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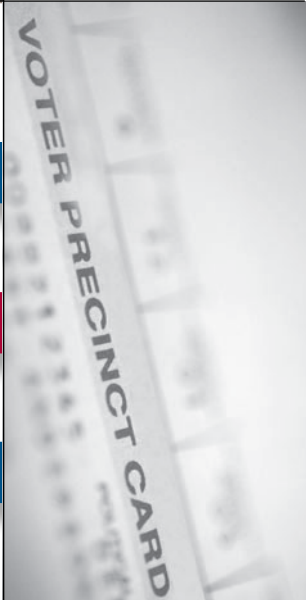
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A STATE-BY-STATE

GUIDE TO

ABSENTEE VOTING



change

U P D A T E D
S E P T E M B E R / 2 0 0 7

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR POLITICAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



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CONTENTS



Introduction

- ▶ Supporting Voter Registration and Mobilization
 - The Help America Vote Act
 - The Institute of Politics
 - Contact Information

States

- ▶ Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Washington D.C.
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

INTRODUCTION

Supporting Voter Registration and Mobilization

- ▶ This State-By-State Absentee Voter Guide was created by undergraduate students from the Institute of Politics at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Under the guidance of Leslie Pope, a sophomore at Harvard College, students Tara Fisher, Mumu Xu, Josh Patashnik, Daniel Stolz, Jocelyn Da-Shing Hsu, Kate Gluckman, and Russell Graneys spent hours visiting websites, interviewing election officials, and dissecting information from each state to find basic information about how college students can vote absentee.

The need for this guide was illustrated by an Institute of Politics national survey of college students in the fall of 2003, which noted that 39% of college students who intended to vote in upcoming elections would vote absentee, and 10% were not sure if they would vote at the polls or by absentee ballot. Over one-third of those who said that they were voting by absentee ballot said that they did not know, or were unsure about how to vote by absentee ballot.

At Harvard University, as well as other colleges and universities across the country, students and administrations are conducting voter registration and mobilization drives. This guide is intended to support those efforts. In one easy, understandable guide, organizers can provide information for each state's deadlines, voting process, and contact information. This guide will be updated each year to reflect changes in state and federal law, and to reflect new information. The guide will also be available online.*

Help America Vote Act of 2002 — Voting Identification Requirements

- ▶ In 2002 the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) made several changes to the rules of voting. One of the most important aspects of HAVA is the requirement of identification for first-time voters, which means most college students!

For first-time voters, when you first register or when you actually vote (in person or by mail) you must provide identification that includes your name and the address at which you are registered.

The easiest identification is your driver's license. But, if you do not have a driver's license or the address on your license does NOT match your voting address (say you registered at your school, but didn't change your license), you can use identification with your name and the address at which you are registered—a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, etc.

In some states (Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia), there may be additional state requirements or additional forms of identification. Please refer to your Secretary of State or local town/city clerk for additional requirements.

*At <http://www.iop.harvard.edu> in both PDF form, and as an active state-by-state link to absentee voting information

INTRODUCTION



Voting In Person (at the polls)

Individuals voting in person (at the polls) should be prepared to present:

- 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.

Voting by Mail (Absentee Voting)

In the case of an individual who votes by mail, voters should submit with the ballot:

- a copy of 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.

The Institute of Politics

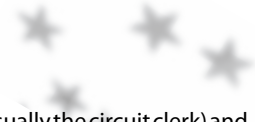
- ▶ The Institute of Politics was established in 1966 as a living memorial to President John F. Kennedy by his family and friends. The Institute's dual mission is to inspire young people into lives of politics and public service and to bridge the worlds of academia and practical politics.

In 2003, the Institute, under the direction of Director Dan Glickman, created the National Campaign for Political and Civic Engagement to work with colleges and universities across the country to encourage students to become more politically and civically engaged in their communities and their country. The National Campaign focuses on three key areas of interest: elective politics, civic education, and careers in public service.

Contact Information

- ▶ If you have any questions or concerns about this guide, please contact Laura Simolaris at 617-495-9320 or Laura_Simolaris@harvard.edu. We appreciate your feedback to continue improving our material.

A L A B A M A



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ To obtain a ballot, write or visit your local absentee election manager (usually the circuit clerk) and request an absentee ballot. A listing of the circuit clerks for the state of Alabama can be found at: <http://www.sos.state.al.us/election/absentee/index.aspx>

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ Submit the request to the Absentee Election Manager in care of your county's Circuit Clerk. Contact information is available at <http://www.sos.state.al.us/election/absentee/index.aspx>

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ In Alabama, the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot is five calendar days before Election Day:
 - January 31 for the Primary Election
 - October 31 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ The absentee ballot comes with three envelopes—one plain, one with an affidavit, or oath, printed on the outside, and one preaddressed envelope. Once you have filled out the ballot, the procedure is as follows:
 - seal the ballot in the plain envelope
 - place the plain envelope inside the accompanying affidavit envelope
 - complete the affidavit that is on the outside of the envelope
 - sign the affidavit and have the signature witnessed by either a Notary Public or two witnesses 18 years of age or older
 - place the affidavit envelope and a copy of your identification inside the third envelope
 - either hand-deliver the ballot to the Absentee Election Manager or send it by U.S. Mail.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ By Mail: the ballot must be postmarked by the day before Election Day:
 - February 4 for the Primary Election
 - November 3 for the General Election

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ In Person: the absentee ballot must be received by the absentee election manager by the close of business (but no later than 5 PM) on the day prior to the election.
 - February 5 for the Primary Election
 - November 3 for the General Election

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶

<p>Beth Chapman Secretary of State P.O. Box 5616 Montgomery, AL 36103-5616 Tel: 334-242-7200 Toll-free: 800-274-8683</p>	<p>Elections Division Office of the Secretary of State P.O. Box 5616 Montgomery, AL 36103-5616 Tel: 334-242-7210</p>
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A L A S K A



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ You can find an application for an absentee ballot in PDF format at: <http://www.elections.state.ak.us/forms/c06.pdf>

In order to request an absentee ballot, you will have to provide proof of Alaska residence. Examples of acceptable documents include a photocopy of a current Alaska driver's license, student loan documents, and proof of employment in Alaska.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ Print the application and mail it to:

Alaska Division of Elections	You may also fax your application to:
Absentee Voting Office	907-677-9943
619 E. Ship Creek Ave. #329	
Anchorage, AK 99501-1677	

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Applications must be received at least ten days prior to Election Day:
 January 26 for the Primary Election
 October 25 for the General Election

If you are registering to vote for the first time, your application must be received by 30 days before the date of the election:
 January 6 for the Primary Election
 October 5 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ Fill out the ballot and have your signature witnessed on the back of the envelope. Your witness(es) should be either one authorized official (defined as someone with the legal authority to administer an oath), or two people over the age of 18. Please consult the "By-Mail Ballot Instructions" which you should receive with your ballot.

Absentee voting is also available in the following ways:
 In person: 15 days prior to Election Day
 By fax: 15 days prior to Election Day
 Special needs voting for disabled voters: 15 days prior to Election Day

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ You must mail your ballot by Election Day:
 Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 7

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 7
 Registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

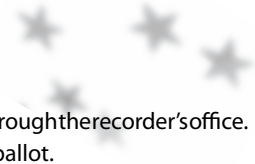
 - ▶ Alaska elections are administered by the Division of Elections:

Whitney Brewster, Director	Division of Elections
Division of Elections	Absentee Voting Office
P.O. Box 110017	619 E. Ship Creek Ave., Ste. 329
Juneau, AK 99811-0017	Anchorage, AK 99501-1677
Tel: 907-465-4611	Tel: 907-375-6400
E-mail: elections@gov.state.ak.us	Fax: 907-375-6480
	E-mail: akabsentee@gov.state.ak.us

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ The official website of the Division of Elections has information on absentee voting: <http://ltgov.state.ak.us/elections/abinfo.php>
 For information specifically on absentee by mail, see: <http://www.ltgov.state.ak.us/elections/abvotapp.php>

A R I Z O N A



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Absentee ballots are called early ballots in Arizona. You may request one through the recorder's office. You must provide your address, date of birth, and where to mail the ballot. For information, go to: <http://www.azsos.gov/election/county.htm>.
 - In certain counties, you may request an absentee ballot online. Follow the link above to find your county's website for more information.

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ The deadline for requesting a mail-in ballot is no later than 5:00 pm on:
 - February 15 for the Presidential Preference Election
 - August 22 for the Primary Election
 - October 24 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ To vote early in person, you can appear no later than 5:00 pm on the Friday preceding Election Day at an on-site early voting location that is established by the county recorder.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ Vote the Early Ballot and return it to the Recorder's Office in the postage-paid return envelope provided. You must sign the oath provided, and your signature will be verified with your voter registration form. If you do not sign, your ballot will be rejected.

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ All Early Ballots must be returned by:
 - February 22 for the Presidential Preference Election
 - August 29 for the Primary Election
 - October 31 for the General Election
 - February 26, 2008 for the Presidential Preference Election (registration closes January 28 at midnight)
 - Primary Election: September 2, 2008 (registration closes August 4 at midnight)
 - General Election: November 4, 2008 (registration closes October 6 at midnight)
 - Early Voting Begins:
 - January 31, 2008 for the Presidential Preference Election
 - Primary Election: August 7, 2008
 - General Election: October 9, 2008

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶ Jan Brewer, Secretary of State
 - For Administration/Elections, contact:
 - Capitol Executive Tower 7th Floor
 - 1700 West Washington Street
 - Phoenix, AZ 85007-2888
 - <http://www.azsos.gov>

- Are there requirements for first-time voters?**

 - ▶ No.

