



# ELECTION 2020

Call:  
**1-888-API-VOTE**  
(274-8683)

Bilingual assistance is available in English, Mandarin (普通话/普通话), Cantonese (广东话/广东话), Korean (한국어), Vietnamese (Tiếng Việt), Tagalog, Urdu (اردو), Hindi (हिन्दी), and Bengali (বাংলা).



## Are You Ready to Vote: VIRGINIA?

Updated Tuesday, October 20, 2020

**Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020**

**When voting, you have the right to:**

- Bring someone of your choice to help you vote in the voting booth if you have some difficulty with English.
- Receive language assistance from the government in certain places.
- Vote without being intimidated or discriminated against by others.
  - Intimidation or discrimination at the polls may look like harassing you or denying you the right to vote because of your accent or challenging your right to vote under the false stereotype that you are not a citizen because of your race.

### Who can vote in Virginia

- Be a U. S. Citizen.
- Be a resident of Virginia (a person who has come to Virginia for temporary purposes and intends to return to another state is not considered a resident for voting purposes).
- Be at least 18 years old (any person who is 17 years old and will be 18 years of age at the next general election shall be permitted to register in advance and also vote in any intervening primary or special election).
- Not currently declared mentally incompetent by a court of law.
- If previously convicted of a felony, you must be off of probation and/or parole and you must request and have confirmation that your rights are restored. All of these steps must happen before you are able to register to vote.

**You must be registered to vote in order to cast a ballot.**

### Key Dates

- Friday, September 18 – Saturday, October 31 – Early voting period
- Tuesday, October 13 – Voter registration deadline is Tuesday, October 13.
- Friday, October 23 – Deadline to request Vote By Mail/Absentee Ballot.
- Tuesday, November 3 – Election Day! Vote in person at your polling place or make sure your absentee ballot is postmarked by this day.

### Voter Registration: Are you registered?

**Have you registered to vote before?**

Yes

- Confirm you are still registered where you live now: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/citizen-portal/>
  - If you are no longer registered, re-register today:  
<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/Registration/DmvLookup>
- If you are not registered at the correct address, update your registration:  
<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/citizen-portal/>

No

**Register today and by no later than Tuesday, October 13 to vote in this upcoming election!**

- Register Online at <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/Registration/DmvLookup>
  - You will need:
    - Virginia driver's license or state identification (ID) card
    - Social Security Number
  - If completed online, the application must be submitted by 11:59 pm on Tuesday, October 13.
- Register by Mail
  - Download and print a voter registration application here:  
[https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formswarehouse/veris-voter-registration/applications/VA-NVRA-1-Voter-Registration-Application-rev-4\\_1-\(1\).pdf](https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formswarehouse/veris-voter-registration/applications/VA-NVRA-1-Voter-Registration-Application-rev-4_1-(1).pdf)
    - Also available in: [En Español](#), [Tiếng Việt](#) (Vietnamese), and [한 국어](#) (Korean)
  - The Voter Registration Application can be mailed via the U.S. Postal Service or hand-delivered to [any official registration office](#).
    - If mailed, the application must be postmarked no later than the deadline of Tuesday, October 13.
    - If delivered in person, either by the applicant or a third party, the application must be received by the deadline of Tuesday, October 13 by 5 pm. **On the final day of registration for an election all general registrar offices close at 5 pm.**
  - Applications postmarked or received after the deadline will be held and processed after the elections.
- Make sure you have the necessary documentation to register.

## Vote by Mail (VBM)/Absentee Ballot

### Did you request a VBM/Absentee ballot?

Yes

- Track your VBM/Absentee ballot here: <https://ballotscout.org/partners/5a8f1161-23a0-4fa0-8ec9-3e090e97e9b3/va-search>

No

- If you would like to request a mail-in ballot, there may still be time to do so.
  - Request VBM/Absentee Ballot by mail by 5 pm Friday, October 23.
  - Request VBM/Absentee Ballot by appearing in person by 5 pm Saturday, October 31.
  - Apply online [here](#).
  - Download, print, and fill out a PAPER VBM/Absentee Ballot application [here](#).
    - [Virginia Absentee Ballot Application](#) is available in [En Español](#) (Spanish), [Tiếng Việt](#) (Vietnamese), and [한 국어](#) (Korean).
- Return the completed and signed form to your local registrar's office by mail, fax, or scanned attachment to an email. Contact information for your local general registrar's office is available here: [www.elections.virginia.gov/LocalGR](http://www.elections.virginia.gov/LocalGR).
- After the registrar processes your application, you will receive your VBM/Absentee ballot in the mail. Please note: ballots were mailed out to applicants starting on Friday, September 18.
- Carefully review the instructions to complete and return your VBM/Absentee ballot to your local registrar by 7 pm on Election Day. On Election Day, voters may also turn in their completed, sealed absentee ballot to any polling precinct within their jurisdiction.

### **SPECIAL FEDERAL ID REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN FIRST TIME VBM/ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTERS**

- For persons who registered to vote in Virginia by mail, federal law requires them to show identification (ID) when voting for the first time in a federal election if they did not send a copy of one of these IDs with their voter registration applications. Recent legislation has eliminated the differences in acceptable identification for in person voting. Therefore, the special federal ID requirements only apply to certain absentee voters by mail who will be notified by a notice explaining the requirements sent with their absentee ballot.

