



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to vote in Georgia you must be:

- A citizen of the United States
- A legal resident of Georgia & the county in which you wish to vote
- At least 17.5 years old to register, and 18 years old to vote
- Not serving any sentence imposed by the conviction of a **felony** – Be “off papers” completed prison sentence, paid fine, finished parole/probation.
- Not judicially determined to be mentally incompetent

CHECK THEIR STATUS

If citizens are not sure if they are registered to vote or not, encourage them to **check their registration status** instead of simply completing a new registration form. You can easily check their status on your phone or theirs using the Secretary of State’s My Georgia Voter page. <https://bit.ly/MyGaVoter>

VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

State Form: The state mail-in voter registration application can be downloaded and printed from the Secretary of State’s website. State forms are also available in bulk from the secretary of state or county board of elections.

Applicants with a **Georgia driver's license or identification card** issued by the Georgia Department of Driver Services can **register to vote online** OR through the **GA SOS app**.

Apply online <https://bit.ly/RegVoteGA>

Federal Form: The federal mail-in voter registration application may be used in voter registration drives. <http://bit.ly/FedVtrForm>

Photocopying Blank Forms: Georgia allows photocopying blank forms for use in voter registration drives.

Georgia **does not require** that applicants show us their Driver’s License or Social Security Card. The applicant only needs to write the information on the form.

If citizens are not sure if they are registered to vote or not, encourage them to **check their registration status** instead of simply completing a new registration form. You can easily check their status on your phone or theirs using the Secretary of State’s My Georgia Voter page.

Avoid writing on registration forms yourself or offering assistance. **All registration forms must be filled out by the applicant.** Only those applicants who **are illiterate or disabled** may receive assistance in completing the form. In Georgia, you **must indicate on the form that you provided this assistance.**

Do not make comments or suggestions regarding party affiliation, candidates, or political issues, even if an applicant asks questions or makes comments regarding parties or politics. If a citizen is holding or wearing campaign material, avoid commenting on it.

PROCESSING

Voter registration forms are gold. Treat them like it. They contain confidential information. Providing false information on a voter registration application is a felony.

Security of Voter Registration Applications. A private entity conducting voter registration activities must keep all completed original voter registration applications in a secure and confidential manner at all times until such applications are submitted to the Secretary of State or the appropriate board of registrars.

Applications accepted by voter registration organizations from applicants must be sealed, unless the application is accompanied by a **signed acknowledgement** that the applicant willingly and knowingly provided the unsealed application.

Only with the express, written consent of the applicant, may another person make copies of an original voter registration application. Such copies should only be used in aiding the applicant with verifying the timely and proper receipt and processing of his/her application by the applicable board of registrars.

COMPLETING THE FORMS

Make sure that applicants complete the registration form in **full**, including signature and date, last 4 or their social security number **OR** driver's license number, and verifications of U.S. citizenship and age. Incomplete registration forms will be rejected by election officials.

Check registration forms to ensure they're easy to read. If part or all of the form is illegible, encourage the applicant to make corrections, if possible, or complete a new registration form. Avoid making corrections yourself unless the applicant is a person with a disability. Illegible registration forms will lead to errors in processing or even non-processing of the form.

Check the form twice – two sets of eyes is best. Make sure the registrant has signed his/her name in the appropriate spot and has not mixed up his/her birthdate and the current date or written US in the County Section.

Required Voter Registration Notice: Written notice must either be posted at the registration site or handed out to all applicants. For more information go to: http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/voter_registration_drive2

Submitting completed registration forms

Submitting Completed Applications: A group conducting a voter registration drive must postmark or deliver a completed application within **10 days** of receiving the application. However, if the group receives a completed voter registration application **14 or fewer days before the registration deadline**, the group must transmit the application within **72 hours** or by **midnight** on the **close of registration**, whichever is earlier.

- The state registration form can be mailed to the secretary of state or the appropriate county board of registrars.

- The federal registration form can be mailed to the following address: Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of State, 802 West Tower, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. SE, Atlanta, GA 30334-1505.
- With each delivery of completed applications, an organization should, at a minimum, provide a **transmittal summary sheet** that contains the name of the submitting individual, the name of the entity sponsoring the voter registration programs (if different than the submitting individual), the physical residence or business address of the submitting individual, the daytime/evening telephone numbers of the submitting individual, and the total number of applications being submitted.
- Even if registration forms are late, you must still return them. Failing to submit completed registration forms disenfranchises the applicants and is against the law.

YOU'VE REGISTERED, NOW WHAT?