- Is permanent absentee status available?**

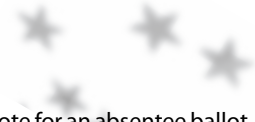
 - ▶ No.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ You may register to vote online using Service Arizona at <https://az.gov/webapp/evoter>



ARKANSAS

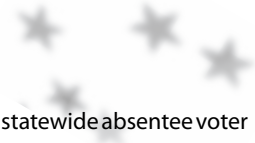


- How do I request an absentee ballot? ▶ Contact the county clerk of the county in which you are registered to vote for an absentee ballot application. Find contact information for your county clerk in the Arkansas County Clerk Directory (PDF): http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us/elections/elections_pdfs/county_clerks.pdf.
- Where do I send the request? ▶ Send request to your county clerk.
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot? ▶ **By 7 days before Election Day:**
 Primary Election: January 29
 General Primary Runoff Election: June 3
 General Election: October 28
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee? ▶ **Ballots must be received at clerk's office by 7:30 pm on Election Day (you may not fax a ballot):**
 Preferential Primary Election: February 5
 General Primary Runoff Election: June 10
 General Election and Nonpartisan Judicial Runoff Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008? ▶ **Preferential Primary Election: February 5**
General Primary Runoff Election: June 10
General Election and Nonpartisan Judicial Runoff Election: November 4
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials? ▶

<p>Charlie Daniels Secretary of State State Capitol, Room 256 Little Rock, AR 72201 Tel: 501-682-1010 Fax: 501-682-3510 http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us</p>	<p>Jill Belin, Director of Elections State Capitol, Room 056 Little Rock, AR 72201 Tel: 501-682-3419 Fax: 501-682-3408 Toll-free: 1-800-482-1127 E-mail: electionsemail@sosmail.state.ar.us</p>
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- Your application is valid for one year.
- Are there requirements for first-time voters? ▶ No.
- Is permanent absentee status available? ▶ In order to qualify for an absentee ballot, you must be either, a) "unavoidably absent" from your polling site on Election Day, or b) unable to go to the polling site on Election Day due to sickness or injury.
- Additional information: ▶ However, the state does not require a reason for your absence. For more information, see: http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us/elections_voter_arkansas_absentee.html.

Find an application for an absentee ballot at: http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_m.htm

CALIFORNIA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Here you can type your information on the online English version of the statewide absentee voter application. Then you can print, sign and date the form, and mail it to your county elections office. You can find the address of your county elections office through the link below. To apply using a form that is not in English, you must print it, fill it out, sign and date the form, and mail it to the county elections office.
 - Alternatively, you may use the application printed on the Sample Ballot every voter receives prior to an election or apply in writing to your county elections official. To apply, you must submit a completed application or a letter containing your name and residence address as stated on your registration card; the address to which the absentee ballot should be sent (if it differs from your registered address); the name and date of the election in which you would like to vote absentee; the date; and your signature.

Find contact information for your county elections office at:
http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ You must apply between 29 days and 7 days before Election Day:
 Primary Election: January 7 - January 29
 General Election: October 6 - October 28

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ You must insert your ballot into the provided envelope and complete all required information on the envelope. No witnesses are required.

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ Your ballot must be received by the county elections office by the time the polls close at 8:00 pm on Election Day:
 Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 4

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008**

 - ▶ Voter registration closes 15 days prior to Election Day (January 22 for Primary Election).

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶ Secretary of State's Office
 Elections Division
 1500 11th Street, 5th Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 Tel: 916-657-2166
 E-mail: elections@ss.ca.gov

- Is permanent absentee status available?**

 - ▶ Yes. You must complete an application that is available from your county elections official. Any registered voter may apply.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ Absentee Ballot Application forms are available online in the following languages: English, Spanish, Tagalog, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean
 - ▶ File your application for an absentee ballot in writing or by fax, using the application form furnished

CONNECTICUT



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Go to: <http://www.sots.ct.gov/ElectionsServices/Elecform.html>
 - Download the application for an absentee ballot (available in English or Spanish) and fill it out according to the instructions. Mail your completed application to the municipal clerk of the municipality in which you are a registered voter.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ Find your registrar of voters listed in this PDF file:
<http://www.sots.ct.gov/ElectionsServices/Lists/ROVOfficeAddresses.pdf>

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Your application must be received at the municipal clerk's office before the 31st day before an election, the 21st day before a primary, or the 19th day before a referendum.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ Absentee ballots for the February 5 Primary Election become available January 15. The deadline for returning a ballot is 8:00 pm on Election Day. Mailed ballots must also be received by 8:00 pm on Election Day:
Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
Mail-in voter registration must be received 5 days before a Primary or 14 days before a General Election for the voter to be eligible for that election.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

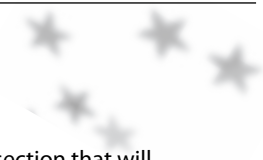
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Susan Bysiewicz, Secretary of the State State Capitol, Room 104 Hartford, CT 06106 http://www.sots.ct.gov Tel: 860-509-6000 Fax: 860-509-6209 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Thomas H. Ferguson, Director of Elections 30 Trinity Street Hartford, CT 06106 Tel: 860-509-6100 Fax: 860-509-6127 Toll-free (in State): 1-800-540-3764 (not available in all calling areas) TDD: 1-800-303-3161
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- Additional information:**

 - ▶ Find information on who qualifies for an absentee ballot, as well as a few links to other information, at: <http://www.sots.ct.gov/ElectionsServices/absentee.html>



DELAWARE



How do I request an absentee ballot?

- ▶ Go to: <http://elections.delaware.gov> to download and print the appropriate affidavit for an absentee ballot. There is a section that will need to be notarized.

Where do I send the request?

- ▶ Department of Elections for Sussex County
119 N. Race Street
P.O. Box 457
Georgetown, DE 19947-0457
Tel: 302-856-5367
- ▶ Department of Elections for Kent County
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 5
Dover DE 19904-8202
Tel: 302-739-4498

Department of Elections for New Castle County
Carvel State Office Bldg, 4th Floor
820 North French Street, Suite 400
Wilmington, DE 19801-3531
E-mail: absentee@state.de.us
Tel: 302-577-3464

What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?

- ▶ Affidavits are requested as early as possible before the election

What is the voting procedure?

- ▶ For a pamphlet that explains how to fill out an absentee ballot, go to: http://elections.delaware.gov/services/voter/pdfs/how_abs.pdf.

What are the deadlines for voting absentee?

- ▶ The deadline for returning absentee ballots is noon on the day prior to the election:
Primary Election: February 4
General Election: November 3

What are the 2008 election dates and deadlines?

- ▶ All ballots received after that time will be counted for federal offices only.
Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes the fourth Saturday before Election Day (January 12 for Primary Election).

How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Harriet N. Smith Windsor
Secretary of State
Townsend Building
401 Federal Street, Suite 3
Dover, DE 19901
http://www.sos.delaware.gov
E-mail: absentee@state.de.us
Tel: 302-739-4111
Fax: 302-739-3811
Toll-free: 1-800-273-9500
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 898
Dover, Delaware 19903 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Commissioner of Elections
111 S. West St, Suite 10
Dover, DE 19904
http://elections.delaware.gov
E-mail: coe_vote@state.de.us
Tel: 302-739-4277
Fax: 302-739-6794
If calling from:
New Castle Co.: 1-800-577-3000
Kent and Sussex Co.: 1-800-464-4357 |
|--|---|

WASHINGTON D.C.



How do I request an absentee ballot?

- ▶ You can apply for an absentee ballot online at http://www.dcboee.org/absentee_ballot/ab_step1.asp. Alternatively, you can fill out the appropriate application from this website: http://www.dcboee.org/serv/Download_index.shtm

The basic absentee ballot application is the one at the top of the page, titled "Absentee Ballot Request Form." Emergency Request Forms and a form for physically disabled voters are also available. You can also find voter registration forms on the same page. On your absentee request form, you can also check the appropriate boxes to request ballots for any or all of the elections in the current year. Print these forms to fill them out.

Where do I send the request?

- ▶ D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics
441 Fourth St., N.W.
Suite 250 North
Washington, D.C. 20001

What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?

- ▶ Requests must be received by the Board of Elections and Ethics no later than seven days before Election Day:
January 1 for the Primary Election
October 28 for the General Election

What is the voting procedure?

- ▶ Vote the ballot according to the instructions. No witnesses are required unless you are unable to sign your own ballot. (Also true when requesting a ballot.)

What are the deadlines for voting absentee?

- ▶ In Person: no later than 4:45 pm the day before Election Day:
January 7 for the Primary Election
November 3 for the General Election

By Mail: postmarked no later than Election Day:
Primary Election: January 8
General Election: November 4

What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?

- ▶ Primary Election: September 12
General Election: November 7
Mail-in voter registration must be postmarked by 30 days before Election Day for the voter to be eligible for that election.

How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?

- ▶ The District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics administers all DC elections.

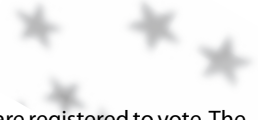
Charles Lowery, Jr, Chairman
D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics
441 Fourth St., N.W.
Suite 250 North
Washington, D.C. 20001
Tel: 202-727-1000
E-mail: boee@dc.gov
<http://www.dcboee.org>

Are there requirements for first-time voters?

- ▶ If you are voting for the first time, you must include a copy of acceptable identification with your absentee ballot. Please see this section on the Help America Vote Act in the introduction to this guide for examples of appropriate ID.



FLORIDA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Absentee ballots must be requested through the county in which you are registered to vote. The process for requesting a ballot can vary slightly from county to county. By Florida law, you are required to provide your name, date of birth, driver's license number (if available), home address (i.e., your Florida address), and the address where you would like the ballot sent. If you send the request in writing you must sign the request. Some counties request additional information to help expedite the process. Check your county's supervisor of elections' website to learn how to request an absentee ballot in your county. Find a link to your county's site at: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/county/index.shtml>

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ In all counties, requests can be submitted via telephone or U.S. mail. Some counties also allow you to request an absentee ballot via e-mail or an online submission form. Check your county's website through the link above to find out the specific instructions for your county.

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ 5 PM on the 6th day before an election:
 Presidential Preference Primary: January 23
 Primary Election: August 20
 General Election: October 29

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ You must fill out the ballot with a witness present. Then, both you and the witness must sign a voter's certificate (enclosed with your absentee ballot) and return it along with your ballot to your county supervisor of elections. You may not return your ballot to a polling place.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ Your ballot must arrive at the county supervisor of elections' office by 7:00 pm on Election Day:
 Presidential Preference Primary: January 29
 First Primary Election: August 26
 General Election: November 4
 Mail your ballot as early as possible to ensure arrival by Election Day.

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Presidential Preference Primary: January 29
 First Primary Election: August 26
 General Election: November 4
 Voter registration closes 29 days prior to Election Day.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶ Kurt Browning, Secretary of State
 Florida Department of State
 R. A. Gray Building
 500 S. Bronough
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250
 Tel: 850-245-6500

- Are there requirements for first-time voters?**

 - ▶ If you are a first-time voter who registered by mail and request an absentee ballot, you will be required to send a copy of your picture identification with your absentee ballot, unless you have already provided the identification to the supervisor of elections. If you do not have a picture identification, you may send one of the following with your absentee ballot, if they contain your name and current residence address: utility bill; bank statement; government check; paycheck; other government document (excluding voter identification card). To avoid problems in voting, if you register by mail and have not voted before in the county, you should send a copy of your identification to the supervisor of elections with your registration form.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/absenteevoting.shtml>

GEORGIA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ The absentee ballot application is on the website and is available in English or Spanish: http://www.sos.state.ga.us/elections/elections/voter_information/absentee.htm
 - You can request an absentee ballot by writing a letter with the following information: Person's name as registered; residence address, temporary mailing address if different; reason for voting absentee; date of birth, date and type of election, and their signature. The application can be mailed or faxed, or the ballot can be voted within the absentee ballot clerk's office. The ballot request cannot be done online since there is no actual signature provided online.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ You send the request to your local county board of registrars. Find contact information at: http://www.sos.state.ga.us/elections/voter_information/2000_voter_info.asp.

