1. **COVID-19 Mail-In Voting Update:** Arkansas Secretary of State John Thurston declared that anyone in the state can request an absentee ballot in the November 3 general election during the COVID-19 pandemic. As discussed above, under state law, a voter who can’t vote in person on Election Day because of travel, illness, or physical disability may cast an absentee ballot. Secretary Thurston has said that a health concern because of COVID-19 is a qualifying reason to vote absentee. In other words, anyone who fears that going to a polling place will put his or her health at risk may request an absentee ballot.

The same mail-in ballot pickup and delivery rules in normal times apply for the November 3 general election. For more information on Arkansas’s absentee voting rules during the pandemic go to: https://static.ark.org/euuploads/elections/Resolution_No._4_of_2020_Regarding_Absentee_Voting_Procedure_s.pdf.

For more information on whether your local county election commission is allowing anyone to request an absentee ballot for the August 11, 2020 municipal primary election, call your local county clerk.

2. **Poll Schedule and Locations-** On Election Day, each polling place will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Central. In all counties, a voter who is in line by 7:30 p.m. at the polling site has the right to vote. Many counties have closed or moved polling places, so voters will need to double check their polling place and vote early or absentee as needed. Many counties also have new voting equipment and are utilizing vote centers for the first time, which may create delay at the polls.

3. **Voter ID- At the polls:** Poll workers are required to ask for a photo ID. The ID must be issued by the state of Arkansas or the federal government and not be expired more than four years. If the voter does not have or show an ID, they are to sign an affidavit and cast a provisional ballot that should be counted unless there is some non-voter ID reason not to count the ballot. The law does not require the ID to have the current address of the voter. Even though a voter shows ID, they will still be asked to state their name, address and date of birth. **Absentee:** Voters casting absentee ballots should submit a copy of their photo ID with their ballot; if they do not include a copy of their ID with the ballot, their absentee ballot will be provisional and should be counted unless there is some non-voter ID reason not to count the ballot.

4. **Accessibility-** All polling places should be accessible to voters with disabilities, every polling place should have equipment that enables a person with disabilities to execute their ballots. Voters with any physical, sensory, or other disabilities may inform a poll worker at the polling site that they are unable to stand in line for extended periods of time and are entitled to advance to the head of the line of voters waiting at the polling site.

5. **Assistance at the polls-** Any voter, regardless of whether they are able to read, write, speak English, or are blind or otherwise disabled, has the right to receive help voting from a person of their choice except the voter’s employer, an agent of the voter’s employer, or an officer or agent of the voter’s union. A voter may also ask to be assisted by two poll workers, one of whom shall assist with voting, the other shall observe. Anyone assisting the voter must do so according to the wishes of the voter without comment or interpretation.

6. **If a voter has moved-** If a voter has moved to a different precinct in the same county prior to the election, they have the right to vote at the polling place of their new residence. Election officials may seek to confirm the voter’s registration status with the county clerk, and the voter should update the change of address portion of a Voter Registration Application before obtaining their ballot to vote.

7. **Mistake ballot-** If a voter makes a mistake on their ballot, they may ask an election official for another ballot. The voter may be asked to sign a Spoiled Ballot Affidavit, but they should not hesitate to start over. A voter may “spoil” up to two ballots. Once you place your ballot in the ballot box, no further changes can be made.
8. **Polling place boundary**- Electioneering may not occur within 100 feet of the primary entrances of a polling place. If a campaign worker or candidate approaches a voter within 100 feet of the polling place, the violation should be reported to election officials at the poll and to the county board of election commissioners.

9. **Provisional ballots**- A voter has the right to vote by provisional ballot if the voter believes that they are properly registered to vote and: (a) the voter’s name does not appear on the precinct voter registration list; (b) the voter failed to provide the necessary identification when registering to vote and forgot to bring the identification with them to the polling place; (c) the precinct voter registration list indicates that the voter requested an absentee ballot or voted during early voting; (d) their vote is challenged by a poll watcher; or (e) the federal or state court order extends the time for closing the polls beyond that established by state law and the voter votes during the extended period of time. **A provisional ballot should be a last resort.**

If you have any questions or to report any problems, call 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)