www.dos.pa.gov/VotingElections/OtherServicesEvents/Documents/DOS%20Guidance%20Civilian%20Absentee%20>)

[and%20Mail-In%20Ballot%20Procedures.pdf](#) and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>

If you can't remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. The deadline to update your voter registration is October 19, 2020.

If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, it is unclear whether your ballot will count.

In September 2020, Secretary of the Commonwealth Kathy Boockvar issued guidance stating that "the Election Code does not permit county election officials to reject applications or voted ballots based solely on signature analysis." This guidance was challenged but upheld by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. A related petition has been filed by the Secretary with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. That petition is still pending.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx> and https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/PADOS_EmergencyAbsenteeBallotApplication_English.pdf and https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/PADOS_AuthorizeRepresentativeforEmergencyAbsenteeBallot.pdf)

Deadlines for mail-in or absentee ballots are:

- **October 27 at 5 p.m.** – Applications for a mail-in or absentee ballot must be received by your county election board or other designated locations
- **November 3** – deadline for returning your voted mail-in or absentee ballot
 - By mail: your mail-in ballot must be postmarked by 8 p.m. on election day and received by your county election office by 5 p.m. on Friday November 6 to be counted
 - In-person: you must return your mail-in ballot to your county election office or other designated location by 8 p.m. on election day.
- **November 6** – Mail-in ballots (postmarked by 8 p.m. on election day) must be received by the county election office by 5 p.m.

In emergency situations (such as an unexpected illness or disability and last-minute absence) following October 27 at 5 p.m., you can request an Emergency Absentee Ballot. The deadline to submit your Emergency Absentee Ballot Application to the county election board is 8 p.m. on election day.

Please note that the deadline to return/postmark your absentee or mail-in ballot is also 8 p.m. on November 3.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx#> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Early-Voting.aspx>)

You can

- Mail in your ballot – the Pennsylvania Department of State will provide **pre-paid postage** on mail ballot return envelopes. Your ballot must be postmarked by 8 p.m. on election day (November 3);
- Hand-deliver your ballot before 8 p.m. on election day (November 3) to your
 - County election office, or
 - Other official designated site, or
 - Some counties are providing drop-boxes for mail ballots
- Vote early in-person at your county election office or satellite office
 - The deadline to vote early in-person is October 27 at 5 p.m.
 - You will need to bring your PennDOT ID number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

For more information on county election offices and other official designated sites see <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx#>

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx> and https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/PADOS_EmergencyAbsenteeBallotApplication_English.pdf and https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/PADOS_AuthorizeRepresentativeforEmergencyAbsenteeBallot.pdf and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Early-Voting.aspx>)

Deadlines for mail-in or absentee ballots are:

- October 27 at 5 p.m. – Applications for a mail-in or absentee ballot must be received by your county election board or other designated locations
- November 3 – deadline for returning your voted mail-in or absentee ballot
 - By mail: your mail-in ballot must be postmarked by 8 p.m. on election day and received by your county election office by 5 p.m. on Friday November 6 to be counted
 - In-person: you must return your mail-in ballot to your county election office or other designated location by 8 p.m. on election day.
- November 6 – Mail-in ballots (postmarked by 8 p.m. on election day) must be received by the county election office by 5 p.m.

You can:

- Mail in your ballot – the Pennsylvania Department of State will provide **pre-paid postage** on mail ballot return envelopes. Your ballot must be postmarked by 8 p.m. on election day (November 3);
- Hand-deliver your ballot before 8 p.m. on election day (November 3) to your
 - County election office, or
 - Other official designated site, or
 - Some counties are providing drop-boxes for mail ballots
- Vote early in-person at your county election office or satellite office
 - The deadline to vote early in-person is October 27 at 5 p.m.
 - You will need to bring your PennDOT ID number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

For more information on county election offices and other official designated sites see <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx#>

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx#>)

Pennsylvania voters can see the status of their mail-in or absentee ballot online. Track your ballot's progress from when your county receives your request to when they receive your voted ballot at <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/BallotTracking.aspx>.

Due to the volume of mail-in ballots expected during the 2020 General Election, it may take a few days for the system to be updated.

Voting Early In-Person

What hours and days can I vote early in-person?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx#> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Early-Voting.aspx>)

If you are a registered Pennsylvania voter, you can vote early in-person at your county election office or satellite office

- The deadline to vote early in-person is October 27 at 5 p.m.
- You will need to bring your PennDOT ID number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

For more information on county election offices, other official designated sites and hours of operation see <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx#>

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received). (From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>)

If you requested a mail-in or absentee ballot but didn't receive a ballot, lost your ballot, or changed your mind and want to vote in-person:

- If you already submitted a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, you cannot vote at your polling place on election day
- If you did not return your mail-in or absentee ballot and you want to vote in person, you have 2 options:
 - Bring your ballot and the pre-addressed outer return envelope to your polling place to be voided. After you surrender your ballot and envelope and sign a declaration, you can then vote a regular ballot.
 - If you don't surrender your ballot and return envelope, you can only vote by provisional ballot at your polling place. Your county board of elections will then verify that you did not vote by mail before counting your provisional ballot.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From

<https://www.dos.pa.gov/VotingElections/OtherServicesEvents/Documents/DOS%20Guidance%20Civilian%20Absentee%20and%20Mail-In%20Ballot%20Procedures.pdf> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>)

If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, it is unclear whether your ballot will count.

In September 2020, Secretary of the Commonwealth Kathy Boockvar issued guidance stating that "the Election Code does not permit county election officials to reject applications or voted ballots based solely on signature analysis." This guidance was challenged but upheld by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. A related petition has been filed by the Secretary with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. That petition is still pending.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved)

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local election official's office to request a replacement. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved within your state and need to update your mailing address, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible. You may be required to re-register to vote.

To contact your election office go to <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>.

If you requested a mail-in or absentee ballot but didn't receive a ballot, lost your ballot, or changed your mind and want to vote in-person:

- If you already submitted a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, you cannot vote at your polling place on election day
- If you did not return your mail-in or absentee ballot and you want to vote in person, you have 2 options:
 - Bring your ballot and the pre-addressed outer return envelope to your polling place to be voided. After you surrender your ballot and envelope and sign a declaration, you can then vote a regular ballot.
 - If you don't surrender your ballot and return envelope, you can only vote by provisional ballot at your polling place. Your county board of elections will then verify that you did not vote by mail before counting your provisional ballot.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-at-a-Polling-Place.aspx>)

Polling places will be open in every Pennsylvania county on election day, November 3, 2020 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To find your polling place go to <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/PollingPlaceInfo.aspx>

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-at-a-Polling-Place.aspx>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/PollingPlaceInfo.aspx>

Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-at-a-Polling-Place.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-by-Provisional-Ballot.aspx>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

For more information on provisional ballots go to <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-by-Provisional-Ballot.aspx>

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-at-a-Polling-Place.aspx>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

For more information go to <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-at-a-Polling-Place.aspx>

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. As long as you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

For more information go to <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-at-a-Polling-Place.aspx>

To contact your election officials go to <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-at-a-Polling-Place.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Accessible-Voting.aspx>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Every polling place in Pennsylvania must have at least one accessible voting system. Sometimes this is the general voting system used by all voters. It may be a separate system with features such as audio, tactile keys and other assistive technology.

For more information go to <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Accessible-Voting.aspx> or contact your election officials at <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Accessible-Voting.aspx>)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

If you have a disability that prevents you from applying in person for your mail ballot or delivering your mail ballot, you may designate an agent to deliver your ballot materials for you. You must designate the agent in writing using a form provided by your county.

For more information go to <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Accessible-Voting.aspx>

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>)

Yes! If you need help voting due to a disability, you may bring a person of your choice to assist you in the voting process. There are a few restrictions on who to bring, including that you may not choose a person who is:

- A Judge of Elections
- Your Union Representative
- Your Employer

The first time you have someone help you vote, the election officials at your polling place will ask you to complete and sign a form called a Declaration of Need of Assistance. After the first time, your registration record will note that you completed the form.

If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

For more information go to <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Accessible-Voting.aspx>

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Language-Support.aspx>)

The National Voting Rights Act (NVRA) requires certain counties to provide assistance to people with limited English proficiency. If the population of voting age people who speak another language reaches 5% or 10,000, then the county has to offer voting information and services in that language.

There are currently three counties in Pennsylvania that should provide assistance in Spanish:

- Berks County
- Lehigh County
- Philadelphia County

You can get help voting, as long as the person who helps you:

- is not your employer or union representative
- is not the judge of elections

You do not need to get permission before each election to have someone help you vote, but you may be asked to sign a declaration stating that you need assistance at the polling place.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Accessible-Voting.aspx> and <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>)

Under Pennsylvania law, voters must return their own ballots. The only exceptions to this are for voters with a disability who have designated someone in writing to deliver their ballot.

If you have a disability that prevents you from applying in person for your mail ballot or delivering your mail ballot, you may designate an agent to deliver your ballot materials for you. You must designate the agent in writing using the following forms, or a form provided by your county.

- <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Authorize-Designated-Agent-for-Mail-in-or-Absentee-Ballot.pdf>
- <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Documents/Authorize-Designated-Agent-for-Mail-in-or-Absentee-Ballot-SPANISH.pdf>

Contact your county election office if you have any questions at <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find their contact information at <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. Their contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

South Carolina Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voter-registration-information>; <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t07c001.php>; <https://nationalhomeless.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-Manual-for-web.pdf>)

Yes! When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and to mail any election materials. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or can include the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address, or the address where they keep their personal property. Learn more about voting and homelessness at <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voter-registration-information>)

Yes! You have the right to register to vote at your school address – which includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you receive mail at a post office box (for example, at the campus mail room), you must register using the physical address of your dormitory, but you can provide your post office box address for mailing and contact purposes.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home, but I am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/South-Carolina>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/new-absentee-rules-2020-general-election>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they do not register to vote in both states. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. For South Carolina, the registration deadline is 30 days before Election Day.

If you register to vote back home and are at school (or if you register at school and are sent home because of the pandemic), you may need to request an absentee ballot. An absentee ballot for a voter registered in South Carolina can be completed in person or by mail. Absentee ballot applications to vote by mail must be received by the voter registration office by 5 p.m., Saturday, October 24. For more information, check out “How to Vote Absentee in the 2020 General Election” at <https://www.scvotes.gov/new-absentee-rules-2020-general-election>.

Students with scholarships or tuition who require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/update-your-voter-registration-information>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>; <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>)

If your voter registration address has changed, you will need to update your address with the applicable county board of voter registration. If you have a valid driver's license or ID card issued by the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles that reflects your new address, you can update your address online at <https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/ovr/start.aspx>. If you do not have an updated ID, you may update your information by filling out a voter registration change of address form at the voter registration office in your current county of residence. If you are not able to complete the change of address form prior to voting, go to the polling place for your prior address, and you will be permitted to vote a limited, failsafe ballot containing only federal, statewide and countywide offices.

You can find your local voter registration office contact information at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/update-your-voter-registration-information>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>)

If your old address and your new address are both in South Carolina, first check the status of your ballot by entering your Name, date of birth, and SSN at the S.C. Votes website:

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=AbsenteeInfo>.

If the ballot has been sent, contact your county voter registration office to request a new ballot. You can find your local voter registration office contact information at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>. The deadline to return your application for an absentee ballot is 5 p.m. on the fourth day prior to the election, but it is recommended that you request the ballot at least two weeks before election day.

If your voter registration address has changed, you will need to update your address with the applicable county board of voter registration. If you have a valid driver's license or ID card issued by the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles that reflects your new address, you can update your address online at <https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/ovr/start.aspx>. If you do not have an updated ID, you may update your information by filling out a voter registration change of address form at the voter registration office in your current county of residence. If you are not able to complete the change of address form prior to voting, go to the polling place for your prior address, and you will be permitted to vote a limited, failsafe ballot containing only federal, statewide and countywide offices

If you have permanently relocated to a new state, you will need to determine whether you are eligible to vote by mail in your state. Rules and deadlines for voting by mail also differ from state to state. In some states, everyone can vote by mail, and ballots or ballot applications are automatically mailed to voters; in others, everyone can vote by mail, but you will have to request a ballot, either by mail, phone, or online, depending on your state. In certain states, you can only vote by mail if you have a valid excuse. Check out Rock The Vote's guide to absentee voting rules at <http://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/> to find the rules and deadlines for voting by mail in your state. If there is insufficient time to receive a mail-in ballot by mail, you may still be eligible to vote in person.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/node/501>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>)

In South Carolina, there is a 30-day voter registration deadline prior to an election. If you moved to South Carolina after the 30-day voter registration deadline, you are permitted to vote for president and vice president only in your state of former residence. To vote in your state of former residence, you should contact the voting office in the county of residence in your former state to request a ballot.

If you moved from South Carolina to a new state last minute, note that residency rules vary by state. In some states, you may be eligible to register to vote in your new state immediately upon moving. In others, you may need to wait a certain number of days or be living in the state for a certain amount of days before you register to vote in the next election. A state cannot require you to live there for more than 30 days to register to

vote. Check out Rock the Vote's Election Center at <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/> for information on your new state's residency requirements. Note that if you have missed the deadline to register in your new state, you can request an absentee ballot for president and vice president only from your former South Carolina county voting office, or you can return to your former precinct in South Carolina and vote in person for president and vice president only.

You can find the local South Carolina voting office contact information at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/update-your-voter-registration-information>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>)

To vote at the polling place for your new address, you will need to update your address with the applicable county board of voter registration. If you have a valid driver's license or ID card issued by the SC Department of Motor Vehicles that reflects your new address, you can update your address online at <https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/ovr/start.aspx>. If you do not have an updated ID, you may update your information by filling out a voter registration change of address form at the voter registration office in your current county of residence. If you are not able to complete the change of address form prior to voting, go to the polling place for your prior address, and you will be permitted to vote a limited, failsafe ballot containing only federal, statewide and countywide offices.

