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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 – Last Updated October 15, 2021

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. **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?](#)
8. **LIVING ABROAD:** [I am living abroad and/or serving in the military. How can I register and/or vote?](#)
9. **CRIMINAL CONVICTION:** [I have a criminal conviction. Can I vote?](#)
10. **INCARCERATED:** [I am currently in jail. Can I vote?](#)
11. **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?](#)
12. **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: IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING

13. **AVAILABILITY:** [Is there early voting in my state \(whether called early voting or in-person absentee voting\)? When is it?](#)
14. **ELIGIBILITY:** [Do I have to have a reason to vote early?](#)
15. **WHEN:** [When do the polls open/close during early voting?](#)
16. **WHERE:** [Where do I vote during early voting?](#)
17. **IDENTIFICATION:** [What identification is required for early voting? Can I vote without providing identification?](#)
18. **IN PERSON INSTEAD OF BY MAIL:** [What if I always vote by mail but now want to vote early, in person, instead?](#)

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. **EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE:** [I don't know how to use the voting equipment. Can I get help?](#)
41. **PHYSICAL DISABILITY:** [I am physically disabled and need assistance. Will my polling place be accessible?](#)
42. **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?](#)
43. **CURBSIDE VOTING:** [When can I request curbside voting?](#)
44. **CAMPAIGNING:** [What rules apply to people campaigning or "hanging around" my polling place? Can people approach me?](#)
45. **CHALLENGE:** [Someone is formally challenging my vote. What do I do?](#)
46. **POLICE/MILITARY PRESENCE:** [There are police/members of the military at the polling place. Is this okay? What do I do?](#)
47. **PROVISIONAL BALLOT:** [I have been offered a provisional ballot. What should I do?](#)

QUESTIONS

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

REGISTERING TO VOTE

1. STATUS: Am I registered to vote?

Voters can determine whether they are registered to vote by checking the New Jersey Division of Elections' website and clicking on the "[Am I Registered](#)" tab.

Alternatively, they can call 1-877-NJ-VOTER (1-877-658-6837).

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

Eligible voters who wish to register must fill out their county's voter [registration form](#). The registration form can be submitted in a number of ways:¹

- As of September 4, 2020, eligible voters may [register online to vote](#).²
- The registration form can also be returned by mail or delivered in person to the voter's [County Commissioner of Registration or Superintendent of Elections](#). If the eligible voter does not have access to a computer and/or printer, the voter may fill out a registration form in person at the office of the County Commissioner of Registration or Municipal Clerk.
- Eligible voters may also register to vote in person when applying for a driver's license or identification at a Motor Vehicle Commission ("MVC") agency, or while applying for services or assistance administered by certain public agencies.³

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

The New Jersey voter registration form asks all registrants to provide a driver's license number, non-driver identification number, or the last four digits of a Social Security number, or to swear or affirm that they do not have any such number.⁴ Individuals who register by mail and who cannot provide one of the requested numbers must present a copy of an acceptable form of identification at the time of registration or at any time before voting.⁵ Acceptable identification includes either a current and valid photo identification (e.g., New Jersey driver's license, military or other government identification, student or job identification, store membership card, U.S. Passport), or any current document with the voter's name and address such as a bank statement, paycheck, rent receipt, sample ballot, utility bill, government check, car registration, non-photo driver's license, or any other official document.⁶

Online registration requires one of the following forms of identification: New Jersey driver's license number, Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) non-driver identification number, or Social Security number.⁷ If an eligible voter does not have any of these forms of identification, the voter will need to register by mail or in person using the process described above. Voters who use a Social Security number as identification must be able to sign the application on-screen or upload a digital signature to register online.⁸ Voters who use a driver's license or other MVC identification do not need to include a digital signature.⁹

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?

The registration deadline is 21 days before Election Day.¹⁰ The registration deadline for the November 2, 2021 General Election is October 12.¹¹ [Registration forms](#) have to be either postmarked or delivered in person by this date.¹² Online registration also has to be completed by October 12.¹³

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?

No. New Jersey does not have same-day registration. See [Question #4](#) for registration deadlines.

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

For a voter who has made a permanent move, eligibility to vote will depend on whether the voter moved within the same county/election jurisdiction or moved to a new county.¹⁴ The chart below explains the balloting processes for voters who have moved.

