

Frequently Asked Questions

Kentucky – General Election 2024

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

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REGISTERING TO VOTE

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** Can I register to vote?

To register to vote in Kentucky, voters must:

- Be a U.S. citizen and a Kentucky resident for at least 28 days before the election;
- Be at least 18 years old by the next general election;
 - 17 year-olds can register and vote in a Primary Election if they will be 18 by the general election
- Not be a convicted felon;
 - Or, if convicted of a felony, has had their right restored following an expungement, executive pardon, or executive order

- Not be declared mentally incompetent in a court of law; and
- Not claim the right to vote outside Kentucky.¹

2. **PRIMARY ELECTION:** [Can I vote in the primary election? Do I need to be registered with a political party? Can I change my party registration to vote in another party’s primary election? When I voted, the poll worker asked my party affiliation. Are they allowed to do that?](#)

Voters registered with a particular party by December 31 of the year prior to the primary election—and who remains continuously registered as a member of that party between December 31 and the primary election— may vote in that party’s primary.²

In addition to meeting the registration requirements in [Question 1](#), a 17-year-old may vote in a primary election if they will be 18 years old by the next general election.³

3. **STATUS:** [Am I registered to vote?](#)

Voters can determine whether they are registered to vote by checking the [Kentucky State Board of Elections’ website](#). In order to check registration status on the website, voters must provide their name and date of birth. If multiple voters are found, then they must also provide the last 4 digits of their social security number (SSN).

Voters may also contact their County Clerk’s office to check the status of their registration. Information for the County Clerk’s office may be found on the [Kentucky State Board of Elections’ website](#).

4. **HOW:** [How do I register to vote? Can I register online? Do I need a printer? Can I register to vote in person?](#)

Online: Voters can register to vote online at the [Kentucky State Board of Elections’ website](#). The 2024 General Election Day is Tuesday, November 5. The deadline to register to vote in the 2024 General Election is Monday, October 7 at 4 PM local time.

By Mail: Voters can also register to vote using the paper Kentucky voter registration form. Voters should be sure to read the instructions carefully and fill it out completely. Voters should then mail the completed form to the State Board of Elections. The form must be postmarked or returned to your local county clerk at least 29 days prior to the election, which is October 7 before the November 5, 2024 General Election.

The Kentucky voter registration form may be downloaded at the [Kentucky State Board of Elections’ website](#). Voters who are unable to print a registration form may call their clerk’s office and ask that one be mailed to them. Voters should contact their county clerk if they do not receive notification verifying their registration or information of a registration problem within 2-3 weeks. If it is close to the voter registration deadline, then voters should check the status of their registration. To find their County Clerk’s office, voters may check the [Kentucky State Board of Elections’ website](#). In addition, local libraries may be able to assist voters who are unable to register online or print a paper form.

¹ See Election Registration Qualifications at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Registration.aspx>.

² Ky. Rev. Stat. § 116.055(1).

³ See Election Registration Qualifications at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Registration.aspx>.

In Person: Voters can visit their County Clerk’s office to submit an application in person. The last day to register at their County Clerk’s office for the general election is Monday, October 7 by the close of business.

5. **IDENTIFICATION: What ID is required to register to vote?**

If registering to vote online:

An applicant *who has a Kentucky driver’s license or Kentucky personal identification card* must:

- (a) Agree to the use of their Kentucky driver’s license signature or Kentucky personal identification card signature for voter registration purposes; and
- (b) Provide their Kentucky driver’s license number or Kentucky personal identification card number.

An applicant *who **does not have** a Kentucky driver’s license or Kentucky personal identification card*, may either:

- (a) Provide an electronic signature to be used for voter registration purposes; or
- (b) Register to vote by mail by printing the registration application, signing it, and returning it to the county clerk.⁴

6. **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 must register to vote at least 28 calendar days before an election they intend to vote in.⁵ For the November 5, 2024 general election, the registration deadline is October 7, 2024.⁶

Online: The deadline to register online to vote in the November 5, 2024 general election is October 7, 2024 by 4:00 p.m. local time.⁷

By mail: Voter registration applications submitted by mail will be processed if they are legibly postmarked by the applicable registration deadline,⁸ which is October 7, 2024 for the November 5, 2024 general election.⁹

Delivery to clerk’s office: Voter registration applications submitted in person will be processed if they are turned into the clerk’s office by close of business on October 7, 2024 for the November 5, 2024 general election.

Party Registration: Voters may specify a political party on their registration forms. Voters must be registered in a political party to vote in that party’s primary. Registered voters who wish to change their party must have done so before December 31 of the prior year.¹⁰

⁴ 31 Ky. Admin. Reg. 3:040, Section 3.

⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 116.045(2).

⁶ See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>; Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 116.045(2); 116.0452(1).

⁷ The deadline would ordinarily be Monday, Oct. 9, 2023, but is postponed one day for the Columbus Day holiday. <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 116.0452.

⁹ See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

¹⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat § 116.055.

7. **SAME DAY:** Does my state have Same Day Registration? If so, what is the process?

No. Kentucky does not offer Same Day Registration.¹¹

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

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

Moved within the same precinct	Moved to a different precinct but within the same county	Moved to a different election jurisdiction (typically county)	Moved from a different state
Yes. The voter should go to the polling place and update their address there. ¹²	Yes. If the voter moved from one precinct to another within the same county (whether before or after the registration deadline), the voter can update the registration records and vote in the present election at the precinct for their <u>new</u> address. ¹³ The voter must provide government- or university-issued photo ID ¹⁴ and submit an affidavit. ¹⁵	If the voter moved after the close of registration , the voter may vote at the precinct for the <u>old</u> residence, but the voter must re-register to vote in the new county of residence for future elections. ¹⁶ If the voter moved before the close of registration and failed to update their registration , the voter is NOT eligible to vote in this election. ¹⁷	If the voter changes their place of residence to a different state before a presidential election (not primary election, even if for the party nominee for President) while the registration books are closed in the new state, the voter can apply for and cast a Kentucky mail-in absentee ballot or vote on the absentee voting machine in the County Clerk's office for President and Vice President only . ¹⁸

9. **TEMPORARY MOVE:** I have moved temporarily. How can I vote?