- Voters who receive a notice about these special requirements need to include a copy of any of the following types of ID with the voted ballot:
  - A current and valid photo ID (for example a driver's license);
  - A current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck that shows name and address; or
  - Another government document that shows name and address (for example a voter card). If the voter returns an absentee ballot by mail without a copy of one of these forms of ID, the absentee ballot will be treated as a provisional ballot and counted only if the voter provides a copy of ID to the electoral board by the deadline applicable to all voters.
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### How can I return my VBM/Absentee Ballot?

- Instructions are included with the VBM ballot. Complete your VBM/Absentee Ballot by following them fully and carefully.
- If you'd like to drop off your VBM/Absentee Ballot,
  - If you requested an absentee ballot, you may complete it and drop it off at any drop-off location in your county or city. There is a drop-off location at your local registrar's office, at every voter satellite office in your county or city, and on Election Day at each polling place in your county or city. If you drop off your absentee ballot, it **MUST** be returned in the sealed envelopes that are provided. Your county or city may also offer additional locations where you can drop-off your ballot.
  - Type in your address [here](#) to find out the various places you can vote or drop off your ballot.
- If you plan to use U.S. Postal Service to mail back your VBM/Absentee ballot,
  - VBM/Absentee ballots, to be counted, must be POSTMARKED on or by Election Day and returned to the Office of Elections by 12 pm on the Friday immediately after Election Day – Friday, November 6.
    - TIP: Do it early! At the latest, send it back at least one week before Election Day.
- **Note, you do not need to have a witness.**
  - For the Tuesday, November 3, 2020 Election, you are not required to have a witness present or have a witness sign your ballot envelope.
  - Your ballot will not be rejected due to a missing witness signature. These instructions override any instructions on your ballot envelopes regarding witness signatures.
- **If you HAVE a VBM/Absentee Ballot but want to vote in person.** If you have not returned your ballot yet, you may vote in person either during early voting or at your polling place on Election Day. If you have requested or received an absentee by mail ballot but would rather vote in person, please bring your unopened ballot with you when you go to vote. If you have lost or did not receive your ballot, you may either vote early in person at your registrar's office or cast a provisional ballot at your polling place on Election Day.
- Devise a plan of action if you do not receive the VBM/Absentee ballot or do not receive it in time.

## In Person Voting

- If you'd like to vote early:
  - Early voting period: Friday, September 18 – Saturday, October 31
  - You do not have to have a reason or fill out an application to vote early.
  - Visit your local registrar's office or a satellite voting location in your county or city to vote early. Remember, the Saturday before Election Day is the last day to vote early.
  - At the registrar's office or satellite voting location, you must provide your name and address and show an acceptable form of ID or sign an ID Confirmation Statement. To view a complete list of acceptable IDs, please see [a detailed list of acceptable IDs](#).
- If you plan to vote on Election Day:
  - Polling places are open from 6 am to 7 pm on Election Day. Anyone in line by 7 pm will be allowed to vote.
  - Voters may [look up their polling place](#) or they may contact their [General Registrar](#) for more information.

- Voter ID. Virginia law requires you to show one acceptable ID to vote:
  - Voter confirmation documents (for example, a voter registration card)
  - Valid Virginia driver's license
  - Valid Virginia DMV-issued ID
  - Valid United States passport
  - Valid Employer-issued photo ID
  - Valid Student ID issued by any community college or university located in the United States
  - Valid Tribal enrollment or other tribal ID
  - Government-issued ID card from a federal, VA, or local political subdivision
  - Virginia Voter Photo ID card
  - A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document containing the name and address of the voter

*\* "Valid" means the document is genuine and is not expired for more than twelve months, EXCEPT for a Virginia driver's license, for which the expiration date should NOT be considered when determining its validity.*
- Know Your Rights: Provisional Ballots
  - If acceptable identification is not provided, you must sign an ID Confirmation Statement or a provisional ballot will be offered and you are allowed until the Friday at noon following the election to provide a copy of acceptable identification to the electoral board or sign an ID Confirmation Statement.
  - Provisional voters receive a notice to remind them of the deadline and right to attend the electoral board meeting.

## Language Assistance

You have the right to language assistance during voting.

- Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act requires certain jurisdictions to provide in-language voting materials in areas with a significant number of limited English proficient voters. **In Virginia, Fairfax County must provide materials in Vietnamese and Spanish.**
- Under Section 208 of the Voting Rights Act you can bring your own interpreter/or translator to the polls, as long as they are not your employer or an agent of your union.
  - TIP: If you need language assistance, ask for help and find a person willing to help!
- Check your state and law laws for any additional language assistance requirements.

**For more information, visit:**

<https://www.protectthevoteva.com/>  
<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/index.html>  
[www.advancingjustice-aajc.org/election2020](http://www.advancingjustice-aajc.org/election2020)

**If you have any questions about voting, no matter how big or small,**  
 call us at [1-888-API-VOTE \(1-888-274-8683\)](tel:1-888-API-VOTE) for help in

English, Mandarin (普通話), Cantonese (廣東話), Korean (한국어), Vietnamese (tiếng Việt), Tagalog, Urdu (اردو), Hindi (हिंदी), and Bengali/Bangla (বাংলা). We are available to provide assistance leading up to, on, and after Election Day.