

Frequently Asked Questions

New Hampshire – General Election 2024

Last Updated: 10/22/2024

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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?

A voter must meet the following to register and vote in New Hampshire:

- 18 years of age or older on election day;
- A United States citizen; and
- Domiciled in the town or ward where the person seeks to vote and not otherwise disqualified to vote.¹

¹ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 654:1, 654:7.

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?](#)

Yes, a registered voter may vote in the primary election. A voter need not be registered with a political party to vote in a primary, but an undeclared voter will be required to choose either a Republican or Democratic ballot when they go to vote.² They will be registered with that party until they change their registration. If an undeclared voter votes in a party's primary, they may return to undeclared by notifying an election worker after casting their ballot at the polling place. As part of that process, a poll worker may ask for a primary voter's party affiliation.

A voter who has already registered their affiliation with one party can change party affiliation to vote in another party's primary at the office of the clerk of the town or city where they live. The deadlines for changing party registration before New Hampshire's 2024 state primary and Presidential Primary have already passed.³

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

A voter may determine whether they are registered to vote by checking the New Hampshire Secretary of State's "Voter Information Look-up" [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?](#)

In Person: A voter can register to vote on the day of the election at the polling place by filling out a Voter Registration Form.⁴ Anyone who is:

- A United States citizen;
- At least 18 years old;
- A New Hampshire inhabitant domiciled in the town or ward where they seek to vote and otherwise not disqualified to vote;⁵

is entitled to register and vote on election day.⁶ The applicant will be required to fill out an application and provide proof of the qualifications to register. See [Question 5](#) for details on information needed to register to vote. New Hampshire does not specify the amount of time that a voter needs to live in a town or a ward to qualify as having it as their domicile.

If the voter wants to register before Election Day, they may register to vote in the city or town clerk's office in the town or city where they are domiciled. The voter may also register with the community's supervisors of the checklist, or with the clerk at townhall.⁷ The voter should check their town or city's website or call their clerk's office for the date, time, and location of meetings of the supervisors of the checklist or the town hall clerk's office hours. The voter can find their clerk's contact information [here](#). No application to register may be accepted by the town or city clerk after the last meeting of the

² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:34. See also, <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/frequently-asked-questions/voting-party-primaries>.

³ *Id.*

⁴ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:7-a.

⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:7(1).

⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:7-a.

⁷ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 654:8; 654:11.

supervisors of the checklist before an election.⁸ The next opportunity to register would be at the polls on election day.

Absentee Registration: A voter who is qualified to register to vote in New Hampshire but who is unable to do so in person due to a temporary absence from their domicile or a physical disability may request an Absentee Voter Registration Affidavit, Voter Registration Form, and instructions from their [city or town clerk](#). The request may be made by phone or in writing. The completed Absentee Voter Registration Affidavit must be signed by a witness and returned, along with the Voter Registration Form and copies of acceptable forms of identification, to the voter's town or city clerk by mail. In the affidavit the voter seeking absentee registration must swear or affirm: where they are domiciled, that they are 18 years of age or older, that they do not intend to be in the city in which they are domiciled at a time before the next election during which they could register in person or are unable to register in person because of a physical disability, and where they are temporarily residing.⁹

For information on acceptable forms of **identification** please see [Question 5](#).

Voter registration must be approved by the Supervisors of the Checklist for the city or town in which the voter is domiciled. The last meeting at which they can approve new voter registrations is held six to 13 days before each primary or general election. The voter should check with their [city or town clerk](#) for the timing of that meeting of the Supervisors of the Checklist in order to ensure that the registration materials arrive in time to be considered before the election.

For information on **applying for an absentee ballot** see [Question 49](#).

For information concerning New Hampshire **residents living abroad** and seeking to register to vote see [Question 11](#).

Email: New Hampshire allows voters who are unable to register to vote in person because of a print-based physical disability (e.g., blindness) to submit an application for an accessible electronic absentee ballot. The application and a required certification may be found [here](#). The application and certification must be completed and signed by the voter. A typed signature is acceptable. Anyone who assisted the voter in completing the application must also sign it. Once it is completed the application must be returned to the voter's [city or town clerk](#). The application and certification may be emailed to the clerk.¹⁰

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

To register, the voter will need to provide proof of their identity, age, citizenship, and domicile. Proof can be either by documents or if the voter does not have documents with them, by affidavit. NOTE: HB 1569 (currently sitting on the governor's desk) would remove all affidavits from the registration/check in process.

Documents may be presented in paper or electronic form.

- A driver's license or non-driver ID from any state satisfies proof of identity and age.
- A birth certificate, U.S. Passport/Passcard, or naturalization document satisfies proof of citizenship.

⁸ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:8.

⁹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:17; see also <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/register-vote/absentee>.

¹⁰ <https://sos.nh.gov/elections/register-vote/absentee/accessible-voting/>.

Note: A New Hampshire Real ID compliant driver's license is NOT proof of U.S. citizenship.

If the voter does not have these, they can prove their identity, age, and/or citizenship, by signing a Qualified Voter Affidavit, under oath, in front of an election official.¹¹ NOTE: HB 1569 (currently sitting on the governor's desk) would remove all affidavits from the registration/check in process.

A voter who does not have an approved photo ID may obtain a free photo ID for voting purposes only by presenting a voucher from their town/city clerk or the Secretary of State to any NH DMV office that issues identification.

The voter will also need to prove that they are domiciled in the town or ward where they intend to vote. Proof can be either by documents or if they do not have documents with them, by affidavit. The law requires a document that shows that the voter has created and is committed to maintaining their domicile in New Hampshire.¹² There are many types of documents that can be used to establish a voter's domicile. They include the following documents:

- A New Hampshire resident motor vehicle registration, driver's license, or non-driver ID showing the voter's current domicile address. To obtain a voter photo ID card issued by the NH Division of Motor Vehicles that can be used for voting purposes, at no cost, a voter should ask their town or city clerk or the Secretary of State's office for a voucher and present it to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Information on the documents the voter will need to present to the DMV is available .
- A document from the school that the voter attends, showing that they live in campus housing. A document issued by the school that has the voter's name and the address where they live satisfies the requirement. Many colleges and universities provide students with satisfactory documents already.
- Students may also use a smartphone or other electronic device to show the election official a page from the college or university's official student electronic records website, which lists the student's dorm assignment or off-campus residence address. Some universities have established an on-line webpage resource specifically for this purpose. The voter should consult their school officials if they are unsure how to find and display this information from their school's system.
- A note signed by a school official, including a Resident Assistant or other person with supervisory responsibility for the voter's dorm, satisfies the requirement under RSA 654:1, I-a.
- A rental agreement, lease, or similar document that shows the voter's name and the address of their domicile. The document must show that the voter is domiciled at the address on Election Day.
- A document showing that the voter owns the place they are domiciled at, such as a deed, property tax bill, or other similar document that has the voter's name and address.
- A New Hampshire resident motor vehicle registration showing your domicile address.
- A document showing that the voter enrolled a dependent minor child in a public school that serves the town or ward of their domicile.
- Any state or federal tax form, other government form, or government issued identification that shows the voter's name and their domicile address.
- Canceled mail addressed in your name to your domicile address that shows the U.S. Postal Service delivered the mail to you at that address.