Within two to four weeks after registering to vote, you should receive a precinct card which will list the polling place where you will vote, as well as your districts. If you do not receive your voter registration card, you should:

Check the status of your registration by visiting the Secretary of State's voter information website at <https://bit.ly/MyGaVoter> to access the My Georgia Voter Page. If you cannot access this information, call your local voter registration office.

The screenshot shows the 'My Voter Page' header with the Georgia Secretary of State logo and Brad Raffensperger's name. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Corporations, Elections, News Room, Professional Licensing Boards, Securities, and Charities. The main content area is titled 'Welcome to MVP' and features a 'SECURE THE VOTE' graphic. It includes a list of items to check using MVP Log In, an MVP Login form with fields for Name, County, and Date of Birth, and buttons for Register and Key Election Dates. At the bottom, there are five informational tiles: Georgia Voter ID, Stop Voter Fraud, Elections Division, Elections Advisory Council, and Georgia VoteSafe. A note at the bottom states that the MVP provides a web-based search of data extracted from the statewide voter registration database, which is not the official record.

They can also access the League's one-stop-shop for nonpartisan voter information. Click here: <https://bit.ly/lwvgavote411>



Nonpartisan election Information from the League of Women Voters

- Register to Vote
- Verify Registration Status
- Voter ID Requirements
- Polling Locations
- Absentee Voter Applications
- Early Voting Options
- Personalized Ballots
- Info on Candidates



VOTING OPTIONS

Absentee (Vote by Mail)

In-Person Absentee (Early Voting) 3 Weeks prior to the election

<http://bit.ly/EarlyVtrLocations>

In-Person on Election Day

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

I want to vote, but I won't be able to get to the polls to vote in person. How can I vote? You can download the pdf form and print it out. Mail, email, (as an attachment), or present the form in person to your local County Board of Registrar's Office. You can also request your absentee ballot online if you have Georgia Driver's License or official ID.

- Download and print your application here: bit.ly/GAabsballot
- Request your absentee ballot online here: bit.ly/AbsenteeRequestOnline
- Where do I return my application: bit.ly/CountyElections

Voters can apply for an **absentee ballot** starting 180 days before Election Day. Applications must be received by the Friday before Election Day. Georgia voters do not have to provide an excuse to request an absentee ballot.

If you're over 65, disabled, a member of the military, etc. then you have the option of selecting to have your county registrar's office automatically mail you an absentee ballot for EACH election (except special elections) through the current election cycle. The current election cycle for 2020 ends with the January 5th 2021 federal runoff election. If you do not have an excuse (you do NOT have to have one to vote absentee), you must submit one application per election date.

You must request to receive an absentee ballot. Requesting an absentee ballot application is the first step to vote by mail. After the application is completed and sent to the county registrar, the registrar will process the application. Assuming there are no problems with the ballot application, an official ballot will be mailed to the voter.

The USPS cannot forward absentee ballots—so if you request a mail-in ballot, ensure your ballot is mailed to an address where you can access it before the election.

Absentee ballot requests can be sent by mail, fax or email to local County Board of Elections offices. Absentee ballots can also be requested online. However, a completed ballot must be returned by mail, via an absentee drop box, or in person.

Track Your Ballot

Once an absentee ballot is requested and mailed, voters can track their own ballot via the My Voter Page bit.ly/MyGaVoter or via Georgia's Ballottrax bit.ly/GABallottrax. Voters may also call their local Boards of Elections to confirm a ballot has been received. Due to an increased amount of ballot requests, Boards may be slower to respond to questions.

COMPLETING AND RETURNING YOUR BALLOT

Instructions are also included in your packet. You should receive everything you need to vote.

1. Use black or blue pen to mark your ballot. Make sure the ink is dry before folding the ballot and inserting in the envelope provided.
2. Completely fill in the oval next to the name of the candidate or the response to the ballot measure. Do not write a check mark or circle the candidate's name.
3. You may vote for a person who is not listed on the ballot for the general election or special election only. Write-in votes are not allowed in primary elections.
4. After you have marked your ballot, make sure you remove the stub at the top before placing your ballot in the white envelope marked OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT - BALLOT MUST BE ENCLOSED. This is the smaller of the two envelopes in the packet.
5. Place the white envelope in the larger envelope which has a yellow bar.
6. Make sure you sign the OATH OF THE ELECTOR on the back of the envelope with the yellow bar. Also print your name. HEADS UP! During the 2018 midterm elections, a

number of absentee ballots were rejected by the state because of problems with the oath information and signatures. Make sure you complete this section!

