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Note: This FAQ is not exhaustive. Situations or inquiries may arise that are not answered below. In those circumstances, contact your hotline captain or command center for assistance. Please make sure to record all of the voter's contact information should follow-up be necessary.

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REGISTERING TO VOTE

1. STATUS: Am I registered to vote?

You can determine whether a voter is registered to vote using the Idaho Secretary of State's registration lookup website,

<https://elections.sos.idaho.gov/ElectionLink/ElectionLink/VoterSearch.aspx>.

2. HOW: How do I register to vote? What if I don't have access to a computer and/or printer?

You can register to vote in a few ways:

1) Registering online

<https://elections.sos.idaho.gov/ElectionLink/ElectionLink/ApplicationInstructions.aspx>,

2) by filling out the Idaho Voter Registration form and mail to your county. The form is found at

https://sos.idaho.gov/elect/VoterReg/voter_registration.pdf, or

3) you can register at the polls on election day.

3. IDENTIFICATION: What ID is required to register to vote?

- Online Registration
 - To vote online, a voter needs a current valid driver's license or identification card issued by the Idaho Department of Motor Vehicles.
- Mail-In Registration
 - A voter can submit mail-registration without a driver's license or ID. The voter can submit their social security number.

4. DEADLINES: When is/was the voter registration deadline? Are there different deadlines whether I register by mail, in-person, online or on Election Day?

Preregistration Deadline: Voter registrations must be received by the county clerk on October 9, 2020 — for the Nov. 3 election.

- Deadline must be postmarked by this date for mailed paper applications.
- Deadline is 5 p.m. for paper applications handed in to the county clerk's office.
- Deadline is midnight for online applications.ⁱ

Idaho also allows for same day voter registration. For same day registration processes, see Question 5.

5. SAME DAY: Does my state have Same Day Registration (i.e. I can register to vote the same day I vote)? If so, what is the process?

The process for same-day registration is as follows:

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An individual who is eligible to vote may register on election day by appearing in person at the polling place for the precinct in which the individual maintains residence, by completing a registration application, making an oath in the form prescribed by the secretary of state and providing proof of residence. An individual may prove residence for purposes of registering by:

- Showing an Idaho driver’s license or Idaho identification card issued through the department of transportation; or
- Showing any document which contains a valid address in the precinct together with a picture identification card; or
- Showing a current valid student photo identification card from a postsecondary educational institution in Idaho accompanied with a current student fee statement that contains the student’s valid address in the precinct.

Election day registration provided in this section shall apply to all elections conducted under title 34, Idaho Code, and to school district and municipal elections.

An individual who is eligible to vote may also register, upon providing proof of residence, at the "absent electors’ polling place" provided in section 34-1006, Idaho Code.ⁱⁱ

6. PERMANENT MOVE: I have moved permanently and I didn’t update my voter registration, can I vote?

Refer to the table below. The answer to this question depends on whether the voter moved within the same county/election jurisdiction or moved to a new county.

Moved within the same precinct	Moved to a different precinct but within the same county	Moved to a different election jurisdiction (typically county)	Moved from a different state
Re-registration with their County Clerk is required if a voter changes their address. ⁱⁱⁱ	Re-registration with their County Clerk is required if a voter changes their address.	If a voter will have lived in the new county for at least 30 days on election day, they are eligible to vote in their new county. The voter is required to re-register. If a voter will not have lived in the new county for at least 30 days on Election Day they are not eligible to vote in their new county.	If a voter will have lived in Idaho for at least 30 days on election day, they are eligible to vote in Idaho. The voter is required to re-register.

7. STUDENT: I am a college student. Can I register to vote where I go to school? What if I am taking classes remotely? Where can I vote?