¹¹ <https://www.sos.nh.gov/register-vote/polls-election-day>.

¹² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:12.

- Any form from the U.S. Post Office showing the voter's name and the physical address where they are domiciled (not a P.O. Box). The confirmation the voter received by e-mail or U.S. mail when they reported their new address to the U.S. Post Office satisfies the requirement.
- A public utility bill, such as an electric, telephone, water, gas, or other utility bill, with the voter's name and domicile address on it.
- A note from a homeless shelter or other service provider located in the town or ward where the voter will vote that confirms they will receive U.S. mail sent to them at that address.

The voter may also use any other document that shows manifestation of their intent to make the place they claim their voting domicile.

If the voter has any questions about what sufficient proof of domicile will be, they may call or visit their [town or city clerk's office](#).

If the voter does not have any document proving their domicile, they can prove domicile by signing a Domicile Affidavit.¹³

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?](#)

Presidential Primary

The deadlines for the NH Presidential Primary have already passed.

State Primary

- The last day to change a voter's party affiliation prior to State Primary Election Day has already passed.¹⁴ Voters who are unaffiliated may select the party primary in which they choose to vote at the polls on Election Day.
- **August 28, 2024 – September 4, 2024.** Deadline for registering to vote prior to State Primary Election Day (new voters may register at the polls on Election Day). **Deadline for registering to vote in a specific city or town** will be determined by when the Supervisors of the Checklist for the city or town hold their final meeting before the Presidential Primary during this period. The voter should contact the [city or town clerk](#) to determine the date, time and location of the meeting in their town or city.¹⁵
- **September 9, 2024, noon (Monday).** Applications for absentee ballots and required accompanying material not delivered in person must arrive in the clerk's office by noon. This includes the Federal Post Card Application for overseas voters.¹⁶
- **September 9, 2024, 5:00 pm (Monday).** Applications for absentee ballots and required accompanying material delivered in person must arrive in the clerk's office by 5:00 pm.¹⁷
- **September 10, 2024, 5:00 pm (Tuesday).** Absentee ballots delivered by mail must arrive in the clerk's office by 5:00 pm.¹⁸
- **September 10, 2024 (Tuesday). State Primary Election Day.** Unregistered voters may register and vote at the polls on this day. Voters should contact the [city or town clerk](#) to determine hours that the polls are open.

¹³ <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/frequently-asked-questions/how-register-vote>

¹⁴ <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/voters/register-vote/registration-deadlines>.

¹⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 654:8; 654:27.

¹⁶ <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots>

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots>.

General Election

- **October 23, 2024 – October 30, 2024.** Deadline for registering to vote prior to General Election Day (new voters may register at the polls on Election Day). **Deadline for registering to vote in a specific city or town** will be determined by when the Supervisors of the Checklist for the city or town hold their final meeting before the Presidential Primary during this period. The voter should contact the [city or town clerk](#) to determine the date, time and location of the meeting in their town or city.¹⁹
- **November 4, 2024, noon (Monday).** Applications for absentee ballots and required accompanying material not delivered in person must arrive in the clerk’s office by noon. This includes the Federal Post Card Application for overseas voters.²⁰
- **November 4, 2024, 5:00 pm (Monday).** Applications for absentee ballots and required accompanying material delivered in person must arrive in the clerk’s office by 5:00 pm.²¹
- **November 5, 2024, 5:00 pm (Tuesday).** Absentee ballots delivered by mail must arrive in the clerk’s office by 5:00 pm.²²
- **November 5, 2024. GENERAL ELECTION DAY-** – A voter qualified to vote who is not registered, may register and vote on Election Day at the polling place for the town or city ward where they are domiciled. Voters should contact the [city or town clerk](#) to determine hours that the polls are open.

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

Yes. A voter qualified to vote who is not registered, may register and vote on Election Day at the polling place for the town or city ward where they are domiciled.

The voter should visit their designated Polling Location on Election Day, complete a Voter Registration Form, and show proof of identity, age, citizenship and having established a domicile in that town or city ward. For more information on registering to vote see [Question 4](#), and on documents needed to register to vote, see [Question 5](#).

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

Yes. If a voter has moved within the same precinct and has not informed the Supervisors of the Checklist, the voter will be required to update their address at the polling place. If the updated address is within the polling place’s town or ward, the voter will be permitted to vote.²³ If the voter has moved to a different town or city ward, the voter will be required to re-register in the new town or city ward. New Hampshire permits same-day registration if the voter is properly qualified. (See [Question 7](#)).

As illustrated in 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 town or ward	Moved to a different precinct but within the same county	Moved to a different election jurisdiction (typically county)	Moved from a different state
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¹⁹ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 654:8; 654:27.

²⁰ <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots>

²¹ *Id.*

²² <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots>.

²³ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:13.

<p>If the voter has moved within the same town or ward but not updated their address the voter will be required to do so at the polling place.²⁴ The voter will be able to vote.</p>	<p>New Hampshire permits same-day registration if the voter does not appear on the checklist at the correct polling place for the address at which the voter is domiciled, but the voter is otherwise qualified. A voter who satisfies the requirements to register votes a regular ballot that will be counted on election day.</p>	<p>New Hampshire permits same-day registration if the voter does not appear on the checklist at the correct polling place for the address at which the voter is domiciled, but the voter is otherwise qualified. A voter who satisfies the requirements to register votes a regular ballot that will be counted on election day.</p>	<p>New Hampshire permits same-day registration if the voter does not appear on the checklist at the correct polling place for the address at which the voter is domiciled, but the voter is otherwise qualified. A voter who satisfies the requirements to register votes a regular ballot that will be counted on election day.</p>
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9. TEMPORARY MOVE: [I have moved temporarily. How can I vote?](#)

If a voter is domiciled in New Hampshire but temporarily residing somewhere other than their domicile, and the voter meets the applicable requirements, the voter may apply for an absentee ballot. (See [Question 49](#).)

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. Under New Hampshire law, a voter who attends a college, university or other institution of learning in New Hampshire may register to vote and vote in the town or ward where they have established their domicile/residence while attending school.²⁵ A voter can claim as their domicile for voting purposes the New Hampshire town or city in which they live while attending school. The town or city that they claim as their domicile must be the one place where, more than any other place, they have established a physical presence and intend to maintain a single continuous presence for domestic, social, and civil purposes relevant to participating in democratic self-government.²⁶ Campus housing, such as a dorm room, can be a voter's domicile.