Moved within the same district	Moved to a different district but within the same county	Moved to a different election jurisdiction (typically a different county)	Moved from a different state
The voter may cast a <u>regular ballot</u> upon completing a written affirmation at the polling place. ¹⁵	The voter may vote by <u>provisional ballot</u> in the district to which the voter has moved upon completing a written affirmation at the polling place. ¹⁶	If, <u>on or before the 31st day prior to the election</u> , a voter has moved into the county from another county and has not registered to vote, the voter is ineligible to vote. ¹⁷ However, if <u>within 30 days of the election</u> , the voter has moved to the county from another county in New Jersey, they are eligible to vote in the county where they last resided and registered. ¹⁸	A voter who moves to New Jersey from out-of-state must register and reside at the new address for 30 days before the election in order to vote. ¹⁹

7. STUDENT: I am a college student. Can I register to vote where I go to school?

College students may register to vote from either their college address or their primary residence (e.g., their parents' home).²⁰ The students must meet the generally applicable standards (i.e., must be at least 17 years old (though they cannot vote until they turn 18), a U.S. citizen, a resident in the district in which they intend to vote, a resident of the state or county for 30 days before the election, and not otherwise disqualified from voting).²¹ This is true regardless of whether the college student intends to reside permanently in New Jersey.²²

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

There are several ways in which eligible voters in the military and/or overseas may register to vote. Like other voters, they may fill out and mail a New Jersey [voter registration form](#), which must have been postmarked by October 12, 2021, or they may have [registered to vote online](#) by that date if they had the appropriate identification. They can also fill out a [Federal Post Card Application](#), which must have been *received* by October 12, 2021, whether returned by mail, email, or fax.²³

The [Federal Post Card Application](#) allows eligible military or overseas voters to simultaneously register and request their absentee ballot. However, if an eligible voter registers with a state voter registration form, the voter must separately [apply for a vote-by-mail ballot](#) by October 26, 2021.

There are also several ways in which military and overseas voters may receive their ballots, including by air-mail, fax, or email.²⁴ Mailed ballots must be postmarked on or before November 2, 2021.²⁵ Faxed or emailed ballots must be received by the appropriate county board of elections by 8:00 p.m. local time on November 2, 2021 (*i.e.*, the close of polls), **and** the voter must also mail the original ballot to the county board of election.²⁶

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

Only convictions for *felonies* (also called “indictable offenses” in New Jersey) result in loss of the right to vote and only while the person is incarcerated.²⁷ Once a person with a felony conviction has completed a period of incarceration, the person must have completed a new voter registration form and mailed or hand-delivered it 21 days before the election.²⁸ Persons with *misdemeanor* convictions (also called “disorderly persons offenses” in New Jersey) are *not* disqualified from voting.²⁹

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

A voter who is currently incarcerated after being convicted of a felony (also called an “indictable offense” in New Jersey) is not permitted to vote.³⁰

Pretrial detainees who have not yet been convicted and persons with *misdemeanor* convictions (also called “disorderly persons offenses” in New Jersey) are *not* disqualified from voting.³¹ Like all other qualified voters, those serving jail time in pretrial detention or on misdemeanor convictions may apply for and cast a vote-by-mail ballot.³² They must [apply for a vote-by-mail ballot](#) by the application deadline, October 26, 2021.

11. 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?

Hotline volunteers should [verify that the voter is in the correct district](#) or redirect the voter to the correct district. In addition, if the voter is in the correct polling place a poll worker at the polling place should be able to double check the district list.³³ New Jersey poll workers have lists only for their own election districts; they do not have master lists for the whole state.³⁴ If the voter does not appear on the district list, the voter should ask the poll worker to check the “street list” to see if the voter’s address falls within a different election district in the county.

If the poll worker says a voter is not eligible to vote, a voter who believes otherwise may vote by provisional ballot after completing the affirmation statement.³⁵ However, a provisional ballot will not be counted unless it is later determined that the voter is eligible to vote.³⁶ If the provisional ballot is cast in a district where the voter is not registered, only the votes for those offices and questions for which the voter is qualified to vote will be counted.³⁷

12. 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?

