



Ohio Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner

The Ohio Secretary of State's office seeks to promote civic participation and a stronger democracy through ensuring every Ohioan's right to vote in an election system that is free, fair, open and honest.

For additional Voting Rights Institute information, please reference page 21.

#### Dear Ohio voter:

This year Ohio voters will help elect a new U.S. president and vicepresident, along with electing congressional representatives, state senators, state representatives, county office holders, Ohio Supreme Court justices, boards of education members, and various judges and clerks of courts.

While there is expected great interest in the presidential election, the many other races on the ballot will have a great impact on the lives of citizens in our communities throughout Ohio. Many of today's local leaders will become tomorrow's state and federal leaders. Your participation is critically important at every level of the ballot, and decisions you make each and every year have lasting effects for your children, grandchildren and those who will follow us.

This Voter Information Guide has been developed to assist you in participating in Ohio's 2008 elections. The guide contains information on voter registration, absentee voting requirements and what to expect at your polling place on Election Day.

Your local election officials, along with the Secretary of State's office, are working to ensure that every Ohioan who wants to vote and who is eligible to vote may do so easily in a system that is free, fair, open and honest.

Your vote - whether at the polling place or in the comfort of your own home using an absentee ballot - is important. As election officials, the Secretary of State and boards of election are working to earn and maintain your confidence in our state's election process. We work to ensure that every eligible vote is counted so that you, the voter, remain the driving force behind our democratic system of government. Thank you for your citizenship in voting.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Brunner

Ohio Secretary of State



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# IN 2008, VOTERS WILL ELECT:

- President and vice president;
- Representatives to Congress (all 18 districts);
- State senators (even-numbered districts);
- State representatives (all 99 districts);
- County commissioners (2 to be elected);
- County coroner;
- · County engineer;
- · County prosecutor;
- · County recorder;
- · County sheriff;
- County treasurer;
- Justices of the Ohio Supreme Court (2 to be elected);
- Court of appeals judges;
- Common pleas court judges;
- County court judges;
- · County clerk of courts;
- Members of state board of education (6 of 11 districts); and
- · Members of state and county central committees of political parties

# Does everyone who wants to vote in Ohio have to be registered to vote here?

Yes.

#### What are the qualifications to register and to vote in Ohio?

You are qualified to register to vote in Ohio if you meet all the following requirements:

- 1. You are a citizen of the United States;
- You will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the general election. (If you will be 18 on or before November 4, you may vote in the primary election for candidates, but you cannot vote on issues until you are 18);
- 3. You will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote;
- 4. You are not incarcerated (in prison or jail) for a felony conviction under the laws of this state, another state or the United States;
- 5. You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court; and
- You have not been permanently disenfranchised for violations of the election laws.

You are eligible to vote in elections held in your voting precinct more than 30 consecutive days after you are duly registered to vote in this state.

#### Where do I vote?

Ohio election officials determine a person's qualifying voting address using guidelines established by Ohio law (Revised Code (R.C.) 3503.02). Where an individual votes depends on where he or she is determined by law to reside. A voter may vote from only one residence. Your voting residence is the place in which your habitation is fixed and to which, whenever you are absent, you intend to return. Your voting residence should be one you consider to be permanent, not temporary. You will not lose your voting residency in Ohio if you leave temporarily and intend to return, unless you are absent from the state for four consecutive years. (Exception: You will not lose your residency after four years if your absence from Ohio is due to your employment with Ohio or the United States government, including military service, unless you vote in, or permanently move to, another state.)

If you do not have a fixed place of habitation, but you are a consistent or regular inhabitant of a shelter or other location to which you intend to

return, you may use that shelter or other location as your residence for purposes of registering to vote.

For information on voting rights of U.S. citizens living outside the U.S., see page 13, Uniformed and Overseas Citizens.

# May a college student register and vote from his or her school address in Ohio?

Yes, a student may vote using his or her Ohio school residence address. However, the student may not also vote an absentee ballot where he or she last lived (e.g. with one or more parent or guardian). When a college student votes from his or her school address, the school residence is considered to be the place to which the student's habitation is fixed and to which, whenever the student is absent, the student intends to return, and is considered by the student to be his or her permanent residence at the time of voting.

### How can I register to vote?

If you have Internet access, you may download a voter registration form from the Secretary of State's Web site: <a href="https://www.sos.state.oh.us">www.sos.state.oh.us</a>. You also may ask a county board of elections (listed on pages 23 through 28) or the Secretary of State's office to mail a registration form to you.

