



## Requesting a Mail-In Ballot and Mail-in Voting Maryland

**Deadline to Request a Mail-In Ballot:** Must be received by October 20, 2020

**Deadline to Submit a Mail-In Ballot:** Postmarked on or before Election Day (November 3, 2020) and received by 10 AM on November 13, 2020

### How can voters request a mail-in ballot?

#### All eligible voters have the right to vote-by-mail.

Voters must be registered to vote by October 13 if they want to vote by mail. Otherwise voters will have to register and vote in person to vote in the November 2020 election. In [light of the pandemic](#), all active registered voters will be mailed an absentee ballot application for the November 2020 election.

Applications must be submitted by October 20, by either using the form you received by mail or:

- (1) Applying online [here](#) (but only for yourself);
- (2) Sending this [application](#) to the county board by mail, fax, or email;
- (3) Or by making a written request by mail or in-person with the [local election board](#), with voter's name, residential address (or address where ballot should be mailed if different from residents), and signature.

To request a mail-in ballot online, generally, the voter must provide:

- (1) A Maryland driver's license, other Maryland ID card, the last four digits of one's social security number, and other information requested by the State Board of Elections; or
- (2) If the voter is absent due to military service, living overseas, or has a disability and does not have a Maryland driver's license, the last four digits of the voter's social security number.

Voter's can choose to have their blank ballot delivered to them by mail, fax, internet, or in person.

### What is the deadline for requesting a mail-in ballot?

Applications for mail-in ballots must be received by voters' local Board of Elections by **October 20, 2020**.

### Can you assist voters in requesting a ballot?

Yes, voters may designate an agent to pick up and deliver an absentee or mail-in ballot on the voter's behalf. Qualified agents must be: (a) at least 18 years old; (b) not a candidate on the ballot they're assisting procure; (c) designated by the voter in writing; and (d) executes an affidavit under penalty of perjury that ballot was delivered to the voter who submitted the application, marked and placed the ballot in an envelope by the voter, and returned to the local board by the agent.

You must have this [form](#) completed.

## How can voters return a marked ballot?

Absentee/mail-in ballots may be returned by placing the marked ballot in the specially printed, pre-paid envelope supplied by the Election Board with the ballot, and submitting it by:

- Bringing it to the [board of elections](#);
- Bringing it to an [early voting center](#);
- Depositing it in a [drop box](#);
- Or mailing it
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Absentee ballots sent to voters by Internet or fax should be provided with an envelope template, the oath prescribed by the State Board of Elections, and instructions for marking and returning the ballot.

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## Can you assist voters in returning a marked ballot?

Maryland law does not specifically address general assistance with ballot return. Voters who need assistance completing their ballots due to disability, inability to read or write can get assistance with marking their ballot, provided that the person assisting the voter executes a certification that they've followed state law.

The only people who can't help a voter are:

- candidates on the voter's ballot;
- employers or agents of the voter's employer; or
- officers or agents of the voter's union.

If a voter needs help completing the mail-in ballot application, someone can help with Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the application and must complete Part 4. If a voter cannot sign the application, the person helping the voter should print the voter's name in Part 3 and write their initials after the voter's name.

If a voter needs help voting their ballot, the person helping the voter must mark the ballot according to the voter's wishes and cannot make an effort to influence their vote. This person must also complete the Certification of Person Assisting mail-in Voter (provided with the mail-in ballot). This certification must be returned with the voted ballot.

[Contact the local board of elections](#) for more information on this process.

*Fair Elections Center and Campus Vote Project intend the information contained herein to be used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed Maryland legal professional.*

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For more information, visit  
[www.fairelectionscenter.org](http://www.fairelectionscenter.org)