

# Your VOTE

# ur FUTURE

## KEY 2020 ELECTION INFORMATION



MARYLAND LEAGUE  
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

Updated 8/11/2020

**Note:** Information may change as a result of decisions made by the Governor or the State Board of Elections. We will do our best to keep this document up to date. You can also visit: [www.elections.Maryland.gov](http://www.elections.Maryland.gov)

### Check your Registration!

- **To register to vote or to check the status of your registration go to the State Board of Elections website:** [www.elections.Maryland.gov](http://www.elections.Maryland.gov)
- **NOTE: Registering to vote or requesting an absentee ballot will require a state ID**
  - A state ID can be your Drivers License or an identification card issued by the MVA. You will be asked to enter the number on the card.
  - If you do not have a valid Maryland driver's license or other MVA issued card, there is an option to download a voter registration form that must be signed and mailed to your county Board of Elections to register to vote.

### Voting by Mail/Absentee Ballot

*Voting by mail-in ballot is the best way to make sure your health is protected and your vote is counted on November 3rd. There will be in-person voting options. However, we strongly urge Marylanders to cast your ballot by mail.*

- **All registered voters in Maryland will receive an application for an absentee ballot.**
  - Rather than wait for the application to be sent to you, however, we encourage you to immediately request an absentee ballot electronically through [www.elections.maryland.gov](http://www.elections.maryland.gov)
- **To receive your absentee ballot by mail, you must request it no later than Tuesday, October 20.** If you didn't receive a ballot application, request a ballot application at <https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/maryland/>
  - Absentee ballots can be sent to you by mail or e-mail
    - » **By Mail:** Ballots sent by US Postal Service will include a pre-paid postage return envelope. No additional stamps are required. These mailed ballots will be processed (and counted) more easily than the e-mailed ballots described below
    - » **By E-mail:** Ballots requested by e-mail will be sent as an attachment that must be printed out and returned by US Postal Service (or in a certified election drop box). Downloaded electronic ballots must be returned with two stamps
- **Absentee ballot applications will be sent to the address you used when you registered to vote**
  - » Ballot applications and ballots will not be forwarded
  - » Ballot applications will include a return envelope with pre-paid return postage
- **Voters must mail back their own ballot through the US Postal Service**
  - » Ballots must be signed and filled out with a black pen
  - » Ballots must be submitted and postmarked on or before November 3rd and postage will be pre-paid

## Voting in Person

- Each jurisdiction will have voting centers available. You must vote in the county where you are registered to vote, but you can visit any center within that county.
- Each jurisdiction will have voting centers open for early voting from 7am-8pm on October 26–November 2nd
- In-person voting options will be available from 7am-8pm on November 3rd
- Voting centers will require voters to wear a mask to enter the facility, and social-distancing will be maintained
- Ballot marking devices will be available for voters with disabilities
- Same-day registration will be available during early voting and on election day, but we strongly encourage you to register to vote early instead
  - For same-day registration, go to any voting center in the county where you live, and bring a document that proves your residence (this can be a utility bill, mail from your jurisdiction, drivers license or MVA issued ID, etc.)

## IMPORTANT DATES

- **Tuesday, October 13** – Last day to pre-register for the general election. (Note: Same-day voter registration will be available at voting centers during early voting and on election day.)
- **Tuesday, October 20** – Absentee ballot request deadline (to receive a ballot by mail)
- **Monday, October 26** – Early voting for the general election begins
- **Thursday, October 29** – Absentee ballot request deadline (to receive a ballot by e-mail)
- **Tuesday, November 3** – General election day. All ballots must be postmarked by this date. To guarantee that your ballot is counted, we urge you to bring your ballot to the post office to be stamped “received,” or to use an official election drop box.

## Benefits of Vote By Mail

- **Election Security**
  - Paper Records of every vote in case of a recount
  - One of the most secure ways to conduct an election as proven in other states who have used vote-by-mail for years.
- **Voter Education**
  - Voters have time to do their research and complete their mail-in ballots.
  - The by-mail voting option is especially helpful for voters to take their time to inform themselves and understand the issues and candidates on the ballot.

## Troubleshooting

- **If you have not received a ballot application, or you requested a ballot and have not received it by October 15:**
  - Check and update your address on the Maryland Board of Elections website: [www.elections.Maryland.gov](http://www.elections.Maryland.gov)
- **If you have general questions or problems on election day**
  - 1-866-OUR-VOTE: national election hotline
  - 410-844-4859: Baltimore Votes election day hotline (statewide assistance)

*This is an unprecedented election for the United States. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and many states using Vote By Mail, we likely won't know the results of the election on election day.*

## Every vote is crucial!

For additional information, contact Kristen Harbeson: [kharbeson@mdlcv.org](mailto:kharbeson@mdlcv.org)