

A RIGHT

As a citizen of legal age in the United States, you possess the fundamental *right* to vote. This right empowers you as a citizen to elect officials who create laws and policies that directly impact your daily life.

A RESPONSIBILITY

As an individual with a disability, there are a number of major issues that may affect you directly. It is your *responsibility* to educate yourself on issues of importance to you.

Some helpful suggestions include:

1. Reading newspaper articles about the candidates and issues you are interested in;
2. Watching the national and local news;
3. Searching the internet for information about candidates and issues you are interested in.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is absentee or by-mail voting?

Absentee or by-mail voting allows an eligible registered voter to mark their ballot at home and return the ballot by mail to be counted in the election. This type of voting may be helpful for those working out of town during the election or that experience barriers to leaving their home.

Can I vote by mail?

If you want to vote by mail you must fit into one (1) of these categories:

- You will be outside the county of registration during the early voting period and all day on election day;
- You or your spouse are enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited college or university outside the county of registration;
- Your licensed physician has filed a statement with the county election commission stating that, in the physician's judgment, the voter is medically unable to vote in person. The statement must be filed not less than seven (7) days before the election and signed under the penalty of perjury;
- You reside in a licensed facility providing relatively permanent domiciliary care, other than a penal institution, outside the voter's county of residence;
- You will be unable to vote in person due to service as a juror for a federal or state court;
- You are sixty (60) years of age or older;
- The voter has a physical disability and an inaccessible polling place;
- The voter is hospitalized, ill, or physically disabled and because of such condition, cannot vote in person;
- The voter is a caretaker of a person who is hospitalized, ill, or disabled;
- The voter is a candidate for office in the election;
- The voter serves as an election day official or as a member or employee of the election commission;
- The voter's observance of a religious holiday prevents him or her from voting in person during the early voting period and on election day;
- The voter or the voter's spouse possesses a valid commercial driver's license (CDL) or the voter possesses a valid Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) card and certifies that he or she will be working outside the state or county of registration during the open hours of early voting and Election Day, and has no specific out-of-county or out-of-

How do I request an absentee ballot?

You may register to vote at any time. However, in order to vote in an upcoming election, your registration must be completed and submitted at least 30 days before the next election. Mail-in applications need to be postmarked at least 30 days before the next election.

When do I request and return my absentee ballot?

After your completed voter registration form is submitted, you should receive a voter registration card in the mail. If you do not receive your card within three weeks, contact your local county election commission.

Where do I go to vote?

Your polling place should be listed on your voter registration card. There are also a select number of polling places open for early voting. To find out about these locations, contact your election commission office.

What is early voting?

You have the option of casting your ballot before Election Day. The early voting period may begin twenty (20) days prior to Election Day, and must end five (5) days prior to the election. Contact your county election commission for early voting locations.