Names can be removed from the list of registered voters only for the following reasons: 1) the voter confirmed in writing that the voter moved out of state; 2) the voter failed to respond to a mailed confirmation notice from the relevant elections official and then did not vote or attempt to vote in two consecutive federal general elections following that failure to respond; 3) the voter was registered in another county at the same time; 4) the voter was convicted of a felony; or 5) the voter died.³⁸

Any voter whose name was removed from the voter registration list on the basis of a determination of ineligibility who subsequently becomes eligible to vote must re-register in order to be restored to the statewide voter registration system.³⁹

Note that you can take steps to help to determine why a voter's name is not appearing on the list of registered voters:

- Check the voter's registration status using the registration lookup tool to make sure the voter is registered to vote and at the right polling place. (See [Question #1.](#))
- Has the voter moved recently? Could the voter be registered at an old address? Check that address in the registration lookup tool. (See [Questions #1](#) and [#6.](#))
- Has the voter had a name change recently, or could the voter 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?

HOW TO VOTE: IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING

13. AVAILABILITY: Is there in-person early voting in my state? When is it?

Yes. On March 30, 2021, New Jersey enacted a law allowing all registered voters to cast a ballot in person before Election Day.⁴⁰ During the 2021 General Election, early voting will be held from Saturday, October 23 through Sunday, October 31.⁴¹ Early voting sites in each county will be open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and on Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.⁴²

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

No. So long as the voter is registered to vote, there are no eligibility requirements for in-person early voting.⁴³

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

See [Question # 13](#). Any registered voter in line at the time scheduled for the closing of an early voting site must be permitted to vote.⁴⁴

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

For general elections, including the 2021 General Election, registered voters can vote at any early voting site in their county.⁴⁵ Early voting locations may vary from a voter’s polling location on Election Day.⁴⁶

A list of in-person early voting locations for each county is located [here](#).

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

Identification is required only in unusual circumstances. See [Question #36](#).

18. IN PERSON INSTEAD OF BY MAIL: What if I always vote by mail but now want to vote early, in person, instead?

If a voter is registered to vote by mail in the 2021 General Election, they must have opted out by August 31, 2021, to cast a regular ballot in person on a machine at an early voting location.⁴⁷ (See [Question 19](#) on how a voter can find out whether they are on the default vote-by-mail list.) Voters who are registered to vote by mail and who did not opt out by August 31, 2021, may cast a provisional paper ballot in person at an early voting location if they have not returned their mail-in ballot to their county board of elections.⁴⁸

HOW TO VOTE: ABSENTEE AND/OR VOTE BY MAIL

19. Do I have to request an absentee/vote-by-mail ballot or will my state mail me one automatically? How do I request one?

New Jersey replaced the term “absentee” with “vote-by-mail” in 2009; there is no functional difference between absentee and vote-by-mail ballots.⁴⁹ Every registered voter is eligible to receive a vote-by-mail ballot by applying for one.⁵⁰ When filling out the [vote-by-mail application](#), the voter can elect whether to be placed on the default vote-by-mail list going forward (i.e., they will receive a vote-by-mail ballot for all future elections) or choose instead to receive a vote-by-mail ballot only for an upcoming election.

A voter can check whether they are on the default vote-by-mail list by going to the [Track My Ballot site](#), creating or opening their personal voter account, and checking their mail-in ballot history. To create an account on this site, a voter will need their driver's license number, the last four digits of their Social Security number, or their Voter ID number. They can locate their Voter ID number by [checking their voter registration status online](#). Alternatively, the voter can call their [county clerk](#).

If a voter no longer wants to receive a vote-by-mail ballot automatically, the voter must notify the appropriate county clerk's office in writing.⁵¹

A voter who does not automatically receive a vote-by-mail ballot, or who wishes to receive it at an address different from the last mailing address on file with election officials, may complete an [application to vote-by-mail](#). Applications for vote-by-mail ballots can be returned by mail or in person to [the voter's](#) county clerk.⁵² For the November 2 election, the *postmark* deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot by mail is October 26⁵³ and the *in-person* application deadline is November 1 by 3:00 p.m.⁵⁴ November 2 is the deadline to either drop off or postmark the actual vote-by-mail *ballot*; if postmarked, the ballot must be received by the voter's county Board of Elections on or before November 8 at 8:00 p.m.⁵⁵