You may obtain a form in person, and register in person, at any of the following locations:

- The office of the Secretary of State or any of the 88 county boards of elections;
- The office of any Deputy Registrar of the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles;
- Public libraries;
- Public high schools or vocational schools;
- County treasurers' offices; or
- Offices of designated agencies including:
  - The Department of Job and Family Services;
  - The Department of Health Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program;
  - The Department of Mental Health;
  - The Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities;
  - The Rehabilitation Services Commission; or
  - Any state-assisted college or university that provides assistance to disabled students.

When you have completed your voter registration form, please review it carefully for completeness and mail it or personally deliver it to your county board of elections or the Secretary of State's Office. Another person, or one of the offices listed above, may deliver it for you, but you will want to ensure it reaches the board within 10 days and no later than 30 days before the election at which you want to vote.

## What is the registration deadline?

Ohio has a 30-day voter registration requirement. If you register to vote by mail, your properly completed and signed registration application may be mailed to your county board of elections or the Secretary of State's Office. Your voter registration form must be postmarked by the 30th day before the first election at which you want to vote.

If you do not submit your registration application by mail, you, personally, must deliver the form to a county board of elections, the office of the Secretary of State, a public library, high school or vocational school, county treasurer's office, any Deputy Registrar of the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles office or designated agency no later than 30 days before the election at which you want to vote.

If you do not make the deadline, your registration counts for the next succeeding election and beyond. To keep your registration on file you must vote at least once during a period of two succeeding federal general elections after you register.

If you are entrusting another person to deliver your completed form, that person must deliver your registration form to a county board of elections or the Secretary of State's office within 10 days or by the registration deadline, whichever is earlier.

# What if I am unable to sign my voter registration form or other election documents?

Ohio law requires a person to sign or affix a signature to the voter registration application. "Sign" or "signature" means your written, cursive-style legal mark written in your own handwriting.

However, if you do not use a cursive-style legal mark in your regular business and legal affairs, "sign" or "signature" means your other legal mark that you use in your regular business and legal affairs that is written in your own handwriting.

If you are unable to sign your own name and have no other legal mark, make an "X," if possible, on the application signature line and have the person who witnessed you making that mark place his/her name and address beneath the signature line.

If you are unable to make an "X," you must indicate in some manner that you want to register to vote. The person registering you must sign the form and attest that you indicated that you want to register to vote.

## May a power of attorney be used to sign a voter registration form?

If by reason of disability you are unable to physically sign your name or affix your mark to the application, and you have appointed an attorney-in-fact according to the specific requirements of R.C. 3501.382, your attorney-in-fact may sign it on your behalf, at your direction and in your presence. This is the only situation in which a power of attorney may be used to sign a voter registration form, and only powers of attorney prepared according to R.C. 3501.352 may be used.

# What are my obligations to keep the board of elections informed of address or name changes?

If you are already registered to vote but have moved within Ohio and/ or changed your name, you must update your voter registration by completing a new voter registration form or change of address form.

Change of address forms may be obtained online at <a href="https://www.sos.state.oh.us">www.sos.state.oh.us</a>, at all locations where voter registration forms may be obtained (see page 5), and from the probate court and the court of common pleas of any Ohio county.

Your completed form may be delivered in person to any of these offices by you: the Secretary of State, a board of elections, a public high school or vocational school, a public library, a county treasurer's office, any Deputy Registrar of the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles or an office of a designated agency. Designated agencies include:

- The Department of Job and Family Services;
- The Department of Health Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program;
- The Department of Mental Health;
- The Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities;
- The Rehabilitation Services Commission; and
- Any state-assisted college or university that provides assistance to disabled students.

If you return your completed form by mail, you must send it to your county board of elections or the Secretary of State's Office.

If your change of name and/or address form is completed properly, the board of elections will update your registration and send you a notice. If the form is incomplete, the board will send you a notice of the information necessary to update your registration. If your valid change form is received or postmarked at least 29 days before an election, you will be eligible to vote a regular (rather than a provisional) ballot at that election. You may vote either in person on or before Election Day or by mail via absentee ballot.

You may also update your registration during the 28 days immediately before, or on the day of, an election, but this may require you to vote a "provisional ballot" as described later in this guide.

### Do I declare my political party affiliation when I register?

No. Under Ohio law, you may declare your political party affiliation by requesting either a Republican or Democratic ballot in a partisan primary election. If you are "Independent," you are considered independent of any political party. Political parties other than Democratic or Republican may or may not qualify for a primary election ballot, depending on the political party's previous activities to qualify under the law.

