

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ TO MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS

You may vote by absentee ballot ONLY IF, on the day of the election, one of the following is true:

- You will be absent from the town or city where you are registered to vote;
- You cannot appear in public because of observance of a religious commitment;
- You are unable to vote in person by reason of a physical disability;
- You cannot appear at any time during polling hours at my polling place because of an employment obligation. For the purposes of this application, the term “employment” shall include the care of children and infirm adults, with or without compensation.
- If the National Weather Service issues a winter storm warning, blizzard warning, or ice storm warning for election day, then you may vote by absentee ballot on the Monday immediately before the election if you meet any of the following criteria:
 - You are elderly, infirm, or have a physical disability, and you have concerns for your safety traveling in the storm; or
 - You care for children or infirm adults and you reasonably anticipate that school, child care, or adult care will be canceled due to the storm, and you will be deterred from voting by the need to care for children or infirm adults.
- You are a victim of domestic violence, have an active protective order, and are participating in the Attorney General’s address confidentiality program; or
- You are an emergency services worker called into service under the circumstances set forth in RSA 657:21-a.

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE CIRCUMSTANCES APPLIES TO YOU, PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM. If you do not meet one of the requirements listed above, then you may not vote by absentee ballot. Please vote in person on election day.

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Absentee Ballot Requirements and Instructions

For your absentee ballot vote to be counted, please follow these steps:

STEP 1: You must be qualified to vote by absentee ballot for one of the reasons listed on Page 1 of these instructions.

STEP 2: Fill out your ballot. Follow the instructions on the ballot. If you require assistance due to a disability, you may have someone else assist you. The person who assists a voter who has a disability must sign a statement acknowledging the assistance on either the absentee ballot application form and/or affidavit envelope (See Step 4 below).

Important: When filling out your ballot, completely fill in the oval to the right of your choice on the ballot. If the instructions indicate you may vote more than once for a particular office, do not vote more than the number of candidates stated in the instructions. If you vote for more than the stated number of candidates, your vote for that office will not be counted.

STEP 3: Once finished marking the ballot, the voter or the person assisting the voter must place the ballot inside the inner affidavit envelope sent to the voter with the ballot, then seal that inner affidavit envelope. RSA 657:17

STEP 4: Next, the applicant must sign the affidavit printed on the outside of the envelope, unless that person receives assistance due to a disability. The signature certifies under penalty of voting fraud that you meet one of the requirements to vote absentee, RSA 657:7. The person assisting the voter must instead complete the section of the application and affidavit that reads “I attest that I assisted the applicant in executing this form because he/she has a disability.

Signature _____” RSA 657:17.

Print Name _____

STEP 5: Place the completed affidavit envelope, containing the marked ballot, inside the outer envelope. If you are returning absentee voter registration forms and proof of qualifications, place those documents inside the outer envelope and seal the outer envelope.

STEP 6: In the upper left corner of the outer envelope, print the voter’s name, address, and voting place. RSA 657:17. Place postage on the outer envelope and mail it to the clerk. As an alternative, the voter, the voter’s spouse, parent, sibling or child may personally deliver the envelope to the clerk. If delivered to the polls on election day by a spouse, parent sibling or child he or she will be required to present government issued photo identification or have his or her identity verified by the clerk and complete a form provided there by the clerk. RSA 657:17. **The envelopes containing your absentee ballot must be received by the clerk no later than 5:00 PM on election day. RSA 657:21-a, V; 657:22.**

NOTE: If the voter delivers the absentee ballot, affidavit, sealed in the outer envelope in person to the clerk, the voter may voluntarily prove his or her identity using a qualified photo identification, such as a driver’s license or non-driver ID issued by any state. If the voter proves identity, the outer envelope and the Clerk’s list of absentee voters will be marked “voter verified.” If the voter’s absentee ballot is challenged on election day, the Moderator may consider this evidence that the voter’s identity was verified by the clerk when ruling on the challenge.

Visit the Voter Look-up website: <https://app.sos.nh.gov> to track your ballot. You may verify receipt of your absentee application, the date when your absentee ballot was mailed to you, the date the clerk received your completed absentee ballot, and after the election learn if your absentee ballot was rejected/not counted and why. Contact your clerk if you have questions regarding the information on the Voter Look-up web site. RSA 657:26