Voters who have temporarily moved outside the state can request a mail-in absentee ballot to be sent to them by applying through the online portal no later than 14 days before the election, which is October

¹¹ See Same Day Voter Registration at <http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/same-day-registration.aspx>.

¹² Ky. Rev. Stat. § 116.025(4).

¹³ Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 116.025(3); 116.085(2), (3); 117.227.

¹⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 116.085; 117.227; 117.001(15).

¹⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 116.085(3). A sample affidavit is at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Documents/31%20KAR%205.026E.pdf>, p. 21.

¹⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 116.025(5).

¹⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 116.025(6).

¹⁸ See Absentee Voting at Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 117.085; 116.025(7).

22, 2024 for the November 5, 2024 general election.¹⁹ Voters who have temporarily moved within Kentucky are also eligible to request a mail-in absentee ballot if they will be outside the county where they're registered on election day and all days (excused or unexcused) in-person absentee voting is conducted.²⁰

10. 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. Full-time students from Kentucky may register to vote either at their school address (whether within or outside of Kentucky) or home address, provided they otherwise meet the requirements for being a registered voter. Students from another state attending a Kentucky institution may register to vote at their school address provided they do not also seek to vote in their home state, provided they have resided in Kentucky for at least 28 days and meet the other requirements for voter registration in Kentucky.²¹ A student who temporarily resides outside of their county of residence (where they are registered) may apply for a mail-in absentee ballot.²² The deadline for requesting a mail-in ballot for the general election is 14 days before the election, which is October 22, 2024 for the November 5, 2024 general election.²³

Students from Kentucky wishing to vote in a different state where they are attending school should consult that state's election laws.

11. LIVING ABROAD: [I am living abroad and/or serving in the military. How can I register and/or vote?](#)

The Federal Voter Assistance Program establishes special procedures to expedite voting by members of the military, their family members, and citizens residing abroad. Voters can both register to vote and request an absentee ballot by completing a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). The completed FPCA must then be received by the County Clerk's office on or before the registration deadline for the upcoming election to be added to the voter rolls.

For step-by-step assistance and forms see here²⁴ or call 1-800-438-VOTE (8683) or email here.²⁵ Under some circumstances the overseas or military voters may receive their ballot electronically. More information is available here.²⁶

12. CRIMINAL CONVICTION: [I have a felony criminal conviction. Can I register to vote? Does the type of conviction matter? Are there any restrictions after any misdemeanor convictions?](#)

¹⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(h)(5). See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

²⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(h)(6).

²¹ <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Registration.aspx>

²² Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(h)(2); <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/College-Students.aspx>.

²³ See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>; Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(f).

²⁴ <http://www.fvap.gov/>; <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Military-or-Overseas-Voters.aspx>

²⁵ vote@fvap.gov

²⁶ <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Military-or-Overseas-Voters.aspx>

It depends.

People with only misdemeanor convictions can vote if they are not incarcerated.²⁷

Rights are restored automatically to people with some past felony convictions who:

- Have completed their full sentence, probation, and parole; or
- Are still on probation or parole only because of unpaid fines or restitution.

Rights are not restored automatically to people who were:

- Convicted of bribery, treason, sex offenses, and certain “violent” offenses;
- Convicted in a different state; or
- Convicted of federal crimes.²⁸

Voters may check their status at: <https://civilrightsrestoration.ky.gov/Pages/home.aspx>.²⁹ If the voter’s rights were not automatically restored, they can petition the Governor for restoration of civil rights.³⁰ The application is free and can be found [here](#). If a voter believes their rights should have been restored but their name is not in the database, the voter should call the Kentucky Department of Corrections at 502-782-8866 or email them at: CivilRights.Restoration@KY.gov.

13. **INCARCERATED:** [I am currently incarcerated. Can I register to vote?](#)

Voters in jail for a conviction of either a felony or misdemeanor may not vote in Kentucky.³¹ A person who is incarcerated but otherwise eligible to vote (e.g., is awaiting trial and has not been convicted) is eligible to vote by absentee ballot.³² Incarcerated voters are entitled to use a telephone to request a mail-in absentee ballot and to receive assistance by the county clerk during normal business hours.³³

14. **REGISTRATION CHALLENGED:** [My registration has been challenged, what should I do?](#)

Each political party is entitled to have no more than two challengers at each precinct during the holding of a primary election.³⁴ A challenger is entitled to challenge the eligibility of a voter who presents himself at the precinct to vote, but who the challenger has reason to believe:

- Is not a duly registered voter in the precinct;
- Is not a resident of the precinct;
- Is a convicted felon who has not had their civil rights restored by operation of law; or
- Is not the person he claims to be.³⁵

²⁷ See Civil Rights Restored: Can You Vote? at <https://civilrightsrestoration.ky.gov/Pages/qualify.aspx>.

²⁸ See Civil Rights Restored: Can You Vote? at <https://civilrightsrestoration.ky.gov/Pages/qualify.aspx>.

²⁹ <https://secure.kentucky.gov/Corrections/VoterEligibility/search>

³⁰ Ky. Const. § 145.

³¹ See Civil Rights Restored: Can You Vote? at <https://civilrightsrestoration.ky.gov/Pages/qualify.aspx>.

³² See Civil Rights Restored: Can You Vote? at <https://civilrightsrestoration.ky.gov/Pages/qualify.aspx>.

³³ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(c)(2).

³⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.315.

³⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.316.

When the election officials disagree about the qualifications of a voter or their right to vote is challenged by a challenger, other than for failure to provide proof of identification, the voter will be asked to sign a written oath as to their qualifications before voting. That oath will be returned to the county clerk, who will send it to the Commonwealth's attorney for investigation.³⁶

Challengers are explicitly prohibited from electioneering, campaigning, or handling election materials. Challengers are not allowed to intimidate or harass (verbally or otherwise) any voter who is being challenged, disrupt activities at a polling place, or attempt to interfere with the proper conduct of the election.³⁷

HOW TO VOTE: ELECTION DAY

15. **HOURS:** When do the polls open/close on Election Day?

Polling places are required to be open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (local time) on General Election Day, November 5, 2024.³⁸ If a polling place is not open at 6:00 a.m., voters should stay at the polling location and contact the hotline, 1-866-our-vote. Voters in line at the polling place at 6:00 p.m. must be allowed to vote.³⁹ If a polling place is not allowing those who were in line before 6:00 pm to vote, they should stay in line at the polling location and call the hotline. Voters who arrive at the polling place after 6:00 p.m. will not be allowed to vote.