In Idaho Constitutional (Article VI, Sec. 5) and statutory provisions (Idaho Code § 34-405) provide that no person is deemed to have gained or lost a residence for voting purposes by reason of his presence or absence while a student at any institution of learning. These provisions have the effect of treating physical presence as a neutral factor in determining voting residence and therefore other factors must be looked at.^{iv}

Some of the factors which may be relevant in determining whether domicile has been established for voting purposes by a student as well as any other applicant, are as follows:

1. Has the applicant registered to vote elsewhere?
2. If married, where does his or her spouse reside?
3. Where does the applicant keep his personal property?
4. Does the applicant have any community ties to the locale he claims as his domicile – membership in church, social or service clubs, etc?
5. Where does the applicant maintain his checking and saving accounts, if any?
6. Where does the applicant pay taxes, and what address did he list as his residence on his last income tax return?
7. What is the residence listed on the applicant’s driver’s license?
8. If the applicant owns an automobile, where is it registered?
9. If the applicant is employed, where is his job located?
10. Does the applicant live year round at his claimed domicile, or does he divide it elsewhere? If it is divided, how much time is spent elsewhere and for what reason?
11. What residence does the applicant list on his selective service registration, hunting or fishing licenses, insurance policies, or other official papers and documents which required a statement of residence or address.^v

As a student, you should not be registering and voting in your college locale simply because you failed to register and vote at your true domicile. Registering to vote is a serious matter which should only be done after proper reflection. It should be noted that there is no federal right to vote anywhere in the United States for the office of President. State laws control registration and voting and State residency requirements must be met.^{vi}

9. LIVING ABROAD: I am living abroad and/or am serving in the military. How can I register and/or vote?

Idaho Military and Overseas Citizens Voting Procedures can be found here https://sos.idaho.gov/elect/clerk/Manuals/2016_UOCAVA_Procedures.pdf.

Service members can use the Federal Voting Assistance Program to help register for voting. See <https://www.fvap.gov/idaho>.

10. CRIMINAL CONVICTION: I have a criminal conviction. Can I vote?

If you have been convicted of a felony, you can only vote once your rights have been restored. Persons convicted of a felony in Idaho have their rights automatically restored upon completion of sentencing including any probation or parole.

11. INCARCERATED: I am currently in jail. Can I vote?

If you are currently incarcerated for a felony conviction, you cannot vote.

12. NOT ON ROLLS AT POLLING PLACE: I am at my polling place and am not on the voter registration roll. Can I vote where I am?

You can register to vote at your polling place. See Question 5.

13. THOUGHT WAS REGISTERED: My name isn't on the voter registration roll but I thought I was registered. Could it have been removed? What do I do?

If the voter does not appear on the rolls, they may register at the polls. Please see the answer to Question 5 for same-day registration.

HOW TO VOTE: EARLY VOTING

14. AVAILABILITY: Is there early voting in my state (whether called early voting or in person absentee voting)? When is it?

Early voting is available in Idaho on a county-by-county basis. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

15. ELIGIBILITY: Do I have to have a reason to vote early?

Early voting eligibility is determined at the county level. See response to number 14.

16. WHEN: When do the polls open/close during early voting?

Early voting begins for those counties who participate on October 19, 2020 and ends October 30, 2020.

17. WHERE: Where do I vote during early voting?

Early voting locations differ across counties. See the answer to question 14.

18. IDENTIFICATION: What identification is required for early voting? Can I vote without providing identification?

The identification requirements for early voting are the same as those for regular voting. See the answer to question 3 above.

HOW TO VOTE: ABSENTEE AND/OR VOTE BY MAIL

19. AUTOMATIC: Do I have to request an absentee ballot or will my state mail me one automatically? How do I request one?

Applying for an absentee ballot for a single election:

- Any registered voter can request an absentee ballot, by mail, or in person at their County Clerk's office. A copy of the application can be found here, https://sos.idaho.gov/elect/clerk/forms/2020_Absentee_Request.pdf.
- The application can be returned to the voter's county clerk by mail. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.
- You can also request an absentee ballot online at <https://elections.sos.idaho.gov/ElectionLink/ElectionLink/BeginAbsenteeRequest.aspx>.

20. APPLICATION DEADLINE: What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?

The application must be received by the County Clerk before October 23, 2020 at 5:00 pm local time.

21. APPLICATION RETURN: Where and/or how can I return my absentee ballot application? Can someone return it for me?

A mail-in application can be sent to a voter's county clerk via mail which are listed on the application form.

22. DIDN'T REQUEST IN TIME: What if I have not requested an absentee ballot by the deadline?

If you do not request an absentee ballot in time, you can vote in person but you will not receive an absentee ballot.

A registered elector who has not previously requested an absentee ballot for the same election and *who is physically unable to vote in person at the elector's designated polling place on the day of the election because of an emergency situation requiring hospitalization of the elector* may request an emergency situation absentee ballot by filing an emergency situation absentee ballot application with the county clerk. The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for the emergency situation absentee ballot application.

- The emergency application may be submitted to the county clerk up to five (5) days prior to the election but shall be received by the county clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before the election, in order to allow for the coordination of ballot delivery to the requesting elector at the hospital.

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- (b) The emergency application shall be signed personally by the applicant.
- (c) The situation rendering the requesting elector physically unable to vote in person at the polling place must have occurred after 5:00 p.m. on the eleventh day prior to the election, and the applicant must attest to that fact with the applicant's signature.^{vii}

23. ELIGIBILITY: Do I have to have a specific reason for requesting to vote by absentee ballot?

No. Any registered Idaho voter may apply for an absentee ballot and vote by mail.^{viii}

24. STATUS OF APPLICATION AND/OR BALLOT: How can I check the status of my application and/or absentee ballot?

You can check the status of your absentee ballot at the Idaho “Check your Voter Record” Tool on the Idaho Votes website at <https://elections.sos.idaho.gov/ElectionLink/ElectionLink/VoterSearch.aspx>.

25. APPLICATION AND/OR BALLOT REJECTED: I learned my absentee ballot application and/or ballot was rejected. What can I do to fix any errors or get another one?

All absent electors' identification envelopes, ballot stubs and absent electors' ballots rejected by the judges in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be returned to the county clerk. All absent electors' ballots received by the county clerk after 8:00 p.m. on the day of the general, primary or special election, together with the rejected absent electors' ballots returned by the judges of election as provided in this section, shall remain in the sealed identification envelopes and be handled in the manner provided for other spoiled ballots.

26. COMPLETING BALLOT: How do I complete the absentee ballot? Are there any identification requirements?

Upon receipt of the absent elector's ballot the elector shall thereupon mark and fold the ballot so as to conceal the marking, deposit it in the ballot envelope and seal the envelope securely. In the event an election requires a perforated ballot, the unvoted portion must be deposited in the unvoted ballot envelope and sealed. The ballot envelopes must then be deposited in the return envelope and sealed securely. The elector shall then execute an affidavit on the back of the return envelope in the form prescribed, provided however, that such affidavit need not be notarized.^{ix}

27. LOST OR SPOILED: What if I lost my absentee ballot or it is spoiled or I received an incorrect one?

All absent electors' identification envelopes, ballot stubs and absent electors' ballots rejected by the judges in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be returned to the county clerk. All absent electors' ballots received by the county clerk after 8:00 p.m. on the day of the general, primary or special election, together with the rejected absent electors' ballots returned by the judges of election as provided in this section, shall remain in the sealed identification envelopes and be handled in the manner provided for other spoiled ballots.^x

28. NON-RECEIPT OF BALLOT: What if I requested an absentee ballot but have not received it? Can I do anything?

If you request an absentee ballot and do not receive it, contact your county clerk. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

29. IN PERSON OPTION: What if I requested an absentee ballot but I want to vote in person on Election Day?

If you requested an absentee but want to vote in person, contact your county clerk's office. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

30. BALLOT DEADLINES: What is the deadline for the ballot to be postmarked and/or received by, including dropping it off in person?

The return envelope shall be mailed or delivered to the officer who issued the same; provided, that an absentee ballot must be received by the issuing officer by 8:00 p.m. on the day of election before such ballot may be counted, whether by mail or in-person drop off.

31. BALLOT DROP OFF LOCATIONS: What are the locations for dropping off a completed ballot (instead of mailing it)?

The drop off locations are the same as the mail-in locations, the county clerk's office of the county in which the voter lives. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

32. ASSISTANCE DROPPING OFF: Can someone drop off my completed ballot for me?

This is not specified in Idaho law. To determine the local rules concerning dropping off an absentee ballot, contact your county clerk's office. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

33. IN PERSON ABSENTEE: Where do I vote in-person absentee?

Each county clerk shall provide one (1) or more "absent electors' polling place(s)" as determined necessary by each county. Each polling place shall be provided with voting booths and other necessary supplies as provided by law. Except as provided in section 34-308, Idaho Code, every elector shall always be provided the opportunity to vote in person in an election, notwithstanding any declaration of emergency, extreme emergency, or disaster emergency by the governor.^{xi}

A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

HOW TO VOTE: ELECTION DAY

34. HOURS: When do the polls open and close on Election Day? What if the polls are closing but I'm in line?

At all elections conducted pursuant to title 34, Idaho Code, the polls shall be opened at 8:00 A.M. and remain open until all registered electors of that precinct have appeared and voted or until 8:00 P.M. of the same day, whichever comes first. The county clerk, at his option, however, may open the polls in his county at 7:00 A.M. for a primary or general election.

(2) Upon opening the polls, one (1) of the judges shall make the proclamation of the same and thirty (30) minutes before closing the polls a proclamation shall be made in the same manner. Any elector who is in line at 8:00 P.M. shall be allowed to vote notwithstanding the pronouncement that the polls are closed.^{xii}

35. POLLING LOCATION: Where do I vote on Election Day?

If a voter has moved recently and has not updated their voter registration, refer to [Questions #6 and 7](#).

A voter can find their polling location at

<https://elections.sos.idaho.gov/ElectionLink/ElectionLink/ViewPollingLocation.aspx>.

36. IDENTIFICATION: What identification is required to vote on Election Day? Can I vote without providing identification?

A registered voter must either present a photo ID or sign a Personal Identification Affidavit.

Forms of photo identification may be any one of the following:

- An Idaho driver's license or identification card issued by the Idaho transportation department;
- A passport or an identification card, including a photograph, issued by an agency of the United States government;
- A tribal identification card, including a photograph;
- A current student identification card, including a photograph, issued by a high school or an accredited institution of higher education, including a university, college or technical school, located within the state of Idaho; or
- A license to carry concealed weapons issued under section 18-3302, Idaho Code, or an enhanced license to carry concealed weapons issued under section 18-3302K, Idaho Code.^{xiii}

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If a voter is not able to present personal identification as required in section 34-1113, Idaho Code, the voter may complete an affidavit in lieu of the personal identification.

- The affidavit shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and shall require the voter to provide the voter's name and address.
- The voter shall sign the affidavit.

Any person who knowingly provides false, erroneous or inaccurate information on such affidavit shall be guilty of a felony.^{xiv}

POLLING PLACE ISSUES

37. POLLING PLACE NOT OPEN: The polling place is not open. What do I do?

**Note to hotline volunteer:* If you learn of a polling place not opening on time or is closed, notify your hotline captain immediately.

Contact your county clerk's office. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

38. LONG LINES: There are long lines at the polling place. What do I do? What if the polls are closing while I'm in line?

See Question 34 for answer if voter is in line when polls are closing.

**Note to hotline volunteer:* If you learn of long lines, notify your hotline captain immediately.

39. EQUIPMENT FAILURE: What should I do if there are equipment problems at my precinct?

Contact your county clerk's office. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

**Note to hotline volunteer:* If you learn of equipment not working properly at a polling place, notify your hotline captain immediately.

40. NO PPE/COVID: What if my polling place is not enforcing COVID-19 precautions or has run out of supplies?

Contact your county clerk's office. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

41. EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE: I don't know how to use the voting equipment. Can I get help?

“Every registered voter in this state has the right to . . . Receive instructions concerning how to operate voting equipment, on sample voting equipment before voting.”^{xv}

For specific rules regarding voting equipment, a voter can contact their county clerk's office. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

42. PHYSICAL DISABILITY: I am physically disabled and need assistance. Will my polling place be accessible?

Most polling places in Idaho are accessible to voters with disabilities. Voters should call their County Clerk before the election to confirm that their polling place is accessible. If it is not, a voter can make a written request to be reassigned to an accessible polling place. The request must be received no later than five days before an election. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

43. READING/LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE: I am blind, physically disabled, or cannot read English and require assistance in order to vote. Can I get assistance at the polls?

