

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 Michigan 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?***
 - You can register to vote in-person up to November 3rd, 2020 at your local clerk's office. Check the MI Secretary of State [website](#) to find the appropriate location. **You may also [register online here](#), and the last day to do so online is *October 19th, 2020***

- ***Can I vote in person?***
 - Early Voting: Yes, [early voting](#) in Michigan is known as "absentee in-person voting" a different voting method from receiving your absentee ballot in the mail. Absentee in-person voting takes place between September 24th and November 1st, 2020. Check the Michigan Secretary of State's [site](#) to find your location and hours.
 - Election Day: Yes, check the Michigan Secretary of State's [site](#) to find your 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](#). Voters without a photo ID will be required to sign an affidavit.
 - ***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 a ballot
 - You may request an absentee ballot online [here](#).
 - The Michigan Secretary of State's office will be mailing absentee ballot request forms to all registered voters. Fill out this form and return it to the determined authority as early as possible to avoid complications. You must be registered by **OCTOBER 19th, 2020** to vote absentee, **OCTOBER 30th, 2020** is the final day to request an absentee ballot.
 - **ID and witness requirements?**
 - There are no special ID or witness requirements to vote absentee in Michigan. See valid ID for in-person voting [here](#).
 - **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.
 - Many townships are operating secure ballot drop boxes in coordination with the Michigan Secretary of State and local election officials. You can find more information about these locations [here](#).
 - **What deadlines do I need to be aware of?**
 - 11:59 PM, October 19th, 2020: Deadline to register to vote for the November election, voters can register or check their registration status [here](#)
 - 11:59 PM, October 30th: Last day to request a mailed absentee ballot
 - November 2nd: Final day for in-person absentee voting.
 - 4:00 PM, November 3rd, : Deadline to request an emergency absent voter ballot at your local clerk's office
 - 8:00 PM, November 3rd, : All absent voter ballots must be received by voters' local clerks

- **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 early canvassing, election officials can make changes to expand the ballot processing timeframe without compromising security, as [Maryland recently did](#).

- **All information above is current as of 9/23/20.** Check the [Michigan Secretary of State's website](#) for more details.