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

Locations for Election Day voting can be found on county websites and at: <https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/vic> and <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Polling-Locations.aspx>. If a voter has moved recently and has not updated their voter registration, refer to [Question 8](#).

17. **TIME OFF WORK:** Is my employer required to give me time off to vote? Is it paid or unpaid?

A voter is entitled to a reasonable amount of time to vote. This is a minimum of 4 hours. Additionally, the voter should notify the employer at least the day prior to casting the vote.⁴⁰

The employer may specify the hours during which the employee may go vote, but the employer need not pay the employee for the time.⁴¹

18. **CLOSING:** What if the polls close when I am already in line?

³⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.245.

³⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.317.

³⁸ Ky. Const. § 148, Ky. Rev. Stat. § 118.035(1).

³⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 118.035(1).

⁴⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 118.035(2)

⁴¹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 118.035(2); see 101 KAR 2:102(7); 101 KAR 3:015(7).

Polling places are required to be open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (local time) on General Election Day, November 5, 2024.⁴² Voters in line at the polling place at 6:00 p.m. must be allowed to vote.⁴³ If a polling place is not allowing those who were in line before 6:00 pm to vote, they should stay in line at the polling location and call the hotline. Voters who arrive at the polling place after 6:00 p.m. will not be allowed to vote.

19. IDENTIFICATION: What identification is required to vote?

To vote a regular ballot, a voter typically must be able to provide photo identification at the polling place.⁴⁴ Proof of identification is limited to **photo** IDs containing the voter's name issued by:

- The U.S. or Kentucky government;
- The U.S. Department of Defense, a branch of the uniformed services, the Merchant Marines, or the Kentucky National Guard;
- A public or private college, university, or postgraduate technical or professional school located in the US; or
- Any city, county, urban-county, charter county, consolidated, or local government located in Kentucky.⁴⁵

Voters may obtain a free state issued ID card valid for voting at their local circuit clerk's office or one of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's regional offices. They will need to show their social security card, birth certificate, and proof of residence.

Voters who cannot obtain an acceptable photo ID need to sign a "Reasonable Impediment Declaration," stating the reason for their inability to obtain a photo ID and present one of the following IDs:

- Social Security Card;
- Any ID issued by a county in Kentucky that's been approved by the State Board of Elections and shows the voter's name;
- Any ID card with both the voter's photo and name;
- Any food stamp ID card, EBT card, or SNAP card issued by Kentucky; or
- A credit or debit card with the voter's name.⁴⁶

Reasonable impediments to obtaining an acceptable photo ID include:

- Lack of transportation;
- Inability to obtain birth certificate or other underlying documentation needed to show proof of identification;
- Work schedule;
- Lost or stolen ID;
- Disability or illness;
- Family responsibilities;
- The ID has been applied for but not yet received; or

⁴² Ky. Const. § 148, Ky. Rev. Stat. § 118.035(1).

⁴³ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 118.035(1).

⁴⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 117.227; 117.228(4).

⁴⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.001(15).

⁴⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.228(2).

- The voter has a religious objection to being photographed.⁴⁷

A voter who presents one of the above IDs and signs the affirmation of reasonable impediment can vote a regular ballot. A voter who cannot meet one or both of the above conditions may sign an affirmation swearing to their citizenship, eligibility to vote, name, date of birth, and address and vote a provisional ballot.⁴⁸ That ballot only contains federal offices and will be counted if the voter provides the county clerk with one of the non-photo IDs listed above and signs the reasonable impediment affirmation by the close of business on the Friday following the election.⁴⁹ A sample reasonable impediment affirmation form is available at the State Board of Elections website.⁵⁰

Any voter who does not have proper identification can vote by provisional ballot, but this is a last resort.⁵¹

If the voter has an acceptable ID but forgot to bring it to the polling place, it is preferable for the voter to return home and obtain the ID.

20. **NO IDENTIFICATION:** *Can I vote without providing identification?*

No, a Kentucky voter can only vote a regular ballot with a government- or university-issued photo ID. A Kentucky voter with a qualifying “reasonable impediment” to getting a photo ID can also vote a regular ballot with certain non-photo IDs. Otherwise, a voter can only vote for federal offices only via provisional ballot, which only counts if the voter provides either qualifying photo ID or qualifying non-photo ID and the reasonable impediment affidavit by the deadline. See [Question 19](#).

21. **NOT ON ROLLS AT MY POLLING PLACE:** *I am at my polling place but am not showing up on the voter registration roll. Can I vote where I am?*

Voters must vote in the correct precinct for their address or, in counties electing to use vote centers, in a vote center in the correct county. If a voter is not found on the rolls of the polling place where the voter is attempting to vote or if the poll worker cannot otherwise determine the registration status of the voter, but that voter believes they are eligible to vote at that location, that voter can cast a provisional ballot for federal offices only. However, if it is later determined that the voter was ineligible to vote in that precinct, then the provisional ballot will **NOT** count.⁵² Casting a provisional ballot is a last resort. It is best to first determine if the voter is in the right polling place.

22. **GIVEN PROVISIONAL BALLOT:** *I am being told I have to vote provisionally, what does that mean?*

Voters should inquire into why a provisional ballot was offered. A voter should be offered a provisional ballot only when:

- A voter’s name is not on the precinct roster and their registration status cannot be verified;
- A voter’s name is not on the precinct roster and they have been verified as ineligible to vote;

⁴⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.228(1).

⁴⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.229.

⁴⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.229.

⁵⁰ <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Polling-Locations.aspx>

⁵¹ 31 Ky. Admin. Reg. 6:020.

⁵² 31 Ky. Admin. Reg. 6:020 (Section 4).