A student residing off campus, who establishes a domicile in New Hampshire, may only register to vote in the town or ward where he or she resides. Under no circumstances may college students retain two voting domiciles.

Acceptable proof of domicile for a student includes:

- A document from the school that the voter attends, showing that they live in campus housing. This could be, for example, a document issued by the school that has the voter's name and the address where they live.
- Students may also use a smartphone or other electronic device to show the election official a page from the college or university's official student electronic records website, which lists

²⁴ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:13(1.) (a).

²⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:1 (1.)

²⁶ *Id.*

the student's dorm assignment or off-campus residence address. Some universities have established an on-line webpage resource specifically for this purpose. The voter should consult their school officials if they are unsure how to find and display this information from their school's system.

- A note signed by a school official, including a Resident Assistant or other person with supervisory responsibility for the voter's dorm.²⁷

The domicile of any student, including a student taking classes remotely, is determined by where they reside, not by where their educational institution is located.

All voters, including students, will vote at the polling place assigned for the place at which they are domiciled. A voter can look up their polling place [here](#).

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

A voter domiciled in New Hampshire and serving in the military or living overseas may request and vote an absentee ballot as a Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) voter. UOCAVA voters may register to vote and request an absentee ballot using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), which can be found [here](#). UOCAVA voters may also request that their city or town clerk send them a FPCA by mail or email. Voters can find their local clerk using the Secretary of State's [Voter Information Lookup](#) site. The FPCA request covers all state and municipal elections in the calendar year that the request is submitted, and the presidential primary, even if it is scheduled for the following year.²⁸ The FPCA **must be received by the clerk by 12:00 p.m. on the day before the election** to be processed.²⁹

After the FPCA has been processed by the clerk and the clerk has received the blank UOCAVA ballots from the state, the clerk will mail or email the ballot to the voter depending on what the voter has requested. The voter should complete the ballot and return it by mail or commercial carrier to the clerk following the instructions provided by the clerk. The ballot will only be counted if it is received by **5:00 PM on election day**.³⁰ Voters should mail their ballots early in order to ensure that there is enough time for the ballot to arrive in the clerk's office before the deadline. The blank UOCAVA ballots provided to voters domiciled in New Hampshire will include all federal, state, and municipal races or ballot initiatives that the voter is eligible to vote in.

A voter who is a U.S. citizen living abroad and who indicates on their FPCA that they are uncertain if they will return to the U.S. or if they have never lived in the U.S. but their parent or legal guardian was last domiciled in New Hampshire will be issued a **Federal Office Only (FOO) ballot**. This ballot can only be used to vote for federal offices. The FPCA must **be received by 12:00 p.m. on the day before the election** by the local clerk for the city or town in which the voter last resided or, where applicable, where the voter's parent or legal guardian last resided. The ballot will only be counted if it is received by **5:00 PM on election day**.³¹

²⁷<https://www.sos.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt561/files/documents/Election%20Documents/registering-to-vote-in-new-hampshire.pdf>

²⁸ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:19-a.

²⁹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:15(l).

³⁰ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:22.

³¹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:22.

The Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) may be used to vote for **federal (but not state or municipal) offices in general, special and primary elections.**³² To use the FWAB the voter must have completed the FCPA. The FCPA can be accessed [here](#) and the FWAB can be accessed [here](#). The FWAB will not be counted if a state absentee ballot is received from the voter or if the federal absentee ballot is submitted from any place in the United States.³³ The voter may complete the FWAB by writing in the name of the candidate or the name of the political party next to the title of the office.

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?](#)

Check the resources at Campaign Legal [Restore Your Vote](#) for latest information.

Maybe. A person sentenced for a felony other than bribery or intimidation related to elections may not vote from the time of sentencing until the sentence's final discharge, or the execution of sentence is suspended (with or without probation) or the person is paroled.³⁴ In other words, New Hampshire automatically restores voting rights to persons with most felony convictions upon release from prison, but the voter must re-register if they have been removed from the checklist due to the felony conviction. A voter may check their registration status [here](#).

Any person **convicted of bribery or intimidation relating to elections or any willful violation of the election law** is permanently barred from voting, unless their voting rights are restored by the supreme court of New Hampshire.³⁵

Voters confined in a penal institution in pre-trial detention or as a result of a conviction for a misdemeanor retain the right to vote. Their domicile for voting purposes is the town or city where they had their domicile immediately prior to being confined. Persons confined in a penal institution must apply for and vote by absentee ballot.³⁶

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

Check the resources at Campaign Legal [Restore Your Vote](#) for latest information.

A person sentenced for a felony, from the time of their sentence until their final discharge, may not vote in an election, but if execution of sentence is suspended with or without the defendant being placed on probation or they are paroled after commitment to imprisonment, the correctional facility shall provide the offender written notice that they may vote during the period of the suspension or parole³⁷, unless they were convicted of bribery or intimidation relating to elections. A person convicted of those crimes is permanently prohibited from voting, unless their voting rights are restored by the supreme court of New Hampshire.³⁸

The voter must re-register if they have been removed from the checklist due to the felony conviction.

³² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:10-b.

³³ *Id.*

³⁴ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 607-A:2, 654:5.

³⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:6.

³⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:2-a.

³⁷ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 607-A.

³⁸ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:6.

Persons eligible to vote while confined in a penal institution must apply for and vote by absentee ballot. Their domicile for voting purposes is the town or city where they had their domicile immediately prior to being confined.³⁹

14. REGISTRATION CHALLENGED: *My registration has been challenged, what should I do?*

A voter whose right to vote is challenged should wait for the moderator to determine if the challenge is well grounded. If the moderator rejects the challenge, the voter will be permitted to vote. If the moderator determines that the challenge is well grounded, the voter may sign an affidavit that they are the person they represent themselves to be, that they are a duly qualified voter of that location and have a legal domicile therein, at which point the voter will be permitted to vote.⁴⁰

HB 1569 currently on the governor's desk would remove the right of a challenged voter to sign the CVA and vote.

HOW TO VOTE: ELECTION DAY

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

All polls must be open from at least 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time,⁴¹ but individual communities may open their polls earlier or close them later.⁴² Designated polling locations and their hours are available on the New Hampshire Secretary of State's [Voter Information Look-up website](#). Voters in line to register to vote or vote, or in a line of cars unable to access parking due to congestion or parking being unavailable, at the time that the polls are due to close, shall be permitted to vote.⁴³ A few towns cast all their ballots at midnight.⁴⁴

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

A voter can determine their proper polling place by checking the New Hampshire Secretary of State's [Voter Information Look-up website](#).

If a voter has moved recently and has not updated their voter registration, refer to [Questions #7 and #8](#).

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

³⁹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654:2-a.

⁴⁰ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:27.

⁴¹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:4.

⁴² *Id.* §§ 659:4 & 4-a.

⁴³ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:12 (III).

