



Carroll County Board of Elections



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410-386-2080

MD RELAY: Call 711 or 800-735-2258 (TTY)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Election Director

Mail-In Voting:

What is the difference between absentee voting and mail-in ballot voting? They are one in the same. The Maryland State Legislature changed the law to remove the term “absentee” and replace it with “mail-in”. You can write “absentee” or “mail-in” ballot on the outside of your web delivery ballot envelope.

Who can request a mail-in ballot? People who are registered voters of Maryland and claim permanent residency in Maryland may vote in Maryland. If you have moved permanently to another state, you should register to vote in that state.

Will I get a mail-in ballot application? An application can be completed online at: <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1> or by visiting elections.maryland.gov. Verify that your information is accurate before submitting the request to ensure you get your ballot in a timely manner.

How do I get my mail-in ballot application to the Carroll County Board of Elections?

Applications can be mailed to 300 South Center Street, Westminster, MD 21157, emailed to ccboe@carrollcountymd.gov or put in a secure box outside of the Board of Elections office (300 S Center St. Westminster).

When does my mail-in ballot application need to be received by the Board of Elections?

Tuesday, October 20, 2020. If you miss this deadline, contact the Board of Elections Office to discuss your options for voting.

When will I get my mail-in ballot? Ballots began being sent on September 24. You should expect your ballot by early-October if the request was made prior to September 19. Requests made after September 19 will be forthcoming. Ballots are being sent daily.

Do I need to mark my ballot in any way to identify that it is mine? NO. Do not make any identifying mark on the ballot such as initials or signatures. Only sign your envelope and secure signature using the flap on the outside of the envelope.

What is the deadline for my mail-in ballot to be returned to the Board of Elections? The mail-in ballots can be delivered at a drop box beginning September 28 through November 3. If you mail your ballot, the ballot must be postmarked on or before November 3, 2020, and received at the office by Friday, November 13, 2020. The ballot can be taken to a Board of Elections drop off location by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. (The drop boxes are managed by the Board of Elections staff.)

Will drop-boxes for the mail-in ballot be available? Yes. A drop box will be available at Board of Elections Office, Liberty High School, North Carroll Senior Center, South Carroll Swim Club, Taneytown Police Station, & Westminster Senior Center.

When will drop-boxes be available? They will be available 24/7 beginning October 1 through November 3 at 8pm.

When will my mail-in ballot be counted? The local board of election office will begin counting ballots in early-October. The earlier your ballot is returned, the more likely it is that it will be included in the count on election night. Results are not released until after the polls close on Election night. ALL ballots are counted no matter what. Ballots that are received in drop boxes between October 26-November 3 may not be counted until November 5-13. For updates about public viewing of counting ballots, please visit our website or call the office.

My signature on file and my current signature are different due to age, injury or other reason. Will this disqualify my ballot? Ballot envelopes are reviewed to ensure there is a signature and that it matches the preprinted name of the voter. While Maryland law does not require the Carroll County Board of Elections to verify a signature against the signature on file, the Board routinely does so and if something abnormal is noted, the Ballot is given a special review by the Board of Canvassers (The Board of Elections members overseeing the ballot count.) It takes a unanimous vote of the Board of Canvassers to disqualify a ballot.

Can I take my ballot to an in-person location to cast my ballot? Mail-in ballots will be accepted in a secure mail-in ballot bag or in a drop box in select locations. Mail-in ballots will NEVER be scanned into the scanning units at in-person locations.

In-Person Voting:

Will I get a sample of my ballot? Yes. All registered voters who have not requested a mail-in ballot will get a sample ballot in early-October.

Where can I vote in-person? At an early voting center or at ANY vote center on election day. It does not matter where you are to vote 'normally'. 13 locations will be available on election day and 2 locations during early voting.

Where are the early voting centers? Westminster Senior Center & South Carroll Swim Club.

When is early voting? Monday, October 26th - Monday, November 2nd 7am-8pm, including Saturday and Sunday.

When is election day? Tuesday, November 3rd 7am-8pm.

Where are the vote centers on election day? Westminster Senior Center, South Carroll Swim Club, North Carroll Middle School, Francis Scott Key High School, Liberty High School, Manchester Valley High School, New Windsor Community Room, Parr's Ridge Elementary, Pleasant Valley Fire Department, Sandymount Elementary, South Carroll High School, Taneytown Elementary, & Winter's Mill High School. Voters can CHOOSE which location they want to go to.

How will the vote centers and early voting centers be enforcing CDC guidelines? Election judges will be provided with face shields, gloves, sanitizer, disinfecting wipes and surgical masks. If a voter does not have a mask, they will be offered one. All voters will get hand sanitizer upon entry to the polling place. All voters will be given their own pen to use through the entire voting process.

Election Administration:

What if I do NOT get a mail-in ballot application or sample ballot? Email the Board of Elections at ccboe@carrollcountymd.gov OR <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch> to verify your voter registration information is accurate.

Can I request a mail-in ballot AND vote in-person? If you complete an application for a mail-in ballot, you will only be eligible to vote a provisional ballot if you choose to vote in-person in lieu of voting the ballot you get by mail. Provisional ballots are not counted until the week after the election.

Can I cancel my mail-in ballot request and vote in-person? No. You will be required to vote a provisional ballot if you choose to vote in-person.

Is there security in place to ensure that a voter does not vote more than one time? Voters are mailed a ballot to the address that they request on the mail-in ballot application, so if voters submit more than one ballot with their signature on the oath, these will be pulled aside for further examination and sent to the State Board of Elections for review to be sent to the Attorney General's Office for double-voting. If a voter goes to early voting or a vote center and votes a provisional ballot AND mails their mail-in ballot, only one ballot will be counted AND their name will be sent to the State Board of Elections for review to be sent to the Attorney General's Office for double-voting.

How can I find out if the Board of Elections has received my application or voted mail-in ballot? You can check the status of your ballot at:
<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch>, call (410)386-2080 or email ccboe@carrollcountymd.gov.

When will I hear if I've been selected as an election judge? Election judge assignments are filled.

How do I contact the Carroll County Board of Elections? You may call (410)386-2080 and leave a message. All calls are returned in the order that they are received. You may also contact the office at ccboe@carrollcountymd.gov.