

Methods of Requesting an Absentee Ballot

- Any registered voter may come to the Board of Elections office and fill out a request form—a ballot will be mailed to you.
- Any registered voter may send a written request by mail to the Board of Elections office—a ballot will be mailed to you (per General Statute 163.230.2 a written request is only valid if it is written entirely by the requestor personally and signed by the requestor unless the requestor, due to disability or illiteracy, is unable to complete a written request, in which case a person of the requestor's choice may provide assistance so long as the requestor provides their signature on the request).
- A registered voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian may make a request for a voter either in person or by mail (per General Statute 163.230.1 "near relative" means spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild). If a near relative is making the request, the relative's name, address, and relationship to the voter must be included in the request.
- NOTE: No one with Power of Attorney may make a request for a voter unless they are also a near relative or legal guardian.

Information Needed to Process a Request and Mail Out a Ballot

- Name (printed and signed)
- Residential address
- Address to which you want the ballot mailed
- Date of birth
- Telephone number (or contact number)
- NOTE: In primary elections only, if the voter's party is Unaffiliated, please indicate the party primary in which the voter is voting.

When to Request a Ballot

- Submit your request no later than Tuesday prior to Election Day
- NOTE: By law ballots may not be mailed out earlier than 60 days prior to Election Day for the General Elections; or 30 days prior to Election Day for Municipal Elections.

Voting your Absentee Ballot

- When your ballot arrives mark it according to the instructions that are included in the packet.
- After your ballot is marked, place it inside the return envelope, seal it, and complete the application printed on the return envelope, being sure that your witness signs the envelope and provides his/her address.
- NOTE: By law your ballot cannot be counted unless the information requested on the ballot return envelope is filled in completely.
- NOTE: If you are a patient in a hospital, clinic, or nursing home in this state, the owner, manager, director, or employee may not witness or assist you in voting your ballot unless they are your near relative or legal guardian; likewise a candidate for election may not witness or assist you in voting your ballot unless they are your near relative or legal guardian.

Returning Your Absentee Ballot

- All civilian voted ballots must be in the Board of Elections office by 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election or postmarked by Election Day.
- Return a voted ballot by mail or by courier service at the voter's expense, or deliver it to the Board of Elections office in person by the voter or the voter's near relative or legal guardian.
- NOTE: Once your ballot has been returned to the Board of Elections office it may not be withdrawn, however, if your circumstances change and you have not yet returned your ballot, you may vote at your polling place on Election Day.

One-Stop No-Excuse Absentee Voting

- In person absentee voting (early voting) begins the third Thursday prior to Election Day and concludes at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday before Election Day.
- Early voting is always conducted in the meeting room of the Main Branch of the Library and also sometimes held at satellite locations around the county. www.co.union.nc.us