



Montgomery County Board of Elections
Frequently Asked Questions about the June 2, 2020 Primary Election
(Updated as of April 23, 2020)

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Q1: What are the key things that I need to know about the 2020 Presidential Primary election?

The June 2, 2020 election will be conducted primarily by mail. Ballots will be mailed early to mid-May. You do not need to request an absentee ballot. Voters are strongly encouraged to return their ballot as soon as they receive it. Please do not wait until the last minute to return your ballot.

As a public health measure, the Montgomery County Board of Elections asks that all voters return their ballot by mail. There will be four (4) vote centers on Election Day, but they are intended only for voters who cannot vote by mail.

You must be registered with the Republican or Democratic party to vote for partisan offices such as the party nominees for President of the United States. Unaffiliated voters will only vote for Board of Education.

Q2: Will there be early voting for the 2020 Presidential Primary Election?

No. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, early voting has been canceled for the 2020 Presidential Primary Election. At this time, it is expected that there will be early voting for the 2020 General Election.

Q3: Can I vote at my usual polling place on Election Day?

No. Neighborhood polling places have been closed by [Proclamation](#) of the Governor for the 2020 Presidential Primary election because it was determined that voting in the traditional

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manner would “enable the transmission of the novel coronavirus, and pose risks to public health, welfare, and safety.”

To limit community spread of COVID-19 and to save lives, all eligible voters will be mailed a ballot with prepaid postage. In-person voting will be very limited and intended only for those voters who cannot vote by mail.

Q4: Do I need to request a ballot?

No. You do not need to request a ballot.

Voters who have moved, who are temporarily away from home, or who have not received a ballot by Friday, May 15, 2020, should visit the [voter lookup tool](#) of the Maryland State Board of Elections or text CHECK to 77788 to verify their information and request a ballot.

Q5: Where are you sending my ballot?

To confirm your mailing address, visit the [voter lookup tool](#) of the Maryland State Board of Elections or text CHECK to 77788. If you have changed your address, we will send you a new ballot. The deadline to update your party affiliation or mailing address to receive a new ballot by mail is Tuesday, May 26, 2020, but if you need to make a change, please do not wait until then.

Q6: What if I don't get my ballot in the mail?

If you do not receive your ballot by Friday, May 15, 2020, visit the [voter lookup tool](#) of the Maryland State Board of Elections or text CHECK to 77788 and click on the link to request a replacement ballot.

Q7: I already requested an absentee ballot. Will I get two ballots?

No. You will only receive one ballot.

Q8: What is the difference between an absentee ballot and a mail-in ballot?

There is no difference. For the June 2, 2020 election, the State Board of Elections is sending a ballot to all voters, whether you requested a ballot or not.

Q9: What should I use to fill out my ballot?

We recommended a black or blue ballpoint pen. DO NOT use pencil, marker or crayon.

Q10: How do I return my ballot?

Instructions will be provided with your ballot. After you sign and date the voter oath, you can simply drop it in the mail or at one of the locations [here](#). No postage is necessary.

Voters are urged to return their ballot as soon as possible. Those who wait until the deadline to return their ballot are encouraged to use a Board of Elections drop box at one of the locations listed below instead of creating long lines to vote in person. Ballots deposited in these drop boxes will not require a postmark.

Q11: What is the deadline to return my ballot?

Voters are encouraged to mail their ballot as soon as possible and not to wait until the deadline. To ensure timely delivery, the Montgomery County Board of Elections encourages voters to return their ballot by Monday, May 25, 2020.

If you return your ballot by U.S. Postal Service, it must be postmarked by June 2, 2020.

If you return your ballot to one of the drop boxes listed below, it must be deposited before the polls close at 8:00 p.m. on June 2, 2020.

Q12: Where can I find a USPS collection box or Post Office?

You can find the nearest USPS collection box or Post Office [here](#). No postage is necessary. We strongly encourage all voters to fill out their ballot and either mail it or place it in a drop box as soon as possible. Please do not wait to return your ballot.

Voters who wait to drop off their ballot without using U.S. mail may use a Board of Elections drop box at one of the following locations between May 21 through June 2 (8PM).

- Montgomery County Board of Elections (currently available 24/7) 18753 N. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg
- Silver Spring Civic Building (to be installed by 5/21/2020) One Veterans Place, Silver Spring
- Marilyn J. Praisner Community Recreation Center (to be installed by 5/21/2020) 14906 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville
- Activity Center at Bohrer Park (to be installed by 5/21/2020) 506 South Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg
- Germantown Community Recreation Center (to be installed by 5/21/2020) 18905 Kingsview Road, Germantown
- Rockville City Hall (to be installed by 5/21/2020) 111 Maryland Avenue Rockville

Q13: How can I find out whether you received my ballot?

Information on the status of your ballot is available using the [voter lookup tool](#) of the Maryland State Board of Elections or by texting CHECK to 77788.

Q14: I have a disability and find it difficult to vote by mail. What are my options?

If you prefer to vote from home, you may find it convenient to request a web delivery ballot and use the online tool provided by the State Board of Elections to help you mark your ballot. The tool is compatible with the most common software used by individuals with disabilities, and you can use your own assistive devices with this tool.

If you are assisted by another person, they may not suggest how you should vote and may not be your employer or an officer or agent of your union and must sign a Certificate of Assistance and return it with your ballot.

