

Every registered Florida voter has the option to request a vote-by-mail ballot. A reason, such as travel or a medical need, are not necessary. Florida voting laws require that vote-by-mail requests expire after each general election cycle; this means that all requests expired on December 31, 2024. **Voters wishing to vote by mail in elections occurring between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2026, must submit a request to their Supervisor of Elections Office.**

For voter-facing information about the vote-by-mail process and links to vote-by-mail ballot requests, click [here](#).

## Who can submit a request for a vote-by-mail ballot?

- Voters
- An authorized representative (designee) of a voter
  - A voter may designate someone else to request a vote-by-mail ballot. This individual must complete the steps outlined in the [vote-by-mail request form](#).
  - These individuals may be designated by the voter:
    - The voter's immediate family member (i.e., voter's spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling),
    - The voter's spouse's parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling
    - The voter's legal guardian, or
    - A designee for a voter with a disability.

## What is the deadline to submit a vote-by-mail ballot request?

- To have the ballot mailed to them, voters must submit their request by 5 p.m. on the 12<sup>th</sup> day before an election.
  - August Primary Election—The deadline is Aug. 6 at 5 p.m.
  - November General Election—The deadline is Oct. 22 at 5 p.m.
- Once the Supervisor of Elections receives a request, the vote-by-mail ballot will be mailed to the voter within two business days, but no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day before election day.



## How are requests for vote-by-mail ballots submitted?

There are multiple ways in which a request can be submitted:

- Supervisor of Election's Office (SOE) Online Request Portal:
  - When requesting a vote-by-mail ballot via the [SOE websites](#), voters will be asked for their Florida driver license or ID number, or the last four digits of their Social Security. These will be matched to the voter's information on file. If the system cannot verify the voter's identity, the voter will need to present additional information to the SOE.
- Submitting a paper vote-by-mail request form:
  - A Statewide Vote-By-Mail Ballot Request Form is available in [English](#), [Español](#), and [Kreyòl](#).
  - Voters can print, complete, and return the form to the SOE Office in the county where they are registered.
  - This form can be scanned and emailed back to the SOE, provided it has been signed by the voter.
- Calling the Supervisor of Elections Office
- Visiting the Supervisor of Elections Office

### Note: Voters who updated their Florida driver license or identification

- Voters who renewed or replaced these documents on or after July 31, 2024, will have a different ID number. This could present a problem when submitting a vote-by-mail request online, because the new number might not match their existing record. To avoid any issues when voting, they should update their new ID information with their county's Supervisor of Elections (SOE) Office.

## How long do vote-by-mail requests last?

- One request remains valid for all elections during a two-year election cycle (Jan. 1, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2026).
- Voters can choose to receive their ballots for a specific election or for any elections happening during this time frame.
- If voters select the option for all elections, they will not need to submit a request for each election.

## Important steps after marking the ballot:

- Once the ballot is marked, voters **must place it in the return envelope**.
  - Only one ballot is allowed per envelope. If there is more than one, they will not be counted.
- It is **extremely important that the voter sign the oath on the envelope** on the provided line.
  - Those without the voter's signature will not be counted unless the voter is able to fix ("cure") the issue before 5 p.m. of the 2<sup>nd</sup> day after the election.



## How are vote-by-mail ballots returned?

- Mail:
  - Voters may use the postal service to return their ballots.
  - It's important to note that ballots must be received by the Supervisor of Elections Office in the voter's county of registration **before 7 p.m. on election day**.
  - **In Florida, postmarks are not sufficient; the ballot must be at the office before the deadline.**
  - It's strongly recommended to use an alternative delivery method, such as personally delivering the ballot to an intake station, when the election is in 10 days or less.
- Secure Ballot Intake Stations ("dropboxes"):
  - Available during early voting hours, which may vary by county.
  - [Click here](#) for detailed information about this method.
- Delivering directly to the Supervisor of Elections Office **before 7 p.m. on election day**.

### Note: Limitations on returning ballots

- When returning ballots, it's important to remember that Florida law limits the possession of ballots to: the voters' own ballot, their immediate family members, and only two additional ballots.

## Can voters vote in person if they requested a vote-by-mail ballot?

- Yes. Voters can visit an early voting site or their assigned polling location and vote in person.
- They do not need to bring their mail ballot.
- The poll workers will verify that the voter has not voted and will provide them with a regular ballot.

## How to make sure the ballot has been received?

- Voters can sign up with their County Supervisor of Election Office's program to track the status of their vote-by-mail ballot, or can contact the elections office directly.

## Additional Information

- Information on vote-by-mail ballots for absent uniformed services and overseas voters can be found on [Florida Statute 101.6952](#).