- A voter does not have an identification;
- A voter is voting as a result of a federal or state court order or any order under state law in effect 10 days prior to Election Day that extends polling hours; or
- A voter has been challenged by all four precinct election officers.⁵³

Aside from these reasons, voters should be able to cast a regular ballot. **A provisional ballot should be a last resort. Provisional ballots only contain federal offices.**⁵⁴ An individual found eligible to cast a provisional official ballot may do so after signing a provisional ballot precinct signature roster, which will contain the individual’s name, address, signature, date of birth, political party affiliation, ID type, and precinct officer initials.⁵⁵ Upon the voter completing and returning the provisional ballot, a poll worker must provide the voter with an information sheet that explains the voter’s right to contact their local county clerk to learn if the provisional ballot was counted, and if not counted, the reason why.⁵⁶ If a voter makes a mistake or “spoils” their provisional ballot before casting it, they have the right to receive up to two (2) replacement provisional ballots (a total of 3 including the initial provisional ballot).⁵⁷

23. REQUESTING PROVISIONAL BALLOT: *I am being told I can’t vote, can I vote provisionally?*

Any voter who does not have any identification or whose name does not appear on the rolls at their polling place may request a provisional ballot to vote in the federal election, but this should be a last resort.⁵⁸

24. PROVISIONAL BALLOT NEXT STEPS: *I voted a provisional ballot, what now?*

After the voter casts a provisional ballot, the precinct election officer must give the voter a provisional ballot information sheet, which explains the voter’s right to contact their local county clerk to learn if the ballot was counted, and if not counted, the reason why.⁵⁹

HOW TO VOTE: IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING
(in this state defined as: “no excuse” in-person voting or “excused” in-person voting)

25. AVAILABILITY: *Is there early voting in my state (whether called early voting or in person absentee voting)?*

⁵³ 31 Ky. Admin. Regs. 6:020, Section 4(3).

⁵⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.229.

⁵⁵ 31 Ky. Admin. Regs. 6:020, Section 4(1).

⁵⁶ 31 Ky. Admin. Regs. 6:020, Section 4(10).

⁵⁷ 31 Ky. Admin. Regs. 6:020, Section 4(7).

⁵⁸ 31 Ky. Admin. Reg. 6:020.

⁵⁹ 31 Ky. Admin. Reg. 6:020, Section 4(10).

Yes. “No excuse” in-person absentee voting (no reason needed) takes place on the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday immediately preceding the relevant election, which is October 31 to November 2, 2024, for the November 5, 2024 general election. “Excused” in-person absentee voting (allowed only for specific reasons; see [Question 26](#)) takes place on October 23, October 24, and October 25 and October 28, October 29, and October 30 for the November 5, 2024 general election.⁶⁰

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

It depends on the date of voting. Any voter who is qualified to vote on Election Day in the county of their residence may choose to cast an in-person absentee ballot during “no excuse” in-person absentee voting, which is October 31 to November 2, 2024, for the November 5, 2024 general election. Kentucky also has “excused” in-person absentee voting from October 23 through October 25 and October 31 through November 2 for the November 5, 2024 general election.⁶¹ Excused in-person absentee voting is allowed for Kentucky voters who meet any of the following conditions:

- Military or overseas⁶² and will be outside their county of residence on election day and all the days of “no-excuse” in-person absentee voting, or is a military voter who will be confined to a base on the same days;
- Has surgery, or whose spouse has surgery, scheduled that will require hospitalization on the day of an election and during the days of no-excuse in-person absentee voting.
- Temporarily resides outside the state, but is still eligible to vote in this state and will be absent from the county of their residence on the day of an election and during the days of no-excuse in-person absentee voting.
- Is in their last trimester of pregnancy and the voter completes the form that is prescribed by the State Board of Elections, which contains a sworn statement that the voter is in their last trimester of pregnancy at the time they wish to vote;
- Has not been declared mentally disabled by a court of competent jurisdiction and, due to age, disability, or illness, is not able to appear at the polls on election day and during the days of no-excuse in-person absentee voting.
- Is a student who temporarily resides outside the county of their residence and will be absent from the county of their residence on the day of an election and during the days of no-excuse in-person absentee voting;
- Any person employed in an occupation that is scheduled to work during all days and all hours, which shall include commute time, the polls are open on election day and during the days of no-excuse in-person absentee voting ;
- Any election officer tasked with election administration for the current election cycle.
- Any person prevented from voting in person at the polls on election day and from casting a no-excuse in-person absentee ballot on all days no-excuse in-person absentee voting is conducted because they will be absent from the county of their residence during all days and all hours no excuse in-person absentee voting is conducted.

⁶⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.076(2); See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

⁶¹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.076(2); See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

⁶² As defined at Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117A.010(1).

A voter who votes during excused in-person absentee voting must complete an “excused in-person absentee ballot application” that specifies the reason the voter is eligible to vote in this period. A sample application is at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Documents/31%20KAR%205.026E.pdf>, p. 22.⁶³

27. WHEN: When does early voting begin/end?

“No excuse” in-person absentee voting (no reason needed) takes place on the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday immediately preceding the relevant election, which is October 31 to November 2, 2024, for the November 5, 2024 general election⁶⁴ “Excused” in-person absentee voting (allowed only for specific reasons; see [Question 26](#)) takes place from October 23 through October 25 and October 31 through November 2.⁶⁵

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

Voters may vote at any early voting location in their county. These locations are nearly always different from a voter’s election day polling place. Early voting locations can be found [here](#).

29. IDENTIFICATION: What identification is required for early voting? What if I don’t have an ID?

Early voting ID requirements are identical to election-day requirements. A Kentucky voter can only vote a regular ballot with government- or university-issued photo ID. A Kentucky voter with a qualifying “reasonable impediment” to getting photo ID can also vote a regular ballot with certain non-photo ID. Otherwise, a voter can only vote for federal offices via provisional ballot, which only counts if the voter provides either qualifying photo ID or qualifying non-photo ID and the reasonable impediment affidavit by the deadline. See [Question 19](#).

30. ASSISTANCE: What if I need assistance voting early in person?

If the voter signs an oath that due to blindness, other physical disability, or inability to read English, the voter is unable to vote without assistance, that voter may receive assistance while casting a ballot. The voter must indicate the specific reason that requires the voter to receive assistance.⁶⁶

After completing the oath and filing it with the clerk, the voter should return to the precinct judge and the judge must, in the presence of another judge and the voter, complete the ballot as the voter directs. A voter can also be assisted by a person of the voter’s choice who is not an election officer, except that the voter’s employer, an agent of the voter’s employer, or an officer or agent of the voter’s union cannot assist the voter.⁶⁷

Any person assisting a voter must complete the voter assistance form and file the form with the precinct clerk.⁶⁸

⁶³ <https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/abrweb/>

⁶⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.076(1); See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

⁶⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.076(2); See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

⁶⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.255(2).