You can find your local voter registration office contact information at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>; <https://scvotes.gov/update-your-voter-registration-information>; https://www.scvotes.gov/what-happens-if-i-have-photo-id-forget-bring-it-my-polling-place?_ga=2.268662001.1297845008.1602710027-644657112.1602710027; <https://scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>)

You have two questions to think about: first, where to vote; and second, what form of identification you will need to vote.

To vote at the polling place for your new address, you will need to update your address with the applicable county board of voter registration. If you do not have an updated ID, you may update your information by filling out a voter registration change of address form at the voter registration office in your current county of residence. You should bring a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or other document that shows your name and new address. If you are not able to complete the

change of address form prior to voting, go to the polling place for your prior address, and you will be permitted to vote a limited, failsafe ballot containing only federal, statewide and countywide offices.

South Carolina requires that voters voting in person show one of the following photo IDs at the polling place: S.C. driver's license, S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles ID card, S.C. voter registration card with photo, federal military ID and U.S. passport. If you do not have a photo ID, you can request an absentee ballot to vote absentee by mail or you can vote a provisional ballot in person after signing an affidavit at your polling place stating you have a reasonable impediment to obtaining a photo ID. All registered voters in South Carolina are qualified to vote absentee under the "State of Emergency" reason for the 2020 General Election. You can complete an application for an absentee ballot in person at your local voter registration office or by mail. Contact information for your local voter registration office can be found at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>. The deadline to return your application for an absentee ballot is 5 p.m. on the fourth day prior to the election, but it is recommended that you request the ballot at least two weeks before election day.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>; <https://scvotes.gov/update-your-voter-registration-information>; https://www.scvotes.gov/what-happens-if-i-have-photo-id-forget-bring-it-my-polling-place?_ga=2.268662001.1297845008.1602710027-644657112.1602710027)

South Carolina requires that voters voting in person show one of the following photo IDs at the polling place: S.C. driver's license, S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles ID card, S.C. voter registration card with photo, federal military ID and U.S. passport. If the address on your photo ID is out of date, you will need to check with your county voter registration office for the correct polling place to vote. Contact information for your local voter registration office can be found at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>. If time permits, you should update your voter registration information to reflect your new address. You may update your information for your voter registration by filling out a voter registration change of address form at the voter registration office in your current county of residence. You should bring a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or other document that shows your name and new address. If you are not able to complete the change of address form prior to voting, go to the polling place for your prior address, and you will be permitted to vote a limited, failsafe ballot containing only federal, statewide and countywide offices.

My housing is changing and I am not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>; <https://scvotes.gov/update-your-voter-registration-information>; https://www.scvotes.gov/what-happens-if-i-have-photo-id-forget-bring-it-my-polling-place?_ga=2.268662001.1297845008.1602710027-644657112.1602710027)

If you are moving within the state of South Carolina, as soon as you move, you should update your voter registration information to reflect your new address. You may update your information for your voter registration by filling out a voter registration change of address form at the voter registration office in your new county of residence. Contact information for your local voter registration office can be found at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>. If you are not able to complete the change of address form prior to voting, go to the polling place for your prior address, and you will be permitted to vote a limited, failsafe ballot containing only federal, statewide and countywide offices.

If you are moving from another state to South Carolina, note that in South Carolina there is a 30-day voter registration deadline prior to an election. If you moved to South Carolina after the 30-day voter registration deadline, you are permitted to vote for president and vice president only in your state of former residence. To vote in your state of former residence, you should contact the voting office in the county of residence in your former state to request a ballot.

If you are moving from South Carolina to another state, call your local election office and ask about the residency requirements for voting in your new state. Depending on the laws in your new state, you might be able to register now at your current address and then vote at your local polling place even if you have to move before Election Day. Or, you might be able to register in person on the day of the election wherever you are residing on that day. Note that if you have missed the deadline to register in your new state, you can request an absentee ballot for president and vice president only from your former South Carolina county voting office, or you can return to your former precinct in South Carolina and vote in person for president and vice president only.

You can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf/>; https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Library_Safety_Net_ACP_Chart_April_2020.pdf)

Unfortunately, there are no laws within the state of South Carolina which allow a voter to register while maintaining the confidentiality of their address.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>; <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t07c001.php>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must list a physical address. There is a section of the voter registration form to list your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I have moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>)

Contact your county voter registration office to request a new ballot. (You can find the contact information at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.) If you moved within your state, you will need to update your voter registration by filling out a voter registration change of address form at the voter registration office in your new county of residence. If you are moving from another state to South Carolina, note that in South Carolina there is a 30-day voter registration deadline prior to an election. If you moved to South Carolina after the 30-day voter registration deadline, you are permitted to vote for president and vice president only in your state of former residence. To vote in your state of former residence, you should contact the voting office in the county of residence in your former state to request a ballot (You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>). If you are moving from South Carolina to another state, call your local election office and ask about the residency requirements for voting in your new state.

All voters in South Carolina are qualified to vote absentee either in person or by mail under the “State of Emergency” exemption, but you may only be registered in one location. Absentee applications must be received by the voter registration office by 5 p.m., Saturday, October 24, but it is recommended that you submit your request for an absentee ballot at least two weeks before election day. You may vote absentee in person up until 5 p.m. on the day before the election. Rules for photo ID required to vote at the polling place will apply. Note that voting twice in federal elections is illegal under federal law and South Carolina state laws.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>)

All voters in South Carolina are qualified to vote absentee by mail under the “State of Emergency” exception. Absentee ballot applications must be received by your local voter registration office by 5 p.m., Saturday, October 24, but it is recommended that you submit your request for an absentee ballot at least two weeks before election day. You can find the contact information for your local voter registration office at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>)

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official’s office as soon as possible to ask about your options. Contact your county voter registration office to request a new ballot. You can find the contact information for your local voter registration office at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

If it is not too late, you can request a replacement ballot. Absentee ballot applications must be received by your local voter registration office by 5 p.m., Saturday, October 24, but it is recommended that you submit your request for an absentee ballot at least two weeks before election day. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, you may also visit your local county voter registration office or extension office to complete an absentee ballot application and cast your ballot in person. You may vote absentee in person up until 5 p.m. on the day before the election.

Keep in mind that federal and South Carolina state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone has stolen your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>)

If you’ve lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local election official’s office as soon as possible to ask about your options and request a new ballot. You can find the contact

information for your local voter registration office at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

If it is not too late, you can request a replacement ballot. Absentee ballot applications must be received by your local voter registration office by 5 p.m., Saturday, October 24, but it is recommended that you submit your request for an absentee ballot at least two weeks before election day. If it is too late to mail you a replacement ballot, you may also visit your local county voter registration office or extension office to complete an absentee ballot application and cast your ballot in person. You may vote absentee in person up until 5 p.m. on the day before the election.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you have made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. You can find the contact information for your local voter registration office at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

If your state or local election officials have not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate postage is affixed to your return envelope. If you do not have stamps, do not worry! You may drop off your ballot at your local county voter registration office. You can find the contact information for your local voter registration office at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register? (From <https://www.voteriders.org/states/south-carolina/>)

If you cannot remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, you can check your voter registration information here:

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=VoterInfo>.

If you need to verify a signature or discover a problem with the signature or some other aspect of your absentee ballot, you can call the county election office and correct it up until the close of polls on election day.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>
<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

South Carolina requires ballots that are returned by mail to be received by the county voter registration office by 7 p.m. on Election Day and recommends that they be mailed no later than one week prior to Election Day to help ensure timely delivery. You can check on the status of your absentee ballot here:

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=AbsenteeInfo>.

If you miss the date to mail your ballot back, do not worry! You may drop off your ballot at your local county voter registration office. You can find the contact information for your local voter registration office at <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>;
<https://www.scvotes.gov/update-your-voter-registration-information>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>;
<https://www.vote411.org/south-carolina#drop-boxes>; <https://www.aapd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/State-Voting-Guide-South-Carolina.pdf>)

South Carolina will not have any drop boxes, but you can vote early in person by visiting your county voter registration office absentee until 5 p.m. on the day before the election. You can drop off your absentee a ballot as early as October 5 to avoid lines on election day. For more information on voter registration and elections office contact information, check out <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>.

You can also register another person to return your ballot by completing an Authorization to Return Absentee Ballot Form:

<https://www.scvotes.gov/sites/default/files/SEC%20FRM%201050-200910%20Absentee%2C%20Authorization%20to%20Return%20%20Ballot.pdf>

There are also provisions for voters with disabilities if you are unable to stand in line. For more information about the provisions, click here: <https://www.aapd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/State-Voting-Guide-South-Carolina.pdf>

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that is different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx#deadlines>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-11-receipt-and-postmark-deadlines-for-absentee-ballots.aspx>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>)

No. You can only return the ballot to your county voter registration office by mail or in person. Polling locations do not accept absentee ballots. Note that South Carolina does not accept ballots that arrive after 7 p.m. on Election Day.

However, a military or overseas voter must attest under penalty of perjury that the ballot was timely submitted, and the ballot is counted if it is received the day before the county canvass. A ballot may not be rejected on the basis that it has a late postmark, an unreadable postmark, or no postmark (S.C. Code 7-15-700).

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>)

Yes. You can check the status of your absentee or provisional ballots at the following:

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=AbsenteeInfo>

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=ProvisionalBallotInfo>

Voting Early In person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/new-absentee-rules-2020-general-election>)

South Carolina voters can vote before Election Day through absentee in person voting. The period for absentee in person voting runs from Monday, October 5, 2020 to Monday, November 2, 2020, but dates and hours may vary based on where you live. Contact your county election office from the list on this website:

<https://www.scvotes.gov/new-absentee-rules-2020-general-election>

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it was not received). (From

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t07c025.php#:~:text=It%20is%20unlawful%20for%20a%20person%20qualified%20to%20vote%20at,election%2C%20for%20the%20same%20office>)

It is unlawful to vote twice in the same election, but you can verify the status of your absentee or provisional ballots at the following:

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=AbsenteeInfo>

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=ProvisionalBallotInfo>

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>; <https://www.voteriders.org/states/south-carolina/>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/where-can-i-report-issue-or-file-complaint-about-election>)

In South Carolina you will not be notified if there is a discrepancy with you signature. You can verify the status of your absentee or provisional ballots at the following:

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=AbsenteeInfo>

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=ProvisionalBallotInfo>

If you need to verify a signature or discover a problem with the signature or some other aspect of your absentee ballot, you can call the county election office and correct it up until the close of polls on election day. You can find more information here:

<https://www.voteriders.org/states/south-carolina/>

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I have already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved). (From <https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>)

You can request a new ballot by contacting your county voter office and requesting a new ballot. You can find more information here: <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>)

Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 7 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check your polling location status first by going to this site:

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=VoterInfo>

Hours may vary by location, so refer to the precincts listed by county for additional options in your county. You can find more information here:

<https://www.scvotes.gov/data/Precincts.html>

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>; https://www.scvotes.gov/what-happens-if-i-have-photo-id-forget-bring-it-my-polling-place?_ga=2.62607470.377925455.1602515762-1708432318.1602256205; [https://ballotpedia.org/State by State Provisional Ballot Laws](https://ballotpedia.org/State_by_State_Provisional_Ballot_Laws))

Be prepared for the South Carolina requirements prior to voting by reviewing the checklist: <https://www.scvotes.gov/south-carolina-voting-information-page>.

Some reasons poll workers ask for a provisional ballot include: No photo ID, Voter name not on registration list, incorrect address, voter is under the age of 18, voter is not a U.S. citizen or resident of S.C. in the county's polling location. A provisional ballot may require you to visit with a follow-up certification at your local county elections office by the following Friday after the election. Provisional ballots cast in the wrong precinct will not count. If you are in the correct location and refused a ballot, you can reach the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

You can also check the status of your provisional vote and follow up with your local count election office here:

<https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=ProvisionalBallotInfo>

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>; <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Keep your place in line. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. If you are registered and at the right site, do not leave! It is illegal for anyone to try to stop you from voting.

Call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-687-8683 and ask for help voting.

Alternatively, you can sign up for absentee voting to return your ballot early to a local election office. You can find more information here: <https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting>

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Keep your place in line. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. If you are registered and at the right site do not leave! It is illegal for anyone to try to stop you from voting.

Call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-687-8683 and ask for help voting.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://www.pandasc.org/resources/voting/>; <https://www.aapd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/State-Voting-Guide-South-Carolina.pdf>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/voters-disabilities>)

South Carolina offers Curbside Voting. Disabled voters may vote outside of the polling place in the closest available parking area in the vehicle driven to the polls.

<https://www.scvotes.gov/voters-disabilities>

Contact your local Protection & Advocacy for People with Disabilities office for assistance with the voting process and accessing polling places. Phone – (866) 275-7273 or info@pandasc.org. You can find more resources below:

<https://www.pandasc.org/resources/voting/>

<https://www.aapd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/State-Voting-Guide-South-Carolina.pdf>

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_fa.htm; <https://www.scvotes.gov/voters-disabilities>; <https://www.pandasc.org/resources/voting/>)

Yes. A voter is entitled to receive assistance and may choose anyone to assist except the employer, agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of their union. Further video information is provided at <https://www.scvotes.gov/voters-disabilities>.

You can also contact your local Protection & Advocacy for People with Disabilities office for assistance with the voting process and accessing polling places. Phone – (866) 275-7273 or info@pandasc.org.

