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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.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### REGISTERING TO VOTE

1. **STATUS:** [Am I registered to vote?](#)
2. **HOW:** [How do I register to vote? What if I don't have access to a computer and/or printer?](#)
3. **IDENTIFICATION:** [What ID is required to register to vote?](#)
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?](#)
5. **SAME DAY:** [Does my state have Same Day Registration? If so, what is the process?](#)
6. **PERMANENT MOVE:** [I have moved permanently and I didn't update my voter registration, can I vote?](#)
7. **TEMPORARY MOVE:** [I have moved temporarily due to COVID-19 or some other reason. Where can I vote?](#)
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?](#)
9. **LIVING ABROAD:** [I am living abroad and/or serving in the military. How can I register and/or vote?](#)
10. **CRIMINAL CONVICTION:** [I have a criminal conviction. Can I vote?](#)
11. **INCARCERATED:** [I am currently in jail. Can I vote?](#)
12. **NOT ON ROLLS AT MY POLLING PLACE:** [I am at my polling place and am not on the voter registration roll. Can I vote where I am?](#)
13. **THOUGHT WAS REGISTERED:** [My name isn't on the voter registration roll but I thought I was registered. What do I do?](#)

#### 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?](#)
15. **ELIGIBILITY:** [Do I have to have a reason to vote early?](#)
16. **WHEN:** [When do the polls open/close during early voting?](#)
17. **WHERE:** [Where do I vote during early voting?](#)
18. **IDENTIFICATION:** [What identification is required for early voting? Can I vote without providing identification?](#)

#### 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?](#)
20. **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** [What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?](#)
21. **APPLICATION RETURN:** [Where and/or how can I return my absentee ballot application? Can someone return it for me?](#)

22. **APPLICATION - DIDN'T REQUEST IN TIME:** [What if I have not requested an absentee ballot by the deadline?](#)
23. **ELIGIBILITY:** [Do I have to have a specific reason for requesting to vote absentee whether in person or by mail-in or drop off ballot?](#)
24. **STATUS OF APPLICATION AND/OR BALLOT:** [How can I check the status of my application and/or absentee ballot?](#)
25. **APPLICATION 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?](#)
26. **COMPLETING BALLOT:** [How do I complete the absentee ballot? Are there any identification requirements?](#)
27. **LOST OR SPOILED:** [What if I lost my absentee ballot or it is spoiled or I received an incorrect one?](#)
28. **NON-RECEIPT OF BALLOT:** [What if I requested an absentee ballot but have not received it? Can I do anything?](#)
29. **IN PERSON OPTION:** [What if I requested an absentee ballot but I want to vote in person on Election Day?](#)
30. **BALLOT DEADLINES:** [What is the deadline for the \*\*ballot\*\* to be mailed and/or received by, including dropping it off in person?](#)
31. **BALLOT DROP OF LOCATIONS:** [What are the locations for dropping off a ballot \(instead of mailing it\)?](#)
32. **ASSISTANCE DROPPING OFF:** [Can someone else drop off my completed ballot for me?](#)
33. **IN PERSON ABSENTEE:** [Where do I vote in-person absentee? When can I do this?](#)

## HOW TO VOTE: ELECTION DAY

34. **HOURS:** [When do the polls open/close on Election Day? What if the polls are closing but I'm in line?](#)
35. **POLLING LOCATION:** [Where do I vote on Election Day?](#)
36. **IDENTIFICATION:** [What identification is required to vote? Can I vote without providing identification?](#)

## POLLING PLACE ISSUES

37. **POLLING PLACE NOT OPEN:** [The polling place is not open. What do I do?](#)
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?](#)
39. **EQUIPMENT FAILURE:** [What should I do if there are equipment problems at my precinct?](#)
40. **NO PPE/COVID:** [What if my polling is not enforcing COVID-19 precautions or has run out of supplies?](#)
41. **EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE:** [I don't know how to use the voting equipment. Can I get help?](#)
42. **PHYSICAL DISABILITY:** [I have a physical disability and need assistance. Will my polling place be accessible?](#)
43. **READING/LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE:** [I am blind, have a physical disability, or cannot read English and require assistance in order to vote. Can I get assistance at the polls?](#)
44. **CURBSIDE VOTING:** [When can I request curbside voting?](#)
45. **CAMPAIGNING:** [What rules apply to people campaigning or "hanging around" my polling place? Can people approach me?](#)
46. **CHALLENGE:** [Someone is formally challenging my vote. What do I do?](#)
47. **POLICE/MILITARY PRESENCE:** [There are police/members of the military at the polling place. Is this okay? What do I do?](#)
48. **PROVISIONAL BALLOT:** [I have been offered a provisional ballot. What should I do?](#)