### May I vote if I have been convicted of a crime?

As noted under the "Voter Registration" section of this guide, a person currently serving time in jail or prison for a felony conviction cannot register to vote or vote. Additionally, a person who has twice been convicted of a violation of the elections laws is permanently barred from voting in Ohio. An otherwise qualified person convicted of a misdemeanor may vote, and one convicted of a felony may register and vote while on probation or parole or after completing his or her jail or prison sentence.

### What happens after I submit my voter registration application?

A board of elections must accept your voter registration application if the information contained within the application is found to be complete and truthful. Once accepted, the board must register you to vote not later than 20 business days after receiving your application and promptly mail a notice to your voting residence address confirming that you are registered to vote, identifying your voting precinct and the location of your precinct polling place, and stating the identification requirements for voting.

If the board does not accept your registration application, it must immediately mail you a notice stating why your application was rejected and requesting you to provide whatever information or verification is necessary to complete your application.

If you do not receive a notice that your registration was accepted or rejected, please contact your county board of elections before Election Day to determine if the board received your application.

### Can I check my voter information online?

Yes. You may check your voter information by performing a "Voter Information Search" on the Secretary of State's Web site: <a href="https://www.sos.state.oh.us">www.sos.state.oh.us</a>. If performing such a search returns the information you registered, your county board of elections has successfully processed your voter registration form. If the search does not return your information, please contact your county board of elections to check on the status of your registration. You may also be able to check your voter information through your county board of elections' Web site, although not all county boards have the capacity to provide this service.

### **VOTING PROCEDURES**

# **Before Election Day:**

#### **VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT**

### When does absentee voting begin and end?

Absentee voting begins 25 days before the presidential primary and 35 days before the general election and – except for voters hospitalized due to emergencies, as further described under the "Absentee Deadlines" section beginning on page 14 of this guide, – ends the day before the election. (**Note**: Absentee voting does not always begin 35 days before a special election. You may contact your county board of elections to learn if a special election is being held in your precinct and, if so, when absentee ballots will be available.)

Once absentee ballots are available for voting, any voter may receive and return an absentee ballot in person at the county board of elections office, or receive and return the absentee ballot by U.S. Mail.

### Who is eligible to vote by absentee ballot?

Any qualified Ohio voter may request and vote an absentee ballot without stating a reason.

# What is the application process for obtaining an absentee ballot?

Ohio law provides separate application processes for different classifications of absentee voters (militia, armed services, overseas, etc.). In all cases, absentee ballots must be applied for in writing. If you are properly registered to vote, you must submit your written request to the board of elections of the county in which your voting residence is located. Your request must contain certain information (described in the following sections) and your original signature. You may, but are not required to, use an application form prescribed by the Ohio Secretary of State. Application forms are available for download on the Secretary of State's Web site: <a href="https://www.sos.state.oh.us">www.sos.state.oh.us</a>.

If you **are not** an active duty member of Ohio's organized militia (including the Ohio Air National Guard, Ohio Army National Guard, Ohio Naval Militia, and Ohio Military Reserve), an active duty member of the U.S. armed services serving outside of Ohio, or a U.S. citizen residing outside of the U.S., you are considered a "regular" absentee voter for the purpose of this quide.

#### REGULAR ABSENTEE VOTERS

If you are a regular absentee voter, you may use the application form prescribed by the Secretary of State (11-A) to apply for your absentee ballot. If you choose not to use the prescribed form, your written application need not be in any particular format, but it must contain all of the following information:

- 1. Your name;
- 2. Your signature;
- 3. The address at which you are registered to vote;
- 4. Your date of birth;
- 5. **One** of the following items showing proof of your identification:
  - (a) Your Ohio driver's license number; or
  - (b) The last four digits of your Social Security number; or
  - (c) A copy of your current and valid photo identification, military identification; or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill (including cell phone bill), bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and current address (including from a public college or university). (Note: You cannot use a notice that the board of elections mailed to you as proof of identification.);

- A statement identifying the election for which you are requesting an absentee voter's ballot;
- 7. A statement that you are a qualified elector;
- 8. If the request is for a partisan primary election ballot, your political party affiliation; and
- If you want the ballot to be mailed, the address to which you want it mailed.

For information regarding application deadlines, please see "Absentee Deadlines" at the end of this section.

# ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS OF OHIO'S ORGANIZED MILITIA (Ohio Air National Guard, Ohio Army National Guard, Ohio Naval Militia and Ohio Military Reserve, collectively)

If you are on active duty with Ohio's organized militia, your written application must contain all the information required of a regular absentee voter and either the address to which the ballot is to be mailed or the fax number to which it is to be faxed. If you are planning to request that the ballot be mailed to you, you may use the application form prescribed by the Secretary of State (11-A) to apply for your absentee ballot.