⁶⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.255(3).

⁶⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.076(5); Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.255.

A voter who requires voting assistance on a permanent basis because of blindness or other physical disability may apply to the county board of elections for certification. Application may be made when registering to vote or completing the voter assistance form by indicating that the reason for obtaining assistance is permanent.⁶⁹

If a Kentucky voter has a disability that prevents the voter from marking a paper ballot, the voter should contact their county clerk (<https://elect.ky.gov/About-Us/Pages/County-Clerks.aspx>) for guidance related to the state's accessible absentee portal.⁷⁰

HOW TO VOTE: VOTE BY MAIL

(in this state defined as: mail-in absentee ballots)

31. AUTOMATIC MAIL BALLOT: Will I automatically be sent a ballot in the mail?

Voters need to request a mail-in absentee ballot. They should apply through the Kentucky Absentee Request portal: <https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/abrweb/>. Voters who are unable to utilize the portal may phone (or visit in person) their County Clerk's office which will take the necessary information and import it into the online portal. The deadline to request a mail-in absentee ballot is 14 days before the general election on October 22, 2024 no later than 11:59 p.m. EST.⁷¹

VOTERS WHO INTEND TO VOTE IN PERSON SHOULD NOT REQUEST A MAIL-IN BALLOT: Any voter who has received an absentee ballot by mail but wants to vote in person must cancel their absentee ballot and return it to the County Clerk's office at least 7 days before the general election, or October 29, 2024.⁷²

32. ELIGIBILITY: Do I need a specific reason to vote by mail?

Yes. To qualify for a mail-in absentee ballot, voters must meet one of the following criteria:

- Military or overseas voter;
- Student who temporarily lives outside their county of residence;
- In jail on criminal charges, but not been convicted of a crime;
- Moved to a different state during closed registration in the new state (in which case the voter will be permitted to cast a mail-in absentee ballot for electors for President/Vice President only);
- Temporarily lives outside the state and is eligible to vote in the state;
- Will be absent from their county of residence all hours and days excused or no-excuse in-person absentee voting is conducted;
- Participant in the crime victim protection program; or

⁶⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.255(5).

⁷⁰ <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Absentee-Voting.aspx>

⁷¹ <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Absentee-Voting-By-Mail.aspx>

⁷² See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>; Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 117.085(8); 117.085(10).

- Age, disability, or illness prevents in-person voting.⁷³

33. APPLICATION DEADLINE: What is the deadline for requesting a mail-in ballot?

To ensure timely receipt of an absentee ballot, voters are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, but no earlier than 45 days before the election. Mail requests must be received 14 days before the election, and online requests by 11:59 p.m. on that date—for the general, that deadline is October 22, 2024).⁷⁴ However, voters may apply for a medical emergency ballot after the deadline and up to Election Day⁷⁵; see [Question 52](#).

34. APPLICATION ASSISTANCE: Can someone assist me with filling out the application?

Yes, for voters who do not have the means to access the online portal, the county clerk can fulfill a request for a mail-in absentee ballot by taking the voter’s information over the phone or in person by directly inputting the relevant information.⁷⁶

The mail-in absentee ballot can also be requested by the voter or the spouse, parents, or children of the voter, but is restricted to use by the voter.⁷⁷

35. APPLICATION RETURN: How do I submit my mail-in ballot application? Can someone return it for me? Does it have to be postmarked by a specific date?

Voters need to submit their mail-in ballot application online, unless the voter is disabled, is in the military, or is abroad.⁷⁸ Voters in these categories may request a mail-in absentee ballot application through the county clerk. Other voters who are unable to use the portal are encouraged to call (or visit in person) their County Clerk’s office, which will take the necessary information and import it into the online portal. Voters who experience a medical emergency within 14 days of election day may also apply for an emergency ballot through election day; see [Question 52](#).

36. IDENTIFICATION: Are there identification requirements when I return my absentee ballot application and/or ballot?

Yes for the application; no for ballot return.

If the voter requested the absentee mail-in ballot through the online portal, the absentee ballot should be linked to their DMV record and there is no need to provide identification. If the voter requested the absentee mail-in ballot through another means, such as by mail or in person, they will need to submit a copy of an acceptable ID; see [Question 19](#).⁷⁹

⁷³ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(h).

⁷⁴ See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>; Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(f).

⁷⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.077.

⁷⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(c).

⁷⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(g).

⁷⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1).

⁷⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1).

Voters who are returning an absentee mail-in ballot do not need to submit additional identification. However, the signature on the ballot must match the voter's signature on file with the state.⁸⁰

37. RECEIVING MAIL BALLOT: Does the ballot have to be sent to my home, or can I have it sent somewhere else? What if I don't have a home address or my address is a PO Box?

Mail-in absentee ballots need to be mailed to the voter's residential address located in the county in which the voter is registered, unless the voter meets one of the following criteria:

- Military or overseas voter;
- Student who temporarily lives outside their county;
- In jail on criminal charges, but not been convicted of a crime;
- Moved to a different state during closed registration in the new state (in which case the voter will be permitted to cast a mail-in absentee ballot for electors for President and Vice President only);
- Temporarily lives outside the state but remains eligible to vote in the state; or
- Medical emergency occurs within 14 days of an election.⁸¹

There is no option to receive the absentee ballot at an alternate address or PO Box.

38. MISSED THE APPLICATION DEADLINE: What if I have not requested a mail-in ballot by the deadline?

The voter can vote in person, either on Election Day or during Early Voting. In addition, if a medical emergency occurs, an emergency absentee ballot may be requested up to and including Election Day⁸²; see [Question 58](#).

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

Check the voter's absentee ballot status here: <https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/vic/>. The voter can also contact their County Clerk's office: <https://elect.ky.gov/About-Us/Pages/County-Clerks.aspx>.

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

Try to determine the reason for the rejection. If there is still time to file for an absentee ballot, the voter can complete another application.

If a voter's absentee ballot is rejected, they should receive a letter from their county clerk with instructions on how to cure the deficiency.⁸³ If the voter provided their phone number or email, clerks may contact the voter through those methods, though they are not required to do so.

⁸⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.225(3).

⁸¹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(4).

