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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

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### 1. STATUS: Am I registered to vote?

Visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote) to see if you are registered to vote where you currently live. Or call your city or township's clerk's office.

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

There are many ways you can register to vote, and you do not need access to a computer and/or printer. Note, however, that how you can register depends on when you register. AT NO TIME IS COMPUTER ACCESS THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN REGISTER.

Prior to October 20, 2020, you have many ways to register to vote:

- Online at [www.mi.gov/vote/Registration](http://www.mi.gov/vote/Registration);
- At a Secretary of State Branch Office;
- At your city or township clerk's office or your county clerk's office;
- At any state agency that provides public assistance or services to people with disabilities; or
- Through a voter registration drive.

Starting on October 20, 2020 and through 8 PM on November 3, 2020 (Election Day) you have one way to register to vote:

- Visit the city or township clerk's office where you live and provide "proof of residency."<sup>1</sup>

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

You do not need photo ID or proof of citizenship to register to vote.

You will be asked for a photo ID if you register to vote in person. If you don't have one, or don't have one with you, you can sign a simple form and then register to vote. Your address does not need to be included on the Photo ID<sup>2</sup>.

Valid forms of photo ID include:

- Driver's License or personal ID card issued by Michigan or another state;
- Federal or state government-issued photo ID;
- U.S. Passport;
- Military ID with Photo;
- Student ID with photo from a Michigan high school or an accredited institution of higher education; and
- Tribal ID with photo<sup>3</sup>.

If you register to vote through the mail and you have a Michigan driver's license or state ID card, or a social security number, enter the numbers on your voter registration application where indicated. Some of this information will also be requested if you register online.

If you register on or after October 20, you will need to provide proof of residency. "Proof of Residency" is a document with your name and current address in the city or township where you live. Paper or electronic copies of any of the following documents will work:

- A Michigan driver's license or state ID card;
- A utility bill;
- A bank statement;
- A paycheck;
- A government check; or
- Any other government document.

**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?**

You can register at any time up to 8 PM on Election Day.

Before October 20, 2020, you have many ways to register to vote. Starting on October 20, 2020, you have only one way to register to vote. Please see Question 2 above.

You can register to vote, AND VOTE, on the same day, including on Election Day. See Question 5 below.

**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?**

Michigan has same day registration. You can register on Election Day, with proof of residency, at your city or township clerk's office. After you register, you can either vote absentee at the clerk's office, or you can go vote at your polling place, if there is time to do so.

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

Yes. If you have not updated your registration by Election Day, you can update your registration at your city or township clerk's office with proof of residency (see Question 3 above) until 8 PM on Election Day.<sup>4</sup>

Alternatively, you can vote at your old polling place one last time if:

- You moved within the same city or township where you are registered; or
- You moved to a different city or township within 60 days of the election (September 4, 2020).<sup>5</sup>

**7. TEMPORARY MOVE: I have moved temporarily due to Covid-19 or some other reason. Where can I vote?**

You can:

- Request an AV ballot be sent to your temporary address;
- Register with your current address;
- Go to your city clerk where you are registered and vote in-person absentee ballot; or
- Go to your registered polling location on Election Day.

**8. 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?**

- Students who come from Michigan and attend a school in Michigan can register to vote at their school address or at their home address.
- Students coming from Michigan who attend a school outside of Michigan can still register to vote at their home address in Michigan.
- Students who are not from Michigan, but are attending school in Michigan can register to vote at their school address in Michigan.
- A student who lived at a school in Michigan and plans to return (e.g., currently attending remotely from home due to COVID-19) can maintain their registration at school and vote by absentee ballot there.
- If the student is a freshman and has never lived at school, they should register and vote using their home address.<sup>6</sup>

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

Special services are provided to assist military and overseas civilian voters participate in elections.

- Register to vote: Go to the Federal Voting Assistance Program ([www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)) to download and complete a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). The FPCA can also be used to obtain an absent voter ballot by e-mail, fax or regular mail.
- Obtain an absent voter ballot by email, fax or regular mail: **Each year**, go to the Federal Voting Assistance Program; download an FPCA; complete and submit by postal mail, fax, or scan; and email to your city or township clerk based on your Michigan home residence.

Only those voters covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) are eligible to use the FPCA and receive an absentee ballot by email or fax. Covered voters include:

- A member of a uniformed service on active duty who is absent from his or her city or township of residence. (Voter can be inside or outside the United States.)
- A member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason of service in the Merchant Marine, is absent from his or her city or township of residence. (Voter can be inside or outside the United States.)