## QUESTIONS

49. [Who should I contact if I have questions about any of the above?](#)

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## REGISTERING TO VOTE

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

You can determine whether a voter is registered to vote by checking the Nebraska Secretary of State's website (<https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView>).

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

Voters may register to vote online, by mail, or in-person. To register online, visit Nebraska's registration portal (<https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/>).

To apply by mail, applicants should complete the voter registration form available in English and Spanish at [https://sos.nebraska.gov/elec/ele\\_forms.html](https://sos.nebraska.gov/elec/ele_forms.html) and mail the form and supporting documents to their local election office. Applicants can find the address for their local election office at <http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html>.

To apply in person, an individual can go to their county clerk's office.<sup>i</sup> Voters registering in person should visit <http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html> to find their election office.

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

First time registrants must provide a copy of a photo identification which is current and valid or a copy of a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that is current and shows their name and residence address.

### 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?

Voters may register to vote online, by mail, or in person. The voter registration deadline depends on the method of registration.

#### **Online**

The online voter registration deadline is 5:00 p.m. Central Time on the third Friday before an election.<sup>ii</sup> The deadline for online registration for the November 3, 2020 general election is October 16, 2020. In order to register online, a voter must have a Nebraska driver's license or state-issued identification card. Applicants can apply to register at <https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/>.

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**By Mail**

The mail-in voter registration deadline is the third Friday before an election; voter registration applications submitted by mail will be processed if they are postmarked on or before that day. The deadline for the November 3, 2020 general election is October 16, 2020.<sup>iii</sup> To register by mail, applicants should complete the voter registration form available in English and Spanish at [https://sos.nebraska.gov/elec/ele\\_forms.html](https://sos.nebraska.gov/elec/ele_forms.html) and mail the form and supporting documents to their local election office. Applicants can find the address for their local election office at <http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html>.

**In Person**

The deadline to register in person is 6:00 p.m. Central Time on the second Friday before an election, which is October 23 for the November 3, 2020 general election. Individuals may register to vote in person at their local county clerk.<sup>iv</sup> Voters registering in person should visit <http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html> to find their election office.

**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?**

Nebraska does NOT offer same day registration.

**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.

<b>Moved within the same precinct &amp; county</b>	<b>Moved to a different precinct but within the same county</b>	<b>Moved to a different election jurisdiction (typically county)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Moved from a different state</b>
Because the polling place will be the same for the new and old address, voters should go to that polling place and complete a change of address form. The voter will be able to cast a provisional ballot and may be able to cast a regular ballot based on local county rules. <sup>v</sup>	The voter should go to the polling place that corresponds with the new address and complete a registration application. The voter will be able to cast a provisional ballot. <sup>vi</sup>	If the voter moved to a new county after the close of the registration period, they will still be entitled to vote for president and vice-president during a general election. <sup>vii</sup> Otherwise, the voter must re-register in the new county by the voter registration deadline to be eligible to vote. <sup>viii</sup>	An individual who moves to Nebraska after the voter registration has passed may still vote for President and Vice President (but no other offices) if the voter is a citizen, is at least 18 years old on Election Day, lives in Nebraska, has not been convicted of a felony (or if convicted finished parole and probation at least two years ago), must not have been officially found incompetent, and completes a New Resident Affidavit at the Election Commission after the close of registration but before the close of polls on election day.

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

An individual cannot vote from the polling place associated with a temporary residence. You must vote (either in person or absentee) in the precinct where you are a resident.

**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?**

Yes. A voter who attends school in Nebraska can establish residency and vote in Nebraska if they intend to establish a home in Nebraska. The legal definition for establishing residency includes a place where someone actually lives, has a connection, and where they intend to return after an absence.<sup>ix</sup>

A voter who is a resident of Nebraska but who attends school in another state may vote in Nebraska if his or her family is domiciled in Nebraska and the voter has not established residency in the other state.<sup>x</sup> The voter should check the state law of the state in which he or she attends school to determine whether residency is established there.