20. APPLICATION DEADLINE: What is the deadline for requesting my absentee/vote-by-mail ballot?

- **By Mail – October 26:** To allow the county clerk sufficient time to mail out ballots to voters, vote-by-mail applications returned by mail must be postmarked by October 26, 2021.⁵⁶
- **In Person – November 1, 3:00 p.m.:** A voter may request a vote-by-mail application in person at the county clerk by November 1 at 3:00 p.m.⁵⁷

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

Vote-by-mail ballot applications may be returned to the county clerk by mail (postmarked by October 26) or in person (by November 1 at 3:00 p.m.).⁵⁸ Exceptions exist only for [military and overseas voters](#). See [Question #8](#).

Vote-by-mail applications may be mailed by someone else on the voter's behalf. Voters are entitled to apply for and obtain a mail-in ballot by authorized messenger (a family member or a registered voter of the county in which the application is made). The authorized messenger must sign the application and provide identification to the county clerk upon submission of the application. An individual cannot serve as an authorized messenger for more than three people in an election, except for up to five members of the messenger's immediate family.⁵⁹

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

If the voter missed the October 26 deadline for mailing in the [application for vote-by-mail ballot](#), the voter can apply *in person* at the office of the county clerk at any time up to 3:00 p.m. on November 1. If

an eligible voter does not request or receive a vote-by-mail ballot by 3:00 p.m. on November 1, the only option is to vote in person at his/her polling place on Election Day.

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

No, New Jersey does not require voters to have a specific reason for requesting a vote-by-mail ballot.

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

A voter can track their ballot online by setting up a voter access account on the Secretary of State's [website](#). To set up an account, the voter will be asked to provide their driver's license number, the last four digits of their Social Security number, or their Voter ID number. The system compares that to their voter file to verify their account. If their file does not contain some of that information, they may have some trouble creating an account. The voter can locate their Voter ID number by [checking their voter registration status online](#). They can use their Voter ID number (or the other numbers mentioned) to create a voter access account to track their ballot.

Voters can also track their ballot by contacting their [County Clerk](#) or by calling 1-877-NJ-VOTER (1-877-658-6837). If their ballot was not counted, they can find out why it was rejected.

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

New Jersey's Ballot Cure Act, signed into law on August 28, 2020, requires voters to be notified if there is an issue with the signature on their submitted vote-by-mail ballot.⁶⁰ They are then given an opportunity to cure the defective ballot. The voter will have up to up to 48 hours before the date for the final certification of election results to cure their ballot.⁶¹

26. COMPLETING BALLOT: How do I complete absentee/vote-by-mail ballot? Are there any identification requirements?

Voters should mark their choices on the ballot in pencil or blue or black ink by filling in the circles completely. Voters do not have to vote for every race if they don't want to. Fill in only one circle for each race or question. Put the ballot inside the ballot envelope. **Do not detach the affirmation on the flap!** Seal the ballot envelope and complete and sign the affirmation. Put the ballot envelope inside the envelope addressed to the voter's county board of elections.⁶²

There are no identification requirements to complete a vote-by-mail ballot. However, the voter's signature on the certification will be compared to the signature the Board of Elections has on file for the voter. The voter must also sign the certification printed on the margin of the flap affixed to the inner envelope of the mail-in ballot.⁶³ Again, do not detach this flap!

If a voter decides to drop their vote-by-mail ballot off in person at the county Board of Elections, see [Question #17](#) for identification or certification requirements.

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

If a voter loses or spoils his/her vote-by-mail ballot, or receives an incorrect ballot, the voter may either: (1) go to the county clerk's office to get a replacement ballot, or (2) cast a provisional ballot at their polling location on Election Day.⁶⁴

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

If a vote-by-mail ballot did not arrive, the voter may either: (1) go to the county clerk's office to get a replacement ballot, or (2) cast a provisional ballot in-person at their polling location on Election Day.⁶⁵

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

Voters who requested or received a vote-by-mail ballot may go in person to their designated polling location and cast a provisional paper ballot on Election Day so long as they did not complete and return their vote-by-mail ballot. If you already returned your ballot, you are legally prohibited from voting in person as this would be considered attempting to vote two times.⁶⁶

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

Voters **cannot** bring their voted ballot to the polling place on Election Day. However, there are multiple ways to return and cast vote-by-mail ballots prior to and on Election Day, including in-person delivery.