- A spouse or dependent of a member of a uniformed service or a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason of the active duty or service of the member, is absent from his or her city or township of residence. (Voter can be inside or outside the United States.)
- A civilian voter who is outside the United States and is eligible to vote in Michigan.
- A member of the National Guard activated on state orders

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

The only time you cannot register and vote is when you are serving a sentence in jail or prison.<sup>7</sup>

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

You can register and vote if you are in jail but have not been sentenced. You can also register and vote if you:

- Are serving a sentence but are not in jail or prison;
- Are on probation or parole but are not in jail or prison; or
- Served your sentence and are no longer in jail or prison.

**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?**

If you have the receipt you received when you registered to vote, show that to the poll worker in order to vote.<sup>8</sup> If you don't have your receipt, give the poll worker your address and ask if you're at the correct polling place. If you are not at the right polling place for your address, go to the correct polling place. NOTE: You can check your polling place online at the Michigan Voter Information Center [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote).

If you are not on the voter list, you can go to your city or township clerk's office with proof of residency (See Question 3), and register to vote before 8 PM on Election Day. While there, you can vote by absentee ballot in the clerk's office.

If you cannot go the clerk's office with proof of residency, you may be able to cast a "provisional ballot." To do this, you'll have to swear that you believe you previously registered to vote.<sup>9</sup>

If you can provide a photo ID that shows your address as one which would entitle you to vote in that polling place, your provisional ballot will go into the machine and be counted on Election Day. If not, it will go into an envelope, and the clerk will review it after Election Day. You have six days after Election Day to go to the clerk's office with any documentation to show that you are registered to vote.<sup>10</sup>

**13. I 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 you have moved recently you may be registered at an old address.
- If your name has changed recently, you could be registered under your old name.

- You may be registered under a variation of your name, or the system may have you under another name if you have a hyphenated last name.

You can check this yourself online at [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote). If you still do not show as registered, go to your city or township clerk's office where you can register. If this happens on Election Day, you can vote on the same day. (See Question 5)

For details on how to register, please see the Section on Registering to Vote above.

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## HOW TO VOTE: EARLY VOTING

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

All registered voters in Michigan can now vote before Election Day using what's called an absentee ballot.

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

No. You don't need an excuse or a reason.

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

You can go to your city or township clerk's office to vote in the November General Election starting on September 24, 2020. If you are already registered to vote where you live, the deadline to vote at your city or township clerk's office is Monday, November 2, 2020 at 4 PM. If you are not registered to vote where you live, the deadline to register and vote at your city or township clerk's office is 8 PM on November 3, 2020.

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

If you would like to vote before Election Day in person, you can go to your city or township clerk's office. If you would like to vote before Election Day by mail, see "How to Vote: Absentee and/or By Mail" below.

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

Since early voting is done by completing an absentee ballot, the rules for obtaining an absentee ballot apply. See the Section on Absentee Voting below.

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## HOW TO VOTE: ABSENTEE AND/OR VOTE BY MAIL

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

You must fill out an application for an absentee ballot. If you have a Michigan driver’s license or state ID, you can complete the application online at [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote). You can also submit a paper application, sign it using your official signature, and submit it to your city or township clerk by mail, email, fax or in person.

If you need an application, you can download an application from the Michigan Voter Information Center ([www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote)), or call your city or township clerk and ask that an application be mailed to you. You may also use an application for an absentee ballot mailed to you by the Secretary of State, your clerk, a political party, or another civic engagement organization. After September 24, 2020, You can also get the application at the clerk’s office, complete it there, and receive your absentee ballot immediately. If you like, you can complete the ballot there as well, place it in the envelope provided, sign the outside of the envelope with your official signature, and leave it with the staff.

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

If you would like to have an absentee ballot mailed to you, we recommend submitting your request no later than October 20, 2020.

After October 20<sup>th</sup>, we recommend voting absentee in person. If you would like to vote absentee in person, and you are already registered to vote where you live, the deadline to request an absentee ballot and vote it at your city or township clerk’s office is 4 PM Monday, November 2, 2020.

If you are not registered to vote, or not registered to vote where you live, the deadline to register, receive your absentee ballot, and vote at your city or township clerk’s office is 8 PM Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

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

You can complete an absentee ballot application online, or you can complete a paper application and mail, fax, or email it to your city or township clerk by October 20th. After that date, you will need to go in-person to your city or township clerk’s office.

If you are unable to return your own application, a member of your immediate family, including a father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, or grandchild, or a person residing in your household may mail or deliver the

application to the clerk for the applicant. If there is no one in your immediate family or household who can help, you can ask any other registered voter to submit your application.

