1. **Poll Schedule**- On Election Day, each polling place must open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., except that a polling place with less than 400 registered voters must be open only from noon to the earlier of 8 p.m. or until all registered voters in that precinct have voted. Governor Bullock’s Executive Order 3-2020, which declared a state of emergency under COVID-19, permits all counties in Montana to conduct all-mail elections (under current Montana law, only counties with certain threshold populations can conduct all mail elections). Advise prospective voters to call or call local county elections commissions to determine whether they have opted to conduct all-mail elections.

2. **Absentee Voting Primary** - In March 2020, civil rights groups filed a lawsuit challenging the State’s new Ballot Interference Prevention Act, which placed restrictions on who can collect absentee ballots and how many ballots can be collected and returned to county elections commissions. The plaintiffs argued that Native American voters who live on reservations rely on voting rights organizations to return ballots because of the far distances between county elections commissions and reservations. The plaintiffs also argued that the absentee return deadline, received by 8 p.m. by election day, should be extended and that elections commissions should count all absentee ballots postmarked on or before election day and received by the deadline for federal write-in ballots for military and overseas voters. A federal judge granted the plaintiffs’ injunction. The Montana Attorney General’s Office filed a stay of the federal court’s decision in the Montana Supreme Court arguing that last-minute changes to election administration were disruptive, and in particular, that the extension of the absentee return deadline was a legislative decision. The State asks the Supreme Court to stay the federal district court’s order and allow the State to conduct the June 2 primary election according to current state laws. There has not been a decision yet.

Volunteers receiving calls from Montana should advise voters to get in their absentee ballots by 8 p.m. on Election Day and not wait until later—given that the state of the law is up in the air and the Montana Supreme Court’s decision may alter the federal court ruling.

3. **Voter ID**- A voter must provide valid identification at the polling place in order to vote. If the voter DOES NOT HAVE identification, the voter may still vote by requesting and filling out a “Polling Place Elector ID” form, or cast a provisional ballot on Election Day. The voter’s provisional ballot will be counted if the voter submits the proper identification to the county election office by 5:00 p.m. the day after Election Day, or mails it to the county elections office postmarked by the day after Election Day. Acceptable forms of ID include:
   a. Any current photo ID that shows the voter’s name (for example a valid driver’s license, school ID, state ID, or tribal ID).
   b. A current utility bill, bank statement, pay check, voter confirmation notice, government check, or other government document that shows the voter’s name and address.

4. **Accessibility**- All polling places should be accessible to voters with disabilities. Additionally, there should be voting equipment at every polling place to accommodate voters with disabilities. If a voter reports that a polling place is not accessible, election judges should bring the ballot to the disabled voter in their automobile to complete.

5. **Assistance at the polls**- Any voter, regardless of whether the voter is able to read, write or speak English, or is blind or otherwise physically disabled, has the right to receive help voting from a person of his or her choice except the voter’s employer, an agent of the voter’s employer, or an officer or agent of the voter’s union.

6. **If a voter has moved**- If a registered voter has moved to a different precinct in the same county...
prior to Election Day, the voter has the right to cast a regular vote at the polling place, an absentee ballot, or a mail ballot in the precinct where the voter is registered. The voter may only do this for the first election after their move. If a registered voter moves to a different county 30 days or less before an election, they may vote in their old precinct and county. Otherwise, they must re-register in the new county.

7. **Mistake ballot**- If a voter makes a mistake or “spoils” the ballot, and has not cast the ballot, the voter has the right to receive a replacement ballot after returning the spoiled ballot.

8. **Polling place boundary**- Voters have the right to wait to vote (or to vote) without anyone electioneering or trying to influence their vote in any other way within 100 feet of the polling place or entrance of the building in which the polling place is located.

9. **Provisional ballots**- If your name doesn’t appear in the precinct register book and your eligibility to vote cannot otherwise be established, you are entitled to cast a provisional ballot. However, casting a provisional ballot is a last resort.

10. **Ballot Selfies**- Montana’s Commissioner of Political Practices issued an Advisory Opinion that voters voluntarily taking pictures of themselves with their marked ballot and sharing the image would not violate Montana law.

11. **Voting in the 2020 presidential primary election**- Voters are given all the parties’ ballots but may vote only one party ballot from any party. There is no party registration in Montana. See #2 above for absentee voting in the primary during COVID-19.

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