- **Postmarked by November 2:** Voters who mail their vote-by-mail ballots must ensure that they are postmarked on or before November 2, 2021, and the ballot must be received by the voter's county Board of Elections on or before November 8, 2021 by 8:00 p.m.⁶⁷ In some counties, vote-by-mail ballots come with prepaid return envelopes, but in others, voters must use a stamp.⁶⁸ A voter can [call their county clerk](#) to find out about their own county. Every vote-by-mail ballot that is postmarked on or before November 2, 2021, and that is received by November 8, 2021, at 8:00 p.m. will be considered valid and will be counted, assuming the ballot meets all other statutory requirements.⁶⁹
- **Drop boxes by 8:00 p.m., November 2:** Voters can drop the ballots in [secure drop boxes](#) prior to 8:00 p.m. on November 2.⁷⁰ Each county must provide at least 10 secure ballot drop boxes, and they must be available for at least 45 days prior to the election.⁷¹
- **Hand delivery by 8:00 p.m., November 2:** A voter may hand-deliver a vote-by-mail ballot to the county Board of Elections on any day up to and including Election Day so long as it is received by 8:00 p.m. on November 2. (For identification requirements, see [Question #17](#)).⁷²
- **Delivery by authorized messenger:** A person who transports a voted vote-by-mail ballot for someone else is considered a "bearer." Bearers are limited to three (3) non-household ballots per election, except that an authorized bearer may transport up to five (5) ballots in an election

if those voters are immediate family members residing in the same household as the bearer. The bearer must sign the “Bearer Portion” of the outer envelope of the ballot in the presence of the voter when taking custody of the ballot. By signing, the bearer certifies that he or she received a mail-in ballot directly from the voter, and no other person, and is authorized to deliver the ballot to the appropriate board of election or designee on behalf of the voter.⁷³ The bearer may deliver another voter’s ballot only to a county clerk’s office, a secure ballot drop box, or USPS mailbox – NOT to a polling location on Election Day. If the bearer is hand-delivering the ballot to the county board of elections, then he/she must show identification and sign the Bearer Book at the county board of elections.⁷⁴

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

See [Question #30](#).

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

See [Question #30](#).

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

New Jersey does not have formalized “in-person absentee” voting. For voters who received a vote-by-mail ballot but wish to vote in person on Election Day, see [Question #29](#).

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?

The polls must be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Election Day.⁷⁵ Any voter who is in line by 8:00 p.m. is entitled to cast a ballot.⁷⁶

***Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn that a polling place prohibits those who were in line at 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?

Voters can determine their proper polling place [here](#).

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

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

Identification is required only in unusual circumstances, listed below.

New Jersey voters will need to produce and show identification only in the following circumstances:

First, a first-time voter who registered by mail and did not provide an accurate driver's license number, non-driver identification number, the last four digits of a Social Security number, or acceptable identification at that time must present identification at the polling place on Election Day in order to vote by provisional paper ballot.⁷⁷ Acceptable identification includes either a current and valid photo identification (e.g., New Jersey driver's license, student or job identification card, store membership card, U.S. passport, military identification), or any current document with the voter's name and address such as a bank statement, pay check, rent receipt, sample ballot, utility bill, government check, car registration, or non-photo driver's license.⁷⁸ First-time voters who do not have the requisite identification may still cast a provisional ballot and must complete the written affirmation on the provisional ballot.⁷⁹ For the ballot to count, the first-time voter must provide proper identification to the county commissioner of registration by the close of business on the second day after the election.⁸⁰

Second, voters who personally deliver their vote-by-mail ballots to their county boards of elections will be asked for identification to verify that they are the voter who cast the ballot.⁸¹

POLLING PLACE ISSUES

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

The voter should refer to their county board of elections website or the [New Jersey Division of Elections website](#) to determine the operational polling place to which the voter is assigned. Voters should immediately call 866-OUR-VOTE to report a polling place that should be open but is not.

***Note to hotline volunteer:** If a polling place that should be open is not, 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?

The polls must be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Election Day.⁸² *Stay in line. Any voter who is in line by 8:00 p.m. is entitled to cast a ballot.*⁸³

***Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn that a polling place closes its doors to voters who were in line at 8 p.m., advise voters to stay at the polling location and contact your hotline captain immediately.