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

You can go to your city or township clerk's office and request an absentee ballot (See Question 20), or you can vote in person at your polling place on Election Day.

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

No. You do not have to have an excuse or a reason.

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

You can track your absentee ballot and application at the Michigan Voter Information Center ([www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote)). Visit the site to see if:

- Your application was processed by your city or township clerk;
- Your absentee ballot was mailed to you; and
- Your absentee ballot was received by your city or township clerk.

**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?**

Call or visit your clerk to request a new ballot/application or vote in person on Election Day.

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

Fill out your ballot. Place it in the envelope provided, and sign the outside of the envelope with your official signature. Turn your ballot in as soon as possible. Your completed absentee ballot must be received by your city or township clerk by 8 PM on Election Day. Since the mail can take some time, you should drop it in the mail as soon as possible. If you are going to mail your ballot, we recommend that you do it before October 20, 2020.

If this is your first time voting in Michigan and you registered to vote through the mail or a voter registration drive, you may need to provide some documentation to vote. Electronic or paper copies of any of the following will work:

- Photo ID with your name and picture (regardless of the address or if it has an address):
  - Driver's license or personal ID card from any state;
  - High school or college ID;
  - Passport;
  - Military or government-issued photo ID; or
- Tribal ID card.
  - A non-photo ID with your name and address on it;
  - Current utility bill;
  - Bank statement;

- Paycheck stub;
- Government check; or
- Any other government document.

You should provide this documentation to your clerk BEFORE voting absentee.

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

If you received an absentee ballot, but need a new one, call or visit your city/township clerk's office as soon as possible to cancel your first absentee ballot and request a new one. The deadline to do this is Monday, November 2, 2020 at 4 PM. If you have the absentee ballot take it with you. Or you can go to your polling place on Election Day, fill out a form, and vote. If you have the absentee ballot because you made an error or it was only partially destroyed, take it with you.

If you received an absentee ballot, returned that ballot, and wish to spoil that ballot and receive a new one, you must call or visit your city/township clerk's office as soon as possible to cancel your first absentee ballot and request a new one. The deadline to do this is Friday, October 30, 2020 at 4 PM.

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

Call or visit your city/township clerk's office as soon as possible to cancel your first absentee ballot and request a new one. The deadline to do this is Monday, November 2, 2020 at 4 PM.

Or you can go to your polling place on Election Day, complete a simple form, and vote.

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

If you decided not to vote by absentee ballot, take your absentee ballot to your polling place on Election Day and surrender it. You will then be issued a new ballot.

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

AV ballots must be received by the city/township clerk by 8 PM on Election Day in order to be counted. Information on clerk locations and hours, and on drop box locations and hours can be found at [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote) under the "My Clerk" tab.

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

You may drop off your completed ballot at your city or township clerk's office, or in a drop box provided by the clerk's office. A listed of drop boxes is available on the Michigan Secretary of State's website ([www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote)).

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

According to the MI election law statute, your completed ballot may be mailed or delivered to your city or township clerk by a member of your immediate family, including a father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, or grandchild, or a person residing in your household.

If you cannot return your ballot, and no one in your immediate family or your household can return your ballot, you can request by telephone that the clerk who issued the ballot provide assistance in returning the ballot. The clerk is required to provide assistance if it is before 5 PM on the Friday immediately preceding the election, and if you are asking the clerk to pick up the absent voter ballot within the jurisdictional limits of the city, township, or village in which you are registered. Your absent voter ballot will then be picked up by the clerk or an election assistant sent by the clerk. All persons authorized to pick up absent voter ballots are required to carry credentials issued by the clerk. If using this absent voter ballot return method, do not give your ballot to anyone until you have checked their credentials.

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

At your city or township clerk's office.

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## HOW TO VOTE: ELECTION DAY

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

Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM local time. You have the right to vote if you are in line by 8 PM.<sup>11</sup>

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn that a polling place prohibits those who were in line by the time the polls closed from voting, advise voters to stay at the polling location and contact your hotline captain immediately.

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

If you are already registered to vote where you live, you must vote at your assigned polling place. You can find your polling place:

- Online at the Michigan Voter Information Center ([www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote));
- On your Voter Identification Card;
- By calling your city or township clerk; or

If you are not registered to vote where you live, you must visit your city/township clerk's office with proof of residency by 8 PM on Election Day to register to vote. Once you are registered, you can vote by an absentee ballot in the clerk's office or go to your polling place, if there is time to do so.

If you have moved recently and have not updated your registration, please see Questions 6 and 7.