⁴⁴<https://www.nhpr.org/nh-news/2023-12-14/after-reviving-midnight-voting-millsfield-plans-to-skip-the-nh-primary-tradition-in-2024>

New Hampshire law does not require employers to give employees time off to vote. However, employees who are otherwise not able to vote because they are required to work the entire time that the polls are open may apply for an absentee ballot.⁴⁵ See [Question 49](#).

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

Voters waiting in line to vote when the poll closing is announced, including voters who are in their cars waiting to get parking at poll closing, must be allowed to vote.⁴⁶ Voters present at the polling place may vote to keep the polls open later.⁴⁷

19. IDENTIFICATION: What identification is required to vote?

Valid identification for the purpose of voting must show the voter's name and photograph and have an expiration date that has not been exceeded by more than five years, except that voters age 65 or older can vote regardless of when the ID expired. The following are valid forms of identification, if they include a photograph of the voter:

- (1) A driver's license issued by any state or the federal government.
- (2) A nondriver's identification card issued by the motor vehicles division, department, agency, or office of any other state.
- (3) A United States armed services identification card.
- (4) A United States passport or passcard.
- (5) A valid student identification card if:
 - (A) The card is issued by:
 - (i) A college, university, or career school in New Hampshire and approved to operate or licensed to operate in New Hampshire;
 - (ii) A public high school in New Hampshire;
 - (iii) A nonpublic high school in New Hampshire accredited by a private school accrediting agency that is recognized by the department of education.
 - (iv) Dartmouth College; or,
 - (v) A college or university operated by the university system of New Hampshire or the community college system of New Hampshire; and,
 - (B) The card has either an expiration date or an issuance date that has not been exceeded by a period of more than 5 years.⁴⁸

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

Yes, a voter may vote without providing identification, but either the supervisor of the checklist must determine that the voter's identity can be verified or the voter will need to execute a Challenged Voter Affidavit provided by polling place staff.⁴⁹

If the voter executes a Challenged Voter Affidavit, they will be photographed. If a voter objects to being photographed due to their religious beliefs they will have to execute an additional affidavit of

⁴⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657.1.

⁴⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:12.

⁴⁷ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:6.

⁴⁸ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:13 (II(a))

⁴⁹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:13 (I(c)).

religious exemption.⁵⁰ If the voter is required to file a Challenged Voter Affidavit, the state will mail the voter a letter of identity verification after the election. The letter will ask the voter to return the letter within 30 days to confirm that they voted in the election, or to contact the attorney general immediately if he or she did not vote in the election.⁵¹ The letter will also explain the procedure for obtaining a free non-driver's photo ID for voting purposes. **If the voter does not confirm that they voted in the election, the attorney general will begin an investigation to determine whether fraudulent voting occurred.**⁵²

Affidavit Ballots

If a person is registering at the polls on election day for the first time in New Hampshire and doesn't have proof of identity, they will cast an affidavit ballot and be instructed to return proof of identity to the secretary of state within 7 days or their votes will be deducted from the totals.⁵³

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?

Any voter whose name was removed from the voter registration list on the basis of a determination of ineligibility who subsequently becomes eligible must re-register. **New Hampshire voters may register at the polls on election day.** (See [Question 7.](#))

Note that a voter can take steps to help to determine why their name does not appear up on the list of registered voters:

- Check the voter's registration status using the [voter information lookup tool](#) to make sure the voter is registered to vote and at the right place.
- If they have moved recently consider whether they are still registered at an old address. Check that address in the [voter information lookup tool](#).
- Has the voter changed their name recently, or could they be registered under a different name? Check that name (and any variations of the voter's name, especially for hyphenated names, which sometimes trip up databases) in the [voter information lookup tool](#).
- When/where did the voter register to vote?

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

New Hampshire does not provide "provisional" ballots. Rather, any issues that arise should be solved by the casting of either a Challenged Voter Affidavit in the event a voter is unable to produce photo identification, or an unofficial ballot in the event that the polling places runs out of ballots. See above regarding affidavit ballots, which is used in the place of provisional ballots.

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

See [Question 22.](#)

⁵⁰ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:13 (I(c)(5)).

⁵¹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:13 (IV(a)).

⁵² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:13 (IV(b)).

⁵³ RSA 659:23-a

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

See [Question 22](#).

HOW TO VOTE: IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING

(Not available in New Hampshire but see [Absentee Voting](#))

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

No. New Hampshire does not have In-person early voting. If a voter will be unable to vote in person on election day, they can request an absentee ballot. See [Question 49](#).

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

N/A. See [Question 25](#).

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

N/A. See [Question 25](#).

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

N/A. See [Question 25](#).

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

N/A. See [Question 25](#).

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

N/A. See [Question 25](#).

HOW TO VOTE: VOTE BY MAIL

(in this state, only available as [Absentee voting](#))

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

No, a voter must be eligible for and apply to vote absentee with their town/city clerk in order to receive a ballot in the mail. A voter may use one application to apply for all absentee ballots for every election for which they are eligible to use an absentee ballot in the same calendar year. An absentee ballot application can be downloaded from the New Hampshire Secretary of State's [website](#). A voter may also contact their [city or town clerk](#) to request that an absentee ballot application be mailed to them. The application can be returned to the voter's [city or town clerk](#) by mail, facsimile, email, or hand delivery.

If a voter who requests an absentee ballot is not registered, the clerk will send the voter both their absentee ballot and their absentee voter registration forms and instructions.

If a voter requests an absentee ballot they should check on the status of that request on the New Hampshire Voter Information Lookup [website](#). The voter may use the website to verify that the clerk has received their application and learn the dates on which their absentee ballot was mailed to them, their completed absentee ballot was received by the clerk, and whether their absentee ballot was rejected/not counted and, if it was, why. The voter should contact their [city or town clerk](#) if they have questions regarding the information on the Voter Information Look-up website.

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

See [Question 49](#).

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

See [Question 50](#).

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

See [Question 57](#).

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?

See [Question 53](#). The ballot will only be counted if received before 5:00 p.m. on Election Day.

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

See [Question 51](#).

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?

The absentee ballot may be mailed to the voter at an address other than the address where they are domiciled.⁵⁴ Acceptable addresses include P.O. boxes and shelters.

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

There are limited circumstances when an emergency absentee ballot is available. See [Question 52](#).

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

See [Question 54](#).

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?

See [Question 55](#).

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

See [Question 56](#).

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

See [Question 57](#).

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?

See [Question 58](#).

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

See [Question 59](#).

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

See [Question 60](#).

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?

⁵⁴<https://www.sos.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt561/files/documents/2023-10/2024-absentee-ballot-application-local-election.pdf>.

See [Question 61](#).

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

See [Question 62](#).

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

See [Questions 63](#) and [64](#).

If the voter has already voted by absentee ballot, and the ballot has been received and processed, the voter may not vote in person.

