

The global pandemic is changing voting behavior, creating opportunities for confusion and misinformation. As a state legislator, you are uniquely positioned to help inform and keep your constituents up-to-date. We hope you find this FAQ for safe elections in Georgia helpful. MAP is continuously adding resources for legislators. For more information, please contact us at policy@millennialaction.org.

VOTER FAQs

- **What do I need before voting?**
 - **October 5th, 2020 is the last day to register to vote for the upcoming election.** Register to vote online [here](#), or contact your local election administrator for other registration options.

- **Can I vote in person?**
 - Early Voting: Yes, [early voting](#), also known as [advanced voting](#) in Georgia, runs from Monday, October 12th until Friday, October 30th 2020. Please check [here](#) to find your polling location and hours.
 - Election Day: Yes, check the Georgia Secretary of State's [website](#) to find your polling location and hours.
 - **What do I need to bring with me?**
 - ID requirements: Voters will be required to show a photo ID, see all valid options [here](#).
 - **Will polls be staffed?**
 - Legitimate concerns exist around staffing polling places, and consolidating voting locations—as many states did during primaries—only adds confusion to the process and increases crowding at the polls. If you are concerned about your state's ability to staff the polls, here are some solutions that have broad support amongst the public:
 - 76% support recruiting young people to serve as poll workers
 - 71% support encouraging businesses to provide employees with paid time off on Election Day to serve as poll workers
 - 70% support giving state employees time off to serve as poll workers
 - 68% support flexibility in allowing people to serve as poll workers outside of their precinct of residence

- **Can I vote Absentee/Vote-by-mail?**
 - Yes, no excuse is required to request an absentee ballot
 - You may request an absentee ballot online [here](#)
 - For other ways to request an absentee ballot, see [here](#)
 - **OCTOBER 30th, 2020** is the final day to request an absentee ballot.

- ***ID and witness requirements?***
 - There are no witness or ID requirements to vote absentee/vote-by-mail in Georgia. *However*, if you had previously registered by mail and did not submit a photocopied ID with your registration, you will be required to submit a [photocopied ID](#) with your returned ballot; your ballot will include notice of this requirement if applicable.
 - There are no notarization or witness requirements to cast your ballot by mail in Georgia
- ***How do I return my ballot?***
 - Absentee voters must provide their own postage to return ballots; the appropriate location to return your completed ballot will be included with your mailed ballot.
 - **IMPORTANT:** Mailed ballots in Georgia include a return envelope as well as a **secrecy envelope** to help protect the identity of voters. **All absentee voters should submit their completed ballot into the provided secrecy envelope**, and place that envelope in the provided return envelope before returning that envelope by mail or in-person. This will help avoid any possible chance that your ballot is rejected.
 - Most counties in Georgia provide a certified ballot drop location, please check your county administrators website for this information.
- ***What deadlines do I need to be aware of?***
 - 11:59 PM October 5th, 2020: Deadline to register to vote, voters can register or check their registration status [here](#).
 - 5:00PM October 30th: Deadline for voters to request an absentee ballot.
 - 7:00 PM, November 3rd: All absentee ballots must be received.
 - Note: This deadline is currently being contested in court and may be moved back. However, if you plan to vote-by-mail you should aim to return your ballot as early as possible.
- ***When will we know election results?***
 - Voters should be encouraged to exercise patience awaiting election results come November. Increased use of absentee ballots will undoubtedly slow election tallies in some places.
 - If you are highly concerned about delayed election results, and your state does not allow early canvassing, election officials can make changes to expand the ballot processing timeframe without compromising security, as [Maryland recently did](#).
- **All information included above is current as of 9/23/20.** Check the [Georgia My Voter Page](#) for more details.