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ You may request an absentee ballot for the general election 180 days prior to elections day. The last day your ballot may be sent is:
July 14 for the Primary Election
November 3 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ You do not need witnesses. Instructions for voting are included with the absentee ballot.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ The registrar must receive the ballot no later than 7:00 pm on Election Day (see below).

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Presidential Preference Primary: February 5 (Registration closes January 7)
 - General Primary Election: July 15 (Registration closes June 14)
 - Primary Runoff: August 5 (registration closes June 16)
 - Special Election: September 16 (Registration closes August 18)
 - General Election/Special Election: November 4 (Registration closes October 6)
 - General Election Runoff: November 28 (Registration closes October 6)

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶ Elections Division
2 MLK, Jr. Dr. SE
Suite 1104, West Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334-1530
Tel: 404-656-2871
Toll Free: 888-265-1115
E-mail using <http://www.sos.state.ga.us/cgi-bin/email.asp>
<http://www.sos.state.ga.us/elections>

- Are there requirements for first-time voters?**

 - ▶ If you did not show identification when you registered to vote, you will have to mail a copy of it to vote absentee. Valid ID includes a valid Georgia driver's license, a valid US passport, or a valid social security card. See a complete list of acceptable IDs at <http://www.sos.state.ga.us/elections/elections/voter%5Finformation> by clicking on "Voting on Election Day."

- Is permanent absentee status available?**

 - ▶ There is no permanent absentee status.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ Go to <http://www.sos.state.ga.us/elections> for complete information from the Georgia Elections Division.

HAWAII



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ You can print out an absentee ballot request form (PDF format) online at: http://www.hawaii.gov/elections/forms/absentee_application.pdf

You will have to include the following information: name under which you are registered to vote, home address (i.e., in Hawaii), birth date, Social Security number, election(s) in which you intend to vote absentee (primary, general, or both), address to which your ballot should be mailed, and your signature.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ Send it to the appropriate county clerk for the county in which your Hawaii residence is located. The addresses are on the forms.

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ You must mail your request form no earlier than 60 days and no later than 7 days prior to Election Day:
 February 19 for the Democratic Presidential Primary
 February 24 for the Republican Presidential Primary
 October 28 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ No witnesses are required unless you are unable to sign your name on the form.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ All absentee ballots must be received by the appropriate county election clerk (listed on the application form) no later than the close of polls on Election Day:
 Primary Election: September 23
 General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ February 26 for the Democratic Presidential Primary (Registration closes January 25)
 March 2 for the Republican Presidential Primary (Registration closes January 30)
 General Election: November 4 (Registration closes October 6)

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶ In Hawaii, the Secretary of State's functions are performed by the Lieutenant Governor:

Honorable Lieutenant Governor	Office of Elections
James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.	820 Lehua Ave.
Hawaii State Capitol	Pearl City, HI 96782
Fifth Floor	Tel: 808-453-8683
Honolulu, HI, 96813	elections@aloha.net
Tel: 808-586-0255	
E-mail: ltgov@hawaii.gov	

- Is permanent absentee status available?**

 - ▶ No, although you may request ballots for the primary election and general election on the same form.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ Website: <http://www.hawaii.gov/elections>
 Absentee voting: <http://www.hawaii.gov/elections/voters/voteabsentee.htm>
 Voting factsheets: <http://www.hawaii.gov/elections/factsheets>

IDAHO



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Fill out the request form at: <http://www.idahovotes.gov/VoterReg/absentee.pdf> or submit a written request with the required information (name, residence address in Idaho and mailing address to which such registration or ballot is to be forwarded) signed by the applicant or fill this out:
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Submit it to your county clerk. Find contact information at: <http://www.idahovotes.gov/Clerk.htm>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ To have an absentee ballot mailed to you, the request must be received by the county clerk's office by the 6th day prior to Election Day:
 May 21 for the Primary Election
 October 29 for the General Election
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ You can still cast an absentee ballot in person at the absentee elector's polling place (usually the county clerk's office) up until 5:00 pm the day before Election Day:
 May 26 for the Primary Election
 November 3 for the General Election
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Your ballot must be received by the county clerk no later than 8:00 pm on Election Day:
 Primary Election: May 27
 General Election: November 4
 Voter registration closes 25 days prior to Election Day.
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ October 29: Last day for application for mail-in absentee ballot (for general election) to be received by county clerk not later than 5:00 pm
 November 3: Last day for application of in-person absentee ballot applications at the absentee elector's polling place until 5:00 pm
 November 4: Last day for return of absentee ballots (for general election) by 8:00 pm
 November 4: General Election — 8:00 am to 8:00 pm*
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Ben Ysursa
 700 West Jefferson #203
 Boise ID 83720-0080
 Tel: 208-334-2300
 Fax: 208-334-2282
 E-mail: sosinfo@idsos.state.id.us
<http://www.sos.idaho.gov>
 Elections Division
 Tel: 208-334-2852
 Fax: 208-334-2282
 E-mail: elections@sos.idaho.gov
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No.
- Additional information:** ▶ No.
 Idaho has no-fault absentee voting (a reason for voting absentee is not required). Requests may also be faxed to the county clerk. Absentee ballots cannot be forwarded to someone not registered. If a request is received by a non-registered voter the clerk will send the individual a registration card instructing such individual that they should return the registration application in order that the absentee ballot request can be filled.
 Idaho Voters' Guide: <http://www.idahovotes.gov/VoterGuide/vote.htm>
 Absentee Voting: <http://www.idahovotes.gov/VoterReg/ABSENTEE.htm>
 Students and Voting Residency: http://www.idahovotes.gov/VoterReg/Students_Voting%20Residency.htm

*At Clerk's option, polling places may be opened at 7:00 am (Sec. 34-1101, Idaho Code)

ILLINOIS



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Voters must obtain the official application to request an absentee ballot, either by mail or in person, from your election authority. The election authority is either the county clerk or a board of election commissioners in the jurisdiction where the voter is registered. For example, a voter who is registered in Quincy would contact the Adams County Clerk and a voter registered in the City of Chicago would contact the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners. When you receive the application, include your name, home address, the address where the ballots should be mailed, and sign the application. Also, in primary elections, you must state your party affiliation.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ For a list of county clerks and boards of election commissioners visit this website: <http://www.elections.state.il.us/ElectionAuthorities/ElecAuthorityList.aspx>

Send the request to your county clerk or board of election commissioners.

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ **By Mail:** you must apply for an absentee ballot not more than 40 days nor less than 5 days prior to Election Day:
 January 31 for the Primary Election
 October 31 for the General Election
 - In Person:** you must request an absentee ballot not more than 40 days nor less than 1 day prior to Election Day:
 February 4 for the Primary Election
 November 3 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ Once you receive your ballot, vote the ballot in secret. Then insert the ballot into the envelope provided, seal it, and complete and sign the certification on the back and personally return it or mail it. The absentee voter may authorize (in writing) a spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, or a licensed motor carrier, to deliver to the election authority the completed absentee ballot in sufficient time to be delivered to the polling place on Election Day.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ An individual can vote in person up to and including the day before Election Day:
 February 4 for the Primary Election
 November 3 for the General Election

Absentee ballots must be received in the election authority's office by Election Day:
 Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 4
 Voter registration closes 28 days prior to Election Day.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Jesse White Secretary of State 213 State Capitol Springfield, IL 62706 Tel: 217-782-2201 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ State Board of Elections 1020 South Spring St. Springfield, IL 62704 Tel: 217-782-4141 Toll-free 1-800-252-8980
--	---

- Are there requirements for first-time voters?**

 - ▶ If you are a first-time voter who intends to use an absentee ballot, you must register to vote in person. If you do not register in person but instead by mail or at a registration drive, then you must vote in person the first time you vote. If you vote in person for any election, you may vote by mail in all following elections.

ILLINOIS CONTINUED



Additional information: ▶ To register to vote, download an application at:
<http://www.elections.il.gov/VotingInformation/welcome.aspx>.

More on absentee voting in Illinois:
<http://www.elections.state.il.us/ElectionInformation/DownloadAbs.aspx>

An absentee voting pamphlet can be downloaded from the website:
<http://www.elections.il.gov/Downloads/ElectionInformation/PDF/absevote.pdf>

In person, absentee voting is conducted at the office of the county clerk or board of election commissioners. Qualified municipal, township and road district clerks may also conduct in person absentee voting. Please check with the county clerk or board of election commissioners for a list of local clerks in your area who conduct absentee voting.

INDIANA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Print out and complete the form found at this website: <http://www.in.gov/sos/pdfs/abs-1.pdf>.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ Mail or fax the completed form to your county election board. Contact information is available on the second page of the application, or you can find it online at: <http://www.indianavoters.com/PublicSite/Public/PublicLookup.aspx> or call 317-232-3939.

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Absentee ballots can be requested as early as 90 days before Election Day and applications must be received at least 8 days before the Election Day:
 April 28 for the Primary Election
 October 27 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ Simply complete your ballot and return it to your county election board by mail.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ Ballots must be received in the office of the county clerk by noon the Monday before Election Day:
 May 5 for the Primary Election
 November 3 for the General Election

Absentee voting is also available in the county clerk's office from 29 days before Election Day until noon of the day before Election Day. An application for this kind of absentee voting may also be found online at <http://www.in.gov/sos/pdfs/abs-1.pdf>.

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: May 5 (Registration closes April 7)
 General Election: November 4 (Registration closes October 6)

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶ Todd Rokita
 Elections Division
 201 State House
 Indianapolis, IN 46204
 E-mail: elections@iec.state.in.us
 Tel: 317-232-3939
 Toll-free: 800-622-4941

- Are there requirements for first-time voters?**

 - ▶ You may be required to provide identification before voting an absentee ballot by mail if you registered to vote by mail. Contact your county election board or your county voter registration office for more information. Find contact information at: <http://www.indianavoters.com/PublicSite/Public/PublicLookup.aspx>.