An individual who is taking classes remotely must determine where he or she is a “resident.” An individual whose schooling is fully remote will have a hard time defining their residence as the campus if he is not physically there.

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

An individual living abroad or serving in the military can register via the Federal Postcard Application, the National Voter Registration Form, or the Nebraska Voter Registration Application. The Nebraska Secretary of State encourages voters to include their email address on the FPCA if they use that form.

In order to vote by mail, voters abroad must fill out the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) or Nebraska Early-Voting Application to request and early voting ballot.

Once your county election office receives your application, you will receive a confirmation that your application has been received. If you receive your ballot and you do not think that it will arrive at the county election office by the deadline, contact your [county election office](#) to make other arrangements.

[Check the Voter Information Center](#) to track the status of your ballot.

Nebraska allows you to use the [Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot](#) (FWAB) for registration and voting in all federal, state and local elections. Feel free to use the FWAB to vote any time before an election. If you receive your Nebraska Early Voting ballot, vote and return it. If both ballots are received by the deadline, only the Nebraska ballot will be counted.

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

Misdemeanor convictions do not affect a Nebraskan's voting rights. However, a Nebraskan convicted of a state or federal felony, temporarily loses citizenship rights including the right to vote. Voting rights are restored two full years after completing all of the terms of your sentence (including incarceration without parole, incarceration with parole, probation or any combination of sentences). After voting rights are restored, the voter must submit a new voter registration application.

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

If you are in jail for a felony conviction you CANNOT vote. If you are in jail pending trial or if you are in jail for a misdemeanor you CAN vote. You may request an Early Voting Application be mailed to you at the jail from the county election office where you are a resident (when not in jail).

**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 a voter is not found on the rolls of the polling place where they are attempting to vote, the precinct should call the relevant county clerk's office to verify the voter's status.

If the county clerk informs the poll worker that an error has been made, the poll worker must allow the voter to cast a provisional ballot or, under certain circumstances, a regular ballot.<sup>xi</sup> If a voter is in the wrong precinct, they should attempt to go to the correct precinct. Otherwise, the voter should ask to cast a provisional ballot.<sup>xii</sup>

**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?**

A voter's name may be removed from the list of registered voters by their written request, death, because the voter has registered or voted in another state, because the voter has become ineligible (e.g. through felony conviction or adjudication of incompetency), or in connection with a voter registration list maintenance program.<sup>xiii</sup>

If a voter is told that their name has been removed from the voter rolls and cannot resolve the issue, he or she is entitled to cast a provisional ballot. An election official will provide a provision ballot, collect the provisional ballot after the voter has cast his or her vote, and ask the voter to sign a certification indicating that the voter is eligible to vote in that precinct.<sup>xiv</sup>

Election Protection hotline volunteers can take steps to help to determine why a voter's name is not popping up on the list of registered voters:

- Check the voter's registration status using the registration lookup tool to make sure they are registered to vote and at the right place. (See [Question #1.](#))
- Has the voter moved recently? Could they be registered at an old address? Check that address in the registration lookup tool. (See [Question #1](#) and [Question #6.](#))

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- Has the voter changed their name recently, or could they be registered under a different name? Check that name (and any variations of the voter’s name, especially for hyphenated names, which sometimes trip up databases) in the registration lookup tool. (See [Question #1.](#))
- When/where did the voter register to vote? Was that before the deadline (See Question #4)?

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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?**

Nebraska uses early voting instead of absentee voting. All registered voters are permitted to participate in early voting.<sup>xv</sup> The earliest that a voter can request an early voting ballot is 120 days before Election Day—July 6 for the 2020 general election.

Voters may request an early ballot in person, or send a request by mail, fax, or email. The deadline to request an Early Voting ballot is October 23, 2020 for the 2020 general election.<sup>xvi</sup>

- Voters may request an early ballot using the form provided on the Secretary of State’s website, available at [http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/pdf/earlyvote\\_app.pdf](http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/pdf/earlyvote_app.pdf). Voters can email, mail, or fax the form to their Election Commissioner or County Clerk.
- Voters can also submit a written request to their Election Commissioner or County Clerk. The request must include the voter’s home address, the address where the voter wants to receive the ballot, telephone number (if applicable), and signature.