⁸² Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.077.

⁸³ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.087.

If time is short, the voter can also vote in person.

41. COMPLETING BALLOT: How do I complete the mail-in ballot?

Sample instructions for completing an absentee ballot are available at:

(<https://elect.ky.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/Voter%20Information/military/SBE%2048A%20Instructions%20to%20Voters%20Voting%20a%20Mail-in%20Absentee%20Ballot.pdf>).

42. ASSISTANCE COMPLETING BALLOT: Can someone assist me in filling out my ballot?

Yes. A voter may receive assistance if they are unable to vote without assistance due to blindness, other physical disability, or an inability to read English. If a voter receives assistance in filling out their ballot, both the voter and the person assisting the voter must complete and sign the Voter Assistance Form here: (<https://elect.ky.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/Voter%20Information/military/SBE%2031.pdf>).⁸⁴

43. DEADLINE TO RETURN BALLOT: What is the deadline for the ballot to be received? Does it have to be postmarked by a specific date? Can I drop it off in person?

Ballots must be **received** by the County Clerk's office by 6:00 p.m. on Election Day (November 5, 2024 (general election), regardless of the method of delivery.⁸⁵ Voters may return their mail-in absentee ballots to the county clerk by mail, in person, or drop box.⁸⁶

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

Drop boxes will be available for voters to return their mail ballots.⁸⁷ For locations, see (<https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Polling-Locations.aspx>) or the website of the county clerk.⁸⁸

45. ASSISTANCE DROPPING OFF BALLOT: Can someone else drop off my completed ballot for me?

Yes. A family member, household member, or caregiver may return a completed ballot on the voter's behalf, so long as they are designated by the voter to assist in the mail-in absentee voting process.⁸⁹

46. LOST OR SPOILED BALLOT: What if I lost my mail-in ballot, made a mistake on it (spoiled it), or I received an incorrect ballot?

The voter should contact their county clerk as soon as possible.

47. NON-RECEIPT OF BALLOT: What if I requested a mail-in ballot but have not received it? What are my options for voting?

⁸⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 117.0863; 117.255;

<https://elect.ky.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/Voter%20Information/military/SBE%2031.pdf>.

⁸⁵ See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

⁸⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.086.

⁸⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.086.

⁸⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.086(2).

⁸⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.0861(1).

Any voter qualified for a mail-in absentee ballot who does not receive a requested mail-in absentee ballot within a reasonable amount of time should contact the county clerk, and ask that it be reissued.⁹⁰ Otherwise, the voter can vote in person.

48. IN PERSON OPTION: What if I requested or received a mail-in ballot but I want to vote in person on Election Day?

A voter who has received a mail-in absentee ballot but who knows that earlier than 7 days prior to the election that they will be in the county on Election Day and who has not yet voted using their mail-in absentee ballot can cancel their mail-in absentee ballot and vote in person. The voter shall return the mail-in absentee ballot to the County Clerk’s office on or before Election Day. If the covered voter is unable to return the mail-in absentee ballot to the County Clerk’s office on or before Election Day, at the time they vote in person, the voter shall sign a written oath (affidavit) as to their qualifications.⁹¹ A sample affidavit is at: (<https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Documents/31%20KAR%205.026E.pdf>), p. 21. Voters who know they would like to vote in person during the 7 days prior to the election should contact their County Clerk’s office.

HOW TO VOTE: ABSENTEE

(in this state defined as: in-person absentee (early) voting)

49. ELIGIBILITY: Am I eligible to request an absentee ballot?

Kentucky distinguishes between in-person absentee (early) voting and mail-in absentee voting. All voters who wish to vote early may do so by absentee voting in person on the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday before Election Day (Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2024 for the general election).⁹² Voters who are unable to vote on election day or during this “no excuse” in-person absentee voting period for specific reasons may apply for “excused” in-person absentee voting; see [Question 26](#).

Voters who wish to vote by mail must qualify and apply. See [Question 32](#) for more information on who qualifies for a mail-in absentee ballot.

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

To ensure timely receipt of an absentee ballot, voters are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, but no earlier than 45 days before the election. Mail requests must be received 14 days before the election, and online requests by 11:59 p.m. on that date (which is October 22, 2024 for the general election).⁹³ However, voters may apply for a medical emergency ballot after the deadline and up to Election Day⁹⁴; see [Question 52](#).

⁹⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(9).

⁹¹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(10).

⁹² See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>;

⁹³ See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>; Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1)(f).

⁹⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.077.

51. IDENTIFICATION: Are there any identification requirements?

Yes. If the voter requested the absentee mail-in ballot through the online portal, the absentee ballot should be linked to their DMV record and there is no need to provide identification. Other voters will need to submit a copy of an acceptable ID; see [Question 19](#).⁹⁵

Voters who are returning an absentee mail-in ballot do not need to submit additional identification. However, the signature on the ballot must match the voter's signature on file with the state.

52. EMERGENCY: Is there an emergency absentee ballot? If so, am I eligible?

Yes. Voters can apply for a medical emergency absentee ballot if a medical emergency occurs within 14 days of Election Day (on or after October 22, 2024 for the general election).⁹⁶ The application form may be requested and delivered by the voter or a family member (spouse, parents, or children); if the voter has no spouse, parents, or children, the application form may be requested and delivered by the voter's sibling, niece/nephew, or designated person.⁹⁷ The application must specify the emergency that occurred and be notarized. Upon receipt of the application and verification, the county clerk must issue an absentee ballot. Contact the county clerk for more information.

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

Voters need to submit their mail-in ballot application online, unless the voter is disabled, is abroad, or is experiencing a medical emergency within 14 days of an election.⁹⁸ Voters in these categories may instead request a mail-in absentee ballot application through the county clerk. Other voters who are unable to use the portal are encouraged to call (or visit in person) their County Clerk's office, which will take the necessary information and import it into the online portal.

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

Check the voter's absentee ballot status here: <https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/vic/>. The voter can also contact their County Clerk's office.

55. APPLICATION OR BALLOT REJECTED: I learned my absentee ballot application and/or ballot was rejected. How can I confirm this and what can I do to fix any errors or get another one?

Try to determine the reason for the rejection. If there is still time to file for an absentee ballot, the voter can complete another application. Otherwise, the voter can vote in person.

