



Voting In-Person After Requesting an Absentee Ballot

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While voters who request a mail/absentee ballot often return those ballots through the mail, many states provide other options for returning the ballot, including ballot drop boxes, or bringing the ballot to a local election office. In addition, many states provide an option for voters who have requested a mail/absentee ballot to vote in-person instead. The chart below provides information on state policies pertaining to voters who requested a mail/absentee ballot, but want to vote in-person instead (e.g. early voting or at the polling place on Election Day), as well as states that allow a person to cast a new ballot (i.e. change their vote) after returning a mail/absentee ballot.

In some states, voters who have requested a mail/absentee ballot, but have not returned the ballot, may vote a regular ballot in-person instead (but may be required to “surrender” the mail/absentee ballot or sign an affidavit.) In other states, a voter may cast a provisional ballot. Generally, if a voter requests a mail/absentee ballot but votes a regular ballot in-person instead, the mail/absentee ballot will be cancelled and will not be counted if it is returned. If the voter requests a mail/absentee ballot and casts a provisional ballot in-person instead, the provisional ballot will not be counted if it turns out the mail/absentee ballot was returned.

Some states may allow voters to cast a new ballot after they have already returned a mail/absentee ballot (e.g. AK, MI, MN, NY, WI). The process and timing for doing so varies among these states. Generally, if a voter casts a new ballot after returning a mail/absentee ballot, the previous ballot will be cancelled.

Voters should contact their state and local election for more information on voting in-person after requesting a mail/absentee ballot, as well as options for returning the voted mail/absentee ballot other than through the mail.

Alabama	If a voter has requested, but not voted, an absentee ballot, the voter may cast a provisional ballot. (<i>Alabama Code § 17-10-2</i>).
Alaska	If a voter requests an absentee by-mail ballot but decides to vote early or in-person on Election Day, the voter should destroy and dispose of the absentee ballot. If a voter has voted an absentee by-mail ballot and wants to change their ballot choice, the voter should contact the Alaska Division of Elections <i>See Alaska Absentee Voting By-Mail FAQ.</i>
Arizona	If a voter has requested, but not voted, an early ballot by mail, the voter may cast a provisional ballot. (<i>Ariz. Rev. Stat. §16-584(E)</i>).
Arkansas	If a voter has requested, but not voted, an absentee ballot, the voter may cast a provisional ballot in-person. (see Arkansas Poll Worker Training Guide).

California	All voters receive a mail ballot. If a voter has not returned a vote-by-mail ballot, the voter may vote in-person. If the voter does not bring the mail ballot with them, the voter may cast a provisional ballot. (see California Secretary of State).
Colorado	Elections are conducted by mail. If a voter does not receive a mail ballot, makes a mistake, damages, or loses the mail ballot, the voter may request a replacement ballot or vote in-person (see Colorado Secretary of State).
Connecticut	If a voter has requested, but has not returned their absentee ballot prior to Election Day, the voter may vote in-person on Election Day. (see Connecticut Secretary of State).
Delaware	If a voter requests, but does not return, a vote-by-mail ballot, the voter may voter in-person (see Delaware Department of Elections).
D.C.	All voters receive a mail ballot. A voter may choose to vote in-person instead. If the voter has already returned the mail ballot, the voter will be issued a special ballot (see D.C. Board of Elections).
Florida	A voter who requests a vote-by-mail ballot may choose to vote in person instead. If the voter brings the ballot (marked or unmarked) to the polls to turn the ballot in, or election officials confirm the voter has not returned the mail ballot, the voter will be allowed to vote a regular ballot. If the mail ballot has been returned and received, the ballot is deemed cast and the voter to have voted. If the voter believes the office is incorrect, the voter may cast a provisional ballot (see Florida Secretary of State).
Georgia	If a voter requests but does not receive an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in-person after attesting that they are only voting once (see Georgia Secretary of State).
Hawaii	Elections are conducted by mail. Voters may request a replacement ballot. A voter also has the option of voting in-person. (see Hawaii Office of Elections).
Idaho	If a voter who requests an absentee ballot chooses to vote in person instead, the voter must bring the absentee ballot with them to the polls.
Illinois	If a voter who requests a mail ballot chooses to vote in person instead, and the surrenders the mail ballot to an election judge, the voter may vote a regular ballot. If the voter has not yet received the mail ballot, the voter must sign an affidavit in order to vote a regular ballot. If the voter received but lost the mail ballot, the voter must sign an affidavit certifying that they have not voted in the election, and will be issued a provisional ballot (see Illinois State Board of Elections).
Indiana	A voter who has requested but not returned an absentee ballot may surrender the absentee ballot and vote a regular ballot in-person on Election Day (see Indiana Secretary of State).
Iowa	A voter who has requested but not returned an absentee ballot may vote a regular ballot on Election Day if they surrender the absentee ballot at the polls. If the voter cannot surrender the absentee ballot the voter may vote a provisional ballot (see Iowa Secretary of State).
Kansas	If a voter requests an advance by mail ballot but chooses to cast their ballot in person the voter will be given a provisional ballot (see Kansas Secretary of State).
Kentucky	If a voter has requested but not received an absentee ballot by October 28 th , the voter may vote in-person at a county polling location (see Kentucky Emergency Regulations).