Early voting for the 2020 general election starts October 5, 2020 and ends November 2, 2020. Voters who properly request an early ballot will receive a ballot and an identification envelope. The voter should fill out the ballot, seal it in the identification envelope, sign an oath on the outside of the identification envelope, and mail or deliver the sealed and signed identification envelope to the Election Commissioner/County Clerk. To be counted, the completed ballot must be received by the Election Commissioner/County Clerk before the polls close (8:00 p.m. Central Time/7:00 p.m. Mountain Time) on Election Day.<sup>xvii</sup>

The Election Commissioner/County Clerk does not automatically confirm receipt of a voter’s early ballot. The voter may contact the office of the Election Commissioner/County Clerk to confirm receipt.<sup>xviii</sup>

**Note for 2020 Covid-19 epidemic:** Governor Pete Ricketts (R) and Secretary of State Bob Evnen (R) opted to send early/mail-in ballot applications automatically all eligible voters in the May 12, 2020, primary election. Evnen subsequently announced that his office would automatically send early/mail-in ballot applications to all registered voters in the November 3, 2020, general election whose home counties had not already done so.

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

No, Nebraska offers early voting without excuses.

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

July 6, 2020: First day to accept early voting ballot request for the general election.

September 28, 2020: Early voting ballots begin to be mailed out.

October 5, 2020: Early voting in county election offices begin.

October 23, 2020: Last day to request a ballot to be mailed to you.

November 2, 2020: Last day to vote early in county election office.

November 3, 2020: Election Day

7 PM CT (6 PM MT) - Deadline for another person to pick up an early voting ballot on your behalf.

8 PM CT (7 PM MT) - Mailed and in-person early voting ballots must be RECEIVED by county election office.

Check the status of your early voting ballot on [Votercheck](#).

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

Ballots received via postal service will be accompanied by instructions on how to cast a vote and a return envelope.

If assistance is needed marking the ballot, a friend or a voter-designated person may provide assistance. The voted ballot must be placed in the return envelope. The envelope must be sealed and signed (or their mark made) by the voter and if assistance was provided by the person providing assistance.

The return envelope containing the ballots may be mailed back to the [County Election Office](#) returned by personal delivery, an agent, or courier service to the county office or drop box. All Early Voting ballots, whether personally delivered, delivered by agent, delivered by mail or other carriers must arrive at the county election official's office by the closing of the polls on Election Day at 8:00 pm CT (7:00 pm Mountain Time).

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

In order to vote early a voter must be registered. Though the voter does not need identification to vote, the voter may need identification to register. See Question #2).



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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?**

**In 2020, because of the COVID-19 Pandemic** Governor Pete Ricketts (R) and Secretary of State Bob Evnen (R) opted to automatically send early/mail-in ballot applications to all registered voters in the November 3, 2020.

When COVID-19 is not at issue, a voter must request their ballot (Nebraska absentee voting is called “Early Voting”). Any Nebraskan can use Early Voting; no excuse is needed. Voters may request an early ballot in person, or send a request by mail, fax, or email. The deadline to request an Early Voting ballot is October 23, 2020 for the 2020 general election.<sup>xi</sup>

- Voters may request an early ballot using the form provided on the Secretary of State’s website, available at [http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/pdf/earlyvote\\_app.pdf](http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/pdf/earlyvote_app.pdf). Voters can email, mail, or fax the form to their Election Commissioner or County Clerk.
- Voters can also submit a written request to their Election Commissioner or County Clerk. The request must include the voter’s home address, the address where the voter wants to receive the ballot, telephone number (if applicable), and signature.

The Election Commissioner/County Clerk does not automatically confirm receipt of a voter’s early ballot. The voter may contact the office of the Election Commissioner/County Clerk to confirm receipt.<sup>x</sup>

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

All registered voters are permitted to participate in early voting.<sup>xi</sup> No excuse is needed. The earliest that a voter can request an early voting ballot is 120 days before Election Day—July 6 for the 2020 general election. The deadline to request an Early Voting ballot is October 23, 2020 for the 2020 general election.<sup>xii</sup>

Early voting for the 2020 general election starts October 5, 2020 and ends November 2, 2020. Voters who properly request an early ballot will receive a ballot and an identification envelope. The voter should fill out the ballot, seal it in the identification envelope, sign an oath on the outside of the identification envelope, and mail or deliver the sealed and signed identification envelope to the Election Commissioner/County Clerk.