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

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, some polling places have been or will be moved or consolidated. Voters should be advised to call the hotline a few days before the election to confirm their polling location.

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

You do not need photo ID to vote, but if you have it bring it with you and provide it to the poll worker. You will be asked for photo ID when you go to vote. If you do not have photo ID, or do not have it with you, you can sign a simple form and vote.

A small number of first time voters who registered through the mail or a voter registration drive may need to provide some documentation to vote. Electronic or paper copies of any of the following will work:

- Photo ID with your name and picture (regardless of the address or if it has an address):
  - Driver's license or personal ID card from any state;
  - High school or college ID;
  - Passport;
  - Military or government-issued photo ID; or
- Tribal ID card.
  - A non-photo ID with your name and address on it;
  - Current utility bill;
  - Bank statement;
  - Paycheck stub;
  - Government check; or
  - Any other government document.

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## POLLING PLACE ISSUES

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**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.

**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?**

You have the right to vote if you are in line by 8 PM. Note that lines may appear longer than they actually are due to social distancing requirements. If you have difficulty waiting in long lines, you can request curbside or some other form of voting accommodation. See Question 40 below.

**\*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?**

**Notify the election officials at your polling place immediately.**

If the scanner rejects your ballot, ask for a new one. You have the right to start over.

If the tabulator machine isn't working, you can place your completed ballot into a bin in the tabulator machine. The poll workers will insert your ballot into the tabulator once the machine is working again<sup>12</sup>.

If an accessible voting machine (Voter Assist Terminal) isn't working, you can obtain assistance with voting from anyone you choose. However, the person cannot be your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer or agent of your labor union.

**\*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?**

The Michigan Bureau of Elections has provided a detailed reference guide for conducting safe and accessible in-person voting based on CDC recommendations<sup>13</sup>. All election workers are required to wear masks and gloves while performing their duties, and to establish social distancing, as well as to disinfect voting equipment. If you feel that these procedures are not being observed, call your city or township clerk. Since each precinct will receive at least 50 masks and a box of gloves, as well as a can of disinfection spray or a cannister of Clorox wipes, a gallon of hand sanitizer and 5 face shields, it is unlikely that they will run out of these supplies. Election workers may not insist that a voter wear a mask.

If you are at higher risk, have difficulty waiting in long lines, have symptoms of COVID-19, or are not masked, you can be accommodated in a number of ways, depending on the nature of the polling place:

- Drive-through voting;

- Curbside voting;
- Additional voting locations outside the polling place; or
- Isolated or distant poll booths within the polling place.

Your polling place may have a sign outside the precinct near the parking facilities informing you of the option to call the local clerk to set up voting accommodations. The procedures for curbside voting are described in Question 44 below.

The Board of Elections is providing polling places with appropriate language for signs regarding masks and social distancing which can be used as extra instructions for voters.

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

You have the right to assistance from the election officials. You can ask the election officials for instructions on how to use the voting equipment or assistance at any time, even after you've entered the voting booth<sup>14</sup>.

If you are blind, disabled, or unable to read or write, you have the right to assistance from anyone you choose. However, the person cannot be your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer or agent of your labor union.

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

You have the right to an accessible polling place and an accessible voting machine. If it is before Election Day, call your city or township clerk right away, to determine if your assigned polling place is accessible, and if it is not, ask for an assignment to an alternate site that is accessible.

If it is Election Day, send someone into the polling place to request curbside voting on your behalf. The poll workers at your polling place will bring a ballot outside so you can vote.

Each polling place should have at least one accessible voting device for voters with a disability<sup>15</sup>. If a voter cannot operate the voting equipment for any reason, two poll workers from different political parties may provide further instructions to the voter.<sup>16</sup> A voter may also seek the assistance of two poll workers to mark the ballot in the manner the voter wishes.<sup>17</sup>

**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?**

If you vote in Colfax Township or the City of Fennville, you have the right to a ballot and election materials in Spanish.

If you vote in the City of Hamtramck, you have the right to a ballot and election materials in Bengali.

If you do not read or write English, and a ballot is not available in your language, or you

are blind or disabled, you have the right to assistance from anyone you choose. However, the person cannot be your employer, an agent of your employer or an officer or agent of your labor union.

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

You can request curbside voting if you are physically disabled and your polling place is not accessible.

If you are at higher risk for COVID-19, have difficulty waiting in long lines, have symptoms of COVID-19, or are not wearing a mask, your polling place can accommodate you in a number of ways including curbside voting (See Question 40 above).