If a voter's absentee ballot is rejected, they should receive a letter from their county clerk with instructions on how to cure the deficiency.⁹⁹ If the voter provided their phone number or email, clerks may contact the voter through those methods, though they are not required to do so.

⁹⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1).

⁹⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.077.

⁹⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.077.

⁹⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(1).

⁹⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.087.

If time is short, the voter can also vote in person.

56. COMPLETING BALLOT: How do I complete the absentee ballot?

Sample instructions for completing an absentee ballot are available at:

<https://elect.ky.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/Voter%20Information/military/SBE%2048A%20Instructions%20to%20Voters%20Voting%20a%20Mail-in%20Absentee%20Ballot.pdf>.

57. ASSISTANCE COMPLETING BALLOT: Can someone assist me filling out the ballot?

Yes. A voter may receive assistance if they are unable to vote without assistance due to blindness, other physical disability, or an inability to read English. If a voter receives assistance in filling out their ballot, both the voter and the person assisting the voter must complete and sign the Voter Assistance Form found [here](#).¹⁰⁰

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

Ballots must be **received** by the County Clerk's office by 6:00 p.m. on General Election Day (November 5, 2024), regardless of the method of delivery.¹⁰¹ Voters may return their mail-in absentee ballots to the county clerk by mail, in person, or drop box.¹⁰²

59. BALLOT DROP OF LOCATIONS: Where can I drop off a ballot (instead of mailing it)?

Drop boxes will be available for voters to return their mail ballots.¹⁰³ For locations, see <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Polling-Locations.aspx> or the website of the county clerk.¹⁰⁴

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

Yes. A family member, household member, or caregiver may return a completed ballot on the voter's behalf, so long as they have been given permission by the voter to assist in the mail-in absentee voting process.¹⁰⁵

A family member is defined as a spouse, partner, sibling, child, mother- or father-in-law, son- or daughter-in law, grandparent or grandchild of the voter.¹⁰⁶

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

The voter should contact their county clerk as soon as possible.

¹⁰⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 117.0863.

¹⁰¹ See Election Calendars & Schedules at <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Election-Calendar.aspx>.

¹⁰² Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.086.

¹⁰³ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.086.

¹⁰⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.086(2).

¹⁰⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.0861(1).

¹⁰⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 6.611(16)(a)

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

Any voter qualified for a mail-in absentee ballot who does not receive a requested mail-in absentee ballot within a reasonable amount of time should contact the county clerk, and ask that it be reissued.¹⁰⁷ Otherwise, the voter can vote in person.

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

A voter who has received a mail-in absentee ballot but who knows that earlier than 7 days prior to the election that they will be in the county on Election Day and who has not yet voted using their mail-in absentee ballot can cancel their mail-in absentee ballot and vote in person. The voter shall return the mail-in absentee ballot to the County Clerk's office on or before Election Day. If the covered voter is unable to return the mail-in absentee ballot to the County Clerk's office on or before Election Day, at the time they vote in person, the voter shall sign a written oath (affidavit) as to their qualifications.¹⁰⁸ A sample affidavit is on page 21 at: <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Documents/31%20KAR%205.026E.pdf>. Voters who know they would like to vote in person during the 7 days prior to the election should contact their County Clerk's office.

64. IN PERSON ABSENTEE: Where do I vote in-person absentee? When can I do this?

Voters may vote at any early voting location in their county. These locations are nearly always different from a voter's election day polling place. Early voting locations can be found here: <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Polling-Locations.aspx>.

POLLING PLACE ISSUES

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

First verify that it is the correct polling place for this election. Note that early and election day sites are often different. If at the correct polling place, voters should call the hotline (1-866-our-vote) and their county clerk.

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

A voter in line at the polling place at 6:00 p.m. must be allowed to vote. Voters should stay in line and if poll workers are not allowing those in line to vote, call the hotline.¹⁰⁹

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

¹⁰⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(9).

¹⁰⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.085(10).

¹⁰⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 118.035(1).

Voters should immediately notify the election officers if the voting equipment breaks down. If a voting machine breaks, the county clerk is required to provide a backup voting machine or supplemental paper ballots for use at the precinct and a ballot box in which to deposit the voted ballots. At the close of voting, the ballots will be counted at the precinct or a central counting center and added to the votes cast by the broken machine. The total of these votes will be certified as the result of the election in that precinct.¹¹⁰

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

People are not allowed to electioneer at a polling place on Election Day, or within 100 feet of any entrance to a building in which voting is conducted if that entrance is unlocked and used by voters on Election Day.¹¹¹ In addition, during in-person absentee voting hours, people are not allowed to electioneer within the County Clerk’s office (or the relevant polling place) or post campaign materials within or upon the exterior of a polling place. And, electioneering is not allowed within 100 feet of a mail-in absentee drop-box.

Electioneering is defined as the displaying of signs, the distribution of campaign literature, cards, or handbills, the soliciting of signature to any petition, or the solicitation of votes for or against any bona fide candidate or ballot question in a manner which expressly advocates the election or defeat of the candidate or ballot question. However, electioneering does not include exit polling, bumper stickers affixed to a person’s vehicle, private property, or a handful of other exceptions.¹¹²

People are not allowed to discuss their support or nonsupport of any candidate, party, or issue to be voted on while in any room in which voting, including absentee voting, is taking place. This rule, however, does not apply if a voter needs assistance at the polls.¹¹³

Only voters, election officers, challengers, people assisting voters, voters’ kids (under age 18), people repairing/replacing voting equipment, and law enforcement officials (who are keeping order and enforcing the law, by request of the election officials) are allowed in the voting room during voting hours.¹¹⁴

69. **VOTER CONDUCT:** What am I prohibited from wearing or doing in a polling place? Can I take photos inside?

Kentucky law does not explicitly ban wearing political paraphernalia while in a polling place. However, it does prohibit electioneering within 100 feet of the entrance to a building where a voting machine is located, which includes influencing voters, soliciting votes, or showing campaign materials within 100 feet. See [Question 68](#). Therefore, wearing a campaign shirt or hat into a polling place could be construed as electioneering and may therefore be prohibited.

¹¹⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.215(1)-(2).

¹¹¹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.235(3).

¹¹² Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.235(3).

¹¹³ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.235(4).

¹¹⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.235(1).