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

Voters should immediately notify poll workers if the voting equipment breaks down and call 866-OUR-VOTE to report issues.

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

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

Instructions on the proper operation of the voting machines must be posted and/or made available at the polling place.⁸⁴ A person who needs assistance because he or she is disabled or is unable to read or write may designate someone of their own choice to provide such assistance.⁸⁵ Two members of the county board of elections of opposite political affiliations may also provide assistance.⁸⁶

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

All polling places in New Jersey should be accessible to voters with disabilities.⁸⁷ If there is an accessibility issue at a particular polling location, voters with disabilities can [contact their county election officials](#) for a referral to a nearby accessible location with a common ballot. Voters can also call 866-OUR-VOTE to report accessibility issues.

The electronic voting machines that most New Jersey counties normally use can be re-positioned so that voters seated in wheelchairs can use them. For those who are visually impaired, the machines have an audio function available upon request. Also, if a voter is blind, disabled, or cannot read the ballot, the voter may have someone of their choice, other than the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union, assist them in the voting booth, or two members of the county board of elections of opposite political affiliations may help the voter.⁸⁸

42. 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. Anyone who has a disability or cannot read or write is entitled to have a person of their choice, other than the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union, mark the voter's choices or assist the voter in marking their choices on the ballot.⁸⁹ In addition, assistance can be provided by two members of the county board of elections of opposite political affiliations.⁹⁰ The person assisting a voter can enter the voting booth with the voter, if that is the voter's preference.⁹¹

Some counties are required under federal law to provide translations of all voting materials in one or more languages.⁹² The language requirements vary based on the county's population of eligible voters who have limited-proficiency in English. In New Jersey, the following counties are covered under this law: Bergen, Camden, Cumberland, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Passaic, and Union.⁹³ Each of these counties except Bergen and Middlesex is required to provide materials in Spanish.⁹⁴ Bergen is required to provide materials in Korean, and Middlesex is required to provide materials in Asian Indian.⁹⁵ Volunteers should call the command center if these materials are not provided at a polling place in these counties.

Volunteers: If a voter approaches you and only speaks Spanish or an Asian language, they should dial 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA or 1-888-API-VOTE to get someone on the line who can help the voter.

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

New Jersey is not using curbside voting.

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

New Jersey prohibits electioneering, otherwise trying to influence voters, or distributing materials within the polling place or within 100 feet of the entrance to the polling place.⁹⁶

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

New Jersey law allows candidates and political party officials to appoint challengers.⁹⁷ Only one challenger for any party, candidate, or public question may be present in the polls at a time, and all challengers must wear a badge identifying the person or party for which the challenger is acting.⁹⁸

Challengers may not challenge voters directly, as only election officials may ask the voter questions.⁹⁹

Challengers are authorized to challenge the right of a voter to cast a ballot.¹⁰⁰ They have a right to be present while votes are counted and to challenge the qualification or rejection of any ballot.¹⁰¹

Challengers may not challenge votes on the basis of the voter’s race, color, national origin, place of residence, expected manner of casting a vote or residence in a particular ward, housing complex or section of a municipality or county, except to challenge whether the voter lives in that particular election district at all.¹⁰²

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

On-duty police may be present at the polls only at the request of election officials who seek their assistance to keep the peace and good order in and about such polling places.¹⁰³

Members of the military should not be at a polling place unless they are there to vote.¹⁰⁴

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

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

A provisional ballot is cast by a voter whose eligibility to vote cannot be confirmed at the polls on Election Day.¹⁰⁵ If, after the election, it is determined that the voter who cast the provisional ballot was eligible to vote, the ballot will be counted.¹⁰⁶ Just like vote-by-mail ballots, all valid provisional ballots will be counted.¹⁰⁷ The voter should be sure to carefully follow all the provisional ballot instructions when casting their ballot.

County boards of elections are responsible for counting all paper ballots including vote-by-mail ballots and provisional ballots. If a voter has any questions, they should reach out to [their county board of election](#).