I O W A

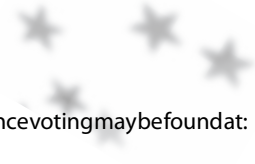


- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Fill out the form available at:
<http://www.sos.state.ia.us/PDFs/AbsenteeBallotApp2002.pdf>
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ You can fax your absentee ballot request to the county auditor's office. You must also mail the original request to the county auditor and the request must be received by 5pm on the Friday before the Election
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Find the mailing address for your local County Auditor's Office:
<http://www.sos.state.ia.us/publications/countydirectory/index.html>

The ballot will be mailed to you as soon as it is ready. If your absentee ballot request is received after the ballots are printed, it will be mailed within 24 hours. If your ballot is delayed, check with the county auditor's office to be sure that the request was received. Request must be received by 5 PM the Friday before the election:
 January 11 for the Primary Election
 October 31 for the General Election
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ You must return your absentee ballot even if you do not vote. After receiving an absentee ballot, if you decide to vote at your polling place on Election Day, turn in the absentee ballot at the polls. You will be asked to vote on special ballot if you do not turn in your absentee ballot.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ By Mail: Ballot must be postmarked by the day before Election Day and received by noon the Monday after most elections. For school elections and some city and special elections, there may be an earlier deadline. Read the instructions sent with the ballot.

In Person: Ballots may be taken to the county auditor's office by the voter or someone the voter chooses. In order to be counted, ballots must be returned to the county auditor's office before the polls close on Election Day:
 Presidential Caucus: January 14
 General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ School Election: September 9 (Registration closes August 29)
 General Election: November 4 (Registration closes October 25)
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Michael Mauro
 Secretary of State
 Statehouse, Des Moines, IA 50319
<http://www.sos.state.ia.us/>
 E-mail: sos@sos.state.ia.us
 Tel: 515-281-8993
 Fax: 515-242-5952
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No.
- Additional information:** ▶ Absentee ballot information: <http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/electioninfo/absenteeinfo.html>

KANSAS



- How do I request an absentee ballot? ▶ Absentee ballots are recalled "Advance Voting" ballots. Application for advance voting may be found at: <http://www.kssos.org/forms/elections/AV1.pdf>
- Where do I send the request? ▶ Contact your county election officer at: http://www.kssos.org/elections/elections_registration_ceo.asp
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot? ▶ The request for a ballot may be made until:
February 1 for the Primary Election
October 31 for the General Election
- What is the voting procedure? ▶ Follow the instructions included with your advance ballot by mail. Return to your county election official by the deadline (below).
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee? ▶ All ballots must be received in the county election office by the close of polls on Election Day:
Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008? ▶ February 5: Primary Election (Registration closes January 21)
November 4: General Election (Registration closes October 20)
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials? ▶

<p>Rob Thornburgh, Secretary of State Memorial Hall, 1st Floor 120 SW 10th Avenue Topeka, KS 66612-1594 Tel: 785-296-4564 E-mail: Ron_Thornburgh@kssos.org</p>	<p>Brad Bryant Division of Elections and Legislative Matters Tel: 785-296-4561 E-mail: election@kssos.org</p>
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- Additional information: ▶ Advanced Voting: http://www.kssos.org/elections/elections_registration_voting.html

KENTUCKY



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Contact your county clerk in person or by mail, phone, or fax. For absentee qualifications see <http://elect.ky.gov/registrationinfo/absenteeballot.htm>
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ See this website to find your county clerk's mailing address: <http://elect.ky.gov/countyclerks.htm>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Your request must be received no later than seven days before Election Day:
 May 13 for the Primary Election
 October 28 for the General Election
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ Vote your paper absentee ballot exactly according to the instructions you receive with it. Please note, if you do not qualify for a paper absentee ballot, you may still be able to vote "absentee" in your county clerk's office 12 or more days before Election Day. Please see the address listed above for more information on who qualifies for voting absentee by mail and who can vote absentee in person.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Ballots must be received in the county clerk's office by 6 PM on Election Day:
 Primary Election: May 20
 General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ May 20: Primary Election (Registration closes April 22)
 November 4: General Election (Registration closes October 7)
 Voter registration closes 28 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Trey Grayson, Secretary of State
 700 Capital Avenue, Suite 152
 State Capitol
 Frankfort, KY 40601
 Tel: 502-564-3490
 Fax: 502-564-5687
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No
- Additional information:** ▶ Although Kentucky does not provide voters with an online form for applying for an absentee ballot, the state elections website does list contact information for county clerks, whom voters must contact directly in order to receive an absentee ballot.

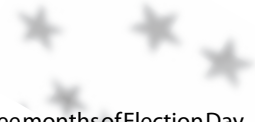
The online elections calendar, located at <http://elect.ky.gov/calendar.htm>, is helpful.

LOUISIANA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Find and print the application available at http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/elections/MISC/request_absentee_ballot.pdf
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Send the request to the office of the registrar of voters in the local parish in which you are registered to vote. For a list of registrars, please see: <http://www.sec.state.la.us/elections/elect-registrars.htm>.
- You may mail your request by the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial service, but do not fax your request.
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Applications must be received in the registrar's office between 60 days and 4 days before the close of polls on the Election Day for which the ballot is requested:
February 5 for the Primary Election
October 31 for the General Election
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ The voting procedure is explained on the ballot itself. Please note that the state will pay to send you your ballot, but you must pay for the return postage.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ All ballots, other than those for military and overseas residents must be received the day before Election Day:
Primary Election: February 8
General Election: November 3
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Primary Election: February 9
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Louisiana Secretary of State
Elections Division
P. O. Box 94125
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125
E-mail: elections@sos.louisiana.gov
<http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/elections/elections-index.htm>
Tel: 225-922-0900
- Additional information:** ▶ Pre-election absentee voting is also available in person in the office of your local registrar of voters. Contact your registrar for specific times.

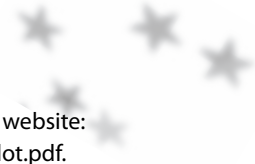
MAINE



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Absentee ballots may be requested from your municipal clerk within three months of Election Day. A link to an application is available at: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/absent.htm>, or you may contact your town clerk or registrar using contact information found at: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/munic.htm> to request one.
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Applications may be mailed, faxed, or delivered in person to the municipal clerk where you are registered to vote. Telephone requests should be directed to the same clerk. Their contact information can be found at: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/mnic.htm>.
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Voters may request application for the absentee ballot 3 months prior to Election Day and you must request your ballot early enough for elections officials to process the request and send your ballot. Ballots must be received by 8:00 pm on Election Day. Leave time to receive your ballot and to send it back.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Ballots must be received by 8:00 pm on Election Day:
 Democratic Presidential Caucus: February 10
 Republican Presidential Caucus: March 21
 General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Democratic Presidential Caucus: February 10
 Republican Presidential Caucus: March 21
 General Election: November 4
 Maine has in-person Election Day voter registration. By-mail voter registration must be received 10 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶

<p>The Office of the Secretary 148 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333 Tel: 207-626-8400</p>	<p>Elections Division 101 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333 Tel: 207-624-7650 E-mail: cec.elections@maine.gov</p>
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- Are there requirements for first-time voters?** ▶ No.
- Additional information:** ▶ Please consult: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/absentee06.html> for Maine's official guide to absentee voting.

MARYLAND



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ You can print out a request for an absentee ballot from the following website: http://www.elections.state.md.us/pdf/application_for_absentee_ballot.pdf.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ Mail the absentee ballot request to your county election office. You can also fax the request. Contact information for your county election office can be found at the following website: http://www.elections.state.md.us/citizens/county_boards.html

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ The request must be received by 4:30 pm on the Tuesday before Election Day. By fax, the request must be received by 11:59 pm on the Tuesday before Election Day:
February 5 for the Primary Election
October 30 for the General Election

A late application can be made in person from the Wednesday before Election Day to the closing of the polls on Election Day.

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ To vote absentee you must first fill out an absentee ballot application and return it to your county board of elections. Once they mail you a ballot, fill it out and return it.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ Mailed or hand-delivered ballots must be received by the election office by 8:00 pm on Election Day:
Primary Election: February 12
General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: February 12
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes 21 days prior to Election Day.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Dennis Schnepfe, Secretary of State State House, Annapolis, MD 21401 http://www.sos.state.md.us Tel: 410-974-5521 Toll-free: 1-888-874-0013 E-mail: MDSOS@sos.state.md.us 	<p>State Board of Elections: 151 West St, Suite 200 Annapolis, MD 21401 Mailing address: P.O. Box 6486 Annapolis, MD 21401-0486 Tel: 410-269-2840 E-mail: info@elections.state.md.us</p>
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- Are there requirements for first-time voters?**

 - ▶ No. Voters must apply each election cycle for absentee status.

- Is permanent absentee status available?**

 - ▶ The State Board of Elections page (<http://www.elections.state.md.us>) has all the information on voting absentee. The frequently asked questions link on the front page provides links to the request forms and where to send the papers.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ Applications must be made in writing, in the form of a letter, postcard, or the official application form, and include your name, registered address, ward and precinct (if known), mailing address, party

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ selectionfortheprimary,andsignature.Mailorhand-deliveryyourapplicationtoyourcity/townclerk. For official applications, go to: <http://www.state.ma.us/sec/ele/elepdf/absbalap.pdf>
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ The address for your city or town clerk can be found at the following website: <http://www.state.ma.us/sec/ele/eleclk/clkidx.htm>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ The application must be received no later than noon the day before Election Day:
 March 3 for the Primary Election
 November 3 for the General Election

Youareadvisedtosendyourapplicationearliertoensurethatyoureceiveandreturnyourabsentee ballot by Election Day.
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ Vote the ballot and return it to your city/town clerk.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ The complete ballot must be received by time polls close on Election Day:
 Primary Election: March 4
 General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Primary Election: March 4
 General Election: November 4
 Voter registration closes 20 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶

<p>William F. Galvin Secretary of the Commonwealth Citizen Information Service One Ashburton Place, Room 1611 Boston, MA 02108-1512 Tel: 617-727-7030 Fax: 617-742-4722 E-mail: cis@sec.state.ma.us http://www.sec.state.ma.us</p>	<p>Secretary of the Commonwealth Elections Division McCormack Building, Room 1705 One Ashburton Place Boston, MA 02108 Tel: 617-727-2828 Fax: 617-742-3238 Toll-free: 1-800-462-VOTE E-mail: elections@sec.state.ma.us</p>
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- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No.
- Additional information:** ▶ FAQ on Absentee Voting: <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleifv/howabs.htm>
 A family member who is qualified to vote absentee can also apply absentee for you.
 Application at: <http://www.state.ma.us/sec/ele/elepdf/absbal2.pdf>

M I C H I G A N



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Go to http://www.michigan.gov/documents/AbsentVoterBallot_105377_7.pdf
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ The city (township) clerk can be found by going to: <https://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mivote/clerksearch.aspx>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Requests must be received no later than 2:00 pm on the Saturday before Election Day:
February 2 for the Primary Election
November 1 for the General Election
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ A ballot will be issued to the mailing address on the application. The ballot must be turned in with your signature on the envelope, so they can verify that it matches the signature on file.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Must be received at the clerk's office by 8:00 pm on Election Day:
Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Primary Election: February 5 (Registration closes January 8)
General Election: November 4 (Registration closes October 7)
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶

<p>Terri Lynn Land, Secretary of State 430 W. Allegan Street, 4th Floor Lansing, MI 48918 http://www.michigan.gov/sos E-mail: secretary@michigan.gov Tel: 517-373-2510</p>	<p>Bureau of Elections P.O. Box 20126 Lansing, MI 48901 Tel: 517-373-2540</p>
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- Are there requirements for first-time voters?** ▶ If you are a first-time voter who intends to use an absentee ballot, you must register to vote in person. If you do not register in person but instead by mail or at a registration drive, then you must vote in person the first time you vote. If you vote in person for any election, you may vote by mail in all following elections.
- Additional information:** ▶ For additional election information, visit www.michigan.gov/sos and click on "Elections in Michigan".