No one (voters, election officers, or anyone else permitted by law within the voting room) may use a personal telecommunications device to record the identity of voters within a voting room.¹¹⁵

70. **POLL WORKER CONDUCT:** What is a poll worker prohibited from wearing or doing in a polling place?

A poll worker may not use paper, a telephone, a personal telecommunications device, or a computer for creating a checklist or otherwise recording the identity of voters within a voting room.¹¹⁶

71. **INTIMIDATION:** Are there any other specific restrictions on conduct outside of a polling place? What should I do if I feel unsafe or uncomfortable outside the polling place?

No person can electioneer within 100 feet of the entrance to a building where a voting machine is located on election day, where a training for election officers is being conducted or where a drop-box or drop-receptacle sits. This includes the distribution of campaign materials, signs, banners or literature.¹¹⁷

If a voter feels unsafe or uncomfortable outside the polling place, the voter should contact an election official, call 911 or the Kentucky State Board of Elections at 502-573-7100 or the Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE.

72. **CHALLENGE:** Someone is formally challenging my vote. What should I do?

If an elections officer or a challenger is formally challenging a voter's right to vote, other than for failure to provide proof of identification, a voter must sign a written oath (affidavit) as to their qualifications before voting.¹¹⁸ A sample affidavit is on page 21 at: <https://elect.ky.gov/Resources/Documents/31%20KAR%205.026E.pdf>. The state attorney and the county attorney will then conduct an investigation.

Note that a challenger is someone who has been appointed and certified as such under Kentucky law.¹¹⁹ Challengers are not permitted to:

- Electioneer or campaign on behalf of any candidate, issue, or political party;
- Handle official election materials;
- Attempt to intimidate or harass any voter who is being challenged or any precinct election officer;
- Behave in any manner to disrupt activities at the polling place; or
- Attempt to interfere with the proper conduct of the election.¹²⁰

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

¹¹⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.236(2).

¹¹⁶ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.236(2).

¹¹⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.235(3).

¹¹⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 117.245(2); 117.316.

¹¹⁹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.315.

¹²⁰ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.317.

Police may patrol voting precincts during polling hours in order to maintain order and enforce the election laws of the state.¹²¹ The Department of Kentucky State Police are required to investigate any reported violations of election laws. In addition, candidates, the county board of elections, and certain others may request that state police officers be present at voting precincts.¹²²

If members of the military or if police are checking IDs or engaging in other behavior that makes anyone feel uncomfortable, voters should report it to the precinct manager or the county clerk immediately.

74. **THOUGHT WAS REGISTERED:** My name isn't on the voter registration roll but I thought I was registered. What should I do?

A voter's name should only be removed from the list of registered voters by their written request, a felony conviction, death, mental incompetency, or in connection with a voter registration list maintenance program.¹²³ Errors, however, can occur.

Kentucky has a program that identifies voters whose addresses may have changed. If information provided by the postal service or other sources to the State Board of Elections suggests that a voter has moved to a different address in the same county, the State Board of Elections will send a returnable notice form of the change of address, prepaid and pre-addressed, to the new address. The voter must fill out this form and return it to verify the information is correct. If the voter doesn't respond to a confirmation mailing from the State Board of Elections after a change of address, and does not vote in two subsequent federal elections, the voter will be removed from the rolls.¹²⁴ Any voter whose name was removed and who remains or then becomes eligible to vote must re-register. If the registration deadline has passed, the voter should call the County Clerk's office in an attempt to resolve the situation.

Note that voters may can take steps to help to determine why they are not popping up on the list of registered voters, including:

- Voters may check their registration status by using the registration lookup tool, available at (<https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/vic>), to make sure they are registered and are at the polling place.
- Voters who have recently moved might be registered at an old address. Check that address in the registration lookup tool.
- Voters who could be registered under a different name or variation of their name (e.g., hyphenated names) should search the alternative variation in the registration lookup tool.

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

See info in the [How to Vote: Election Day](#) Section.

ACCESSIBILITY/ASSISTANCE

¹²¹ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.235(1)(b).

¹²² Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.237.

¹²³ Ky. Rev. Stat. §§ 116.0452; 116.112; 116.113.

¹²⁴ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 116.112(4).

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

Yes. Voters who request help should receive instruction cards and a model on how to use the voting machine from polling officials. Except for those voters who have been certified as requiring assistance on a permanent basis, no voter will be permitted to receive any assistance (beyond the instruction card) in voting at the polls unless the voter makes and signs an oath that, because of blindness, other physical disability, or an inability to read English, they are unable to vote without assistance. The oath will be on the Vote Assistance Form, which can be found here:

(<https://elect.ky.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/Voter%20Information/military/SBE%2031.pdf>). The oath must be completed and signed by the voter and the person assisting the voter.¹²⁵

77. PHYSICAL DISABILITY: I have a physical disability and need assistance. Is my polling place ADA compliant? Does my voting location have an accessible voting system?

Yes. Each polling place must be accessible to persons with disabilities. Each county board of elections is supposed to designate only voting places that are accessible to all eligible voters, including those with physical limitations and the elderly.¹²⁶

78. 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. Any voter who needs assistance voting is entitled to have some 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.¹²⁷ Both the voter and the person assisting the voter must sign and complete the Voter Assistance Form found [here](#).

79. LANGUAGE ACCESS: I am not an English speaker. What language resources are available? Can I bring someone in the booth to help me understand the ballot?

Any voter who needs assistance voting is entitled to have some 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 choice at the ballot.¹²⁸

80. CURBSIDE VOTING: Is curbside voting available? How do I request it?

Some polling locations may offer curbside voting as an accommodation. The voter should contact their county clerk to confirm.

81. VOTER GUIDE: Can I bring a voting guide or reference notes with me into the voting booth?

Kentucky law does not prohibit a voter from taking a voting guide or reference notes into the voting booth.

¹²⁵ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.255(1)-(2).

¹²⁶ See ADA Checklist for Polling Places at <https://www.ada.gov/votingchecklist.pdf>; Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.065.

¹²⁷ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.255(3).

¹²⁸ Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.255(2)-(3).

STATE SPECIFIC SUPPLEMENT

82. **QUESTIONS:** Who should I contact if I have questions about any of the above?

If you have any questions about voting, please contact the Kentucky State Board of Elections at 502-573-7100 or the Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE.