

2020 VICTORY

BATTLEGROUND OHIO

SAFE AT HOME? **VOTE BY MAIL**



In the midst of an ongoing pandemic and persisting social unrest, there is no way to predict the conditions for in-person voting this November. In times of uncertainty, the best way to ensure your vote is counted is to request an absentee ballot and vote by mail (VBM). Follow the simple steps below to safely and securely cast your ballot in the 2020 general election.

STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO VOTE BY MAIL

1. GET YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM

- Contact your county Board of Elections (BOE) office and ask them to send you an Absentee Ballot Request Form. Find the phone number here: <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.
- Visit <https://www.ohiosos.gov/publications/#abr> to fill out the form online.

2. COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM

- If you access the form online, you can print it and write in the required information or fill it out online and then print.
- Sign the form and return it in person or by mail to your county BOE as soon as possible. Find the address here: <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/elections-officials/county-boards-of-elections-directory/>.

3. WAIT TO RECEIVE YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT IN THE MAIL

- You will not receive your absentee ballot sooner than August 5, and it might not arrive until much later.

- If you have questions about your absentee ballot or any part of the VBM process, call your county BOE.
- You can track the status of your absentee ballot or your absentee ballot request form using this Voter Toolkit: <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/>.

4. COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT

- Drop your completed and signed ballot in the convenient and secure 24-hour drop box located outside your county BOE office prior to 7:30 PM on Election Day.
- Or return your completed and signed ballot by U.S. mail to your county BOE office. It must be postmarked no later than **Monday, November 2, 2020** and received by the BOE no later than **Friday, November 13, 2020**.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- To make sure your absentee ballot is counted, it must be received by your county BOE by 7:30 PM on Election Day OR be postmarked by the day before Election Day.
- The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) estimates that it might take two to five days for your completed absentee ballot to be delivered to your BOE by mail.
- **The Secretary of State is expected to send all Ohio voters absentee ballot request forms on or near Labor Day, but these will *not* include return postage.**
- If you are returning your completed ballot during the week before Election Day, you should take it to USPS no later than the day before Election Day and ensure it receives a postmark.
 - ◆ *The USPS-recommended way to postmark your ballot is to use a postage label purchased at a USPS customer service window or vending machine. If you use postage stamps, ask that it be postmarked.*

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about Vote By Mail or any other voting related issues, please contact the Ohio Voter Protection Team at 614-221-6563 Ext. 1114, or by email at vopro@ohiodems.org.

If you want to elect Democrats up and down the ballot this year by helping to protect the vote, sign up to volunteer here: <https://go.ohiodems.org/page/s/voterprotection>.