7. Persons assisting the voter to complete the ballot must sign and indicate why they assisted. Reasons for assistance include: The voter is unable to read English or is disabled.

RETURNING YOUR BALLOT

Absentee ballots **MUST** be received by 7PM on Election Day in order to be counted.

NOTE: A federal judge last week filed an order to extend the receipt deadline for [absentee ballots in Georgia](#), mandating ballots postmarked by Election Day and delivered within three days must be counted. However, Secretary of State Raffensperger has appealed the judge's ruling. The case is set to be considered by the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Because of recent USPS mail delays, we encourage all voters who are voting via mail to return their ballots in one of the absentee ballot drop boxes if possible. If you must mail your ballot back, please be sure to allow at least **nine** mail days (M-Sa) before election day for your ballot to be delivered. That would mean that the last day to mail your ballot would be October 23.

Warning about submitting absentee ballots on another person's behalf - Under Georgia law, *only* people with the following relationships can return an absentee ballot on behalf of another voter:

- Mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law of the age of 18 or over
- Someone residing in the same household as the voter
- The caretaker of a voter with disabilities

If you want to assist someone returning their absentee ballot that doesn't meet one of these criteria, offer to give them a ride so they can return their ballot themselves.

ABSENTEE BALLOT DROP BOXES

Counties continue to add new drop box locations, and we're doing our best to keep this list updated - bit.ly/GA_Dropboxes. Note that some counties do not have drop boxes, but will allow you to turn your ballot in person at the county Board of Registrations and Elections office. Contact your [County Elections Office](#) for updated locations.

You can return your absentee ballot to any drop box in the *county* where you're registered to vote. You cannot turn your ballot in another county's drop box.

PROBLEMS WITH YOUR BALLOT

If your absentee ballot is rejected, your county is supposed to contact you by email, phone and mail within **three business days** to give you time to correct the issue. Voters must be contacted the **next business day** if absentee ballots are invalidated during the **11 days before Election Day**. If it is too close to election day, and time has run out to receive a new absentee ballot, your

best option is to go vote in person on election day at your polling place. Make sure to let the poll workers know your situation so they can cancel your absentee ballot and let you vote on a voting machine.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you inadvertently make a mistake or mess up the ballot, report it immediately to your local Board of Elections office to receive a replacement. Contact information for your board or registrar can be found here: bit.ly/CountyElections **NOTE:** No replacement ballots can be mailed on the day prior to the primary or election.

You cannot change your vote after you mail or send it in. Voters cannot change their vote once they submit their ballots, even if they left the space blank. Voters who realize they may have left sections of their ballots blank or have changed their mind about a selection are NOT able to make changes to the ballot once it has been sent to the Board of Elections.

Some mistakes can be fixed after you send in your ballot. If the Board of Election finds a mistake in the ballot that could keep it from being counted - such as missing a piece of required information like a signature - the Board will contact the voter by phone and/or mail to provide an opportunity to fix the mistake.

If you received your absentee ballot but decide to vote in person, **bring your absentee ballot with you** to the polls so it can be invalidated. If you did not receive your absentee ballot, you will be able to vote a **provisional ballot**.

Can I still select parties on my ballot? You only need to select a party in the primary elections. All qualified candidates will be included on the November ballot.

You may need an ID to vote by mail. Only registered voters can vote by mail. If you registered to vote and did not submit a copy of one of the required forms of registration identification, you will receive a notice to provide ID with your ballot package. Copies of acceptable ID must be placed in the outer envelope with your ballot.

VOTING IN PERSON (EARLY OR ELECTION DAY)

EARLY VOTING

- Voting Early (In-Person) is also considered voting absentee since you are not voting ON Election Day.. As a result, if you vote early you will see that reflected on the Georgia My Voter Page.
- State law requires local election officials to allow early in-person voting beginning on the fourth Monday prior to a primary or election, and as soon as possible prior to the runoff.
 - For 2020, Early Voting for the November election is October 12-30.
 - Check your Early Voting Locations here: bit.ly/EarlyVtrLocations
- Early voting ends on the Friday immediately prior to Election Day.
- Mandatory Saturday Voting for the November General Election is October 24.
- The Secretary of State's website has [key dates](#) for the current election cycle.

- Local elections officials may allow early voting beyond regular weekday business hours, but it's up to the county.

NOTE: You must vote in your precinct on Election Day. You can find your polling precinct by visiting the Georgia My Voter Page or Vote411.org. During Early Voting, voters can vote at any of the designated early voting locations.