MINNESOTA



- How do I request an absentee ballot? ▶ Go to: <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/docs/absenteeballotapplicationregular.pdf>
Applications are also available at the county auditor or municipal clerk.
- Where do I send the request? ▶ For contact information for your county: <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/home/index.asp?page=53>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot? ▶ Requests can be made at anytime and sent one day before Election Day. However, absentee ballots are first mailed 30 days before Election Day, so it is advisable to make a request before then to ensure sufficient return time.
- What is the voting procedure? ▶ Request an absentee ballot. Once a ballot is mailed to you, complete and return it to the county auditor or municipal clerk. Detailed instructions will be provided and are available online. See "Additional information" for address with link to instructions.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee? ▶ Ballot must be returned by Election Day:
Primary Election: March 4
General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008? ▶ Primary Election: March 4
General Election: November 4
By-mail voter registration closes 20 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials? ▶ Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State
180 State Office Building Elections Division
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Tel: 651-215-1440
St. Paul, MN 55155-1299 Fax: 651-296-9073
<http://www.sos.state.mn.us> Toll-free: 1-877-600-8683
E-mail: secretary.state@state.mn.us E-mail: Elections.dept@state.mn.us
- Is permanent absentee status available? ▶ Yes, but this is only for a United States citizen living permanently outside the United States who is eligible under federal law to vote in federal elections in Minnesota.
- Additional information: ▶ General information on absentee voting (includes instructions on filling out ballot for both registered and non-registered voters): <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/home/index.asp?page=211>

A pamphlet of information specifically for students can be found at:
<http://www.sos.state.mn.us/docs/elect101.pdf>

MISSISSIPPI

- ▶ **How do I request an absentee ballot?** Write to your county's circuit clerk by mail to ask for an application for an absentee ballot.
- ▶ **Where do I send the request?** Find the election commissioners in your county at: <http://www.sos.state.ms.us/elections/VoterRegistrars.asp>
- ▶ **What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** The Secretary of State's voter information guide recommends that you contact your Circuit or Municipal Clerk at least two weeks before Election Day.
- ▶ **What is the voting procedure?** Mail in a request for an application for an absentee ballot. The counties take requests starting 45 days prior to Election Day. Once they send an application, fill it out and return it. They will mail you an absentee ballot, which must be filled out and returned to the county clerk's office.
- ▶ **What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** Ballot must be received by the clerk by 5:00 pm the Monday before Election Day:
March 10 for the Primary Election
November 3 for the General Election
- ▶ **What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** Primary Election: March 11
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.
- ▶ **How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** Eric Clark, Secretary of State
401 Mississippi Street
Jackson, MS 39201
<http://www.sos.state.ms.us/>
Tel: 601-359-1350
Fax: 601-359-1499
Toll-free: 1-800/829-6786

Linda Dixon Rigsby
Assistant Secretary of State for Elections
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 136
Jackson, MS 39205-0136
Elections Call Center: 601-576-2550
Toll Free: 800-829-6786
<http://www.sos.state.ms.us/elections/elections.asp>
- ▶ **Is permanent absentee status available?** Only offered for permanently disabled voters.
- ▶ **Additional information:** Mississippi Voter Information: <http://www.sos.state.ms.us/elections/voterinfo/guide.asp>
Allow three weeks for the entire process of requesting a ballot and returning the ballot.

MISSOURI

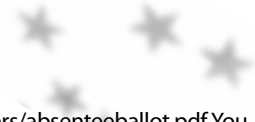


- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Download an application for an absentee ballot at: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/forms/elections/absentee.pdf>
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Applications should be mailed to your local election official. A list of county clerks and election officials (alphabetical by county) is available at: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/countyclerks.asp>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Applications for an absentee ballot must be received by your local election official by 5:00 pm on the Wednesday before Election Day:
January 30 for the Primary Election
October 29 for the General Election
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ According to the state's website, "All absentee ballots must be notarized with the exception of the following: Missouri residents outside the U.S. including military on active duty and their immediate family members, permanently disabled voters and those voting absentee due to illness or physical disability (115.283.6 and 115.283.7) and a caregiver as defined in 115.277.1(2)."
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Absentee ballots must be received by the local election authority by the time the polls close on Election Day:
Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes at 5 PM on the fourth Wednesday prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶

<p>Robin Carnahan State Information Center, 600 W Main Jefferson City, MO 65101 E-mail: SOSmain@sos.mo.gov</p>	<p>Elections P.O. Box 1767 Jefferson City, MO 65102-1767 Tel: 573-751-2301 Email: elections@sos.mo.gov</p>
--	--
- Are there requirements for first-time voters?** ▶ If you registered by mail and are voting for the first time, you may be required to include a copy of ID with your ballot request. See application for absentee ballot (link above) for more information.
- Additional information:** ▶ More on voting absentee: http://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/s_default.asp?id=absentee



MONTANA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Download a PDF application by going to <http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/forms/voters/absenteeballot.pdf>. You may also call either your local elections office or the Montana Secretary of State's office to request an absentee ballot application.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ Mail your application to your local election office. Find your location election office by downloading the PDF file located at <http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/forms/elections/electionadministrators.pdf>.

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Applications for an absentee ballot are available from 75 days before Election Day until noon on the day before Election Day:
June 2 for the Primary Election
November 3 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ Mark your ballot appropriately and return it, in the envelope provided, to your local election office.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ Ballots must be received in your local election office before the polls close on Election Day:
Primary Election: June 3
General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: June 3 (Registration closes May 8)
General Election: November 4 (Registration closes October 6)

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Brad Johnson <p>Montana Office of the Secretary of State Room 260, Capitol P.O. Box 202801 Helena, MT 59620-2801 E-mail: sosinfo@mt.gov Tel: 406-444-2034 Fax: 406-444-3976</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Duane Winslow <p>Elections Deputy P.O. Box 202801 Helena, MT 59620-2801 Tel: 406-444-5376 E-mail: dwinslow@mt.gov</p>
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- Are there requirements for first-time voters?**

 - ▶ No.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ Between 75 and 45 days before Election Day, absentee voting is available in person in your local election office. Go to the office, fill out an application, and vote – all in one day!

Please see: http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/Voter_Information.asp for a more comprehensive guide to absentee voting in Montana (located down the right side of the page).

NEBRASKA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Absentee voting is now called Early Voting in Nebraska. To request a ballot, write to your county clerk/election commissioner. Include name and residence address, political party affiliation, current address, and signature. You may also print out an online request form at: http://www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/pdf/earlyvote_app.pdf

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ Your county clerk/election commissioner can be found at: <http://www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/clerks.html>

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ The deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail is 4:00 pm the Wednesday before Election Day:
 May 7 for the Primary Election
 October 29 for the General Election
 Absentee ballot request forms will be accepted 120 days prior to Election Day, and up until the deadline.

In-person absentee voting is open from 35 days before Election Day until the Monday before Election Day:
 May 12 for the Primary Election
 November 3 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ Any registered voter can vote absentee. Fill out the necessary information to request a ballot, and return it to the county clerk. They will mail out a ballot to you. Fill out the ballot and return it.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ Ballots must be received by mail 8:00 pm CST on Election Day.
 Primary Election: May 13
 General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: May 13
 General Election: November 4
 Mail-in voter registration must be postmarked by the third Friday prior to Election Day for the voter to be eligible for that election.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ John Gale, Secretary of State State Capitol, Suite 2300 Lincoln, NE 68509-4608 http://www.sos.state.ne.us E-mail: receptionist@sos.ne.gov Tel: 402-471-2554 Fax: 402-471-3237 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Election Administration E-mail: electionsdeputy@sos.ne.gov Tel: 402-471-2555 Fax: 402-471-3237
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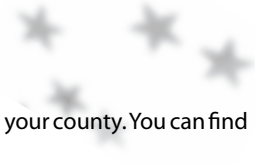
- Is permanent absentee status available?**

 - ▶ No.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ See http://www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/early_vote.html for more information on Early Voting.

NEVADA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ You must get an application from the county clerk/registrars of voters in your county. You can find them at: <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/voter/clerks.asp>
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Return your application to your county clerk/registrars: <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/voter/clerks.asp>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Request applications for absentee ballots any time before 5:00 pm the Tuesday before Election Day:
January 15 for the Presidential Caucuses
October 28 for the General Election
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Absentee ballots must be received at your town/city clerk's office by 5:00 pm on Election Day:
Presidential Caucuses: January 19
General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Presidential Caucuses: January 19
General Election: November 4
Registration closes at 9 PM on the fifth Saturday prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Ross Miller, Secretary of State
Elections Division
101 North Carson Street, Suite 3
Carson City, NV 89701-5725
<http://sos.state.nv.us>
E-mail: nvelect@sos.nv.gov
Tel: 775-684-5708
Fax: 775-684-5724
- Are there requirements for first-time voters?** ▶ If a voter intends to use an absentee ballot when voting for the first time and is registering to vote by mail, he or she must include with the voter registration a copy of a current, valid photo ID (like a Nevada driver's license or a US passport) or a utility or banking statement that shows the voter's name and Nevada address. This voter is then eligible to cast an absentee ballot. If a voter did not include this identification when registering to vote by mail, he or she is not eligible to vote by absentee ballot until he or she has cast one ballot in person for any election. Exceptions apply for the elderly, the handicapped, and military personnel serving overseas.
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No.
- Additional information:** ▶ FAQs on elections and voting: <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/resources/faq.asp>

NEW HAMPSHIRE



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ You can request an absentee ballot by filling out an application at <http://www.sos.nh.gov/election%20forms%20NEW.htm>.
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Send the request to your town/city clerk.
See: <http://www.sos.nh.gov/clerks.htm> to find the address of your clerk.
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ There is no formal deadline, but keep in mind your request must be received and processed, and your ballot must be mailed, filled out, and received by the clerk by Election Day, in order for your vote to be successfully counted. 30 days before Election Day is suggested:
December 23 for the Primary Election
October 5 for the General Election
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ Simply fill out the ballot, sign it, and send it in. No witnesses are required.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Absentee ballots must be received at your town/city clerk's office by 5:00 pm on Election Day:
January 22 for the Primary Election
November 4 for the General Election
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Primary Election: January 22
General Election: November 4
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ William M. Gardner, Secretary of State
Election Division
State House, Room 204
Concord, NH 03301
E-mail: Elections@sos.state.nh.us
Tel: 603-271-3242
Fax: 603-271-6316
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No. You must apply for an absentee ballot separately for each election.
- Additional information:** ▶ See <http://www.sos.nh.gov/vote.htm> for details on registering to vote, absentee voting, and more.

