

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 North Carolina helpful. MAP is continuously adding resources for legislators. For more information, please contact us at policy@millennialaction.org for more information.

VOTER FAQs

- **What do I need before voting?**
 - **October 9th, 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](#) begins Thursday, October 15th and ends Saturday, October 31st 2020. Check your eligible locations and hours through the North Carolina State Board of Elections (NCSBE) [here](#).
 - Election Day: Yes, find your polling location [here](#).
 - **What do I need to bring with me?**
 - As of September 15th, 2020, voters *will not* be required to present a photo ID at the polls. If this is your first time voting in North Carolina, and you did not provide an ID or social security number when registering, you may be required to provide ID. For more information, see the [NCSBE website](#).
 - **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 vote absentee in North Carolina

- You may request an absentee ballot by completing this [form](#) and returning it to your county election officials by email, mail, fax, or in person. Check [here](#) to find your local Board of Elections.
 - **5 PM, OCTOBER 30th, 2020** is the deadline to submit a request for an absentee ballot before the November election.
 - ***ID and witness requirements?***
 - One witness will be required to submit an absentee ballot for November's election. Your ballot will include instructions on eligible witnesses, but please see the NC Secretary of State's [absentee witness guidelines](#) to adequately prepare.
 - As of September 15th, 2020, no ID will be required to submit an absentee ballot.
 - ***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
 - You may also drop off your ballot at your local Board of Elections, check [here](#) to find your return location.
 - There will be no ballot drop boxes in North Carolina as of September 15th, 2020
 - ***What deadlines do I need to be aware of?***
 - October 9th: Postmark deadline to register to vote-by-mail or in-person for the November 3rd election.
 - October 24th: In-person one-stop early voting period ends.
 - 5:00 PM, October 27th: Deadline to file a request for an absentee ballot.
 - 5:00 PM, November 3rd: Deadline for absentee ballots to be returned to the voter's county board of elections or postmarked in the mail
 - 5:00 PM, November 11th: Deadline for absentee ballots to be received that have been postmarked on or before Election Day.
- ***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 North Carolina State Board of Elections [website](#) for more information.