

Have You Planned Ahead for this Fall's Elections?

With the New Hampshire state primary coming up on September 8, you should be making plans for how you will be able to vote in the primary and the November 3 elections.

For 2020, Voting by Absentee is Allowed if You Are Concerned About COVID-19

If you are disabled, you may already vote by absentee. However, for other voters who have never voted absentee, many are apprehensive about going to the polls in person this year as COVID-19 continues to surge around the country. In April, the NH Secretary of State and NH Attorney General's office gave permission allowing voters to vote by absentee if they had a concern of COVID-19. Then in June, the absentee ballot application was changed to make this process easier.

Start the Process of Absentee Voting by Getting an Application

First, request an Absentee Ballot Application. There are three ways to obtain an application: Download one from your town or city clerk's website, download one from the NH Secretary of State's website [SOS.NH.GOV/VotingEmergency.aspx](https://sos.nh.gov/VotingEmergency.aspx), or call or email your town or city clerk's office.

The application is a two-page form which needs to be filled out completely, signed, and returned by mail to your town or city clerk's office.

I'd Like to Vote, But I'm Not Registered

You can also register by mail. The Absentee Ballot Application's first section asks you whether you are a registered voter. If you're not, the clerk will send you voter registration materials through the mail, OR you can do it in person at the clerk's office.

When Do I Get My Absentee Ballot?

Generally you'll get your ballot 3-5 weeks before the election, provided you request it early. Your ballot will come with instructions. **Make sure to sign the affidavit envelope**, and return it as soon as possible. The new rules allow you to check "disabled" on the affidavit envelope for COVID-19. Help our election officials and send it back early!

What if I Want to Go to the Polls?

You can absolutely vote in person if you wish. The polls will be open as usual, and special protection measures are being put in place to protect the voters and poll workers. Wear your mask, or one will be offered to you at the polls. But, voting from home will be the safer for you, for others, and for poll workers.

Where Do I Go if I have questions?

Your town or city clerk is always the best place to go if you have questions. Call them and they'll be glad to help you!



New rules allow any NH voter concerned with COVID-19 to check a "COVID-19" box to apply for an absentee ballot for the 2020 elections. Help keep voters and poll workers safe; request your absentee ballot NOW!



Get your absentee ballot application at:

- Your town or city website
- SOS.NH.GOV
- Your clerk's office in person, or by email or phone

 **Open Democracy**
AN EQUAL VOICE FOR ALL
Info at OpenDemocracyNH.org/absentee



Keep Yourself & Your Family Safe! Vote from Home!

Prepared by your friends at the nonpartisan Open Democracy, Concord, NH