<https://www.pandasc.org/resources/voting/>

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/voters-disabilities>; <https://www.pandasc.org/resources/voting/>; <https://www.vote411.org/south-carolina#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

Yes. A voter is entitled to receive assistance and may choose anyone to assist except their employer, agent of their employer, or an officer or agent of his union. Poll managers may also be appointed to assist you upon request. Each precinct offers an accessible voting machine featuring an audio ballot, headphones and braille. Further video information is provided at <https://www.scvotes.gov/voters-disabilities>.

You can also contact your local Protection & Advocacy for People with Disabilities office for assistance with the voting process and accessing polling places. Phone – (866) 275-7273 or info@pandasc.org. You can find more information at <https://www.pandasc.org/resources/voting/>.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From: <https://www.justice.gov/crt/about-language-minority-voting-rights>; <https://www.justice.gov/crt/file/927231/download>; <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/voting-rights/#i-am-a-voter-with-a-disability>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/voters-disabilities>; <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>; <https://www.vote411.org/south-carolina#provisions-for-voters-with-disabilities>)

South Carolina is not listed on the Federal Register as a covered jurisdiction for language provisions. You can contact your local election office to see if they offer language assistance in your location although it is not mandated. If assistance is not provided, voters who have difficulty reading or writing English may receive in person

assistance at the polls from the person of their choice. This person cannot be the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, or an agent or officer of the voter's union.

The U.S. Election Assistance Commission also provides a voter's guide in 11 languages. The guides are provided on the EAC website here:

<https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>.

If you are unable to get further assistance vote411 provides the following reporting numbers: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Espanol) or 1-888-API-VOTE (Asian multilingual assistance) or 1-844-YALLA-US (Arabic), 1-888-API-VOTE / 1-888-274-8683 (Bengali, Cantonese, Hindi, Urdu, Korean, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese).

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.scvotes.gov/new-absentee-rules-2020-general-election>)

Yes. You can have an authorized representative (who is a registered voter) act on your behalf because of either: (1) Voter has an illness or disability resulting in confinement; or (2) Voter has a handicap rendering the voter unable to vote due to barriers that deny their access at the polling location.

A Representative must complete the Authorized Representative form and return the application through 5 p.m. Friday, October 30, and the ballot will be mailed to the voter. Candidates and paid campaign workers may not serve as a Representative except for immediate family members. <https://www.scvotes.gov/new-absentee-rules-2020-general-election>

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/voting-rights/#someone-is-interfering-with-my-right-to-vote>)

Any issues or complaints regarding a polling place on Election Day should first be addressed to the poll managers. Poll managers may be able to quickly resolve the issue. If not resolved at the polling place, or if the issue or complaint is regarding some other aspect of the election, voters should contact their county elections office. Report intimidation to the Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE or 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Español).

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

Contact your local election office and they can assist with providing a new ballot and filing a report. You can find more information here: <https://www.scvotes.gov/how-register-absentee-voting>

You can also report it to one, or all, of your local South Carolina government offices:

FBI Field Office: Phone – (803) 551-4200, Website – <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>

U.S. Attorney's Office: Website – <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sc/contact-us>

Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division: Phone – 202-353-4641, Website – <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/contact-criminal-division>

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/voting-rights/#someone-is-interfering-with-my-right-to-vote>)

It is a federal crime for someone to interfere with your right to vote. Some examples of intimidation, threats and coercion include:

- Aggressively questioning voters about their citizenship, criminal record, or other qualifications to vote.
- Falsely representing oneself as an election official.
- Displaying false or misleading signs about voter fraud and related criminal penalties.
- Other forms of harassment, particularly harassment targeting non-English speakers and voters of color.
- Spreading false information about voter requirements (examples: You do not need to speak English, Photo ID not required).
- Threats about your job or family.
- Offering money, displaying misleading information.

You can find more information about voting rights here: <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/voting-rights/#someone-is-interfering-with-my-right-to-vote>

Any issues or complaints regarding a polling place on Election Day should first be addressed to the poll managers. Poll managers may be able to quickly resolve the issue. If not resolved at the polling place, or if the issue or complaint is regarding some

other aspect of the election, voters should contact their county elections office. Report intimidation to the Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE or 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Español)

I am concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From: <https://www.scvotes.gov/securing-south-carolina-elections>; <https://www.scvotes.gov/node/541>)

The S.C. State Election Commission (SEC) have taken reasonable measures to improve and protect the security of the state's election infrastructure. You can read more about these measures at <https://www.scvotes.gov/securing-south-carolina-elections>

Note that your voting unit is never connected to the internet or to each other. You can read more about this here: <https://www.scvotes.gov/node/541>

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Tennessee Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/homeless-persons-residency>)

Yes! You will need to provide a description of where you usually stay or return to when absent. This location can be an address of a shelter, or where you sleep most often like a street corner or park address. If you prefer to vote by mail, you should provide an address where you can receive mail so that you can receive your voter registration card and materials. Please note that if you are voting for the first time in Tennessee since registering, you will likely need to vote in person. Learn more about voting and homelessness at <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/homeless-persons-residency>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Tennessee>)

Yes! Students attending college may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their permanent or home address. But you may only be registered and vote from one location. For more information, check out <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Tennessee>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I am now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Tennessee> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they don't register to vote in both states. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition who require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires Tennessee residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Tennessee Student Voting Guide at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Tennessee>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/how-do-i-update-my-voter-registration-information>)

It depends on whether your new address is within the same county as your old address. If your new address is in the same county, then you can update your address by submitting a new online voter registration application, submitting your address change to your local county election commission office, or completing an affidavit at your new polling location or at a central location designated by your local county election commission office.

If your new address is in a different county, your previous registration does not transfer and you will need to register in your new county by using the online voter registration system, or by submitting a voter registration application to your local county election commission office in person or by mail. All registration deadlines apply to new applications; therefore, you must register no later than thirty (30) days before the election. If you submit the application by mail, you must vote in person for the first election after you register in your new county. These rules apply even if you have been registered and voted in another county in Tennessee.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting>, and <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/how-do-i-update-my-voter-registration-information>)

You should notify your old and new county election commission. You can find your local county election commission by going to https://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php.

Whether you can vote may also depend on whether your new address is within the same county as your old address. If your new address is in the same county, then you can update your address by submitting a new online voter registration application, submitting your address change to your local county election commission office, or completing an affidavit at your new polling location or at a central location designated by your local county election commission office.

If your new address is in a different county, your previous registration does not transfer and you will need to register in your new county by using the online voter registration system, or by submitting a voter registration application to your local county election commission office in person or by mail. All registration deadlines apply to new applications; therefore, you must register no later than thirty (30) days before the election. If you submit the application by mail, you must vote in person for the first election after you register in your new county. These rules apply even if you have been registered and voted in another county in Tennessee.

Rules and deadlines for voting by mail also differ from state to state. If you have permanently relocated to a new state, you will need to determine whether you are eligible to vote by mail in your state. In some states, everyone can vote by mail, and ballots or ballot applications are automatically mailed to voters; in others, everyone can vote by mail, but you will have to request a ballot, either by mail, phone, or online, depending on your state. In certain states,

you can only vote by mail if you have a valid excuse. Check out Rock The Voter's Guide to Absentee Voting Rules at <http://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/> to find the rules and deadlines for voting by mail in your state. If there is insufficient time to receive a mail-in ballot by mail, you may still be eligible to vote in person.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Residency rules vary by state. In some states, you may be eligible to register to vote in your new state immediately upon moving. In others, you may need to wait a certain number of days or be living in the state for a certain amount of days before you register to vote in the next election. A state cannot require you to live there for more than 30 days to register to vote. Check out Rock the Vote's Election Center at <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/> for information on your state.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/how-do-i-update-my-voter-registration-information>)

It depends on whether your new address is within the same county as your old address. If your new address is in the same county, then you can update your address by submitting a new online voter registration application, submitting your address change to your local county election commission office, or completing an affidavit at your new polling location or at a central location designated by your local county election commission office.

If your new address is in a different county, your previous registration does not transfer and you will need to register in your new county by using the online voter registration system, or by submitting a voter registration application to your local county election commission office in person or by mail. All registration deadlines apply to new applications; therefore, you must register no later than thirty (30) days before the election. If you submit the application by mail, you must vote in person for the first election after you register in your new county. These rules apply even if you have been registered and voted in another county in Tennessee.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/how-do-i-update-my-voter-registration-information>, and <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/what-id-required-when-voting>)

You have two questions to think about: first, where to vote, and second, what form of identification you will need to vote.

If your new address is in the same county, then you can update your address by submitting a new online voter registration application, submitting your address change to your local county election commission office, or completing an affidavit at your new polling location or at a central location designated by your local county election commission office.

If your new address is in a different county, your previous registration does not transfer and you will need to register in your new county by using the online voter registration system, or by

submitting a voter registration application to your local county election commission office in person or by mail. All registration deadlines apply to new applications; therefore, you must register no later than thirty (30) days before the election. If you submit the application by mail, you must vote in person for the first election after you register in your new county. These rules apply even if you have been registered and voted in another county in Tennessee.

Once you know where to vote, find out which type of identification is needed to vote in person or by mail, if any. Generally, any federal or Tennessee state government issued identification with your name and photograph, even if expired, will be acceptable identification. You can check out <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/what-id-required-when-voting> [for more information](#).

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/what-id-required-when-voting>)

Generally, any federal or Tennessee state government issued identification with your name and photograph, even if expired, will be acceptable identification. Photo IDs issued by a county, city, or by another state are not acceptable identification.

Check your state's rules by visiting <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/what-id-required-when-voting> or calling your [county](#) election commission or [the](#) Division of Elections at 1-877-850-4959. Even if your ID does not meet your state's requirements, you will still be able to cast a provisional ballot.

My housing is changing and I am not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/how-do-i-update-my-voter-registration-information>)

Call your county election commission office and ask about the residency requirements for voting in your state. You can find your local county election commission by going to https://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php.

Generally speaking, if your new address is in the same county, then you can update your address by submitting a new online voter registration application, submitting your address change to your local county election commission office, or completing an affidavit at your new polling location or at a central location designated by your local county election commission office.

If your new address is in a different county, your previous registration does not transfer and you will need to register in your new county by using the online voter registration system, or by submitting a voter registration application to your local county election commission office in person or by mail. All registration deadlines apply to new applications; therefore, you must register no later than thirty (30) days before the election. If you submit the application by mail, you must vote in person for the first election after you register in your new county. These rules apply even if you have been registered and voted in another county in Tennessee.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf>; https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Library_Safety_Net_ACP_Chart_April_2020.pdf)

In most states, yes. Address Confidentiality Programs and Confidential Voter Listings are programs administered by the state that enable survivors of domestic violence to register while maintaining the confidentiality of their address. The National Network to End Domestic Violence provides a list of currently available programs by state: https://nnedv.org/resources-library/h_address_voter_protection/. In Tennessee, eligibility requires a valid Protection Order.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/how-do-i-update-my-voter-registration-information>)

Call your local election official's office for guidance. (You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.) If your new address is in the same county, then you can update your address by submitting a new online voter registration application, submitting your address change to your local county election commission office, or completing an affidavit at your new polling location or at a central location designated by your local county election commission office.

If your new address is in a different county, your previous registration does not transfer and you will need to register in your new county by using the online voter registration system, or by submitting a voter registration application to your local county election commission office in person or by mail. All registration deadlines apply to new applications; therefore, you must register no later than 30 days before the election. If you submit the application by mail, you must vote in person for the first election after you register in your new county. These rules apply even if you have been registered and voted in another county in Tennessee.

If you move permanently to another state, you will need to register to vote in that state. In some states, you may be eligible to register to vote in a new state immediately upon moving. In others, you may need to wait a certain number of days before you register to vote in the next election. The registration deadline could be as far in advance as a month before Election Day or as close as the same day as Election Day. If you are able to register in time, you may be able to vote at your local polling site. Check out the U.S. Vote Foundation's Election Dates & Deadlines at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm> for more information. Note that voting twice in federal elections is illegal under federal law and most state laws.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail. How late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting>)

First, you must determine if you are eligible to vote absentee by mail. You can vote absentee by mail if you fall under any of the following categories:

- You are sixty (60) years of age or older.
- You will be outside the county where you are registered during the early voting period and all day on Election Day.
- You are hospitalized, ill or physically disabled and unable to appear at your polling place to vote (this includes persons who have underlying medical or health conditions which in their determination render them more susceptible to contracting COVID-19 or at greater risk should they contract it). For a list of underlying health conditions that makes a person more susceptible, see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>. A physician's statement is not required.
- You are the caretaker of a person who is hospitalized, ill, or disabled (this includes voters who care for or reside with persons who have underlying medical or health conditions which in their determination render them more susceptible to contracting COVID-19 or at greater risk should they contract it). For a list of underlying health conditions that makes a person more susceptible, see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>. A physician's statement is not required.
- You or your spouse are a full-time student in an accredited college or university outside the county where you are registered.
- You reside in a nursing home, assisted living facility or home for the aged outside your county of residence.
- You are a candidate for office in the election.
- You are observing a religious holiday that prevents you from voting in person during the early voting period and on Election Day.
- You serve as an Election Day official or as a member or employee of the election commission.
- You will be unable to vote in person due to jury duty.
- You have a physical disability and an inaccessible polling place.

- You or your spouse possess a valid Commercial Drivers License (CDL) or Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) card and you will be working outside the state or county of registration during the open hours of early voting and Election Day and have no specific out-of-county or out-of-state address to which mail may be sent or received during such time.
- You are a member of the military or are an overseas citizen.
- You are on the permanent absentee list.

If you are eligible to vote absentee by mail, then you must request an absentee by mail ballot no later than seven days before Election Day (Tuesday, October 27, 2020).

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting>)

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local county election commission as soon as possible to ask about your options. You can find your local county election commission by going to https://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local county election commission to ask about your options. You can find your local county election commission by going to https://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. You can find your local election official's contact information at https://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php or <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting>, <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

Tennessee requires voters who have chosen to vote absentee by mail to return their ballots by mail. If your state or local election officials have not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate postage is affixed to your return envelope.

For more information, you can find your local election official's contact information at https://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php or <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

If you can't remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. You must request an absentee by mail ballot no later than 7 days before Election Day (Tuesday, October 27, 2020).

If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, in many states, your ballot may not count. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx> for a listing of how states verify voted absentee ballots.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting>, https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

Tennessee requires mail-in ballots to be received by your county election commission no later than the close of polls on Election Day. Tennessee requires voters who have chosen to vote absentee by mail to return their ballots by mail.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting>)

Tennessee requires voters who have elected to vote absentee by mail to return their ballots by mail. You should mail in your ballot so that it can be received by your county election commission no later than the close of polls on Election Day.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting>)

Tennessee requires voters who have elected to vote absentee by mail to return their ballots by mail. You should mail in your ballot so that it can be received by your county election commission no later than the close of polls on Election Day.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Yes! You can track your ballot at <https://tnmap.tn.gov/voterlookup/>.

Voting Early In Person

(From <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/early-voting-person>)

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

Tennessee allows any registered voter the opportunity for early voting during the period beginning 20 days before Election Day (October 14, 2020) and ending 5 days before Election Day (October 29, 2020). For details regarding times and early voting locations, you should contact your local county election commission office. You can find your local county election commission by going to https://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received).

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

Tennessee requires voters who have chosen to vote absentee by mail to return their ballots by mail. You may not legally vote twice in the same election. You can track your ballot at <https://tnmap.tn.gov/voterlookup/>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

Some states have a process for voters to “cure” their signature in time for the ballot to be counted. These states will notify voters that there was a problem and provide voters with a process and time frame to verify that the ballot is indeed theirs. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> for a list of states that require voters to be notified when there is a missing signature or a signature discrepancy and provide an opportunity to correct it. Tennessee is not included on this list.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local county election commission to ask about your options. You can find your local county election commission by going to https://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved within your state and need to update your mailing address, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible. You may be required to re-register to vote.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))

Check with your local polling place, because it varies in different states and cities. You can find your local polling place at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>; <https://www.vote411.org/tennessee#provisional-voting>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

Tennessee does not provide a limited provisional ballot.

Provisional ballots are counted within 4 business days after Election Day.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as

the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. As long as you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Some states offer "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car. If you want to use this method of voting, you should call your local election office to see if they allow curbside voting and let them know you want to use it. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or the agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility>)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from workers at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more

information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

Maybe. In some states, every voter must submit their own ballot, either by mail or at an in-person drop off box. Other states allow family members to drop off ballots for each other, and some states allow anyone to drop off another person's ballot. You can look up your state's rules at <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>. You can also contact your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce others to interfere with the ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I am concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Texas Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and to mail any election materials. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or the address where they sleep most often, like a street corner or park address.

Learn more about voting and homelessness at <https://texasvoterprotection.org/voting-rights-for-individuals-experiencing-homelessness-in-texas/>.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes! Students have a choice about where to register to vote. Students attending college may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their permanent or home address. However, you can only be registered and vote in one location. For more information on how to vote in your specific state, check out <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/index.html#students>.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they don't register to vote in both locations. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different city or different state, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <https://www.vote.org/state/texas/> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition who require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires in-state residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved.-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>, <https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx> and <https://www.votetexas.gov/faq/index.html>)

It depends. If you moved within the same county where you are currently registered, you must file the new address information in writing with your voter registrar or you may submit the "in county" change online at <https://txapps.texas.gov/tolapp/sos/SOSACManager>. The last day to make a change of address that will be effective for the November 3, 2020, election is October 5, 2020. If you missed this deadline, you may return to your old precinct to vote if you still live in the same county. If you moved within the county, you will have to go back to the precinct in which you are currently registered. At that location you will be required to complete a "statement of residence" confirming your new address. This will update your registration information for the future. You will then be allowed to vote a regular ballot if you are otherwise eligible.

If you moved to a new county, you must re-register in your new county of residence by October 5, 2020, to be eligible to vote in the November 3, 2020, election. If you have moved to a new county and did not re-register in the new county by the October 5, 2020, deadline, you may be eligible to vote a limited ballot in your new county. A limited ballot means that you would be allowed to vote on any candidates and measures in common between your former and new county. This procedure is only available during the early voting period at the main early voting polling place; you may not vote a limited ballot on election day. You must be a current registered voter in your former county to qualify or you must have been registered in your old county at the time you submitted a voter registration application in your new county, if you have done so. For more information, go to <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/when.html#special-procedures-for-early-voting>.

If you think that you qualify to vote a limited ballot, it is recommended that you contact the office of the Early Voting Clerk in your new county, which can be found at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/county.shtml>. You can also learn more at <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/did-you-change-something.html>.

If you are homeless, you can list a shelter address or the address where you sleep most often, like a street corner or park address. Learn more about voting and homelessness from <https://texasvoterprotection.org/voting-rights-for-individuals-experiencing-homelessness-in-texas/>.

You can also find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, https://www.ncsl.org/Documents/Elections/The_Canvass_May_2016.pdf, and <https://www.votetexas.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Update-Your-Registraton.aspx>)

First, review the requirements for changing your registration at <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/did-you-change-something.html>. You may request a mail-in ballot at a different address by filling out the required form available at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/reqabbm.shtml>. Note that mail-in ballots are limited to only specific circumstances, so read the instructions carefully to ensure that you qualify. Your ballot must be mailed to your home where you live or to your mailing address on your voter registration certificate. There are some exceptions that allow you to have your ballot mailed to a different location, including if you are 65 or disabled, living in a nursing home, assisted living/retirement center, relative, or hospital, in jail, absent from the county, or have an address located outside of the county. Further details are available at <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/when.html#helpful-hints-on-voting-early-by-mail>, and the mail-in application is available at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/reqabbm.shtml>.

If there is not time to re-register or obtain a new mail-in ballot, consider checking with your county registrar to discuss your options. You can find contact information for your county registrar at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/votregduties.shtml>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>, <https://texaslawhelp.org/article/voting-texas-what-you-need-know>, and <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/you-must-register-by.html>)

In Texas, you are eligible to register to vote as long as you are: (1) a U.S. citizen; (2) a resident of the Texas county in which the application for registration is made; (3) at least 18 years old on Election Day; (4) not finally convicted of a felony, or, if so convicted must have (a) fully discharged the sentence, including any term of incarceration, parole, or supervision, or completed a period of probation ordered by any court, or (b) been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disability to vote; and (5) not determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be (a) totally mentally incapacitated, or (b) partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.

The registration deadline for the November 3, 2020, election in Texas is October 5, 2020, meaning that your Texas registration application must be received by the Voter Registrar's Office or postmarked by that date.

If you have missed the deadline, check out Rock the Vote's Election Center at <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/> for information on whether you can still vote in the state you moved from.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote> and <https://www.votetexas.gov/faq/index.html>)

In Texas, if you moved within the same county where you are currently registered, you must file the new address information in writing with your voter registrar or you may submit the "in county" change online. You must make this change before October 5, 2020, for it to be effective for the November 3, 2020, election. You can change your address here: <https://txapps.texas.gov/tolapp/sos/SOSACManager>.

If you missed the October 5, 2020, deadline but still live in the same county, you may return to your old precinct to vote. At that location you will be required to complete a "statement of residence" confirming your new address. This will act to update your registration information for the future. You will then be allowed to vote a regular ballot if you are otherwise eligible.

If you moved to a new county, you must re-register in your new county of residence by October 5, 2020, to be eligible to vote in the November 3, 2020, election. If you have moved to a new county and have not re-registered in the new county by the October 5, 2020, deadline, you may be eligible to vote a limited ballot in your new county. A limited ballot means that you would be allowed to vote on any candidates and measures in common between your former and new county. This procedure is only available during the early voting period at the main early voting polling place; you may not vote a limited ballot on election day. You must be a current registered voter in your former county to qualify or you must have been registered in your old county at the time you submitted a voter registration application in your new county, if you have done so. For additional information, check out (<https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/when.html#special-procedures-for-early-voting>). If you think you qualify to vote a limited ballot, it is recommended that you contact the office of the Early Voting Clerk in your new county, which can be found at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/county.shtml>. You can also learn more at <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/did-you-change-something.html>.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>)

First, review the requirements for changing your registration to update your new address at <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/did-you-change-something.html>. You can determine where in your county to vote by visiting <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/where.html>. There is no requirement that your address on your identification documents match your voter registration.

If you missed the deadline to change your registration to your new address but still live in the same county, you may return to your old precinct to vote. At that location you will be required to complete a "statement of residence" confirming your new address. This will act to update your registration information for the future. You will then be allowed to vote a regular ballot if you are otherwise eligible. Learn more about how to register following a move here: <https://www.votetexas.gov/faq/index.html>.

If you moved to a new county, you must re-register in your new county of residence by October 5, 2020, to be eligible to vote in the November 3, 2020, election. If you have moved to a new county and have not re-registered in the new county by the October 5, 2020, deadline, you may be eligible to vote a limited ballot in your new county. A limited ballot means that you would be allowed to vote on any candidates and measures in common between your former and new county. This procedure is only available during the early voting period at the main early voting polling place; you may not vote a limited ballot on election day. You must be a current registered voter in your former county to qualify or you must have been registered in your old county at the time you submitted a voter registration application in your new county, if you have done so. For additional information, check out (<https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/when.html#special-procedures-for-early-voting>). If you think you qualify to vote a limited ballot, it is recommended that you contact the office of the Early Voting Clerk in your new county, which can be found at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/county.shtml>. You can also learn more at <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/did-you-change-something.html>.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voter-id>)

Yes, if the ID is valid and has not expired more than 4 years prior to the day it is being presented (i.e. Election Day). Otherwise, you will need to present one of the following forms of identification: (a) Texas Driver License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), (b) Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS, (c) Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS, (d) Texas Handgun License issued by DPS, (e) United States Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph, (f) United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph, or (g) United States Passport (book or card). If you do not have one of these forms of identification, you may still be able to vote by providing other supporting forms of identification and/or an Election Identification Certificate from the DPS. More information regarding the required forms of identification and the alternatives to those forms is available at <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/need-id.html>.

My housing is changing and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>)

Depending on the date and location of your move, you may be qualified to receive a mail-in ballot at your current or new address. You may request a mail-in ballot at a different address by filling out the required form available at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/reqabbm.shtml>. Note that mail-in ballots are available only under limited circumstances, so read the instructions carefully to ensure that you qualify. Even if you are eligible to vote by mail-in ballot, if you do not know that you have

an acceptable location to receive a mail-in ballot, you might consider whether you can vote in person this election.

If you plan to vote in person on Election Day, your voting location may also depend on when and where you are moving. If you are moving within the same county where you are currently registered, you must file the new address information in writing with your voter registrar or you may submit the "in county" change online (available here:

<https://txapps.texas.gov/tolapp/sos/SOSACManager>). The last day to make a change of address that will be effective for the November 3, 2020, election is October 5, 2020. If you missed this deadline, you may return to your old precinct to vote if you still live in the same county. At that location, you will be required to complete a "statement of residence" confirming your new address. This will update your registration information for the future. You will then be allowed to vote a regular ballot if you are otherwise eligible. Learn more about registering following a move here <https://www.votetexas.gov/faq/index.html>.

If you are moving to a new county, you must re-register in your new county of residence by October 5, 2020, to be eligible to vote in the November 3, 2020, Election, unless you are eligible to vote a "limited ballot." If you have moved to a new county and did not re-register in the new county by the October 5, 2020, deadline, you may be eligible to vote a limited ballot in your new county. A limited ballot means that you would be allowed to vote on any candidates and measures in common between your former and new county. This procedure is only available during the early voting period at the main early voting polling place; you may NOT vote a limited ballot on election day. You must be a current registered voter in your former county to qualify or you must have been registered in your old county at the time you submitted a voter registration application in your new county, if you have done so. For full information on this procedure (including the by-mail option, if qualified to vote by mail), check out Special Forms of Early Voting (<https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/when.html#special-procedures-for-early-voting>). If you think you qualify to vote a limited ballot, it is recommended that you contact the office of the Early Voting Clerk in your new county, which can be found at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/county.shtml>. You can also learn more at <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/did-you-change-something.html>.

For more specific assistance, visit the Texas Secretary of State website at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/index.shtml>, or contact the Secretary of State's office by calling the toll-free number 1-800-252-VOTE (8683) or send you question(s) via email to elections@sos.texas.gov.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/documents/2015/07/faq-voter-registration-state.pdf/>)

Yes! Texas has an Address Confidentiality Program that enables survivors of domestic violence to register while maintaining the confidentiality of their address. More information regarding this program and how to apply for address protection is available at <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/crime-victims/services-crime-victims/address-confidentiality-program>.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you list a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must list a physical address. There is a section of the form to enter your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>)

Possibly. First, review the requirements for changing your registration at <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/did-you-change-something.html>. You may request a mail-in ballot at a different address by filling out the required form available at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/reqabbm.shtml>. Note that mail-in ballots are limited to only specific circumstances, so read the instructions carefully to ensure that you qualify. Your ballot must be mailed to your home where you live or to your mailing address on your voter registration certificate. There are some exceptions that allow you to have your ballot mailed to a different location, including if you are 65 or disabled, living in a nursing home, assisted living/retirement center, relative, or hospital, in jail, absent from the county, or have an address located outside of the county. More information is available at <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/when.html#helpful-hints-on-voting-early-by-mail>.

You can also contact your county registrar to ask about your options. To find your county registrar, check out <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/votregduties.shtml>.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail; how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/when.html#early-voting>)

Applications for mail-in ballots must be actually received by the early voting clerk (not just postmarked) no later than close of business on October 23, 2020. Note that in Texas, you can only vote by mail if you will be outside your county on Election day and during early voting; you are sick or have a disability; you are 65 or older; or you are in jail but otherwise eligible to vote.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to ask about your options. If it's not too late, some states may mail you a replacement ballot. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot,

your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. If it's not too late, some states may mail you a replacement ballot. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

If you don't have stamps, don't worry! You can drop off your ballot in person at the County Clerk's Office on Election Day with an acceptable form of ID, or you can drop it off in a County Drop Box.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx> and <https://www.texastribune.org/2020/09/08/texas-mail-in-voting-lawsuit/>)

In Texas, absentee ballot carrier envelopes contain a certificate that must be signed by the voter. A signature verification committee compares the signature on the envelope with the signature on the voter's ballot application or voter registration application to determine whether they match. The committee may also compare the signatures with signatures from the preceding six years that are on file with the county clerk or voter registrar.

Texas does not currently notify voters if their mail-in ballots are rejected by the signature verification committee. You can contact your local election official to ask about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

If you miss the date to mail your ballot back, it's not too late! You can drop off your ballot in person at the County Clerk's Office on Election Day with an acceptable form of ID, or you can drop it off in a County Drop Box.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

You can drop off your ballot in person at the County Clerk's Office on Election Day with an acceptable form of ID, or you can drop it off in a County Drop Box.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

No, polling locations in Texas do not accept mail-in ballots. You can drop off your ballot in person at the County Clerk's Office on Election Day with an acceptable form of ID, or you can drop it off in a County Drop Box.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://votetravis.com/vexpress/submit.do>)

It depends. Some counties in Texas let you track your ballot while others do not. Check with your county clerk to see what the policy is in the county that you are voting in. Texas also offers ballot tracking for military and overseas voters. Military and overseas voters can track their ballots at <https://webservices.sos.state.tx.us/FPCA/index.aspx>.

Voting Early In Person**What hours and days can I vote early in person?**

Texas offers early, in-person voting from October 13, 2020, to October 30, 2020. Hours and locations may vary depending on where you live. For more information about polling locations, you can visit <https://www.votetexas.gov/mobile/voting/where.htm>.

Other Early Voting Questions**What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received.)**

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx> and <https://www.harrisvotes.com/FAQ#BallotByMailFAQ>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. If you've submitted your mail-in ballot, you cannot vote in person. However, if you have not sent in your mail-in ballot, you can either go to

a polling place in person and surrender your mail-in ballot for a regular ballot, or you can vote in person using a provisional ballot.

If you're still not sure, contact your local election official's office to ask about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

Texas does not currently notify voters if their mail-in ballots are rejected for signature discrepancies. You can contact your local election official to ask about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local election official's office to request a replacement. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From [https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/State_Poll_Opening_and_Closing_Times_(2020)))

The hours of voting on election day are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you are voting early in Texas, the hours your poll place is open may vary. For more information about polling locations, you can visit <https://www.votetexas.gov/mobile/voting/where.htm>.

My normal polling place is closed; what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/county.shtml/>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Texas's "Am I Registered?" website available at <https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do> to confirm that you are registered to vote and to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm your vote was counted.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/>)

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Texas requires polling places to be accessible to voters with disabilities (this includes ramps, doors that open at least 36 inches, accessible voting systems, and more). If you are unable to

enter the polling location, you can request curbside voting, where an election official brings a ballot to you at the entrance or in your car. Curbside voting is generally available during the early voting period, but it's a good idea to call ahead.

Voters may be assisted by a person of their choice other than their employer, an agent of their employer, or an officer or agent of their union. Voters may also use an interpreter to assist them in communicating with election officials or with translating their ballot.

For more information, check out <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/>.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/>)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union). Voters who communicate using sign language or who do not speak English may also use an interpreter to assist them in communicating with election officials or with translating the ballot. For more information, check out <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/>.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/>)

Yes! You can either: (1) request assistance from workers at the polling place; or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union).

The person assisting you must read you the entire ballot, unless you ask them to read only part of the ballot to you. The person assisting you must take an oath that he or she will not try to influence your vote and will mark the ballot as you direct. Poll watchers may observe if an election official assists you, but no one may observe if you are assisted by a person you chose.

For more information, check out <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/>.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

(From <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/>)

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

You may bring a person of your choice to help you communicate with election officials or to translate the ballot (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union).

The person assisting you must read you the entire ballot, unless you ask them to read only part of the ballot to you. The person assisting you must take an oath that he or she will not try to influence your vote and will mark the ballot as you direct. Poll watchers may observe if an election official assists you, but no one may observe if you are assisted by a person you chose.

The Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections> is another helpful resource. It which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

For more information, check out <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/>.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>)

No. In Texas, a completed ballot must be submitted in the official carrier envelope, which can be placed inside another envelope and must be delivered only by mail, common or contract carrier, or hand-delivered by the voter who voted the ballot.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or

the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/laws/electronic-voting-system-procedures.shtml>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>. You can also read about the procedures Texas requires for voting systems at <https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/laws/electronic-voting-system-procedures.shtml>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Vermont Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I do not have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>, <https://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-and-homelessness/> and <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs/#q26>)

Yes. When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and mail any election materials. Homeless registrants can list a shelter address or can include the address where they sleep most often and consider their principle dwelling place, like a street corner or park address.

Therefore, if you are homeless you may register to vote in the town, and in the district within a town, that includes the place that you consider your principal dwelling place. The definition of residency applies in the same way to someone who is homeless as it does to persons who own or rent their principal dwelling place. For purposes of voter registration in Vermont, residency or resident shall mean a person who is domiciled in the town as evidenced by an intent to maintain a principal dwelling place in the town indefinitely and to return there if temporarily absent, coupled with an act or acts consistent with that intent.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs/#q20>, <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Vermont>, and <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

Yes. Any U.S. citizen who is 18 years old and who lives in Vermont can vote in Vermont if the voter considers Vermont to be their primary residence, including residence at school or college.

You have the right to register to vote at your school address, and this includes a dorm room. Any student living in a dorm is entitled to the same rights as any other student. To imply otherwise is illegal. If you live in a dormitory or other institution you must include the dormitory or building name and room number, not just a box number, because the campus may be split between more than one district. If you receive mail

in a post office box, you can sign an affidavit (or, in some cases, get a letter from your college's Residential Life office) asserting that you live at your dorm address.

Note that students have a choice about where to register to vote. Students attending college may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their permanent or home address. You may only be registered and vote in one location.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>)

Students have a choice about where to register to vote. College students have dual residency and can therefore register at their permanent home address or at their campus address, as long as they only register to vote in one location. If you decide to re-register to vote in a different state than Vermont, check out Vote.org's voter registration deadlines at <http://vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines> to make sure there is still time to register. If you register to vote back home and are at school, you may need to request an absentee ballot.

Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires Vermont residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs/#q21> and <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>)

You should use your new current address for voting purposes. As soon as you move to Vermont or move within Vermont, you can vote at your new address if the new Vermont address is your primary residence. You must reside in the town or city where you register to vote. For purposes of voter registration in Vermont, residency or resident shall mean a person who is domiciled in the town as evidenced by an intent to maintain a principal dwelling place in the town indefinitely and to return there if temporarily absent, coupled with an act or acts consistent with that intent.

If you move within your town, to a new town, or change your name, please notify your town or city clerk immediately, as it is your responsibility to keep your name and address current. For more information, check with your local Vermont election official at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/town-clerks/>.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs/#q3>, <https://howto.vote/vote/en/vt.html>)

You should register to vote at your new address. In Vermont, you may register to vote on any day up to and including the day of the election. Registration is available during all normal business hours of your town or city clerk's office on days preceding the election and during polling hours on Election Day. You may also register to vote in Vermont using the online form available at <https://olvr.vermont.gov/>.

Whether you register online or use a paper voter registration application, the town clerk will review your application. If the town clerk finds that you meet the eligibility requirements you will be added to the checklist and become a registered voter. The town clerk will notify you in writing whether or not your application has been approved. If you have not received notification by the week of the election, call your town clerk. Further, if you move within your town, to a new town, or change your name, please notify your town or city clerk immediately, as it is your responsibility to keep your name and address current. You may find your local Vermont town clerk's contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/town-clerks/>.

I just moved to Vermont or a new area of Vermont last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs/#q21> and <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>)

As soon as you move to or move within Vermont, you should vote at your new address if the new Vermont address is your primary residence. You must reside in the town or city where you register to vote. For purposes of voter registration in Vermont, residency or resident shall mean a person who is domiciled in the town as evidenced by an intent to maintain a principal dwelling place in the town indefinitely and to return there if temporarily absent, coupled with an act or acts consistent with that intent.

If you move within your town or change your name, please notify your town or city clerk immediately, as it is your responsibility to keep your name and address current. For more information, check with your local Vermont election official at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/town-clerks/>.

I had to move recently but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote? Can I use my old ID to vote at my new address?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs/#q3>, <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/registration/>, <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote>, <https://olvr.vermont.gov/>, <https://howto.vote/register/en/vt.html>)

You should vote at your new current address. You will need identification indicating your new address if it is your first time registering to vote in Vermont but not if you have previously registered to vote in Vermont. You must reside in the town or city where you register to vote, and therefore you should register to vote using your new current address. For purposes of voter registration in Vermont, residency or resident shall mean a person who is domiciled in the town as evidenced by an intent to maintain a principal dwelling place in the town indefinitely and to return there if temporarily absent, coupled with an act or acts consistent with that intent.

You will need to obtain identification indicating your new address if you are registering to vote in Vermont for the first time by mail or online. To register to vote for the first time by mail or online in Vermont, you must include a photocopy of an acceptable form of ID, where acceptable forms of ID are: valid photo ID (driver's license or passport), current utility bill, current bank statement, or another government document. However, you do not need to provide an ID to vote if you have previously registered to vote in Vermont; instead, you may Vermont driver's license number, or if none, the last 4 digits of your Social Security number, and if you do not have a Vermont driver's license or a Social Security number, the Secretary of State's office will assign you a unique identifying number.

If your name or address should change, please notify your town or city clerk immediately, as it is your responsibility to keep your name and address current. You may find your local Vermont town clerk's contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/town-clerks/>. If your mailing address is different than your dwelling place location address it is important to provide the mailing address so that the town clerk knows where to send the notification that you have been added to the checklist. The mailing address will also be used to deliver any absentee ballots that a voter may request. A phone number is also important so that the town clerk can call you if there is a need to clarify any information on the application.

If you register online the day before the election or on Election Day, your voter registration application may not be processed and your name may not appear on the checklist and you may be asked to fill out another application at the polls. To be sure your name appears on the checklist, please register by the Friday before the election.

Other

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs/#q30>)

Vermont provides the Safe at Home program that allows anonymity to the applicant. Each Safe at Home participant is granted the use of a Montpelier Post Office box address. The substitute address has no relation to the participant's actual address. All participants use the same post office box as designated by the program. First-class mail and service of process is sent to the post office box and then forwarded, at no cost, to the participant's actual location.

Interested applicants may apply for program participation at a local domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking program office, or through a statewide victim advocate office. More information on the Safe at Home program is available at <https://sos.vermont.gov/secretary-of-state-services/safe-at-home/>.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address?

(From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>, <https://www.rockthevote.org/registration/instructions/vt-en/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a post office box (P.O. Box) as your physical address (your physical address is your home address, which is your principal dwelling for residency purposes). Do not use a post office box or rural route without a box number. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the voter registration form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>, <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/> and <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs#q21>)

Call your local election official's office for guidance. You can find state-by-state contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office> and contact information for Vermont at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/town-clerks/>.

If you move within Vermont, you will need to update your voter registration. If you move permanently to another state, you will need to register to vote in that state. In

some states, including Vermont, you may be eligible to register to vote in the new state immediately upon moving. In others, you may need to wait a certain number of days before you register to vote in the next election, and the registration deadline could be as far in advance as a month before Election Day or as close as the same day as Election Day. If you are able to register in time, you may be able to vote at your local polling site. Check out the U.S. Vote Foundation's Election Dates & Deadlines at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm> for more information. Note that voting twice in federal elections is illegal under federal law and most state laws.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

Due to Covid-19, all registered voters in Vermont will automatically receive absentee/vote-by-mail ballots. Ballots will be mailed to all active registered voters starting Friday, September 18. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/about/covid-19-response/>).

If you do not receive your early voter absentee within a reasonable time, you may apply to the town clerk for a duplicate ballot. A sworn statement affirming that you have not received the original ballot or that the ballot was lost must accompany the application. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/absentee-voting-faqs/#q1>).

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options. If it's not too late, you can request a replacement ballot. A signed affidavit for lost or undelivered absentee ballot must accompany the request. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, you may vote in person. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/absentee-voting-faqs/#q1>).

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>.

Keep in mind that federal laws and Vermont state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. Voting someone else's ballot is illegal and punishable by significant fines and prison time. If someone may have stolen your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

(<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/#q19>).

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

Contact your town clerk for a replacement ballot. Clerks keep track of ballots received and will ensure each voter votes only once. Reminder: it is illegal to cast more than one ballot. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/>).

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you have made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, you may return the spoiled ballot by mail or in person to the town clerk and receive another ballot. A voter may receive up to three ballots. A person can spoil two ballots and still vote. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/early-absentee-voting/>).

What if I do not have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

An envelope with pre-paid postage will be provided to you along with your ballot. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/about/covid-19-response/>).

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I do not know what signature I used to register?

Absentee voters must sign the certificate on the outside of the envelope for the ballot to be valid. Election officials determine that the certificate has been properly completed and signed before counting the ballot. If the certificate is not signed it is marked as "defective" and not counted. (<https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>).

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

It is recommended that you place your ballot in the mail 7-10 days before election day and advise you get yours in the mail no later than October 24th. After that, you can

drop off your ballot to your town clerk in person or deliver it to the polls by 7 p.m. on election day. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/#q6>).

If you miss the October 24th date for mailing in your ballot and do not drop off your ballot, you may still vote in person. A voter who has received an early voter absentee ballot can change his or her mind and vote at the polls on Election Day. To be eligible to do this the voter must bring in the early voter absentee ballot as well as the envelope and any other voting materials received. The presiding officer shall return the unused early voter absentee ballots and envelope to the town clerk, who shall make a record of their return on the list of early or absentee voters and treat them as spoiled or unused ballots. A voter who has returned a voted early voter absentee ballot cannot change his or her mind and vote at the polls. Even if that ballot has not yet been counted, it is considered a voted ballot and cannot be retracted.

(<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/absentee-voting-faqs/#q5>).

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

You can drop off your ballot at any time up until 7 p.m. on election day. Many clerks have ballot drop boxes. Contact your local clerk for drop box and ballot return options during office hours in your town. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/#q7>).

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

You must return your ballot to a polling location within the same city or town in which you are registered. You may drop your ballot off at your local election office or your local polling place. (<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>; <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/#q5>).

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Yes! You can track the status of your ballot by logging into <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. The ballot status will show Received and the clerk will check your name off of the checklist to indicate you have voted. All ballots received by 7 p.m. on Election Day will be counted. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/#q24>).

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

Vermont does not have early in-person voting. However, Vermont does allow you to return your absentee ballot in person early. However, early or absentee voter ballots must be returned to the town clerk's office before the close of business on the day before the election (be sure to check your town clerk's hours) or to the polling place by 7 p.m. on Election Day. The ballots may be returned by mail or in person, unless the ballots were delivered by justices of the peace who would then return them to the town clerk. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/early-absentee-voting/>).

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received).

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, a Vermont voter who has received an early voter absentee ballot can change his or her mind and vote at the polls on Election Day. To be eligible to do this the voter must bring in the early voter absentee ballot as well as the envelope and any other voting materials received. The presiding officer shall return the unused early voter absentee ballots and envelope to the town clerk, who shall make a record of their return on the list of early or absentee voters and treat them as spoiled or unused ballots. A voter who has returned a voted early voter absentee ballot cannot change his or her mind and vote at the polls. Even if that ballot has not yet been counted, it is considered a voted ballot and cannot be retracted. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/absentee-voting-faqs/#q5>).

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

Vermont does not notify voters if there is a problem with their ballot. Your ballot will only be defective if you do not follow the instructions. Vote your ballot carefully and follow all instructions. Do not vote for more candidates than you are allowed to in any given race - that is called an overvote and your votes in that race will not count. The rest of your ballot is still valid. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/#q17>).

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, you may return the spoiled ballot by mail or in person to the town clerk and receive another ballot. A voter may receive up to three ballots. A person can spoil two ballots and still vote. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/early-absentee-voting/>).

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved within your state and need to update your mailing address, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible. You will be required to re-register to vote in your new town. Eligible persons may register to vote on any day up to and including the day of the election. You may also register to vote online at <https://olvr.vermont.gov/>. (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/voter-registration-faqs/#q3>).

Registration is available during all normal business hours of your town or city clerk's office on days preceding the election and during polling hours on Election Day.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/election-day-faqs/#q2>)

Polls open between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m., depending upon the town. All polling places close at 7 p.m. You can find your local polling place by logging on to the "My Voter Page" located at <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. You may also use an interactive map to find your local polling place by going to <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/polling-places/>.

My normal polling place is closed; what should I do?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/election-day-faqs/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by logging on to the "My Voter Page" located at <https://mvp.vermont.gov/> or finding your town on the interactive map

by going to <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/polling-places/>. Polling places for annual and special local elections are often in different locations than those for the primary and general elections. Additionally, some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find their contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/media/vh1jv3oj/2019townclerkguide.pdf>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/voter-faqs/election-day-faqs/#q13>)

Use of provisional ballots in Vermont is very rare. A person who is not on the checklist but asserts they submitted an application prior to the deadline is provided an affidavit to swear to that fact. If they are willing to do so under the penalty of perjury, they are allowed to vote.

If for any reason your name is not on the voter registration list when you arrive at the polls, you can simply fill out a registration form and vote that day. Vermont has same day voter registration.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote through the provisional ballot was counted.

What if I do not have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. As long as you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you

believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/accessible-voting/>.)

If you are sick or have a disability, a ballot may be delivered to your home on Election Day. Two justices of the peace (of different parties when possible) will deliver a ballot to you, and then will bring the ballot back to the polling place so that it can be placed in the ballot box and counted. For more information, contact your local election official: <https://sos.vermont.gov/media/vh1jv3oj/2019townclerkguide.pdf>.

There are also many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

If you are able to make it to the polling location, Vermont offers "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/accessible-voting/>.)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union). You may also ask an election official for assistance with marking your voter registration or ballot.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/accessible-voting/>.)

Yes! You may either: (1) seek assistance from election official at the polling place, or (2) bring someone to help you vote (other than your employer or your agent or an officer or agent of your union). You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker.

Vermont also offers an accessible voting system called the “OmniBallot Tablet” that is a voting machine that provides assistive technology such as headphones and a screen reader, an 8 key navigation pad, toggle switches, and a touch screen for you to choose from for accessibility. The OmbiBallot Tablet should be available at all polling places.

To request the OmniBallot Tablet: (1) go into the polling place; (2) at the check-in table, give your name, and if asked, your residence; and (3) ask to use the accessible voting system and the polling place official will guide you through the process.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official’s contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/media/vh1jv3oj/2019townclerkguide.pdf>.

Also, look up the Voter’s Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check

in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx>)

Yes! Vermont does not have any law limiting who may return a ballot.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find their contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/media/vh1jv3oj/2019townclerkguide.pdf>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states->

[attorney](#)), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid will not make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/town-clerks/election-supplies/>)

All towns in Vermont that use tabulators use the Accuvote Optical Scanner. These machines require a paper ballot, completed by the voter, to be fed through and read by the machine. The paper ballots are stored in a container attached to the tabulator for use in either a recount or audit of the results reported by the machines. Vermont law requires the use of a paper ballot in all elections that occur by ballot and prohibits the use of any voting machine that records votes directly without a paper ballot. You can learn more about the technology and the process at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/town-clerks/election-supplies/>.

You can also learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find their contact information at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone, LLP are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Washington Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/washington#eligibility-requirements>)

Yes! You will need to provide a residence address and a mailing address when you register to vote. Voters who lack a traditional residence may use the place where they currently sleep at night or spend most of their time. A mailing address could be a General Delivery address or, if permission is granted, the address of a shelter or a friend or a relative.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/voters-away-at-college.aspx>)

Yes! As long as you have lived in the state for at least 30 days and have established a residential address, you may register to vote in Washington.

Your residential address determines which candidates and measures will be on your ballot. This must be a Washington address that you consider home. If you live on campus and provide a campus address as your residential address, be sure to list your dormitory and room number; a P.O. Box is not a residential address. Please note that Washington residency requirements for voting are not the same as residency for in-state tuition purposes.

Your mailing address is where your ballot will be mailed. It does not impact the ballot measures and candidates that will appear on your ballot. Your ballot can be sent to you anywhere in the world. For example, you may list your parents' home as your mailing address, but your dorm and room number from college as your residential address.

As a student, you probably change your address more frequently than the average voter. Remember to update your voter registration every time you move. You can update your address online, by mail, or in person (see link above). Please note that you may only vote in one state. If you are previously registered in another state, cancel your registration in that state when you register in Washington.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://help.vote.org/article/17-i-am-a-college-student-should-i-register-at-home-or-where-i-go-to-school> and <https://howto.vote/vote/en/wa.html>)

College students have dual residency and can therefore register back home or on campus as long as they don't register to vote in both states. Even if you are living outside of Washington, you will retain your residency if you are attending college or any institution of learning. You may maintain your voter registration in Washington until you register to vote elsewhere.

If you decide to re-register to vote in Washington, you must do so online before Monday, October 26, 2020. Register to vote in person during business hours and any time before 8 p.m. on Election Day. Students with scholarships or tuition that require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home.

Washington conducts elections in person and by mail. Voters registered in Washington can look up where to vote here: <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>. The early voting period begins Friday, October 16, 2020, and runs to Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2020. All registered voters should expect to receive a ballot at their designated mailing address. You can return your ballot by mail or find a drop box at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/residency-requirements.aspx>)

Yes. If you move or are temporarily away, you may maintain your voter registration at that address until you register to vote elsewhere.

I got evicted but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>)

Contact your county elections office to determine the best way to receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

I just moved to a new state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/residency-requirements.aspx>; <https://howto.vote/vote/en/wa.html>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id.aspx>)

Most Washington voters now vote by mail. However, county auditors are required to open at least one vote center where voters can cast a ballot in person.

If you moved to a state other than Washington, you may maintain your voter registration in Washington until you register to vote elsewhere. If you are living outside of Washington, you will retain your residency if you are:

- An employee in the civil or military service of the state or of the United States;
- Living overseas;
- Attending college or any institution of learning; or
- Confined in any public prison.

If you are new to Washington and wish to register to vote in Washington, you must be a resident of the state and establish your voting residency address at least 30 days before

Election Day. You must register to vote online before Monday, October 26, 2020, but may also register to vote in person during business hours and any time before 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Washington conducts elections in person and by mail. Voters registered in Washington can look up where to vote here: <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>. The early voting period begins Friday, October 16, 2020, and runs to Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2020. All registered voters should expect to receive a ballot at their designated mailing address. You can return your ballot by mail or find a drop box at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

I just moved to a new area of my state last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>; <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id.aspx>)

Most Washington voters now vote by mail. However, county auditors are required to open at least one vote center where voters can cast a ballot in person. Registered voters can look up where to vote here: <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

If you move or are temporarily away, you may maintain your voter registration at that address until you register to vote elsewhere. Registered voters can look up where to vote here: <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

Contact your county elections office in your new county to determine the best way to update your voter registration and receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

I had to move recently, but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/residency-requirements.aspx>; <https://www.vote411.org/washington#id-needed-for-voting>)

Most Washington voters now vote by mail. However, county auditors are required to open at least one vote center where voters can cast a ballot in person. Registered voters can look up where to vote here: <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

If you move or are temporarily away, you may maintain your voter registration at that address until you register to vote elsewhere. Identification is only required in Washington if you use an audiovisual unit at a voting center. Acceptable forms of ID for voting include:

- Photo ID, such as a driver's license, state ID card, student ID card, or tribal ID card;
- Voter registration card;
- Utility bill;
- Bank statement;
- Paycheck;
- Government check; or

- Other government document.

A voter who does not have an ID may vote with a provisional ballot.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/residency-requirements.aspx>; <https://www.vote411.org/washington#id-needed-for-voting>)

Most Washington voters now vote by mail. However, county auditors are required to open at least one vote center where voters can cast a ballot in person. Registered voters can look up where to vote here: <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

If you move or are temporarily away, you may maintain your voter registration at that address until you register to vote elsewhere. Identification is only required in Washington if you use an audiovisual unit at a voting center. Acceptable forms of ID for voting include:

- Photo ID, such as a driver's license, state ID card, student ID card, or tribal ID card;
- Voter registration card;
- Utility bill;
- Bank statement;
- Paycheck;
- Government check; or
- Other government document.

A voter who does not have an ID may vote with a provisional ballot.

My housing is changing and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>)

Contact your county elections office in your new county to determine the best way to update your voter registration and receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/acp/about.aspx>; <https://www.sos.wa.gov/acp/apply.aspx>);

Yes. Washington's Address Confidentiality Program enables survivors of domestic violence to register while maintaining the confidentiality of their address. The ACP assigns a P.O. Box address to participants enrolled in the program. This substitute address is used instead of a

person's home, work or school address. Government agencies with city, county and state are legally required to accept the substitute address.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/voting-faqs/>)

No. Your form will not be processed if you put a P.O. Box as your permanent address. For districting purposes, you must put a physical address. There is a section of the form to put your mailing address, in addition to your physical address.

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>)

Contact your county elections office in your new county to determine the best way to update your voter registration and receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail, how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://howto.vote/vote/en/wa.html>)

All registered voters should expect to receive a ballot at their designated mailing address. You can return your ballot by mail or find a drop box at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>)

Contact your county elections office to determine the best way to receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>)

Contact your county elections office to determine the best way to receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>)

Contact your county elections office in your new county to determine the best way to receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://www.king5.com/article/news/politics/elections/usps-election-ballots-mailer/281-d329ebb6-0799-40ae-9356-5e108e3df90b>; <https://howto.vote/vote/en/wa.html>)

In Washington, all ballots include prepaid postage and voters do not need to add a stamp. You can return your ballot by mail or find a drop box at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx>)

All Washington voters must sign a declaration on the return envelope declaring that the voter meets the qualifications to vote and has not voted in any other jurisdiction during this election. The signature on the oath is matched to the signature in registration records.

A variation between the signature of the voter on the ballot declaration and the signature of that voter in the registration files due to the substitution of initials or the use of common nicknames is permitted so long as the surname and handwriting are clearly the same. If the voter neglects to sign the ballot declaration, he or she must be informed by first class mail and advised of the correct procedure. If the handwriting doesn't match, the voter is notified and advised of the procedures for updating his or her signature on the voter registration file.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-11-receipt-and-postmark-deadlines-for-absentee-ballots.aspx>)

Return mail-in ballots must be post-marked on or before Election Day. The state does accept post-marked ballots that arrive after Election Day.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://howto.vote/vote/en/wa.html>)

In Washington, all voters can return their ballots by mail or find a drop box at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-11-receipt-and-postmark-deadlines-for-absentee-ballots.aspx>; <https://howto.vote/vote/en/wa.html>)

In Washington, all voters can return their ballots by mail or find a drop box at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>. Return mail-in ballots must be post-marked on or before Election Day. The state does accept post-marked ballots that arrive after Election Day.

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

(From <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>)

Yes! Check out MyVote at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

Voting Early In-Person

What hours and days can I vote early in-person?

(From www.vote411.org/washington#polling-place-locator)

Even though Washington is a vote by mail state, you can still vote in person on or before Election Day. Each county will have a voting center, which will be open during business hours beginning 18 days before the election and ending at 8 p.m. on Election Day. You can find your voting center at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but I want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received).

(From <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, in Washington, you can check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>)

Washington will notify voters by mail of rejected ballots due to missing/mismatching signature statements. The voter must sign and return a curing statement before election certification (21 days after Election Day). Three days before certification, county auditors must attempt to contact by phone any voters with outstanding ballots to be cured.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>)

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your county elections office to determine the best way to receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://www.vote411.org/washington>)

Washington is a mail-in ballot state. However, you can still vote in person on or before Election Day. Each county has a voting center, which will be open beginning 18 days before the election and ending at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Your county's voting center can be found here: <https://www.vote411.org/washington#polling-place-locator>. If you plan to vote in person, you should check with your county's voting center to see what time it opens as this varies.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

Each county in Washington has a voting center. You can find your county's voting center at <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/current-election-information.aspx>).

Do everything you can to vote with a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes and Washington offers same-day registration services if you did not register to vote before election day.

If you are registered and at the right voting center but are asked to vote with a provisional ballot, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If, by last resort, you must complete a provisional ballot at a Washington voting center, ask for written instructions about what you must do to make sure your provisional ballot is counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted or visit <https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx#/login>.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Most Washington voters vote by mail. But if you vote in person and do not have enough time to wait in line to vote at your polling place, you should stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but as long as you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line and at your county's voting center when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions

What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability? (From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/voters-with-disabilities.aspx>)

Most Washington voters now vote by mail which you can do from home. If you choose to vote in person at a voting center in Washington, as a voter with a disability, you can request a reasonable accommodation or assistance to vote. Voting centers must meet all of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Washington offers "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car! If you want to use this method of voting, you should call the Elections Division at 360-902-4180 between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on any weekday to let them know you need assistance with curbside voting.

Each voting center in Washington is required to have an Accessible Voting Unit (AVU) available. AVUs are wheelchair-accessible and present your ballot to you on a screen. Choices are selected by touching the screen, using a select wheel, or by using a tool. You can also use headphones to listen to the text and prompts that appear on your ballot.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. You can also contact your county elections department or the Office of the Secretary of State's Elections Division at (800) 448- 4881. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/voters-with-disabilities.aspx>)

Yes! Washington voters who are unable to cast a vote due to a disability may designate a person of their choice, or two election officers, to enter the voting booth and record their votes.

You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

Each voting center in Washington is required to have an Accessible Voting Unit (AVU) available. AVUs are wheelchair-accessible and present your ballot to you on a screen. Choices are selected by touching the screen, using a select wheel, or by using a tool. You can also use headphones to listen to the text and prompts that appear on your ballot.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/voters-with-disabilities.aspx>)

Yes! Washington voters who are unable to cast a vote due to a disability may designate a person of their choice, or two election officers, to enter the voting booth and record their votes.

You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

The Washington Voters' Pamphlet is available in many languages, including Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese and may be accessed at <https://voter.votewa.gov/genericvoterguide.aspx?e=866&c=99#/>.

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

Most Washington voters vote by mail, so you do not need to have your ballot dropped off at a voting center. If you choose to return your ballot in person, you may contact your local election office for further information. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/faq_vote_by_mail.aspx and <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

In Washington, most voters vote by mail. Your county elections department follows the following process to ensure the integrity of this voting system:

1. Your signature on the outer return envelope is checked against the signature on file in your voter registration record to make sure they match.
2. You are credited for voting in that election. This ensures that only one ballot from each voter is counted.
3. The outer return envelope, which identifies you, is then separated from the inner security envelope, which contains your voted ballot. Your ballot cannot be traced back to you, ensuring the secrecy of your vote.
4. All ballots are inspected to make sure the tabulating machine will be able to read all votes. Tabulation equipment is tested before every election to make sure it is working accurately.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-United-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/general-election-faqs.aspx>)

Most Washington residents vote by mail. The State of Washington has many protections in place to ensure the integrity of its voting process. These include testing at the federal, state, and county levels as well as post-election audits to ensure systems are secure.

Your county elections department follows the following process when counting ballots to ensure the secrecy and accuracy of your vote:

1. Your signature on the outer return envelope is checked against the signature on file in your voter registration record to make sure they match.
2. You are credited for voting in that election. This ensures that only one ballot from each voter is counted.
3. The outer return envelope, which identifies you, is then separated from the inner security envelope, which contains your voted ballot. Your ballot cannot be traced back to you, ensuring the secrecy of your vote.
4. All ballots are inspected to make sure the tabulating machine will be able to read all votes. Tabulation equipment is tested before every election to make sure it is working accurately.

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

West Virginia Voting FAQ

Fluid Housing Situations:

Homelessness

Can I vote if I don't have a home address or am experiencing homelessness?

(From <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

Yes, if you live in the county where you wish to vote. When you register to vote, you will need to provide an address, which is used to assign your voting districts and to send any election mail. Homeless registrants can list the address of a shelter, assistance center or family member.

College Students

I am a student. Can I vote at my school address?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/west-virginia>)

Yes! Students have a choice in where to register to vote. You can choose to register at your school address or register at your home/permanent address. You can only be registered and vote in one location.

I am registered at my school address, but I recently got sent home because of the pandemic (or I am registered at home but I'm now at school). Where can I vote?

(From <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/west-virginia>)

Students have a choice about where to register to vote. You can choose to register at your school address or register at your home/permanent address. You can only be registered and vote in one location.

Students with scholarships or tuition who require residency should check with their financial aid office before registering to vote back home. For example, if you have a scholarship that requires West Virginia residency, you should ensure that registering to vote in a different state will not affect your status.

For more information, check out CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting FAQs at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/student-voting-faqs>, CampusVoteProject.org's Voting Guide for West Virginia at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/west-virginia> and CampusVoteProject.org's Student Voting Guides at <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides>.

Recently Moved or Evicted

I just got evicted, so my home address is no longer accurate. Can I still vote using that address?

(From <https://justfacts.votesmart.org/elections/voter-registration/WV> and <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

It depends. You must reside at your registered legal address for at least 30 days before the election to be considered eligible to vote in West Virginia. You may update your information online or by mail, fill out another Voter Registration Application at your County Clerk's office or other voter registration location. If you update your voter registration, you must do so 21 days before the election. You can find out how to update your information at <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>. If you have moved out of state, you should check with your local election office about registering to vote and voting after a recent move.

I got evicted, but I think my mail-in ballot is still being sent to that address. What should I do?

(From <https://justfacts.votesmart.org/elections/voter-registration/WV>, <http://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting>, <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx> and <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/west-virginia/>)

Residency rules may depend on where you were evicted from and where you have relocated to, and whether your relocation is temporary or if you intend to establish permanent residency where you have relocated. Call both your old and new local election official's offices to explain your situation and inquire about your options and next steps. You can find your West Virginia county clerk's contact information at <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/CountyClerkDirectory.aspx>. If you moved to or from another state, you can find your local election officials' contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

The state of West Virginia requires that voters

- (1) be at least 18 years old before the next general election;
- (2) be a U.S. citizen;
- (3) reside at their registered legal address for at least 30 days before the election to be eligible to vote;
- (4) not be ruled mentally incompetent by a court of law; and
- (5) not be under conviction, probation or parole for any felony although if a person has completed his or her sentence, they may register to vote again.

For more information about requirements to vote in West Virginia, please see <https://justfacts.votesmart.org/elections/voter-registration/WV>.

If you have relocated within West Virginia, you must reside at your registered legal address for at least 30 days before the election (i.e. you must live at the new address no later than

October 4, 2020) to be considered eligible to vote in West Virginia. You may file a new application or update your information online or by mail or fill out another Voter Registration Application at your County Clerk's office or other voter registration location. If you file or update your voter registration, you must do so 21 days before the election (i.e. by October 13, 2020). You can find out how to update your information at <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>. To register to vote or update your voter registration online, please visit <https://ovr.sos.wv.gov/Register/Landing#Qualifications>

In West Virginia, the terms **vote by mail**, **absentee voting** and **absentee voting by mail** refer to the same process. Voters can typically only vote absentee in West Virginia with an approved excuse. COVID-19 and concerns about the pandemic are considered an approved excuse. This year you can vote by mail, but you will have to request a ballot. To request an absentee ballot in West Virginia, submit an application online through the application portal, or submit a paper application to your county clerk via fax, U.S. mail, email, or hand delivery. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is October 28, 2020 and the deadline to hand deliver the completed absentee ballot is November 2, 2020. Check out Rock The Vote's Guide to Absentee Voting Rules at <http://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/> to find the rules and deadlines for voting by mail in West Virginia. If there is insufficient time to receive a mail-in ballot by mail, you may still be eligible to vote in person.

I just moved to West Virginia last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

If you moved to West Virginia, you must reside at your registered legal address in West Virginia for at least 30 days before the election (i.e. you must live at the new address no later than October 4, 2020) to be considered eligible to vote in West Virginia. You may register to vote online, by mail, or in person at your county clerk's office, the secretary of state's office, the division of motor vehicles, public assistance offices, agencies who serve people with disabilities, marriage license offices or military recruiting agencies. The voter registration deadline in West Virginia is 21 days before the election (October 13, 2020). For further information, please visit <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>

I just moved to a new area of West Virginia last minute. Where should I vote?

(From <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

In West Virginia, you must reside at your registered legal address for at least 30 days before the election (i.e. you must live at the new address no later than October 4, 2020) to be considered eligible to vote in that part of West Virginia and you must register to vote or update your voting information 21 days before the election (i.e. by October 13, 2020).

I had to move recently, but my identification and all my documents still show my old address. Where should I vote?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm?stateName=WV>)

You have two questions to think about: first, where to vote, and second, what form of identification you will need to vote

If you moved within or to West Virginia, you might need to re-register at your new address. To register to vote or update your voter registration online, please visit <https://ovr.sos.wv.gov/Register/Landing>. You may also fill out another Voter Registration Application at your County Clerk's Office or other voter registration location. For information about your County Clerk, please visit <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/CountyClerkDirectory.aspx>. For information about registration deadlines, check out <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm?stateName=WV>.

Once you know where to vote, find out which type of identification you need to vote in person or by mail, if any. If you are registering to vote for the first time in West Virginia or your county and you have not voted in a federal election in West Virginia, you must show a valid ID with your application or the first time you vote. If you mail your application, you may send a copy of a valid ID. For a list of acceptable documents that show your current name and address, please see <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>.

Other

Can I use my old ID to vote at a new address?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm?submission=true&stateId=54>)

To register to vote in West Virginia, you should provide one of the following: (1) the last 4 digits of your social security number; (2) your West Virginia driver's license number; or (3) your West Virginia ID number.

If you're registering to vote for the first time by mail, you will need to provide a copy of a valid ID. Acceptable forms of ID include (1) current and valid photo ID; (2) utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck that shows your current name and address; or (3) government issued document that shows your current name and address.

You are required to show voter ID in West Virginia if you vote in person. A list of acceptable ID is available at this website:

<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm?submission=true&stateId=54>

Even if your ID does not meet West Virginia's requirements, you may still be able to cast a provisional ballot.

My housing is changing and I'm not sure where I will be to receive a mail-in ballot or where to vote on Election Day. How should I plan to vote?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voter-faqs#I-have-recently-moved,-am-I-still-eligible-to-vote?>)

Call the West Virginia Secretary of State's office to explain your situation and inquire about your options and next steps. You might be able to register now at your current address and then vote at your local polling place even if you have to move before Election Day. You can contact the West Virginia Secretary of State at (304) 558-6000, toll free at (866) 767-8683 or by email at elections@wvsos.com

I am a survivor of domestic violence or worried about my safety. Can I keep my voting address private?

(From https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Library_Safety_Net_ACP_Chart_April_2020.pdf and <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

In West Virginia, yes. Address Confidentiality Programs and Confidential Voter Listings are programs administered by the state enabling survivors of domestic violence to register while maintaining the confidentiality of their addresses. Participants may use the Address Confidentiality Program substitute address for voting. Applications must be made in person at a local domestic violence, sexual assault or victim service program located throughout the state by an approved application assistant.

The program information for the Address Confidentiality Program in West Virginia is:

Address Confidentiality Program, P.O. Box 5399, Charleston, WV 25361-0399 (304) 558-6000 (Sec of State office) or (866) 767-8683 (for ACP office) acp@wvsos.com sos.wv.gov/admin-law/Pages/ACP.aspx.

Can I use a P.O. Box address or a school mailbox address as my permanent address? (From <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

No. You must have the address where you live on your voter registration. Your form will not be processed if you list a P.O. Box as your permanent address. If the U.S. Postal Service does not deliver mail to your residence address, please contact your County Clerk for instructions. Information for County Clerks can be found at <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/CountyClerkDirectory.aspx>

I already received a mail-in-ballot for my old address, but I've moved. Can I get a new mail-in ballot or go in person for my new address?

(From <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/double-voting.aspx>)

In the State of West Virginia, contact your county clerk. Information for County Clerks can be found at <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/CountyClerkDirectory.aspx>. For other states, call your local election official's office for guidance. (You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.) If you move within West Virginia, you'll need to update your voter registration. If you move permanently to another state, you'll need to register to vote in that state. In West Virginia, you must reside at your registered legal address for at least 30 days before the election (i.e. you must live at the new address no later than October 4, 2020) to be considered eligible to vote in West Virginia. You have to register to vote or update your West Virginia voting registration at least 21 days in advance of the election (i.e. by October 13, 2020). If you are able to register in time, you may be able to vote at your local polling site. Check out the U.S. Vote Foundation's Election Dates & Deadlines at <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm?jsessionid=A51D5ABC59E121D804C7D0A0B875BEF6?stateName=WV> for more information on West Virginia's deadlines. Note that voting twice in federal elections is

illegal under federal law and voting twice within West Virginia or for the same office is illegal under West Virginia law.

Early Voting Questions:

Getting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I planned to vote in person but need to vote by mail; how late can I get an emergency ballot?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

Rules and deadlines for voting by mail differ from state to state. First, determine whether you are eligible to vote by mail in your state. In some states, everyone can vote by mail, and ballots or ballot applications are automatically mailed to voters; in others, everyone can vote by mail, but you will have to request a ballot, either by mail, phone, or online, depending on your state. In certain states, you can only vote by mail if you have a valid excuse. Check out Rock The Vote's Guide to Absentee Voting Rules at <http://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/> to find the rules and deadlines for voting by mail in your state.

What should I do if someone took my mail-in ballot?

If you discover that someone has taken your mail-in ballot without your permission, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible to inquire about your options. If it's not too late, some states may mail you a replacement ballot. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Keep in mind that federal and most state laws prohibit mail fraud and tampering with voting systems. If someone stole your ballot, your local election office may request more information.

What should I do if I lost my mail-in ballot?

If you've lost your mail-in ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. If it's not too late, some states may mail you a replacement ballot. If it's too late to mail you a replacement ballot, your local election office may allow you to pick up a replacement ballot in person. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Submitting an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail Ballot

What if I make a mistake completing the ballot and need to get a new ballot?

If you've made a mistake completing your mail-in ballot and need a new ballot, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

What if I don't have stamps to mail back my ballot?

(From <https://about.usps.com/what/government-services/election-mail/>, <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>, and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options>)

If your state or local election officials have not provided a prepaid return envelope for your ballot, you should make sure the appropriate postage is affixed to your return envelope. If you don't have stamps, don't worry! Alternatives for mailing in your ballot vary by state. You may be able to drop off your ballot at your local election office, a secure ballot drop box, an early voting location, or a polling place on Election Day. Check out <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx> for information about your particular jurisdiction. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

It says the signature needs to match my registration, but what if I don't know what signature I used to register?

If you can't remember what your signature looked like when you last registered to vote, consider updating your voter registration with your local election office if there's still time. Deadlines to register to vote vary by state. Check out <https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/> for voter registration deadlines.

If there is a signature discrepancy between your ballot signature and the signature your local election office has on file, in many states, your ballot may not count. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee.aspx> for a listing of how states verify voted absentee ballots.

Certain states have a process for voters to "cure" their signature in time for the ballot to be counted. These states will notify voters when there is a problem and provide voters with a process and timeframe to verify that the ballots are indeed theirs. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> for a list of states that require that voters be notified when there is a missing signature or a signature discrepancy and provide an opportunity to correct it.

What if I miss the date to mail my ballot back?

(From https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/vbm/Ballot_Drop_Box.pdf and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>)

Deadlines to return mail-in ballots vary by state. Some states require mail-in ballots to be postmarked by a certain date, while others require mail-in ballots to be received by a certain date and time. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-11-receipt-and-postmark-deadlines-for-absentee-ballots.aspx> and <https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot-deadlines/> for state-by-state receipt and postmark deadlines for mail ballots.

If you miss the date to mail your ballot back, it may not be too late! Options to return a mail-in ballot that can no longer be timely postmarked or received by mail vary by state. You may be able to drop off your ballot at your local election office, a secure ballot drop box, an early voting location, or a polling place on Election Day. Check out <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx> for information about your particular jurisdiction. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

How can I drop off my ballot on Election Day without having to wait in line?

(From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>)

You may be able to drop off your ballot at your local election office, a secure ballot drop box, an early voting location, or a polling place on Election Day. In some states, the voter may entrust the voted ballot to someone else – an agent or designee – to return the ballot, subject to local requirements. Check out <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can-collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx> for information about your particular jurisdiction. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Can I return my ballot after the mail-in deadline to a polling location that's different than where I registered?

Requirements for properly returning your ballot vary by state. Check out <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/nationwide-voting-info/absentee-voting/> for instructions on how to properly return your ballot in your particular jurisdiction. Alternatives to mailing your ballot also vary by state. You may be able to drop off your ballot at your local election office, a secure ballot drop box, an early voting location, or a polling place on Election Day. Check out <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/ballot-return-options> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx> for information about your particular jurisdiction. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. Remember, failure to return your ballot properly may result in your vote not being counted, so plan ahead!

Can I check if my ballot was counted?

Yes! In most states this year, it is easier than ever to check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted. To find out whether state look-up tools are available in your jurisdiction, check out <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/wheres-my-ballot> and <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>.

Voting Early In Person

What hours and days can I vote early in person?

(From <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-election-dates-deadlines.htm?jsessionid=A51D5ABC59E121D804C7D0A0B875BEF6?stateName=WV> and <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/early-voting-in-state-elections.aspx>)

Early voting is available from October 21, 2020, to October 31, 2020, in West Virginia. You can vote from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays during this period.

Other Early Voting Questions

What if I mailed in my ballot but want to cast a poll ballot? (For example, I forgot to sign it or used the wrong signature, think I mailed it late, or I'm worried it wasn't received.) (From <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/provisional-ballots.aspx>)

You may not legally vote twice in the same election. However, in most states this year, it is easier than ever to check online to see if your mail ballot has been received and counted. To find out whether state look-up tools are available in your jurisdiction, check out <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>. If you're still not sure, contact your local election official's office to inquire about your options. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Can I fix a problem with my mail-in ballot signature after Election Day?

Some states have a process for voters to "cure" their signature in time for the ballot to be counted. These states will notify voters when there is a problem and provide voters with a process and timeframe to verify that the ballot is indeed theirs. Check out <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx> for a list of states that require voters to be notified when there is a missing signature or a signature discrepancy and provide an opportunity to correct it.

How can I get a new vote-by-mail ballot if I've already requested one? (For example, mine got damaged, I want it in a different language, or in a different area because I just moved).

If there are issues with your ballot or if it is damaged, contact your local election official's office to request a replacement. You may be required to return your ballot before the local election office will issue you a new one.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot but have subsequently moved within your state and need to update your mailing address, contact your local election official's office as soon as possible. You may be required to re-register to vote.

You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Election Day Questions

Polling Locations

What hours is my polling place open?

(From <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

Check with your local polling place, because it varies in different parts of West Virginia. You can find your local polling place at <https://services.sos.wv.gov/Elections/Voter/FindMyPollingPlace>.

My normal polling place is closed, what should I do?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Check to make sure that you have the right location by going to <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>. Some polling places may have moved due to Covid-19. If you arrive at your polling place during voting hours, and the polling place is closed, call your local election official's office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Issues at the Polling Place

What if they tell me to complete a provisional ballot at the polls?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Do everything you can to vote a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are, in essence, back-up votes. Use Vote.org's website at <https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/> to confirm that you are registered to vote and Vote.org's polling place locator at <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/> to confirm that you are at the right polling place. If you are registered and at the right site, don't leave! Politely ask the poll workers for a regular ballot. Most problems are not intentional but a result of poor communication. If that does not work, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) and ask for help voting.

If you must vote by provisional ballot as a last resort, ask for written instructions about what you must do to ensure the provisional ballot will be counted. Also ask for a phone number you can call to confirm if your vote was counted.

What if I don't have enough time to wait in line at my polling place?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. The lines may be long, but if you are in line when the polls close, you will be allowed to cast your ballot. If you leave the line, you may not be able to vote. Try to fix any problem you have in real time at your polling site rather than go home as the lines could be longer, the polls could be closed, and you never know what could happen once you leave.

What if they say the polling place is closing or ran out of ballots?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

Stay in line, if at all possible. If you are in line when the polls close, you should be allowed to cast your ballot. If they run out of ballots, stay in line. The poll workers may arrange a delivery of extra ballots or pursue another alternative. If you believe someone is falsely claiming that the polling place is closing, or that there are not enough ballots for you to vote, report it to Election Protection by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) immediately.

Voting Accommodations Questions**What if I need assistance getting to the polls or need to stay in my car due to disability?**

There are many ways to get to the polls. You can try calling your local election office, your local political party organization, or a candidate's campaign to arrange a carpool. You can also use your local public transit system (some of which are free on Election Day) or a private ride service like Uber or Lyft, which are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day.

Some states offer "curbside voting," where a poll worker brings everything you need to vote to your car. If you want to use this method of voting, you should call your local election office to see if they allow curbside voting and let them know you want to use it. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you are not able to enter your polling location because a pathway is not fully accessible, ask a poll worker for assistance. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities. Also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE to report the issue.

Can I get assistance in filling out my voter registration form or marking my ballot?

(From https://www.ada.gov/ada_voting/ada_voting_ta.htm and <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

Yes! The federal Voting Rights Act requires election officials to allow a voter who is blind or has another disability to receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice (other than the voter's employer or their agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union).

In West Virginia, you may bring someone to assist you or two poll workers can help you vote your ballot. Reasons for receiving assistance in voting include blindness, disability, advanced age, or the inability to read and write. Just as your poll worker.

Can someone assist me in the polling booth?

(From <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voting-accessibility> and <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/FAQs.aspx>)

Yes! In West Virginia, you may bring someone to assist you or two poll workers can help you vote your ballot. You may bring someone to assist you for reasons of blindness, disability, or the inability to read or write. You can request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available. For more information, contact the U.S. Election Assistance Commission by phone at 866-747-1471 or by email at clearinghouse@eac.gov. You can also contact your local election office, whose contact information is available at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote. If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your selections, review, or cast your ballot, ask for help from a poll worker – federal law requires them to help.

How can I get language assistance or a poll in a different language at my polling place?

Contact your local election office to learn more about language assistance in your area. Your local election officials may provide assistance to those with limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, including equipping polling places with ballots and instructions in other languages, staffing polling places with bilingual poll workers, and providing voting information online in languages other than English. You can find your local election official's contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Also, look up the Voter's Guide to Federal Elections at <https://www.eac.gov/voters/voters-guide-to-federal-elections>, which is published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 11 different languages.

If you have difficulty reading or writing in English, you may bring a person of your choice to help you (other than your employer or agent or an officer or agent of your union). If you bring a person with you, let the poll workers know this when you check in. You may need to swear an oath that you have a disability and that you have a person helping you. Your helper may also be required to sign a form swearing they did not tell you how to vote.

Can I have someone drop off my ballot for me?

Maybe. In some states, every voter must submit their own ballot, either by mail or at an in-person drop off box. Other states allow family members to drop off ballots for each other, and some states allow anyone to drop off another person's ballot. You can look up your state's rules at <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-10-who-can->

[collect-and-return-an-absentee-ballot-other-than-the-voter.aspx](#). You can also contact your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

Voter Suppression Questions

What should I do if I see electioneering, intimidation, interference, lack of privacy, or other inappropriate behavior at or near the polling place?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws> and <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/>)

If you witness or suspect voter intimidation or suppression, there are a few ways you can report it:

- Contact a poll worker or poll watcher at your polling location.
- Call the Election Protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683). This is a national hotline run by the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition.
- Contact your local election official. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.
- Contact the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. The contact information is available at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/#nine>.

What should I do if I think someone has tampered with or stolen my absentee or mail-in ballot?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>.

You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

What counts as voter suppression?

(From <https://www.vote.org/election-protection/> and 18 U.S. Code § 594)

Under federal law, it is a crime to intimidate, threaten, or coerce anyone in order to interfere with their ability to vote for the candidate of their choice, or to attempt to do any of those things. *Intimidation* may include physically blocking entrance to voting, cursing at people waiting to vote, looking over people's shoulders while they vote, questioning voters about their choices or citizenship status, or asking for identification unnecessarily. *Threats* may include comments such as "your family will be deported if you vote," "you will be fired from your job if you vote," or "your kid won't make the football team if you vote." *Coercion* may include offering money to vote for a certain person, spreading false rumors about candidates or voting, displaying signs with false or misleading information, or impersonating poll workers.

I'm concerned about the integrity and privacy of voting technology. What if my vote gets hacked?

(From <https://www.usa.gov/voting-laws>)

You can learn more about voting technology at <https://verifiedvoting.org/>.

If you suspect voter fraud, report it to your local election office. You can find the contact information at <https://www.usa.gov/Election-Office>. You can also report it to a local FBI office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), a local U.S. attorney's office (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao/find-your-united-states-attorney>), or the Public Integrity Section of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division (whose contact information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal/pin>).

Attorneys at the law firm Haynes and Boone LLP, are providing general legal information to help Feeding America, its network of food banks, and the people they serve navigate various election-related requirements and exercise the right to vote this election season. The contents of this document are intended for general informational purposes only. The information provided should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances. The information provided also is not intended to create or constitute a lawyer-client relationship with Haynes and Boone, LLP.