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Ballot marking devices will also be available at the Election Day vote centers that offer an audio ballot with a headset and keypad, high contrast and large print functions and other features designed to allow voters to cast a ballot privately and independently.

Voters who can vote by mail are asked to participate in mail-in voting to help avoid long lines and to protect the health and safety of those who must vote in person.

Q15: Are paper forms available to print and share with voters who do not have Internet access?

Paper voter registration applications are available in the following languages:

[English](#)

[Español](#)

[Traditional Chinese](#)

[Simplified Chinese](#)

[Korean](#)

Voters who register or update their voter record using these forms will be mailed a ballot.

In addition, voters who have not received their ballot by Friday, May 15, 2020, can request a ballot using one of these forms:

[English](#)

[Español](#)

Voters may also request a ballot by sending a signed letter to the Board of Elections indicating their name, date of birth, and updated name, party affiliation and/or address information.

Q16: What is the deadline to change my address or party affiliation?

The deadline to register to vote, or to change your residential address or party affiliation, is Wednesday, May 27, 2020. To verify your voter registration, visit the [voter lookup tool](#) of the Maryland State Board of Elections or text CHECK to 77788.

Q17: What is the deadline to request a ballot?

Please confirm your mailing address using the [voter lookup tool](#) of the Maryland State Board of Elections or text CHECK to 77788 before requesting a ballot. There is no need to request a ballot unless you do not receive your ballot by Friday, May 15, 2020.

If you do need to request a ballot, the deadline to request a ballot by mail is Tuesday, May 26, 2020.

If you have a printer, paper, an envelope, and the necessary postage available to you to print your own ballot from home and mail it in, the deadline to request a web delivery ballot is Friday, May 29, 2020. If you request a web delivery ballot, you will receive a login and password, and print

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your own ballot on your own paper, address your own envelope to the county Board of Elections, and add your own .55 cents postage to return it. After your ballot is returned, the Board staff will hand-duplicate your ballot onto the official ballot paper before it is counted.

Q18: I heard that ballots are not being mailed to inactive voters. Why not? What do I do if I think my voter registration is inactive?

Ballots are not being mailed to inactive voters because voters are only considered “inactive” in the State of Maryland if their mail is returned undeliverable or if another state tells us that you have moved.

If you are concerned that your voter registration may be inactive, visit the [voter lookup tool](#) of the Maryland State Board of Elections or text CHECK to 77788 and verify your address. You do not need to request a ballot unless you do not receive one by Friday, May 15, 2020. If your address has changed, please update it immediately.

Q19: What if I am a college student, who voted by absentee ballot at my school address before, but now am back home in Montgomery County?

The State will mail ballots mailing address on file. By texting CHECK to 77788 and entering your information, you can find out the mailing address on file. Make sure you update your mailing address of the location where you would like your ballot to arrive this May.

Q20: Where are the vote centers for voters who cannot vote by mail?

As a public health measure, the Montgomery County Board of Elections asks that all voters return the ballot received in the mail. If voters who can vote by mail choose instead to vote in person at these sites, it will create very long lines and endanger the health and safety of others.

Those voters who cannot vote by mail may visit one of these four locations on Election Day and shall comply with the directive of the Governor regarding wearing a face mask or other face covering:

- Silver Spring Civic Building, One Veterans Place, Silver Spring
- Marilyn J. Praisner Community Recreation Center, 14906 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville
- Activity Center at Bohrer Park, 506 South Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg
- Germantown Community Recreation Center, 18905 Kingsview Road, Germantown

Voters are being asked to vote by mail as a public health measure. Again, if voters who can vote by mail choose instead to vote in person at these sites, it will create very long lines and endanger the health and safety of others.

Q21: Is same-day registration available on Election Day?

Yes. However, the voter registration deadline has been postponed to Wednesday, May 27, so few voters should need to take advantage of same-day registration. As a public health measure, the

Montgomery County Board of Elections asks that voters register prior to Election Day so that you can receive and return your ballot by mail.

Q22: What is the Board of Elections doing to protect against fraud?

The Board of Elections is taking all of the same safeguards to protect against fraud that we do for every election. All systems are designed to make sure that each voter has the opportunity to vote one and only one ballot. Any allegation or evidence of fraud will be investigated and referred for prosecution. If you see or hear of any attempted vote fraud, contact the State Attorney's Office at 410-576-6300 or 1-888-743-0023 toll free in Maryland or via TDD at 410-576-6372.

Q23: What is the Board of Elections doing to protect against hacking?

The Board of Elections is taking all of the same cybersecurity safeguards that we do for every election. The State Board of Elections has invested significant funding in securing the statewide voter registration system, including features for ballot request and delivery. The election will not be certified for several weeks after Election Day to allow time to conduct audits, investigate complaints, and make sure every eligible vote is counted.

Q24: How can I sign up to work at an Election Day vote center?

Due to social distancing requirements, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is using only a small number of employees and previously trained Election Judges to conduct the June 2nd Presidential Primary election. You can sign up to work in future elections [here](#).

Q25: How can I request a copy of my voter registration card?

You do not need your voter registration card to vote. However, if you wish to request one, you may do so using the [voter lookup tool](#) of the Maryland State Board of Elections or by texting CHECK to 77788.

Q26: Where can I go for more information?

Information from the Maryland State Board of Elections about the June 2, 2020, Presidential Primary Election can be found <https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2020/index.html> here. Information from the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services regarding COVID-19 can be found [here](#).