Just as with vote-by-mail ballots, in order to ensure that the voter is the person who voted by provisional ballot, the voter's signature is compared to the signature in the voter's file.¹⁰⁸ If the voter's signature is missing or if it does not match the signature in their voter file, the county board of elections must undertake the following procedure:

If the voter's ballot is tentatively rejected because of a signature issue, the county will mail the voter a Cure Letter within 24 hours of its review.¹⁰⁹ The Cure Letter will include a "Cure Form," allowing the voter to verify their ballot.¹¹⁰

- The voter will have to verify their identity by providing their driver's license number, the last four digits of their social security number, or a state-accepted ID—such as an official document that lists their name and address, a utility or telephone bill, or tax or rent receipt.¹¹¹
- The voter must sign and date the form. They will have until 48 hours before the election certification date to return the form to their county board of election, either in person, by fax, by email, or by mail (mail must be received—not just postmarked—not later than 48 hours before the final certification date).¹¹²
- For the November 2, 2021 election, the voter's county board of elections must receive the voter's Cure Form by November 8, 2021.¹¹³

QUESTIONS

48. Whom should I contact if I have questions about any of the above?

Voters and volunteers should contact the voter's county board of elections with questions about the November 2, 2021 election. Contact information for all county election officials is available here: <https://nj.gov/state/elections/county-eo.shtml>.

In addition, voters can call 1-877-NJ-VOTER (1-877-658-6837).

¹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:31-6; Register to Vote!, <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/voter-registration.shtml>.

² Voter Registration Application, <https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/register>; *see supra* note 1, N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:31-6 (codifying that the State may permit online voter registration effective Sept. 2, 2020); *see also* The State of New Jersey, Governor Phil Murphy, Governor Murphy Signs Executive Order to Protect Public Health by Mailing Every Active Registered Voter a VBM Ballot Ahead of the General Election, <https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/20200814b.shtml> (noting the online voter registration system went live on Sept. 4, 2020).

³ Voter Registration, <https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/drivertopics/voterreg.htm>; *see also* N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:31-6(d), 19:31-6.3.

⁴ New Jersey Voter Registration Application, <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/assets/pdf/forms-voter-registration/68-voter-registration-english.pdf>.

⁵ *Supra* note 4, at n.7.

⁶ New Jersey Voters' Bill of Rights, <https://www.nj.gov/state/elections/assets/pdf/posters-bill-of-rights/2021-1102-bill-of-rights-poster-english.pdf>.

⁷ *Supra* note 1, Register to Vote!.

⁸ *Supra* note 1, Register to Vote!.

⁹ *Supra* note 1, Register to Vote!.

¹⁰ *Supra* note 1, N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:31-6.

¹¹ *Supra* note 10, Voter Registration FAQs.

¹² N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:31-6.3(b).

¹³ *Supra* note 12.

¹⁴ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:53C-3(d), (e).

¹⁵ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-3(a).

¹⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:53C-3(b), (c).

¹⁷ In *Afran v. County of Somerset*, 244 N.J. Super. 229 (App. Div. 1990), the Appellate Division held that a voter, once duly registered in New Jersey, cannot be disenfranchised because of the 30-day durational residency requirement for voting in the destination county. See N.J. Const., art. II, § I, ¶ 3(a); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:31-5. Thus, a voter who moves from one county in the state to another within 30 days of the election can vote provisionally in the last district where the voter was registered; a voter who moves from one county to another within the state 31 days or more before the election and fails to register may not vote unless duly registered at the new address. A voter who moves to New Jersey from out-of-state must register and reside at the new address for 30 days before the election in order to vote.

¹⁸ *Supra* note 17.

¹⁹ *Supra* note 17.

²⁰ Student Voter Registration & Voting, <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/vote-college-students.shtml>.

²¹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:31-5.

²² *Worden v. Mercer Cty. Bd. of Elec.*, 61 N.J. 325, 348–49 (1972).

²³ 52 U.S.C.A. § 20302.

²⁴ Military and Overseas Voting, <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/vote-military-and-overseas.shtml>.

²⁵ *Supra* note 24.

²⁶ *Supra* note 24.

²⁷ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:4-1(8).

²⁸ *Supra* note 27; see also N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:31-17(c), 19:31-6; Voter Rights and Accessibility Information, <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/voter-rights.shtml>.

²⁹ *Cf. supra* note 27.

³⁰ *Supra* note 27.

³¹ See *supra* note 27.

³² See *supra* note 27.

