



Mail Balloting FAQ

In Minnesota, cities with fewer than 400 registered voters and townships of any size, can choose to vote exclusively by mail by resolution of their city council or township board. Minnesota has had these mail ballot precincts for over 30 years; the legislation authorizing this type of voting for residents of small, non-metro jurisdictions became law in 1987.

What If I Move to a Mail Ballot Precinct Close to The Election Date?

If you update your voter registration to your new address at least 21 days before the election, election officials will automatically send you a ballot by mail. Otherwise, you will need to [apply to have a ballot mailed](#) to your new address. Election officials will send you a registration application with your ballot materials.

Will Any Polling Places Be Open on Election Day?

The office of the election official conducting the election will be open as a polling place on Election Day. To find this location, enter your address into the [Polling Place Finder](#). You can drop off your ballot there or register and vote in person. The polling place location may be distant. You can avoid a lengthy trip on Election Day by registering to vote at least 21 days before the election. This will ensure you receive your ballot by mail.



Will I Vote by Mail for Every Election?

Your city or town can choose which elections to hold by mail. Use the Polling Place Finder before each election to determine if that election will be held by mail or at a polling place.

When Will I Get My Mail Ballot?

Election officials send ballots to all registered voters using non-forwardable mail. They send ballots between 46 days to 14 days before the election. You must be registered to vote at your current address to receive a ballot.

Do I Need a Witness For My Ballot?

Yes. A witness is an eligible Minnesota voter or a Notary.

How Do I Return My Ballot?

You can return your ballot by mail, in person or by asking someone else to return it for you. The address will be printed on the voting materials. No postage is necessary. Ballots returned in person must be delivered by 8 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots returned by mail must be received on or before Election Day. You can [track the status of your ballot](#) and confirm that it was received and counted.

When Are Mail Ballots Counted?

Counting of mail ballots can begin as early as the 19th day before the Election. Results of mail ballots that have been counted through Election Day will be included in the results reported on election night.