To be counted, the completed ballot must be received by the Election Commissioner/County Clerk before the polls close (8:00 p.m. Central Time/7:00 p.m. Mountain Time) on Election Day.<sup>xiii</sup>

The Election Commissioner/County Clerk does not automatically confirm receipt of a voter’s early ballot. The voter may contact the office of the Election Commissioner/County Clerk to confirm receipt.<sup>xiv</sup>

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

The return envelope containing the ballots may be mailed back to the [County Election Office](#) returned by personal delivery, an agent, or courier service to the county office or drop box.

All Early Voting ballots, whether personally delivered, delivered by agent, delivered by mail or other carriers must arrive at the county election official's office by the closing of the polls on Election Day at 8:00 pm CT (7:00 pm Mountain Time).

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

An individual who does not request an absentee ballot in time retains the ability to vote in person.

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

No. Nebraska offers no-excuses Early (absentee) balloting.

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

Individuals can check their registration, ballot status, and polling locations at <https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/voterview/>

**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?**

Closely monitor the status of your Early Voting ballot request and ballot (online at [Voter Information Center](#)). If your request or your ballot are rejected, immediately contact your local election official (available here <https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/election-officials-contact-information>) to see if the error can be remedied.

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

In order to vote early a voter must be registered. Though the voter does not need identification to vote, the voter may need identification to register. See Question #2).

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

Closely monitor the status of your Early Voting ballot request and ballot (online at [Voter Information Center](#)). If your ballot is missing or if you spoiled your ballot, immediately contact your local election official (available here <https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/election-officials-contact-information>) to see if the error can be remedied.

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A registered voter may cast a provisional ballot pursuant to section [32-915](#) at the voter's polling place on election day **or** may obtain a replacement ballot from the election commissioner or county clerk by signing a statement verified on oath or affirmation on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State that the original ballot for early voting was destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received and delivering the statement to the election commissioner or county clerk.

To receive a replacement ballot in person, the voter shall return the statement to the office of the election commissioner or county clerk by 8 p.m. on the day of the election.

To receive a replacement ballot by mail, the voter shall return the statement to such office prior to the close of business on the second Friday preceding the election.

If the election commissioner or county clerk receives a statement meeting the requirements of this section, he or she shall deliver a replacement ballot to the voter if the voter is present in the office or shall mail a replacement ballot to the voter at the address shown on the statement.

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

Closely monitor the status of your Early Voting ballot request and ballot (online at [Voter Information Center](#)). If you do not receive your ballot, contact your local election official (available here <https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/election-officials-contact-information>) to see if the error can be remedied.

A registered voter may cast a provisional ballot pursuant to section [32-915](#) at the voter's polling place on election day **or** may obtain a replacement ballot from the election commissioner or county clerk by signing a statement verified on oath or affirmation on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State that the original ballot for early voting was destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received and delivering the statement to the election commissioner or county clerk.

To receive a replacement ballot in person, the voter shall return the statement to the office of the election commissioner or county clerk by 8 p.m. on the day of the election.

To receive a replacement ballot by mail, the voter shall return the statement to such office prior to the close of business on the second Friday preceding the election.

If the election commissioner or county clerk receives a statement meeting the requirements of this section, he or she shall deliver a replacement ballot to the voter if the voter is present in the office or shall mail a replacement ballot to the voter at the address shown on the statement.

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

Something Nebraska uses early voting instead of absentee voting. A voter whose name appears on the precinct list with a notation that the voter received an early voting ballot can vote in person only by provisional ballot.<sup>xxv</sup>

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

To be counted, the completed ballot must be received by the Election Commissioner/County Clerk before the polls close (8:00 p.m. Central Time/7:00 p.m. Mountain Time) on Election Day.<sup>xxvi</sup>

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

The return envelope containing the ballots may be mailed back to the [County Election Office](#) returned by personal delivery, an agent, or courier service to the county office or drop box. All Early Voting ballots, whether personally delivered, delivered by agent, delivered by mail or other carriers must arrive at the county election official's office by the closing of the polls on Election Day at 8:00 pm CT (7:00 pm Mountain Time).