³³ See N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:31-18 (noting polling places have district lists); see also N.J.S.A. § 19:31-35 (providing that polling places must use electronic poll books that give poll workers access to voters' registration information).

³⁴ *Supra* note 33.

³⁵ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-3(g).

³⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-13.

³⁷ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-17.

³⁸ 52 U.S.C. § 20507(d)(2)(A); N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:31-6.5(4), 19:31-15(c), 19:31-16(a), 19:31-17.

³⁹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:31-19.

⁴⁰ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15A-1(a).

⁴¹ <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/vote-early-voting.shtml>.

⁴² *Supra* note 41; N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15A-1(c).

⁴³ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15A-1(a).

⁴⁴ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15A-1(c).

- ⁴⁵ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15A-1(b)(1).
- ⁴⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15A-1(b)(1).
- ⁴⁷ <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/assets/pdf/flyer-early-voting/2021-early-voting-english.pdf>.
- ⁴⁸ See N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-3(j).
- ⁴⁹ <https://www.nj.gov/state/elections/vote-by-mail.shtml>.
- ⁵⁰ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-3(a).
- ⁵¹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-3.1(a).
- ⁵² N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-3(b), (c).
- ⁵³ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-3(b).
- ⁵⁴ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-3(d).
- ⁵⁵ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-22.
- ⁵⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-3(b), (c).
- ⁵⁷ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-3(d).
- ⁵⁸ See *supra* notes 56, 57.
- ⁵⁹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-4(a).
- ⁶⁰ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-17(b)(1).
- ⁶¹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-17(b)(2).
- ⁶² See N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-12, 13, 16.
- ⁶³ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-16(a).
- ⁶⁴ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-20(b).
- ⁶⁵ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-20(b).
- ⁶⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-20(a).
- ⁶⁷ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-22.
- ⁶⁸ <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/vote-by-mail.shtml>.
- ⁶⁹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-22.
- ⁷⁰ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-16.1(a).
- ⁷¹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-16.1(b)(1), (c).
- ⁷² N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-16(d)(2).
- ⁷³ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-16(d)(3).
- ⁷⁴ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-16(d).
- ⁷⁵ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:15-2.
- ⁷⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15-9.
- ⁷⁷ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:15-17(b), 19:31-5.
- ⁷⁸ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:15-17(b), 19:31-5.
- ⁷⁹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15-17(b); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-1(b).
- ⁸⁰ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:53C-1(b), 19:53C-3(i).
- ⁸¹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-16(d)(2).
- ⁸² N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:15-2.
- ⁸³ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15-9.
- ⁸⁴ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:50-2(b); N.J. Admin. Code § 15:10-6.9(a)(3).
- ⁸⁵ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:50-3.
- ⁸⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:50-3.
- ⁸⁷ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:8-3.1. This statute permits the Attorney General to declare a state of emergency or grant temporary waivers to allow the use of inaccessible polling places. See also N.J. Admin. Code § 15:10-6.8.
- ⁸⁸ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:50-3.
- ⁸⁹ 52 U.S.C. § 10508; N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:50-3.
- ⁹⁰ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:50-3.
- ⁹¹ 52 U.S.C. § 10508.
- ⁹² 52 U.S.C. § 10503(c).
- ⁹³ https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/newsroom/press-kits/2017/esri/esri_uc2017_voting_rights_act.pdf; 81 Fed. Reg. 87,535 (Dec. 5, 2016), <https://www.justice.gov/crt/file/927231/download>.

⁹⁴ *Supra* note 97.

⁹⁵ *Supra* note 97.

⁹⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:34-6, 19:34-7, 19:34-15.

⁹⁷ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:7-1, 19:7-2.

⁹⁸ N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:7-6, 19:7-6.1.

⁹⁹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15-22.

¹⁰⁰ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:7-5.

¹⁰¹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:7-5.

¹⁰² N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:15-18.

¹⁰³ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:6-15.

¹⁰⁴ 18 U.S.C. § 592.

¹⁰⁵ *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-3.

¹⁰⁶ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-13.

¹⁰⁷ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-13.

¹⁰⁸ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:53C-13.

¹⁰⁹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-17(b)(1)

¹¹⁰ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-17(b)(1)

¹¹¹ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-17(b)(4).

¹¹² N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-17(b)(2).

¹¹³ <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/assets/pdf/chrons/2021-chron-general-election-1004.pdf>.