HOW TO VOTE: ABSENTEE

(in this state: voting by mail by voters unable to vote at the polls on election day for certain specified reasons)

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

A voter may request to vote an absentee ballot if one of the following is true:

- The voter will be absent on election day including because:
 - They will be out-of-town on election day.
 - They will be unable to vote in person because they will be working.
 - They will be unable to vote in person because they will be caring for children or infirm adults, with or without compensation.
- The voter is unable to vote in person due to disability.
- The voter is unable to vote in person due to observance of a religious commitment, which prevents them from voting in person.
- The voter is confined to a penal institution for a misdemeanor or while awaiting trial.
- The voter wishes to vote absentee on the day immediately before the election, as the National Weather Service has issued a winter storm warning, blizzard warning, or ice storm warning that applies to the voter's town/ward, and the voter has concerns about traveling in the storm.⁵⁵

There are several ways for a voter to request an absentee ballot.

- The voter may download and print a [state \(and federal\) election](#) or [town/city election](#) application for an absentee ballot from the Secretary of State's website. The completed application for an absentee ballot may be mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to the [city or town clerk](#).

⁵⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:1.

- The voter may contact their [city or town clerk](#) or the Secretary of State's Office and request that an application for an absentee ballot be sent to them. The completed application for an absentee ballot may be mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to the [city or town clerk](#).⁵⁶
- Voters domiciled in New Hampshire and serving in the military or living overseas may request and vote an absentee ballot as a Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) voter. See [Question 11](#) for more information on the UOCAVA procedures.
- The voter may provide a written statement requesting an absentee ballot to the clerk that includes the information specified on the formal application or on the federal post card form used by UOCAVA voters. The written request for an absentee ballot may be mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to the [city or town clerk](#).⁵⁷
- On the day before an election, the clerk's office shall be open to receive applications for absentee ballots, to provide voters the opportunity to complete absentee ballots, and to receive returned ballots at a minimum from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.⁵⁸

A voter with a print-based physical disability (e.g., blindness) may submit an application for an accessible electronic absentee ballot. The application and a required certification may be found [here](#). The application and certification must be completed and signed by the voter. A typed signature is acceptable. Anyone who assisted the voter in completing the application must also sign it. Once it is completed the application must be returned to the voter's [city or town clerk](#). The application and certification may be emailed to the clerk.⁵⁹ It may also be mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to the clerk.⁶⁰

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

The clerk will mail absentee ballots to any voter who has submitted a verified absentee ballot request by 12:00 p.m. on the day before the election. The clerk will provide an absentee ballot to any voter requesting an absentee ballot in person at the clerk's office up until 5:00 p.m. on the day before election day.⁶¹ It is important for the voter to plan enough time for the absentee ballot application to be received by the clerk, processed, and mailed to the voter, and for the ballot to be returned to the clerk in a timely manner. See [Question 58](#) for the deadline for returning the ballot.

51. IDENTIFICATION: Are there any identification requirements?

There are no identification requirements associated with the application for an absentee ballot. See [Question 5](#) for information on identification requirements for an absentee registration to vote. The application must be signed by the voter. Anyone who witnessed or assisted a voter with disabilities in executing the form must also print their name and sign the form in the designated place.

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

Yes. Emergency service workers, which include law enforcement, emergency medical services personnel, firefighters, members of the New Hampshire national guard, utility workers, employees or volunteers for

⁵⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:6.

⁵⁷ *Id.*

⁵⁸ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:1(c).

⁵⁹ <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/register-vote/absentee-voter-registration/accessible-voting>.

⁶⁰ *Id.*

⁶¹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:15.

the American Red Cross, and any other emergency worker declared such by the New Hampshire Department of Safety, can obtain emergency absentee ballots⁶²

If an emergency services worker receives notice after noon on the Friday before an election that they are being called into service under circumstances that will prevent the voter from voting in person or absentee using the usual procedures, the Secretary of State's Office should be informed. The Secretary of State with assistance from the Attorney General and the Department of Safety will make every reasonable effort to get absentee ballots and materials to these emergency service workers and back to the local polling places. The 5:00 pm deadline on election day for returning voted ballots is waived for ballots voted under this provision. Any absentee ballot received before the polls close from a deployed emergency services worker, if found properly qualified, must be counted.

Additionally, when the National Weather Service has issued a winter storm warning, blizzard warning, or ice storm warning for election day applicable to a voter's location, they may vote absentee on the day immediately prior to the election if they have concerns for their safety traveling in the storm or could be deterred from voting by the need to care for children or infirm adults.⁶³

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

The clerk will mail absentee ballots to any voter who has submitted a verified absentee ballot request to the clerk's office by 12:00 p.m. on the day before the election. The clerk will provide an absentee ballot to any voter requesting an absentee ballot in person at the clerk's office up until 5:00 p.m. on the day before election day.⁶⁴ It is important for the voter to plan enough time for the absentee ballot application to be received by the clerk, processed, and mailed to the voter, and for the ballot to be returned to the clerk in a timely manner. See [Question 58](#) for the deadline for returning the ballot.⁶⁵

The voter may find their clerk's location [here](#).

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

The voter may visit the Voter Information Lookup [website](#) to:

- Verify receipt of their application for an absentee ballot by the clerk.
- Learn the date on which their absentee ballot was mailed to them.
- Determine the date on which the clerk received their completed absentee ballot.
- After the election, learn if their absentee ballot was rejected and, if so, why.

The voter should contact their [city or town clerk](#) if they have questions regarding the information on the Voter Information Look-up site. Voters should know it may take some time for this information to be updated online.

⁶² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:21-a.

⁶³ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:1.

⁶⁴ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:15.

⁶⁵ *Id.*;

https://www.sos.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt561/files/inline-documents/sonh/absentee-ballot-application-state-election_0.pdf.

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?

The voter should visit the Voter Information Lookup to confirm the status of their absentee ballot application. The voter should contact their [city or town clerk](#) to determine how to correct any errors.

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

The voter should fill out the ballot. The voter should follow the instructions on the ballot. If the voter requires assistance due to a disability, the voter may have someone assist them. The person assisting the voter must sign a statement acknowledging the assistance.

When filling out the ballot, the voter must completely fill in the oval to the right of their choice on the ballot. If the instructions indicate the voter may vote for more than one candidate for a particular office, do not vote for more than the number of candidates stated in the instructions. If the voter votes for more than the stated number of candidates, the voter's vote for that office will not be counted.

Once finished marking the ballot, the voter or the person assisting the voter must place the ballot inside the smaller affidavit envelope sent to the voter with the ballot, then seal that smaller affidavit envelope.

Next, the applicant must sign the affidavit printed on the outside of the affidavit envelope, unless that person is unable to sign and receives assistance due to a disability. If the voter is unable to sign the affidavit or otherwise received help in completing the ballot because of a disability, the person providing the assistance must complete and sign the section of the form acknowledging the assistance.⁶⁶

The voter should place the completed affidavit envelope, containing the marked ballot, inside the larger envelope. If the voter is also submitting an application to register it too should be placed inside the larger envelope.