In addition to the County Election Office, ballots may be returned to drop boxes. Check with your County Election Office for box locations.

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

Yes, an agent or other carrier can drop off your Early Voting ballot.

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

You can vote early in-person at your county election office for a period prior to an election (30 days prior to a primary or general election and 15 days for all other elections). The day before the election is the last day to vote early in person. For more information, contact your [County Election 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?**

The polls are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central Time or 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mountain Time on Election Day, depending on the region.<sup>xxvii</sup> The polling place will remain open for a reasonable period after the closing time to allow voters in line at the polling place by 8:00 p.m. Central Time or 7:00 p.m. Mountain Time to vote.<sup>xxviii</sup>

**\*Note to hotline and field volunteers:** If a polling place is not open by its required opening time, advise voters to stay at the polling location and contact your hotline captain/command center.

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn that a polling place prohibits those who were in line by 8:00 p.m. 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?

You may look up your polling location at <https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/voterview>.

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, many polling places have been moved or consolidated. Voters should be advised to check the polling place listed on the Voter Notification Card they received from the local election authority a few days before the election.

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

Yes. Nebraska does not require identification on Election Day, unless the voter registered by mail and did not previously provide the required proof of residence.

Voters can register by mail or in person without identification. To register without providing identification, a voter must provide proof of his or her current address and must fill out the voter registration form, available in English and Spanish at [http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/ele\\_forms.html](http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/ele_forms.html). Acceptable forms of proof of address include a current photo ID or a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document dated within 60 days of the date it is provided as proof of address. The proof of address must have a name and address matching the registration application.

In addition, there are a few situations where an applicant who registers by mail does not need to present identification even if they are a first-time Nebraska voter:

- The individual has provided their Nebraska driver's license number or the last four digits of their social security number and the election commissioner or county clerk verifies the number against a record available from the Department of Motor Vehicles;
- The individual is a member of the U.S. armed forces or Merchant Marine who by reason of active duty is absent from their place of residence where the member is otherwise eligible to vote;
- The individual is a spouse or dependent of a member of the U.S. armed forces or Merchant Marine who is absent from their place of residence due to the service of that member;
- The individual resides outside the United States and but for such residence would be qualified to vote in Nebraska if Nebraska was the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States;
- The individual is elderly or handicapped and has requested to vote by alternative means other than by casting a ballot at their polling place on Election Day.

To register to vote online, an applicant must have a Nebraska driver's license or other state issued identification card.

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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.

Instruct the voter to stay at the polling location. Double check that the location is correct and has not been moved (<https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/voterview>). Contact the county election office (<https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/election-officials-contact-information>).

### **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?**

In either situation, instruct the voter to stay at the polling location.

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?**

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

Voters should immediately notify the election officers if the voting equipment breaks down (<https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/election-officials-contact-information>). However, paper ballots are used throughout Nebraska, and machines are only used to assist individuals with disabilities in marking their paper ballots and to count all the ballots.<sup>xxix</sup> Therefore, even if a machine breaks down, most voters should be able to continue voting, and the ballots should be placed in a secure, backup storage container while the ballot counter (aka optical scanner) is not functioning or is being repaired.

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

Nebraska does not have a state wide mask mandate, however individual communities may have mask guidelines. Even still, it is possible unmasked individuals will present to vote. Counties cannot deny service for failure to wear a mask.

Because it is unclear whether polling locations will be observing best public health practices, voters should seriously consider early voting options.

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

Yes. If a voter informs a poll worker that they need assistance to operate a voting device, a poll worker may assist the voter.<sup>xxx</sup>

**42. PHYSICAL DISABILITY: I have a physical disability and need assistance. Will my polling place be accessible?**

Polling places are required to be accessible to all registered voters and to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Help America Vote Act. At least one voting booth at each polling place must be installed for easy access for those with physical limitations, must accommodate voters in wheelchairs, and must have a cover or barrier to provide privacy.<sup>xxxi</sup> If an individual is unable to access the polling place, one judge of the election and one clerk of the election may take a ballot from the polling place to an accessible, convenient location within one block of the polling place (including the individual's vehicle) and may assist the individual in casting his or her vote.<sup>xxxii</sup>

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

Yes. Voters who are blind, who cannot read, or who for reason of physical disability need assistance voting are entitled to choose a friend or relative to assist them with voting, or otherwise get assistance from an election official.<sup>xxxiii</sup>

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

If you go to the polling place but are physically unable to enter the polling place, you may remain in your vehicle and vote curbside. Persons may call the Nebraska Secretary of State's Office Election Division Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (888) 727-0007 (toll free) or (402) 471-2555 to report problems.

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

Individuals are prohibited from electioneering, including circulating petitions or soliciting votes, within 200 feet of any polling place. Prohibited actions include displaying or disseminating information with the purpose of advocating for or against any candidate, elected official, political party, or ballot measure.<sup>xxxiv</sup>

Individuals are also prohibited from conducting an exit poll or otherwise interviewing voters on Election Day to determine voter preferences within 20 feet of the entrance of the polling place or within 100 feet of any voting booth.<sup>xxxv</sup>

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

Voter qualification may be challenged by any inspector, judge or clerk of election, or registered voter.<sup>xxxvi</sup> If challenged, a voter will be permitted to vote if they swear an affidavit as to their eligibility.<sup>xxxvii</sup>

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

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

Police may be present at a polling location if the election commissioner, county clerk, or city or village clerk may appoint or summon such police officers and sheriffs as may be necessary to maintain order at the election and enforce the Election Act. Except in counties having an election commissioner, if no police officer or sheriff is available, the judges of election may appoint one or more persons in writing to act as and have the powers of a police officer.

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

Inquire why the voter was offered a provisional ballot. A registered voter should be offered a provisional ballot only when:<sup>xxxviii</sup>

- The voter did not provide proof of residence or identification after registering by mail and does not provide identification to vote (see [Question #5](#));<sup>xxxix</sup>
- The voter moved to a new residence within the same county and did not re-register (see [Question #6](#));<sup>xl</sup>
- The voter's name does not appear on the voter rolls due to error (see [Question #12](#));<sup>xli</sup> or
- The voter's name appears with the notation that they have received an early voting ballot.<sup>xlii</sup>

Except for the above reasons, a registered voter should be able to cast a regular ballot. A provisional ballot should be a last resort. However, if the voter does cast a provisional ballot, the voter can check whether the ballot was counted by calling the Nebraska Secretary of State's Office at (888) 727-0007 or (402) 471-2555 or by visiting <https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView/ProvisionalBallotSearch.do>.

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## QUESTIONS

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

There are several places to look for help.

For most voter issues, the first place to check is with county election officials (<https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/election-officials-contact-information>).

For statewide issues, the Nebraska Secretary of State provides many resources online (<https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/general-voter-information>) and takes calls (402-471-2555).



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- i Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-302.
  - ii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-304; <http://www.nebraska.gov/faqs/sos/OVRA/FAQ-eng.html>.
  - iii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-321.
  - iv Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-302.
  - v Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 32-914.02; 32-915; 32-929.
  - vi *Id.*
  - vii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-933(1)(b).
  - viii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-312.02 (2).
  - ix Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-116.
  - x *Id.*
  - xi Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-328.
  - xii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-915.
  - xiii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-326.
  - xiv Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-915.
  - xv Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-938 (1).
  - xvi Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-941.
  - xvii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 32-949; 32-950.
  - xviii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-949.01.
  - xix Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-941.
  - xx Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-949.01.
  - xxi Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-938 (1).
  - xxii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-941.
  - xxiii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 32-949; 32-950.
  - xxiv Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-949.01.
  - xxv Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-915.
  - xxvi Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 32-949; 32-950.
  - xxvii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-908 (1).
  - xxviii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-908 (3).
  - xxix <https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/nebraska-election-security>
  - xxx *Id.*
  - xxxi Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-907.
  - xxxii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-918.
  - xxxiii *Id.*
  - xxxiv Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-1524
  - xxxv Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-1525
  - xxxvi Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-926.
  - xxxvii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-932.
  - xxxviii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-915.
  - xxxix Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-318.01.

xi Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 32-914.02; 32-929.

xli Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-328.

xlii Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 32-915.