Louisiana	If a voter has requested but not returned a mail ballot, the voter may vote in-person (see Louisiana Secretary of State).
Maine	If a voter has requested and returned an absentee ballot, the voter may not vote in-person on Election Day (see Maine Secretary of State).
Maryland	If records indicate the a has requested an absentee ballot, or already voted, the voter may cast a provisional ballot (see Maryland State Board of Elections).
Massachusetts	If a voter has requested but not returned a mail ballot, the voter may vote in-person (see Massachusetts Secretary of State).
Michigan	<p>A voter who has requested but not returned an absentee ballot may vote in-person on Election Day if the voter surrenders the ballot at the polling place. If the ballot was lost or destroyed, the voter must sign an affidavit.</p> <p>If a voter has already returned an absentee ballot, the voter may change their vote by submitting a request for a new ballot, or spoiling the absentee ballot that has been returned at the clerk's office no later than 10 AM on the Monday before the election.</p> <p>See Michigan Secretary of State.</p>
Minnesota	<p>A voter who has requested and returned an absentee ballot may request to cancel the ballot no later than two weeks before Election Day.</p> <p>If a voter has requested an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in-person if the absentee ballot has not already been counted.</p> <p>See Minnesota Secretary of State.</p>
Mississippi	Absentee ballots will be the final vote. Those who vote absentee may not appear on Election Day and cast a regular ballot (see Mississippi Secretary of State).
Missouri	If a voter requests but has not returned an absentee ballot, and wants to vote at the polling place, the voter should contact their local election authority for instructions (see Missouri Secretary of State).
Montana	A voter may request a replacement mail ballot if it is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received (see Montana Secretary of State).
Nebraska	If a voter has requested, but not voted, an early voting (absentee) ballot, the voter may cast a provisional ballot (see Nebraska Statutes 32-915).
Nevada	All voters receive a mail ballot. In order to vote in person, a voter must physically surrender their mail ballot at the polling place or sign an affirmation indicating the voter will not vote their mail ballot (see Nevada Secretary of State).
New Hampshire	A voter who has requested an absentee ballot may vote in-person on Election Day before the absentee ballot is processed.
New Jersey	All voters receive a mail ballot. A voter may vote in-person by provisional ballot on Election Day (see New Jersey Department of State).
New Mexico	If a voter requests an absentee ballot, the voter may choose to vote at the polling place on Election Day if they sign an affidavit state that they did not and will not return the mailed ballot (see New Mexico Secretary of State).
New York	If a voter requests or returns an absentee ballot, the voter may still go to the polls and vote in person, and the absentee ballot will be set aside (see New York State Board of Elections).

North Carolina	If a voter has requested but not returned an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in person (see North Carolina State Board of Elections).
North Dakota	Voters who received an absentee ballot but choose to vote in-person instead will be issued a new ballot at their polling location (<i>North Dakota Secretary of State's office</i>).
Ohio	If a voter requests but does not vote an absentee ballot and instead decides to go to their polling place on Election Day, the voter must cast a provisional ballot (see Ohio Secretary of State).
Oklahoma	If a voter has requested but not returned an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in-person if they sign an affidavit stating that they did not use the absentee ballot that was mailed to them (see Tulsa County Elections).
Oregon	Elections are conducted by mail. Voters may request a replacement ballot. (see Oregon Secretary of State).
Pennsylvania	If a voter has requested but not returned a mail-in or absentee ballot, the voter may vote a regular ballot in person if the voter surrenders the ballot and return envelope and signs a declaration. If the voter does not surrender the ballot and return envelope, the voter can only vote by provisional ballot at the polling place (see Pennsylvania Secretary of State).
Rhode Island	If a voter requests a mail ballot and attempts to vote in person, the voter will be required to vote a provisional ballot (see Rhode Island Secretary of State).
South Carolina	If a voter requests an absentee ballot and wants to vote in-person or at the polling place on Election Day, the voter must return the unvoted absentee ballot to the county voter registration office or extension office (see South Carolina Election Commission).
South Dakota	If a voter has requested but not returned an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in-person at the polling place (see South Dakota Secretary of State).
Tennessee	If a voter has requested but not voted a mail ballot, the voter may cast a provisional ballot (see <i>Tennessee Code 2-7-112</i>).
Texas	If a voter requests but does not return a mail ballot, the voter may cast a regular ballot if they surrender the mail ballot. If the voter does not surrender the mail ballot, the voter may cast a provisional ballot (see Harris County Clerk).
Utah	Elections are conducted by mail. If a voter receives a mail ballot the voter may choose to vote in person. The voter should surrender the mail ballot at the polling place (see Utah Elections Office).
Vermont	All voters receive a mail ballot. If a voter chooses to vote in-person they should bring their mail ballot. If the voter does not bring the mail ballot they must fill out an affidavit affirming that they have not voted already (see Vermont Secretary of State).
Virginia	If a voter has requested but not returned an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in-person. The voter should bring the unopened ballot when voting in-person. If the voter has lost or did not receive the absentee ballot, the voter may vote at the registrar's office or cast a provisional ballot on Election Day (see Virginia Department of Elections).
Washington	Elections are conducted by mail. Voters may request a replacement ballot. Voter should contact their county election for information on in-person voting options (see Washington Secretary of State).

West Virginia	If a voter has requested but not returned an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in-person if they bring the absentee ballot with them to the polls. If the voter does not bring the absentee ballot, they may vote a provisional ballot (see West Virginia Secretary of State).
Wisconsin	A voter who has requested and returned their absentee ballot and wants to cancel the ballot should contact their municipal clerk. If a voter has requested but not returned an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in-person.
Wyoming	If a voter requests but has not returned an absentee ballot, the voter may vote in-person. The voter should surrender the absentee ballot at the Clerk's office or polling place (see Laramie County Elections).