In the upper left corner of the larger envelope, print the voter's name, address, and voting place. Place postage on the larger envelope and mail it to the clerk. As an alternative, the voter, or a delivery agent may personally deliver the envelope to the clerk. A delivery agent who delivers a ballot to the polls on election day will be required to present government issued photo identification or have their identity verified by the clerk and complete a form provided there by the clerk.⁶⁷

Instructions for completing an absentee ballot are available at:

<https://www.sos.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt561/files/documents/2023-10/2024-absentee-ballot-marking-and-mailing-instructions.pdf.pdf>.

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

Yes. If the voter requires assistance due to a disability, they may have someone else assist them. The person who assists the voter must sign a statement acknowledging the assistance on either the absentee ballot application form and/or affidavit envelope.⁶⁸

⁶⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 657:4; 657:17.

⁶⁷ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:17.

⁶⁸ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 657:7; 657:17.

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

The ballot must be **received** by the clerk by no later than 5:00 p.m. on Election Day whether the ballot is mailed or hand-delivered.⁶⁹ A voter returning an absentee ballot by mail should mail it sufficiently in advance of election day to ensure that it will arrive on time.

After 5 days, the voter should use the [Voter Information lookup](#) to see if their clerk has received the ballot. The voter should contact their [city or town clerk](#) if their ballot has not been received.

The voter may also deliver the marked absentee ballot, in the affidavit envelope and mailing envelope, to the clerk's office in-person or by a delivery agent **until 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election**.

The voter may choose to have a delivery agent deliver the completed ballot to the clerk at the polling place until **5 p.m. on election day**. A delivery agent may be:

- The voter's spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepchild.
- If the voter is a resident of a nursing home,⁷⁰ the nursing home administrator or a nursing home staff member designated in writing by the administrator to deliver ballots.
- If the voter is a resident of a residential care facility,⁷¹ the residential care facility administrator, or a residential care facility staff member designated in writing by the administrator to deliver ballots.
- A person assisting a blind voter or a voter with a disability who has signed a statement on the affidavit envelope acknowledging the assistance.⁷²

A delivery agent will be required to complete a form and present a government-issued photo identification or have their identity verified by the city or town clerk. A delivery agent who is not a voter's family member as described above, or a nursing home or residential care facility administrator or their designee, may not deliver more than four ballots in any election.⁷³

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

The **voter** may deliver the marked absentee ballot, in the affidavit envelope and mailing envelope, to the [city or town clerk's office](#) in-person or by a delivery agent until 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election. A **delivery agent** may deliver it to the clerk at the polling place until 5 p.m. on election day. A delivery agent may be:

- The voter's spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepchild.
- If the voter is a resident of a nursing home,⁷⁴ the nursing home administrator or a nursing home staff member designated in writing by the administrator to deliver ballots.

⁶⁹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:22.

⁷⁰ See N.H. Rev. Stat. § 151-a:1, IV.

⁷¹ See N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 151:2, I(e); 151:9, VII(a)(1) and(2).

⁷² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:17 II(a); <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots>

⁷³ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:17 III.

⁷⁴ See N.H. Rev. Stat. § 151-a:1, IV.

- If the voter is a resident of a residential care facility,⁷⁵ the residential care facility administrator, or a residential care facility staff member designated in writing by the administrator to deliver ballots.
- A person assisting a blind voter or a voter with a disability who has signed a statement on the affidavit envelope acknowledging the assistance.⁷⁶

A delivery agent will be required to complete a form and present a government-issued photo identification or have their identity verified by the city or town clerk. A delivery agent who is not a voter's family member as described above, or a nursing home or residential care facility administrator or their designee, may not deliver more than four ballots in any election.⁷⁷

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

Yes, A delivery agent may deliver the completed ballot to the [city or town clerk's office](#) until **5:00 p.m. on the day before the election**. A delivery agent may deliver the completed ballot to the clerk at the polling place until **5 p.m. on election day**. A delivery agent may be:

- The voter's spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepchild.
- If the voter is a resident of a nursing home,⁷⁸ the nursing home administrator or a nursing home staff member designated in writing by the administrator to deliver ballots.
- If the voter is a resident of a residential care facility,⁷⁹ the residential care facility administrator, or a residential care facility staff member designated in writing by the administrator to deliver ballots.
- A person assisting a blind voter or a voter with a disability who has signed a statement on the affidavit envelope acknowledging the assistance.⁸⁰

A delivery agent will be required to complete a form and present a government-issued photo identification or have their identity verified by the city or town clerk. A delivery agent who is not a voter's family member as described above, or a nursing home or residential care facility administrator or their designee, may not deliver more than four ballots in any election.⁸¹

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

A voter who spoils a ballot may return the spoiled ballot to the clerk and receive another one. No voter may receive more than three ballots.⁸²

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

⁷⁵ See N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 151:2, I(e); 151:9, VII(a)(1) and(2).

⁷⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:17 II(a); <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots>

⁷⁷ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:17 III.

⁷⁸ See N.H. Rev. Stat. § 151-a:1, IV.

⁷⁹ See N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 151:2, I(e); 151:9, VII(a)(1) and(2).

⁸⁰ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:17 II(a);

<https://www.sos.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt561/files/documents/Election%20Documents/request-absentee-voter-registration-and-absentee-ballot-packets.pdf>

⁸¹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 657:17 III.

⁸² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:22.

Voters can check the status of their absentee ballot requests using the [Voter Information Lookup](#) tool. If the information provided shows that the absentee ballot request has been received and processed by the clerk, the ballot has been mailed to the voter, and sufficient time has passed for the ballot to arrive at the voter's home, or if there are other issues with the information shown on the tool, the voter should reach out to the voter's [city or town clerk's office](#) for assistance.

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

Yes, the voter may go to their polling place on Election Day and cast their ballot in person instead of using the absentee ballot. However, if a completed absentee ballot has been received and that fact has been noted on the voter list, the voter will not be permitted to vote again.⁸³ If a voter arrives at the polling place BEFORE their absentee ballot is processed, they are allowed to vote in person. In other words, they're allowed to "beat your ballot"⁸⁴ Voters should note that New Hampshire law limits the circumstances that voters may use an absentee ballot and requires voters who use an absentee ballot to certify under the penalties for voting fraud that they are unable to vote in person on election day because:

- The voter will be absent on election day including because:
 - They will be out-of-town on election day.
 - They will be working during the times that the polls are open.
 - They will be caring for children or infirm adults, with or without compensation.
- The voter is unable to vote in person due to disability.
- The voter is unable to vote in person due to observance of a religious commitment, which prevents them from voting in person.
- The voter is confined to a penal institution for a misdemeanor or while awaiting trial.
- The voter wishes to vote absentee on the Monday immediately before the election, as the National Weather Service has issued a winter storm warning, blizzard warning, or ice storm warning that applies to the voter's town/ward, and the voter has concerns about traveling in the storm.⁸⁵

If the voter has already voted by absentee ballot, and the ballot has been received and processed, the voter may not vote in person.