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

Michigan election law stipulates that “a person shall not post, display, or distribute in a polling place, in any hallway used by voters to enter or exit a polling place, or within 100 feet of an entrance to a building in which a polling place is located any material that directly or indirectly makes reference to an election, a candidate, or a ballot question.”

This prohibition includes any solicitation of voters at the polling place including, but not limited to petition signature gathering or sales of any kind. The prohibition does not apply to official material that is required by law to be posted, displayed, or distributed in a polling place on Election Day.

The following activities are included under this restriction:

- Displaying “pro and con” information on the proposals appearing on the ballot;
- Approaching voters to encourage them to vote for or against a candidate or ballot question;
- Distributing any type of campaign literature or write-in stickers;
- Displaying signs, posters, or bumper stickers;
- Attempting to collect petition signatures; and
- Requesting donations, selling tickets or engaging in similar activities.

Election inspectors must request that voters entering the polls remove campaign buttons or cover up clothing which bears any reference to a political party or interest group, campaign slogan or a candidate(s)’ name if associated with a ballot question or candidate whose name is appearing on the ballot for that specific election. In addition, voters must be told to conceal campaign literature or other campaign materials brought into the polls.

A voter may park a car or other vehicle bearing campaign signs or bumper stickers within 100 feet of the polling place during the time they are voting. Under any other circumstances, vehicles bearing campaign signs or bumper stickers must be parked at least 100 feet from any entrance to the building in which the polling place is located.

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

- Step 1: Ask to be sworn in by the poll worker.
- Step 2: Answer whatever questions are necessary to establish your eligibility to vote.
- Step 3: Vote.<sup>18</sup>

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

There are some polls that are located at police stations, but police officers should not be in the polling locations or standing around the entrance to the polling locations. If you are uncomfortable due to the presence of police, please contact the election supervisor or clerk.

**\*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?**

You must be offered a provisional ballot if you are not listed on the voter registration list and:

- You cannot present a voter registration receipt; and
- You refuse or cannot go to your city or township clerk's office to register and vote.

Other than for these reasons, you should be able to cast a regular ballot.

If you ARE provided with a provisional ballot, and you can provide a photo ID that shows your address as one which would entitle you to vote in that polling place, your provisional ballot will go into the machine and be counted on Election Day. If not, it will go into an envelope, and the clerk will review it after Election Day. You have six days after Election Day to go to the clerk's office to show that you are registered to vote<sup>19</sup>.

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## QUESTIONS

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

Your city or township clerk has primary responsibility for administering elections. If you need to contact a clerk, it should be your city or township clerk, not the county clerk.

Visit the **Michigan Voter Information Center** [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote), click on the "Your Clerk" tab, and enter your address to find information (such as location of their offices and hours of operation) for your city or township clerk. City and township clerks' offices are open during their normal hours and for at least 8 hours the weekend before the election.

**Call the Election Protection hotlines for assistance at any time.**

For assistance in English,  
Call 866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683);

Para recibir ayuda en español,  
Llama a 888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682);

For assistance in Bengali, Cantonese, English, Hindi,  
Korean, Mandarin, Tagalog, Urdu or Vietnamese,  
Call 888-API-VOTE (888-274-8683).

For additional resources visit [www.michiganvoting.org](http://www.michiganvoting.org).

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<sup>1</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.497(2)

<sup>2</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.523; [www.mich.gov](http://www.mich.gov) - See Elections Tab on Secretary of State Website, [https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633\\_8716---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633_8716---,00.html)

<sup>3</sup> See id.

<sup>4</sup> See, e.g., See Elections Tab on Secretary of State website, [https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633\\_8716---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633_8716---,00.html)

<sup>5</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.507a

<sup>6</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.11

<sup>7</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.758b

<sup>8</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.523a (1)

<sup>9</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.523a (4)

<sup>10</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.523a; Michigan Department of State, Bureau of Elections, “Election Officials Manual,” Ch. 11 (Updated July 2019), pp. 5-13.

<sup>11</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws. Sec. 168.720

<sup>12</sup> Michigan Department of State, Bureau of Elections, “Election Officials Manual, Ch. 11 (Updated July 2019) at 41-43.

<sup>13</sup> Michigan Department of State, Bureau of Elections, August 4, 2020 Election, “Polling Place Safety and Accessibility.”

<sup>14</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Secs. 168.751, 168.754, 168.755a

<sup>15</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.795(3)

<sup>16</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.797a(1)

<sup>17</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.751

<sup>18</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec. 168.729

<sup>19</sup> Mich. Comp. Laws Sec 168.523a; Michigan Department of State, Bureau of Elections, “Election Officials Manual,” Ch. 11 ((updated July 1029), pp .5-13.