VOTER IDs

Voters must present a valid photo ID when voting in person.

- A valid or expired Georgia driver's license
- A valid ID card issued by a branch, department, agency, or any other entity of **Georgia**, any other state, or the **U.S.** authorized by law to issue personal ID
- A valid student ID card with your photograph from any **public** college, university located within Georgia
- A valid U.S. military ID card with photo
- Valid Tribal ID with photo
- A valid U.S. passport

GEORGIA'S VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD

If you do not have one of the six acceptable forms of photo ID, the State of Georgia offers a free ID Card. A **VOTER ID card** can be issued at any county registrar's office or Department of Driver Services Office free of charge.

To receive a voter identification card, the voter must provide:

- A photo identity document or approved non-photo identity document that includes full legal name and date of birth
- Documentation showing the voter's date of birth
- Evidence that the applicant is a registered voter
- Documentation showing the applicant's name and residential address

VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

Voting on election day means that you will vote in person on election day, at your assigned polling precinct. **On Election Day, polls open at 7am and close at 7pm.**

Don't be nervous! Voting in person is pretty straight forward, and poll workers are always there to help you. When you walk into your polling precinct you will:

1. Go to the first table and check-in with a poll worker who will direct you to the next station. They may provide you with a face mask, sanitize your hands, give you a hands-free marking tool.
2. You will need to place your state issued ID in the slot attached to the poll pad (which is actually an iPad) so that the barcode on the back can be scanned. Remember, in Georgia you must

always bring proper **ID** to vote! If your ID does not have a barcode (such as a passport) the poll worker will look you up manually.

3. The poll worker will have you confirm your registration information and sign your name on the poll pad. During primary elections, you will also have to select the party ballot that you want to vote (Democratic, Republican, or non-partisan).
4. You will be given a voting card (a credit card sized card with a chip). Take the voting card to the voting machine and insert it where indicated near the bottom of the screen.
5. Your ballot will appear on the screen, and you will make your candidate selections. You may have to hit NEXT to go through several pages of candidates (this is called voting the down-ballot).
6. **** Always double-check your selections BEFORE casting your ballot!**
7. The printer attached to the voting machine will print out your ballot. The ballot will have a QR code that has your selections encoded. It will also have a printed list of candidates and issues you voted for.
8. **** Make sure that the candidates and issues printed on the ballot match what you voted for!**
9. If your selections do not match or you made a mistake, let a poll worker know. They will "spoil" your ballot and let you vote a new ballot.
10. Remove the voting card and take it and your printed ballot to the scanner. Insert your ballot into the scanner either face up or face down. The scanner will scan the QR code on your ballot and record your vote. Your vote is not cast until it is read by the scanner. You will not be given a paper receipt, or be able to keep your paper ballot.
11. Return your voting card to the poll worker, and get a "Georgia Voter" 🍑 sticker!
12. You're all done! Wear your sticker proudly and give yourself a pat on the back for taking part in the democratic process! Take a selfie and post on social media #PostThePeach and let everyone know you let your voice be heard.

PROVISIONAL VOTING

Under certain circumstances, voters who do not have with them photo identification may be eligible to cast a provisional ballot.

If a voter does not have any of the forms of identification above when the person goes to vote, such voter may be issued a provisional ballot upon swearing or affirming that he or she is the person identified on the voter certificate. Such provisional ballots shall only be counted if the registrars are able to verify current and valid photo identification of the individual within the legal time period for verifying provisional ballots.

Additionally, if a voter's name does not appear on the official list of electors when voting at the polls, that person may be eligible to vote a provisional ballot.

Remember: Sometimes poll workers don't know some of the less common scenarios that voters encounter. Never let a poll worker tell you that you cannot vote. You ALWAYS have a right to cast a provisional ballot no matter what. If you encounter any problems, contact 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683).

ELECTION PROTECTION HOTLINE

The [election protection hotline](#) exists to help voters resolve any problems voting. They can be reached at the following numbers, 365 days a year.

English: 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)

Español: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (1-888-839-8682)

Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Bengali, Hindi, Urdu, and Tagalog: 1-888-API-VOTE (1-888-274-8683)

Arabic: 1-844-YALLA-US (1-844-925-5287)

Any Language: Text "Our Vote" to: 97779

CALL IN NOW

866-OUR-VOTE IS LIVE

OUR HOTLINE IS LIVE



Call in English:

Call in Spanish:

Call for Asian Languages:

Call for Arabic:

866-OUR-VOTE

888-VE-Y-VOTA

888-API-VOTE

844-YALLA-US