Information for voting as a college student can be found in the MS Word document at:
<http://www.sos.nh.gov/college%20student%20letter.doc>

NEW JERSEY

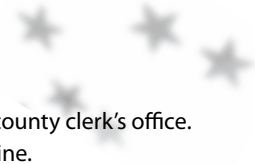


- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Download the absentee ballot request form (PDF) at [http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/absentee_ballot_\(eng\).pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/absentee_ballot_(eng).pdf)
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ You will need to mail (not fax) the completed form to your county clerk. A list of county clerks is provided with the absentee ballot application. You can also find their contact information at http://www.nj.gov/lps/elections/loc_officials_doe.html. (If you follow this link, be sure that you mail your request to the county clerk and NOT to the superintendent or the board of elections.)
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ You may request an absentee ballot by mail until seven days prior to Election Day: October 28 for the General Election (by mail). It is advised, however, that you submit your application several weeks before Election Day in order to allow plenty of time for items to travel through the mail. You may also request an absentee ballot in person at the county clerk's office until 3 PM on the day before Election Day.
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ Simply fill out your ballot, sign it, and return it. No witnesses are required.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Your absentee ballot must be received by the County Board of Elections no later than the close of polls on Election Day:
 Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 4
 Voter registration closes 29 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Contact the NJ Division of Elections at: <http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/elections/home.html>

NJ Division of Elections 44 South Clinton Ave, 7th Floor P.O. Box 304 Trenton, NJ 08625-0304 24 Hour Assistance: 1-877-NJVOTER General Information: 609-292-3760 (TTD/TYY) 1-800-292-0039 Email: njelections@lps.state.nj.us Fax: 609-777-1280	Nina Mitchell Wells Secretary of State P.O. Box 300 Trenton, NJ 08625-0300 E-mail: feedback@sos.state.nj.us Tel: 609-984-1900 Fax: 609-292-7665
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Randi M. Chmielewski
 Eagleton Institute of Politics
 191 Ryders Lane
 New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8557
 Office: 732-932-9384 Ext. 268
 Fax: 732-932-6778
 Email: randic@rci.rutgers.edu
www.eagleton.rutgers.edu
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No.
- Additional information:** ▶ For more information on voting absentee: http://www.nj.gov/lps/elections/absentee_doe.html
 For more information for all NJ voters: <http://www.njvoterinfo.org>

NEW MEXICO



How do I request an absentee ballot? ▶ You must request the official Absentee Ballot Application from your county clerk's office. See below for contact information. Forms are no longer available online.

Where do I send the request? ▶ The request is sent to the county clerk of the county where the voter is registered. See <http://www.sos.state.nm.us/main/Elections/Clerks.htm>

What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot? ▶ The county clerk must receive the application no later than 5 PM on:
February 1 for the Primary Election
October 31 for the General Election

The county clerk is required by law to respond to your request, either with a ballot or an explanation of refusal, within 24 hours. Ballots become available 28 days prior to an election.

You may also vote absentee in person for the General Election from October 15–November 1 in the county clerk's office.

What is the voting procedure? ▶ Instructions will be included with your ballot.

What are the deadlines for voting absentee? ▶ The ballot must be received at the county clerk's office no later than 7:00 pm on Election Day:
Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4

What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008? ▶ Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes 28 days prior to Election Day.

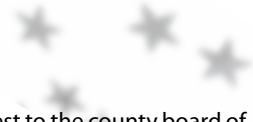
How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials? ▶ Rebecca Vigil-Giron
Office of the New Mexico Secretary of State
State Capitol North Annex, Suite 300
Santa Fe, NM 87503
Tel: 505-827-3600
Fax: 505-827-3634
Toll-free: 1-800-477-3632

Are there requirements for first-time voters? ▶ See the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) ID requirements in the introduction to this guide.

Is permanent absentee status available? ▶ There is no permanent absentee status.

Additional information: ▶ Most of the instructions are also in Spanish. For more information: <http://www.sos.state.nm.us/main/Elections/ElectionInfo.htm>

NORTH CAROLINA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ The voter or the voter’s near relative* may send a signed written request to the county board of elections office beginning 50 days prior to Election Day. Written requests must be received in the office no later than the Tuesday prior to Election Day.

Each request must be signed by the voter or the voter’s near relative, and include the voter’s name and address as they appear on the registration records, and the address where the ballot is to be mailed. It is helpful to include the voter’s date of birth, and if request is by the near relative, the near relative’s address and relationship to the absentee voter.

If the voter is qualified, an application and ballots will be mailed to the voter after the receipt of the written request.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ List of Election Boards (PDF format): <http://www.app.sboe.state.nc.us/about/countyoff.pdf>

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Requests must be received on later than the Tuesday prior to Election Day. You can begin making requests 50 days prior to Election Day.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ The ballot must be received in the County Board of Elections Office by 5:00 pm on the day before Election Day:
February 4 for the Primary Election
November 3 for the General Election

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4

By-mail voter registration must be postmarked by 25 days prior to Election Day for the voter to be eligible for that election.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Elaine F. Marshall, Secretary of State P.O. Box 29622 Raleigh, NC 27626-0622 http://www.sosnc.com E-Mail: emarshall@sosnc.com Tel: 919-807-2005 Fax: 919-807-2010 	<p>State Board of Elections 506 North Harrington Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27603 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 27255 Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-7255 http://www.sboe.state.nc.us E-Mail: elections.sboe@ncmail.net Tel: 919-733-7173 Fax: 919-715-0135</p>
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- Is permanent absentee status available?**

 - ▶ No

NORTH DAKOTA



How do I request an absentee ballot?

- ▶ An application to vote absentee (PDF format) can be found at: <http://www.nd.gov/eforms/Doc/sfn51468.pdf>

You may also write a letter containing the following information:

- the applicant's name
- the applicant's voting address
- the applicant's mailing address
- the applicant's current home telephone number
- the election for which the ballot is being requested
- the date of the request
- an affirmation that the applicant has resided in the precinct for at least thirty days
- the applicant's signature.

In North Dakota, qualified voters are not required to provide a reason when requesting an application to vote absentee.

Where do I send the request?

- ▶ Applications for absentee ballots may be delivered to the appropriate county auditor by mail, in person, or by fax. For a list of county auditors, see the MS Word file available at: <http://www.nd.gov/sos/forms/doc/county-elec-officials.rtf>

What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?

- ▶ Absentee ballots are to be made available by the 40th day before Election Day:
December 25 for the Primary Election
September 25 for the General Election

What is the voting procedure?

- ▶ It is advisable to make a request as early as possible to ensure processing and return in time for Election Day. Absentee ballots may not be issued on Election Day.

You fill out an application (this can be faxed to you and faxed back), you will then receive an absentee ballot, you vote it and then either drop it off or drop it in the mail by the required deadlines. The only time you would need a witness would be if the voter is not capable of signing their own name to the application or absentee ballot envelope. You would then have a "witness to the mark" that would have to sign the name of the voter after the "x" and then sign their own name as a witness to the person who signed with an "x".

What are the deadlines for voting absentee?

- ▶ Absentee ballots must be returned and postmarked by the day before Election Day:
February 4 for the Primary Election
November 3 for the General Election

What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?

- ▶ Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
North Dakota is the only state that does not register voters.

How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?

Alvin A. (Al) Jaeger (Elected, R),
Secretary of State
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 108
Bismarck, ND 58505-0500
<http://www.nd.gov/sos>
E-mail: sos@nd.gov
Tel: 701-328-2900
Fax: 701-328-2992
Toll-free: 1-800/352-0867
TTY: 800-366-6888

Elections Division
E-mail: soselect@nd.gov
Tel: 701-328-4146
Fax: 701-328-2992
Toll Free: 800-352-0864 ext. 8-4146
TTY: 800-366-6888

NORTH DAKOTA

CONTINUED

Are there requirements for first-time voters? ▶

No.

Is permanent absentee status available? ▶

No. You must apply at the beginning of each year; however, you may apply for absentee status for all elections in that year.