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

According to local partners, there's no formal process in the statute, but voters can generally go to town hall before the election and if qualified for an absentee ballot, request the ballot, fill it out, and return it all in person. There are usually even privacy voting screens at town halls for exactly this reason. T

The voter may apply for an absentee ballot (see [Question 49](#)) and deliver the marked absentee ballot, in the affidavit envelope and mailing envelope, to the [city or town clerk's office](#) until 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election.

⁸³ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659.55.

⁸⁴<https://www.nhpr.org/politics/2020-02-09/2020-n-h-presidential-primary-voters-guide-what-you-need-to-know-before-casting-your-ballot> See the quote from Bud Fitch Here

⁸⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 657:1; 657:7 (II).

POLLING PLACE ISSUES

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

If the voter arrives at their polling place and finds that it is not open they should use the [Voter Information Lookup](#) tool to ensure that the voter is at the correct location and its hours of operation. If the voter is at the correct location and the polling place should be open, then call the New Hampshire Secretary of State Elections Division Help Desk at (603) 271-8241. TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964.

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?

Voters waiting in line to vote when the poll closing is announced, including voters who are in their cars waiting to get parking at poll closing, must be allowed to vote.⁸⁶ The voter should stay in line until they are allowed to vote.

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

Voters should immediately notify the moderator (official in charge of the polling place) if the voting equipment breaks down while the polls are open. If the polling place runs out of ballots, the town or city clerk should prepare unofficial ballots.⁸⁷

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

New Hampshire law prohibits “electioneering,” or trying to influence the vote of a voter, at the polling place⁸⁸ or by election officers while performing their official duties.⁸⁹ It includes the distribution of posting of, among other things, posters, cards, placards, pins, tshirts, or articles of clothing.⁹⁰ It also includes wearing clothing or paraphernalia that advocates for or against a candidate, political party or measure, although if a voter cannot remove or cover such clothing in the polling place they may wear it while actively registering to vote or in the process of voting.⁹¹ This prohibition is limited to material concerning candidates, parties or issues being contested at the current election.

Electioneering is prohibited in polling places and within corridors of at least 10 feet wide that extend from each of the entrances to the polling place. The length, width (but not less than 10 feet), and path of each corridor is to be determined by the election moderator (or individual responsible for overseeing the election process at each polling place.) The corridors should extend along sidewalks or to the parking lots that serve the polling place. They should be established so that a voter can enter or leave the polling place without interruption or interference. However, they should also permit a voter to choose to step to

⁸⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:12.

⁸⁷ *Id.* § 659:24.

⁸⁸ N.H. Stat. §§ 652:16-h; 659.43.

⁸⁹ N.H. Stat. § 659.44.

⁹⁰ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659.43.

⁹¹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 652:16-h; 659.43.

the edge of the corridor and speak with those engaged in electioneering. The moderator shall also establish a preferred area for electioneering that, if possible, is within conversation-level sound of the primary entrance to the polling place. Electioneering may take place outside of this area, but not in a no-electioneering corridor.⁹²

Electioneering signs may not be attached to the polling place buildings or grounds or left unattended.⁹³

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

Voters are prohibited from electioneering in the polling place or in the no-electioneering area, including by wearing clothing or paraphernalia specifically designed to influence the vote of a voter on any question or office in a polling place. However, if a voter cannot remove or cover such clothing in the polling place they may wear it while actively registering to vote or in the process of voting.⁹⁴

Photos that capture another voter or another voter's ballot are not permitted in polling places.⁹⁵

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

New Hampshire poll workers are prohibited from electioneering in the polling place. This includes wearing clothing or paraphernalia specifically designed to influence the vote of a voter on any question or office in a polling place.⁹⁶ Federal and state law prohibit intimidation, threats, fraud, or coercion against a voter for the purpose of interfering with the right to vote.⁹⁷ New Hampshire law further makes it a felony to bribe voters, induce voters to show how they have marked their ballot, or interfere with voters within the private area of the polling place.⁹⁸

Poll workers are also prohibited from marking the ballot of another voter unless the voter seeks assistance with marking the ballot from the moderator, the ballot has been canceled because it was spoiled by the voter, or the ballot was cast during court-ordered extended voting hours.⁹⁹

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?

Both Federal and New Hampshire law prohibit intimidation, threats, fraud, bribery, or coercion in relation to voting inside and outside of the polling place.¹⁰⁰ Voters who feel unsafe or uncomfortable can contact any number of resources, including:

- The moderator at the voter's polling place;
- Local or state law enforcement;

⁹² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:43.

⁹³ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:43 (V) and (VI).

⁹⁴ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 652:16-h; 659:43.

⁹⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:45-a.

⁹⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 652:16-h; 659:44.

⁹⁷ 52 U.S.C. §§ 10101(b), 10307(b); 42 U.S.C. § 1985(3); 18 U.S.C. § 594; N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 659:40 (2021).

⁹⁸ N.H. Rev. Stat. §§ 659:37, 659:40.

⁹⁹ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:36.

¹⁰⁰ 52 U.S.C. §§ 10101(b), 10307(b); 42 U.S.C. § 1985(3); 18 U.S.C. § 594; N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:40 (2021).

- The N.H. Attorney General's Office at 1 (866) 868-3703 (866-VOTER03) or electionlaw@doj.nh.gov;
- The Secretary of State's Elections Division Help Desk at (603) 271-8241 or elections@sos.nh.gov;
- The U.S. Attorney for New Hampshire at (603) 225-1552; or
- The Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice at (202) 514-4609.¹⁰¹

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

New Hampshire law allows another voter registered in the same town or ward as the challenged voter, or a challenger appointed by a political party or the New Hampshire Attorney General, to file a written challenge to a voter's right to vote. The moderator will evaluate the challenge. If the moderator determines that the challenge to the voter's right to vote is well grounded, the moderator will not receive the vote of the challenged voter until the challenged voter signs and gives to the moderator a Challenged Voter Affidavit (see [Question 20](#)). If the moderator determines that the challenge is not well grounded, the moderator will permit the challenged voter to proceed to vote. A person's qualifications to be a voter may not be challenged while they are in the process of registering to vote.¹⁰²

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

New Hampshire encourages cities and towns to have at least one police officer at each polling place. However, both federal and state law prohibit intimidation of voters. (See [Question 71](#)). If the presence of a law enforcement officer or member of the military is intimidating to a voter they should immediately notify the moderator, call the Elections Division Help Desk at (603) 271-8241, or contact any of the other resources listed in the answer to [Question 71](#).

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

New Hampshire allows same day registration. A voter qualified to vote who is not registered, may register and vote on this Election Day at the polling place for the town or city ward where they are domiciled. See [Question 4](#) on registering to vote and [Question 5](#) on identification requirements.

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

New Hampshire does not use "provisional" ballots. A voter who is registering to vote for the first time on election day and who does not have the required identification documents or who does not meet the requirements for proving their identity (See [Question 19](#)), will be asked to vote an Affidavit Ballot (See [Question 20](#)). A voter who votes an Affidavit Ballot will be required to sign an affidavit affirming their eligibility to vote. They will be given a copy of a letter which includes the affidavit and a list of all the documents that the voter must produce to qualify to vote. The election official will indicate on the letter which documents were not provided. The voter will also be given a prepaid U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail Express (overnight delivery) envelope addressed to the Secretary of State. The voter is required to return the letter and copies of any required documents to the Secretary of State within seven days of the election in order for the ballot to be counted. A voter who fails to return the information required to

¹⁰¹ <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/election-integrity>.

¹⁰² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:27.

qualify them to vote will be referred by the Secretary of State to the New Hampshire attorney general's office for investigation.¹⁰³

In the event that a polling place runs out of ballots, unused absentee ballots or photocopies of regular ballots may be used.¹⁰⁴ If the voter is offered any other type of ballot, they should contact the monitor at the polling site, the town or city clerk's office, or the Secretary of State.

ACCESSIBILITY/ASSISTANCE

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

Yes. Each polling place will have posted, including in each voting booth, "Voting Instruction Cards" that provide guidance on issues such as obtaining and marking ballots, getting assistance, and obtaining a new ballot in exchange for a ballot that the voter spoiled.¹⁰⁵ Any voter who tells the moderator that they need assistance marking their ballot will be able to receive assistance from or both inspectors of election, or another person of the voter's choice (except for the voter's employer, agent of the voter's employer, or agent or official of the voter's union). Any person providing assistance shall be sworn, if asked, shall mark the ballot as directed by the voter, and shall keep the voter's ballot secret. The person providing assistance shall leave the voting area with the voter.¹⁰⁶

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. Polling places must be accessible to persons with disabilities.¹⁰⁷ At every election where there is a federal office on the ballot, each polling place is equipped with the "one4all" voting system. This system allows voters with differing abilities to independently and privately mark their ballot using either an audio or enhanced visual interface. Any voter may request to use the system at the polls and have local election officials provide instructions on its operation.¹⁰⁸ In the event that a voter appears at a polling place and is unable to access the polling place because of a disability, that voter may request that they be allowed to vote curbside.¹⁰⁹ See [Question 80](#).

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 a person chosen by the voter, 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 the voter's choices on the ballot. The voter may request the assistance of one or both of the inspectors of election assigned to the polling place.¹¹⁰

¹⁰³ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:23-a.

¹⁰⁴ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:24.

¹⁰⁵ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 658:28.

¹⁰⁶ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:20.

¹⁰⁷ *Id.* §§ 658:9, 9-a.

¹⁰⁸ See, <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/learn-about-voting-disabilities>.

¹⁰⁹ N.H. § 659:20-a.

¹¹⁰ *Id.* § 659:20.

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?

Yes. Any voter who needs assistance voting is entitled to have a person chosen by the voter, 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 the voter’s choices on the ballot. The voter may request the assistance of one or both of the inspectors of election assigned to the polling place.¹¹¹

Basic information for New Hampshire voters is available in [Spanish, French, Simplified Chinese, and Portuguese](#). Ballots are only available in English.

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

A voter who appears at their polling place before the closing of the polls, but declares under oath that they cannot access the polls because of a disability, will be permitted to vote “curbside”.¹¹² Call the Elections Division Help Desk at (603) 271-8241 to confirm if a polling location would offer curbside voting.

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

Yes. A voter may bring a voting guide or reference notes into the voting booth but should not leave such material behind as that could constitute electioneering.

STATE SPECIFIC SUPPLEMENT

82. CAUCUSES OR PRIMARIES?: Does New Hampshire have caucuses or primaries?

New Hampshire has a presidential primary election, as opposed to a caucus. By law, the primary is held on the second Tuesday in March or on a date selected by the secretary of state which is seven days or more immediately preceding the date on which any other state shall hold a similar election.¹¹³

83. GUNS IN POLLING PLACES: Can I bring a gun into a New Hampshire polling place?

It depends. New Hampshire is an open carry state, meaning that gun owners can openly carry a loaded firearm without a license or permit.¹¹⁴ However, many polling places in New Hampshire are in schools, which are subject to the federal Gun-Free School Zones Act.¹¹⁵ Although this law has some exceptions and has been a subject of constitutional challenges, it may prohibit possessing a loaded firearm in a polling place within a school. However, election moderators have been advised that they should not

¹¹¹ *Id.* § 659:20.

¹¹² N.H. Rev. Stat. § 659:20-a; U.S. Dep’t of Justice, The Americans with Disabilities Act and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities, available at <https://www.justice.gov/file/69411/download>.

¹¹³ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 653.9.

¹¹⁴ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 159:6.

¹¹⁵ 18 U.S.C. §§ 921(a)(26), 922.

enforce this provision and should not prohibit someone from voting because they have a weapon. New Hampshire officials suggest that complaints about weapons in a polling place should be referred to federal officials.¹¹⁶

84. VOTING BY UNHOUSED PERSONS: Can unboxed persons vote in New Hampshire?

Yes. New Hampshire law requires only that a voter establish that they are domiciled in the town or ward where they seek to vote, not that they have a house there.¹¹⁷ Domicile can be established through “a note from a homeless shelter or other service provider located in the town or ward where you will vote that confirms they will receive U.S. mail sent to you at that address.”¹¹⁸

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

Information about voting in New Hampshire may be found on the Secretary of State’s [website](#).

Other contacts:

- The New Hampshire Secretary of State Elections Division Help Desk: (603) 271-8241 or elections@sos.nh.gov.
- The N.H. Attorney General's Office: 1-866-868-3703 (866-VOTER03) or electionlaw@doj.nh.gov.
- The U.S. Attorney for New Hampshire: 603-225-1552.

If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report to the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice at 202-514-4609

In addition, New Hampshire has prepared a couple of useful guides: [New Hampshire Pocket Voter Guide](#).

¹¹⁶ Memorandum to New Hampshire Election Officials from the New Hampshire Secretary of State and the New Hampshire Attorney General dated October 29, 2020. Available at [pre-general-election-guidance.pdf](#) (last visited June 4, 2024.)

¹¹⁷ N.H. Rev. Stat. § 654.1.

¹¹⁸

<https://www.sos.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt561/files/inline-documents/sonh/registering-to-vote-in-new-hampshire-november-2023.pdf>.