

VOTING INFORMATION FOR THE NOVEMBER 2020 GENERAL ELECTION
BALTIMORE COUNTY, STATE OF MARYLAND
It Can Be Confusing So It Pays to Know Your Options

Maryland voters in the 2020 General Election have the choice of voting in person or voting by mail. Each option is further described below:

Voting in person, either on Election Day or at early voting centers:

Early voting in Maryland runs from October 26, 2020 through November 2, 2020 from the hours of 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. A list of the early voting centers in Baltimore County is attached.

On Election Day, November 3rd, you can vote at any Election Day vote center in the county. The list of Election Day vote centers will be updated as it is finalized. On Election Day, vote centers are open from 7 am until 8 pm. Anyone in line at 8 pm will be allowed to vote.

Voting by mail:

If you wish to vote by mail, unlike the primary election, ballots will not be mailed automatically to registered voters. Those who wish to vote by mail must complete and submit a ballot request to the Baltimore County Board of Elections as soon as possible but **no later than October 20th**.

You can make your ballot request via mail or e-mail. State Board of Election officials will mail all Maryland voters mail-in ballot application forms by the end of August 2020. However, if you do not wish to wait, you can request the form via e-mail. (See further instructions on how to make the request via e-mail below.) At Charlestown, ballot request forms are now available at any Lobby Desk. Just fill it out and mail it to the Baltimore County Board of Elections. (The address is on the form).

Voters can return their completed ballots via the mail or by depositing them in a ballot drop box located in their local jurisdiction. The location of the ballot drop boxes in Baltimore County has not yet been released. The final list of locations will be reviewed by the Baltimore County Board of Elections on August 26, 2020. The list of locations must then be submitted to the State Board of Elections for its approval.

The Vote Count Schedule:

The Maryland State Board of Elections decided at its meeting on August 19, 2020 that it would begin tabulation of ballots returned by voters on October 1, 2020. This is the earliest start date in the nation.

The early tabulation is intended to ensure that vote counting is completed in a timely manner. The Electoral College convenes on December 14, 2020 so electors from each state can cast ballots for president and vice president in their respective states. Those ballots must be received by the president of the U.S. Senate by December 23, 2020.

Commonly Asked Questions

Will I get a ballot mailed to me like I did for the primary?

No, despite pressure from voter rights advocates, the state will not be replicating its plan from the June primary and mailing every eligible resident a ballot. Instead, you must submit an application for a ballot either by mail or online.

What's the difference between an absentee ballot and a mail-in ballot?

A recent change in the law requires the Maryland State Board of Elections and each local board of elections to refer to absentee ballots as "**mail-in ballots**" and absentee voting as "**mail-in voting**." Please note that this change in terminology does NOT change the process of mail-in voting.

I know I want to vote-by-mail. Do I have to wait to get that application by the end of August?

No, you can go ahead and request a mail-in ballot now via the State Board of Elections website. If you live at Charlestown, you can obtain an application for a mail-in ballot at any Lobby Desk.

When do I have to request my ballot by?

Your request for a ballot application **must be received** (not just mailed) by the Board of Elections by **Tuesday, October 20, 2020**. It is best to request the application as soon as possible given the mail delays.

What do I have to do to make my ballot request by online?

If you are registered to vote in Maryland you can request your ballot on-line. Google the Maryland State Board of Elections and click on "Voter Lookup". Enter your name, date of birth and zip code. These are the things that have to match:

- Your name
- Your date of birth
- Your driver's license number, ID number, or Learner's Permit number
- Your signature at the MVA will become your official voter registration signature.

Can I change my mind and vote at a polling place if I don't use the mail-in ballot?

Yes. However your vote will be categorized as "provisional" until it is verified that you did not submit a mail-in ballot. Submitting a provisional ballot takes more time.

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