Additional information: ▶

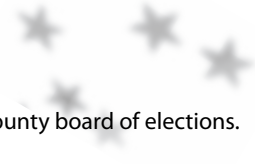
More information on voting absentee:

<http://www.nd.gov/sos/electvote/voting/voting-absentee.html>

Information specifically for college students (PDF format) can be found at:

<http://www.nd.gov/sos/forms/pdf/college-students-voting.pdf>

O H I O



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ An absentee ballot may be requested by visiting or writing to your county board of elections. You may also download an application (PDF format) at:
<http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/electionsVoter/forms/11a.pdf>
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Mail your request to your County Elections Board. Find contact information at:
<http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/ElectionsVoter/OhioElections.aspx?Section=boeDir>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ If voting in person, you may apply until the close of regular board of elections' hours the day before Election Day. If requesting a ballot by mail, your written request for an absentee ballot must be received at the board by noon, 3 days before Election Day:
 March 1 for the Primary Election
 November 1 for the General Election
 Noon of the third day (Saturday) before Special Elections
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ You will be sent an absentee ballot. Fill it out and return to your County Elections Board.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ An absentee ballot must be received at the County Electors Board by 7:30 pm on Election Day:
 Primary Election: March 4
 General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Primary Election: March 4
 General Election: November 4
 Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Jennifer Brunner, Secretary of State
<http://www.sos.state.oh.us>
 E-mail: guide@sos.state.oh.us
 Tel: 614-466-2655

Election Services
 180 East Broad Street, 15th Floor
 Columbus, OH 43215
 E-mail: election@sos.state.oh.us
 Tel: 614-466-2585
- Are there requirements for first-time voters?** ▶ No.
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No.
- Additional information:** ▶ Absenteevoting:
<http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/PublicAffairs/VoterInfoGuide.aspx?section=16>



O R E G O N



- ▶ **How do I request an absentee ballot?** Oregon residence address, address to which you want the ballots sent, and your signature. (Know that although Oregon's elections are entirely Vote by Mail, you must follow this process for an absentee ballot.)
 - ▶ **Where do I send the request?** Send the request to your county elections office. A list of county elections offices is available at: <http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/other.info/clerk.htm>
 - ▶ **What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** There is no official deadline, but keep in mind that your request must be processed, your ballot must be sent to you, and returned to the county elections office by Election Day, so make sure to request your ballot several weeks before Election Day. Applications for absentee ballots are made available 45 days before an election.
 - ▶ **What is the voting procedure?** Simply fill out the ballot and return it to your county elections office in the envelope provided.
 - ▶ **What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** Your ballot must be received at the county elections office no later than 8:00 pm on Election Day:
 Primary Election: May 20
 General Election: November 4
 Postmarks do not count.
 - ▶ **What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** Primary Election: May 20
 General Election: November 4
 Voter registration closes 21 days prior to Election Day.
 - ▶ **How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

Bill Bradbury Secretary of State 136 State Capitol Building Salem, OR 97310 E-mail: oregon.sos@state.or.us Tel: 503-986-1523 Fax: 503-986-1616	Elections Division 141 State Capitol Salem, OR 97301 Tel: 503-986-1518 Fax: 503-373-7414 Toll-free: 1-866-ORE-VOTES TTY: 503-378-5812 E-mail: electionsdivision@sosinet.sos.state.or.us
--	---
 - ▶ **Is permanent absentee status available?** No.
 - ▶ **Additional information:** To see the Oregon Guide to Vote by Mail (PDF format), go to: <http://www.sos.state.or.us/executive/votebymail/>
- Find a link to the official absentee ballot form here:

P E N N S Y L V A N I A



- How do I request an absentee ballot? ▶ <http://www.dos.state.pa.us/voting/cwp/view.asp?a=1193&q=442991&votingNav=1>

Unless you have a disability, the form must be sent by US mail or delivered in person to your county voter registration offices. For contact information, go to: <http://www.dos.state.pa.us/voting/cwp/view.asp?a=1195&Q=443005&votingnov=1>
- Where do I send the request? ▶ Applications for an absentee ballot must be received by the department county board of elections no earlier than 50 days before Election Day and no later than 7 days before Election Day:
January 29 for the Primary Election
October 28 for the General Election

It is strongly suggested that you secure, complete and return your absentee ballot application as soon as possible. This will provide sufficient mailing time for us to receive and process your application, mail your ballot, and allow you to vote and return your ballot by the deadline.

Vote the absentee ballot and return by mail.
- What is the voting procedure? ▶ All voted Absentee Ballots must be received in the office of the Elections Division no later than 5:00 pm on the Friday prior to Election Day:
February 1 for the Primary Election
October 31 for the General Election

Primary Election: February 5
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee? ▶
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008? ▶ Pedro A. Cortes, Secretary of State
Bureau of Commissions, Elections, and Legislation
210 N. Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Tel: 717-787-5280
E-mail: ST-VOTERREG@state.pa.us
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials? ▶ No.
- Is permanent absentee status available? ▶ A college student voting guide (PDF format) can be found at:
http://www.dos.state.pa.us/voting/lib/voting/guide/student_voting_guide_05.pdf
- Additional information: ▶ More information on voting in Pennsylvania from the PA Department of State:
<http://www.votespa.com>

Know that Rhode Island calls absentee voting “voting by mail.” You must first obtain an application

R H O D E I S L A N D



- How do I request an absentee ballot? ▶ for a mail ballot from your local Board of Canvassers. To find yours, go to: <http://www.elections.ri.gov/Boards/boards.htm>. You may have another person pick one up for you or call your local Board and request that an application be sent to you. This application must be filled out, witnessed or notarized by two witnesses, and delivered to the local Board so that it is received no later than 4:00 pm on the 21st day before Election Day or primary in which you wish to vote. The application may be mailed, picked up by you or personally delivered by a person acting at your request.

- Where do I send the request? ▶ To your local Board of Canvassers at:
<http://www.elections.ri.gov/Boards/boards.htm>

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot? ▶ By 4:00 pm, 21 days prior to Election Day:
 January 15 for the Primary Election
 October 14 for the General Election

- What is the voting procedure? ▶ When you receive your ballot, vote and enclose in the envelope provided. Seal the envelope and have two witnesses or one Notary Public sign in the spaces provided.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee? ▶ By 9:00 pm on Election Day:
 Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008? ▶ Primary Election: February 5
 General Election: November 4
 Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials? ▶ Rhode Island Board of Elections
 50 Branch Avenue
 Providence, RI 02904-2790
<http://www.elections.ri.gov>
 Tel: 401-222-2345
 Fax: 401-222-3135

- Are there requirements for first-time voters? ▶ No.

- Is permanent absentee status available? ▶ No.

- Additional information: ▶ Voting by Mail Ballot in Rhode Island: <http://www.elections.ri.gov/mailvote.htm>
 Voters can begin applying as early as January 1 to vote absentee for any election held during that



SOUTH CAROLINA



- ▶ **How do I request an absentee ballot?** same year. Application may be made in person, by phone, or in writing by contacting your County Voter Registration Office in the county in which you are registered.
- ▶ **Where do I send the request?** Send your application to your County Voter Registration Office. For a complete listing of county offices and contact information, go to: <http://www.state.sc.us/scsec/votereg.htm>
- ▶ **What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** If applying by mail, the county voter registration office must receive your application no later than four days prior to Election Day:
 - ▶ January 25 for the Democratic Presidential Preference Primary
 - ▶ January 29 for the Republican Presidential Preference Primary
 - ▶ June 6 for the Primary Election
 - ▶ October 31 for the General Election

If you wish, you may apply and vote in person up until 5:00 pm the day before Election Day:

 - ▶ January 28 for the Democratic Presidential Preference Primary
 - ▶ February 1 for the Republican Presidential Preference Primary
 - ▶ June 9 for the Primary Election
 - ▶ November 3 for the General Election
- ▶ **What is the voting procedure?** Your completed absentee ballot must be placed in the "Ballots Herein" envelope provided with your absentee ballot. The "Ballots Herein" envelope will then be placed inside a "Return Envelope" which you must sign and have witnessed before returning.
- ▶ **What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** By close of polls on Election Day.
 - ▶ January 29 for the Democratic Presidential Preference Primary
 - ▶ February 3 for the Republican Presidential Preference Primary
 - ▶ Primary Election: June 10
 - ▶ General Election: November 4
- ▶ **What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.
- ▶ **How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** [Marci Andino](#), Executive Director
 State Election Commission
 2221 Devine Street, Suite 105
 Columbia, SC 29205
<http://www.state.sc.us/scsec>
 E-mail: elections@elections.sc.gov
 Tel: 803-734-9060
- ▶ **Are there requirements for first-time voters?** No.
- ▶ **Is permanent absentee status available?** No.
- ▶ **Additional information:** Website on Absentee Voting: <http://www.state.sc.us/scsec/absent.htm>
- ▶ To fill out a request form online and print it, visit:



SOUTH DAKOTA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ <http://www.sdsos.gov/electionsvoteregistration/electvoterpdfs/e1826V1-AbsenteeBallotApplication.pdf>
To print a blank form, visit:
<http://www.sdsos.gov/electionsvoteregistration/electvoterpdfs/AbsenteeBallotApplication.pdf>

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ <http://www.sdsos.gov/electionsvoteregistration/auditorcontactinformation.shtm>

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ Absentee ballots can be requested any time during the election's calendar year until 3:00 pm on Election Day. Citizens can request all absentee ballots for that calendar year on one absentee ballot request application.

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ Voters who qualify to vote absentee may also go to the auditor's office, complete an application, and vote in the office. This should be done prior to Election Day. A voter who is sick or confined may request an absentee ballot in writing, naming an authorized messenger who will deliver the ballot to the voter. The voter must sign a statement on the absentee ballot envelope prior to returning the ballot.

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ All ballots must be returned to the county auditor by the close of polls on Election Day:
Primary Election: June 6
General Election: November 7

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ Primary Election: June 6
General Election: November 7
By-mail voter registration must be received by 15 days prior to Election Day.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶ Election Information
Office of South Dakota Secretary of State
500 East Capitol Ave, Suite 204
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Tel: 605-773-3537
Fax 605-773-6580
<http://www.sdsos.gov>
elections@state.sd.us

- Is permanent absentee status available?**

 - ▶ No. The absentee ballot application can be used to receive an absentee ballot for all statewide and county elections for that calendar year. School and city elections must have a separate absentee application submitted.

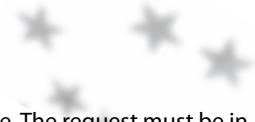
- Additional information:**

 - ▶ State voting laws changed on January 1, 2004. Absentee ballot applications are now required to be notarized or submitted with a photocopy of the voter's picture ID.

For more information on absentee voting, see:
<http://www.sdsos.gov/electionsvoteregistration/registrationvoting.shtm#absentee>

One can request an absentee ballot by mail or fax (if the local election office has a fax machine).

T E N N E S S E E



- How do I request an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ A voter may make a request or submit an application to vote absentee. The request must be in writing and signed by the voter so that the signatures may be compared. The request will serve as an application for ballot if it contains the following information: the voter's name, the registered voting address, the voter's social security number, the address to mail the ballot outside the county, the election the voter wishes to participate in (for a primary, the voter must indicate a party preference or else a general ballot will be sent), the reason the voter wishes to vote absentee and the voter's signature.

See <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/election/absentee.htm>.

- Where do I send the request?**

 - ▶ For contact information for your County Election Commission, go to <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/election/admin/AdminInfoWeb.xml>.

The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot is not more than ninety days and not later than seven days before Election Day:

- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

 - ▶ April 29 for the County Primary Election
July 31 for the State Primary Election
October 28 for the General Election

Vote the ballot and MAIL the ballot back to the local election office. It does not require a witness unless assistance is given.

- What is the voting procedure?**

 - ▶ Ballot must be received by the close of the polls on Election Day:
County Primary Election: May 6
State Primary Election: August 7
General Election: November 4

- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?**

 - ▶ County Primary Election: May 6
State Primary Election: August 7
General Election: November 4

- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?**

 - ▶ County Primary Election: May 6
State Primary Election: August 7
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.

- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?**

 - ▶ Division of Elections
312 8th Avenue North
William R. Snodgrass Tower, 9th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
E-mail: tennessee.elections@state.tn.us
Tel: 615-741-7956

- Are there requirements for first-time voters?**

 - ▶ If you are a first-time voter who intends to use an absentee ballot, you must register to vote in person. If you do not register in person but instead by mail or at a registration drive, then you must vote in person the first time you vote. If you vote in person for any election, you may vote by mail in all following elections.

- Is permanent absentee status available?**

 - ▶ Yes, with an appropriate doctor's statement.

- Additional information:**

 - ▶ To view a complete list of election dates and offices to be elected, see the 2006 Election Calendar (PDF) at: <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/election/cityelections2007date.pdf>

Absentee voting in Texas is called early voting. To download an application (PDF format), go to: <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/forms/a5-14.pdf>

T E X A S



- How do I request an absentee ballot? ▶ Be sure to read the instructions on the application carefully.

The application is also available in Spanish (PDF format) at <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/forms/a5-14s.pdf>.

Send your application to your county clerk. For a listing, see: <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>
- Where do I send the request? ▶ Applications for a ballot by mail must be received by the early voting clerk between the 60th day before Election Day and before the close of business on the 7th day before Election Day:
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot? ▶ [Primary Election: February 26](#)
[Primary Runoff Election: April 1](#)
[General Uniform Election: October 28](#)

(Note: You may fax the application to your early voting clerk if the clerk has a fax in his/her office and you are faxing from outside your county.)
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee? ▶ When you receive your ballot, vote and return it to your Early Voting Clerk by 7:00 pm on Election Day:

Primary Election: March 4
 Primary Runoff Election: April 8
 General Uniform Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008? ▶ Primary Election: March 4
 Primary Runoff Election: April 8
 General Uniform Election: November 4

Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.

See <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/2006dates.shtml> for a complete 2006 elections calendar.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials? ▶ Elections Division
 P.O Box 12060
 Austin, TX 78711-2060
 E-mail: elections@sos.state.tx.us
 Tel: 512-463-5650
 Toll Free: 1-800-252-VOTE (8683)
- Is permanent absentee status available? ▶ No.
- Additional information: ▶ Useful information on early voting:
<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/pamphlets/earlyvote.shtml>

Information specifically for student voters:

U T A H



- How do I request an absentee ballot? ▶ <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/studentvoters.shtml>
- Where do I send the request? ▶ Find a form (PDF format) at:
<http://elections.utah.gov/absenteeapp.pdf>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot? ▶ Requests must be sent to the county clerk's office. Find contact information at <http://www.elections.utah.gov/countyclerks.html>
- What is the voting procedure? ▶ Requests for an absentee ballot by mail must be received no later than the Friday before Election Day:
[February 1 for the Primary Election](#)
[October 31 for the General Election](#)
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee? ▶ Once a ballot is sent to you, complete it and return to either your county or city clerk, depending on what type of election it is (county if a regular general or primary in even number years, city if a municipal general or primary in odd number years).

Ballots are only valid if they are postmarked by the day before Election Day:
[On or before February 4 for the Primary Election](#)
[On or before November 3 for the General Election](#)

They must be received by the "official canvass" (the official count of ballots), which is usually 1-14 days after Election Day. Return your ballot in plenty of time to make sure it is counted!
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008? ▶ [Primary Election: February 5](#)
[General Election: November 4](#)
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials? ▶ Voter registration closes 20 days prior to Election Day.

State Elections Office
Utah State Capitol Complex
East Office Building, Suite E325
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 142325
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-2325
<http://elections.utah.gov>
Tel: 801-538-1041
Fax: 801-538-1133
Toll Free: 1-800-995-VOTE
- Are there requirements for first-time voters? ▶ No.
- Is permanent absentee status available? ▶ No.
- Additional information: ▶



V E R M O N T



How do I request an absentee ballot?

▶ FAQ on Absentee Voting: <http://www.elections.utah.gov/absenteevoting.html>

Where do I send the request?

▶ Request an absentee ballot by contacting your town clerk's office prior to the date of Election Day. You may send a written request or request a ballot over the telephone.

For a ballot request form, download the document available at:
<http://vermont-elections.org/elections1/Absenteeballotrequest.doc>.

Find your town clerk from the list on pages 4-21 of the PDF file located at
<http://vermont-elections.org/elections1/2006TCGuide8152006.pdf>.

What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?

▶ Where two addresses are listed side by side, the mailing address is on the right.

The deadline is 5:00 pm the day prior to Election Day, if the town clerk is open on that day:
March 4 for the Primary Election

November 4 for the General Election

What is the voting procedure?

▶ There are no witnesses required when voting by absentee ballot. Make sure to sign the outside of the envelope.

What are the deadlines for voting absentee?

Absentee ballots must be received by closing on Election Day:
Primary Election: March 4
General Election: November 4

What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?

▶ By-mail voter registration must be received by noon on the second Saturday prior to Election Day:
Primary Election: February 23
General Election: October 25

How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?

Deborah L. Markowitz, Secretary of State
Redstone Building
26 Terrace Street
Montpelier, VT
<http://www.sec.state.vt.us>
E-mail: dmarkowitz@sec.state.vt.us
Tel: 802-828-2363
Fax: 802-828-2496

Kathy DeWolfe, Director
Elections Division
Office of the VT Secretary of State
26 Terrace Street, Drawer 09
Montpelier, VT 05609-1101
E-mail: kdewolfe@sec.state.vt.us

Is permanent absentee status available?

▶

Additional information:

▶ No. However, you can only simultaneously request absentee ballots for the Statewide Primary and the General Election if the mail-to address is the same.

Early and absentee voting: <http://vermont-elections.org/elections1/absentee.html>



WASHINGTON

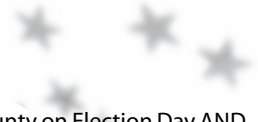


- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Absentee Voting: http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Absentee_Voting/Index.html
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Many counties in Washington vote entirely by mail. In these counties, you may contact your County Auditor and update your mailing address to reflect your out-of-state location. If your county votes at a polling place, you may request an absentee ballot by contacting your County Auditor (in person or by phone, fax, e-mail or mail).

Send the request form to your County Auditor. Find contact information at: <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/auditors.aspx>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ You may request an absentee ballot from 90 days prior to Election Day until the day before Election Day:
[Until February 18 for the Primary Election](#)
[Until November 3 for the General Election](#)
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ Follow the instructions on your ballot, sign it, and mail it back to the County Auditor.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Absentee ballots must be postmarked (or delivered directly to the office of your county election officer) on or before Election Day. There will be a 21 day certification period following the General Election for absentee ballots that are postmarked by Election Day.
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ [Primary Election: February 19](#)
[General Election: November 4](#)
 Voter registration closes 30 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Sam Reed, Secretary of State
 P.O. Box 40220
 Olympia, WA 98504-0229
 E-mail: sreed@secstate.wa.gov
 Tel: 360-902-4151

Nick Handy, Director
 Elections Division
 520 Union Avenue SE
 Olympia, WA 98504
 E-mail: elections@secstate.wa.gov
 Tel: (360) 902-4180
 Toll Free: (800) 448-4881
- Are there requirements for first-time voters?** ▶ No
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ If you wish to receive an absentee ballot for every election, check the appropriate box when you register to vote. The State will automatically send you a ballot for every election in which you can vote. To update this status, contact your County Auditor.
- Additional information:** ▶ FAQs on Voting by Mail: http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/faq_vote_by_mail.aspx

WEST VIRGINIA



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ You are eligible to vote by mail only if you will be out of your home county on Election Day AND during the entire period of early voting in person, which runs from 20 to 3 days before Election Day. If you meet this requirement, an absentee by mail application (PDF format) is available from county or circuit clerk and the secretary of state's webpage, available at: <http://www.wvsos.com/forms/elections/a2.pdf>
- Where do I send the request?** ▶ Absentee requests should be mailed to your county clerk. For contact information, go to: <http://www.wvsos.com/service/rosters/countyclerks.htm>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Applications for absentee ballot by mail must be received by the county clerk 6 days prior to Election Day:
May 7 for the Primary Election
October 29 for the General Election
You may apply as early as eight weeks before Election Day.
- What is the voting procedure?** ▶ The person requesting to vote absentee will be mailed a ballot. The ballot must be completely filled out, and then placed in a blank envelope. The blank envelope is placed in the outer envelope containing mailing information. No witnesses are required.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Absentee ballots must be postmarked by Election Day and received by canvass (the Friday after a Primary Election or 6 days after a General Election).
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ **Primary Election: May 13**
General Election: November 4
Voter registration closes 20 days prior to Election Day.
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Jason Williams, Manager
Elections Division
West Virginia Secretary of State
Bldg. 1, Suite 157-K
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25305-0770
E-mail: jwilliams@wvsos.com
Tel: 304-558-6000
Fax: 304-558-8386
Toll-free: 866-SOS-VOTE
- Are there requirements for first-time voters?** ▶ If you registered to vote by mail and did not submit identification at that time, you may be required to submit ID with your absentee ballot. See the introduction to this guide for information on appropriate ID.
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ Voters may only apply for permanent absentee status for medical reasons.
- Additional information:** ▶ Absentee & Early In-Person Voting in WV:
<http://www.wvsos.com/elections/voters/absentee.htm>

Calendar of Absentee & Early Voting:
<http://www.wvsos.com/elections/voters/calendarabsentee.htm>

W Y O M I N G



- How do I request an absentee ballot?** ▶ Call or write to the county clerk. You can find contact information at: <http://soswy.state.wy.us/election/clerks.htm>
- What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?** ▶ Anytime before Election Day.
- What are the deadlines for voting absentee?** ▶ Ballot must be in the clerk's hands before 7:00 pm on the night of Election Day:
Primary Election: January 22
General Election: November 4
- What are the election dates and deadlines for 2008?** ▶ Primary Election: January 22
General Election: November 4
- How do I contact the Secretary of State / election officials?** ▶ Max Maxfield, Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Tel: 307-777-7378
Fax: 307-777-6217
Elections Officer
Wyoming Secretary of State
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0020
E-mail: elections@state.wy.us
Tel: 307-777-7186
Fax: 307-777-7640
- Are there requirements for first-time voters?** ▶ No.
- Is permanent absentee status available?** ▶ No.
- Additional information:** ▶ Information about the 2006 election: <http://soswy.state.wy.us/election/06elect.htm>