“Every registered voter in this state has the right to . . . Ask for and receive assistance in voting, including assistance in languages other than English where required by federal or state law.”^{xvi}

For specific rules regarding language assistance, a voter can contact their county clerk's office. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

44. CURBSIDE VOTING: When can I request curbside voting?

If any registered elector is unable, due to physical or other disability, to enter the polling place, he may be handed a ballot outside the polling place but within forty feet thereof by one of the election clerks, and in his presence but in a secret manner, mark and return the same to such election officer who shall proceed as provided by law to record the ballot.^{xvii}

45. CAMPAIGNING: What rules apply to people campaigning or “hanging around” my polling place? Can people approach me?

On the day of any primary, general or special election, no person may, within a polling place, or any building in which an election is being held, or within one hundred (100) feet thereof:

- (a) Do any electioneering;
- (b) Circulate cards or handbills of any kind;
- (c) Solicit signatures to any kind of petition; or
- (d) Engage in any practice which interferes with the freedom of voters to exercise their franchise or disrupts the administration of the polling place.^{xviii}

46. CHALLENGES: Someone is formally challenging my vote. What do I do?

In case any person offering to vote is challenged one of the judges must declare the qualifications of an elector to such person. If the person so challenged then declares himself duly qualified, and the challenge is not withdrawn, one of the judges shall then tender him the elector's oath, as prescribed by the secretary of state. No challenged elector shall have the right to vote until he has subscribed to the elector's oath. Upon a challenged elector's subscribing the elector's oath, he shall be entitled to vote.^{xx}

Voter qualifications (found in Judges & Clerks Manual) should be read to an elector whose name has been challenged. Challenged elector must sign the Elector's Oath before they are allowed to vote. In addition they must sign election record poll book.^{xx}

47. POLICE/MILITARY PRESENCE: There are police/members of the military at the polling place. Is this okay? What do I do?

It is illegal if the police or military engages in a practice which "interferes with the freedom of voters to exercise their franchise or disrupts the administration of the polling place." If this happens, a voter should call authorities or contact its county clerk's office. A directory of county clerk offices is available here, <https://idahovotes.gov/county-clerks/>.

**Note to hotline volunteer:* If you learn of police/members of the military at the polling place, notify your hotline captain immediately.

48. PROVISIONAL BALLOT: I have been offered a provisional ballot. What should I do?

Idaho is not required to implement a provisional voting system because Idaho, like 5 other states, enacted election day registration several years ago and is exempt from the National Voter Registration Act.

QUESTIONS

49. Who should I contact if I have questions about any of the above?

For any questions, voters can go to the Idaho Voter Resource page at <https://idahovotes.gov/resources-page/>.

They can also contact the Administration and Election Office at (208) 334-2852 or elections@sos.idaho.gov.

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- ⁱ Idaho 2020 Election Calendar, <https://sos.idaho.gov/election-calendars/>.
 - ⁱⁱ Idaho Statute § 34-408A.
 - ⁱⁱⁱ Idaho Secretary of State: <https://idahovotes.gov/citizens-guide/>.
 - ^{iv} Idaho Government Voting Website: <https://idahovotes.gov/student-and-residency-voting/>.
 - ^v Idaho Government Voting Website: <https://idahovotes.gov/student-and-residency-voting/>.
 - ^{vi} Idaho Government Voting Website: <https://idahovotes.gov/student-and-residency-voting/>.
 - ^{vii} Idaho Statute § 34-1002A.
 - ^{viii} Idaho Statute § 34-1001.
 - ^{ix} Idaho Statute § 34-1004.
 - ^x Idaho Statute § 34-1010.
 - ^{xi} Idaho Statute § 34-1006.
 - ^{xii} Idaho Statute § 34-1101.
 - ^{xiii} Idaho Statute § 34-1113.
 - ^{xiv} Idaho Statute § 34-1114.
 - ^{xv} Idaho Secretary of State Voter Rights, https://sos.idaho.gov/elect/hava/voter_rights.html.
 - ^{xvi} Idaho Secretary of State Voter Rights, https://sos.idaho.gov/elect/hava/voter_rights.html.
 - ^{xvii} Idaho Statute § 34-1108.
 - ^{xviii} Idaho Statute § 18-2318.
 - ^{xix} Idaho Statute § 34-1111.
 - ^{xx} Idaho Election Handbook, <https://sos.idaho.gov/elect/clerk/Manuals/Idaho%20Election%20Handbook.pdf>.