Alternatively, an absentee application may be submitted on your behalf by one of the following relatives: your spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece. Your relative must use the application prescribed by the Secretary of State (Form 11-C), available from the board of elections or the Secretary of State's office or Web site: <a href="https://www.sos.state.oh.us">www.sos.state.oh.us</a>. This application, which must be signed and sworn to by your relative ("the applicant"), must contain all the following information:

- 1. Your full name:
- 2. A statement that you are a qualified elector in the county;
- 3. The address at which you are registered to vote;
- 4. Your date of birth:
- 5. **One** of the following items showing proof of your identification:
  - (a) Your Ohio driver's license number; or
  - (b) The last four digits of your Social Security number; or
  - (c) A copy of your current and valid photo identification, military identification; or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill

(including cell phone bill), bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and current address (including from a public college or university). (**Note**: You cannot use as proof of identification a notice that the board of elections mailed to you.);

- 6. A statement identifying the election for which the absentee ballot is requested:
- 7. A statement that you are a member of the organized militia serving on active duty outside your Ohio county of residence;
- 8. If the request is for a partisan primary election ballot, your political party affiliation;
- 9. A statement specifying the applicant's relationship to you;
- 10. The address to which the ballot is to be mailed or fax number to which it is to be faxed;
- 11. The signature and address of the person making the application; and
- 12. The applicant's notarized statement attesting to the validity of the application.

For information regarding application deadlines, please see "Absentee Deadlines" at the end of this section.

#### ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED SERVICES

If you are serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces outside Ohio and meet the requirements for voting in Ohio, you may vote an armed services absentee ballot. Your spouse and dependents may vote an armed services absentee ballot only if they left Ohio to be with or near you.

#### What is the voting residence of a service member?

The voting residence of a service member is the place in Ohio where the service member resided immediately preceding the commencement of his or her service, unless he or she later established a voting residence elsewhere in Ohio.

**Must armed services absentee voters be registered to vote?** Yes.

#### How do I apply for an armed services absentee ballot?

Qualified electors who are members of the armed services have multiple options available when applying for absentee ballots:

1. If you are not currently a registered Ohio voter, you may use the

current Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), available online at <a href="https://www.fvap.gov">www.fvap.gov</a>, both to register to vote and to request absentee ballots.

- If you already are a registered Ohio voter, you may request an
  absentee ballot using a form prescribed by the Ohio Secretary of State
  (Form 11-A if you will be in Ohio during the absentee period, Form
  11-D or an FPCA otherwise).
- 3. If you already are registered to vote, you may designate a relative to request an absentee ballot on your behalf. Your relative must use the form prescribed by the Ohio Secretary of State (Form 11-E).

For information regarding application deadlines, please see "Absentee Deadlines" at the end of this section.

#### UNIFORMED AND OVERSEAS CITIZENS

The voting rights of U.S. citizens living outside the U.S. and members of the uniformed services stationed outside Ohio are governed by federal law (The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act - "UOCAVA"), as well as state law.

Overseas Citizens: Generally, if you are a citizen residing outside the U.S., you are eligible to vote in federal elections in the state in which you resided immediately before leaving the U.S. if you were, or could have, registered to vote in that state while residing there, or currently are eligible under state law to vote in that state.

**Note**: Federal law does not require any state to extend voting eligibility to a person who never resided in that state on the basis that one or both of the person's parents formerly resided in that state.

If you are eligible, you may vote a federal ballot (candidates for U.S. president, vice president and U.S. House of Representatives) from the Ohio precinct in which you resided immediately before leaving the U.S. to live in a foreign country, even though you may no longer have ties to, and may not intend to return to, Ohio. You must register to vote and/or request an absentee ballot using the current Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) using either the postcard or online version. The online FPCA can be downloaded from <a href="https://www.fvap.gov">www.fvap.gov</a>.

You may also be eligible to vote a regular Ohio ballot if you maintain a qualifying voting address in Ohio and have lived outside Ohio less than four consecutive years.

Uniformed Services Personnel: If you are a member of the uniformed services (armed forces, merchant marine, and the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), you are eligible to vote a regular ballot from the voting address in Ohio at which you resided for 30 days immediately before leaving Ohio to commence active duty service.

For information regarding application deadlines, please see "Absentee Deadlines" at the end of this section.

For additional information on voting by overseas citizens and uniformed services personnel, please contact the secretary of state's Elections Division or the board of elections in the Ohio county in which you previously resided. You may also visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program's Web site: <a href="https://www.overseasvotefoundation.org">www.overseasvotefoundation.org</a>

#### ABSENTEE DEADLINES

### To receive your absentee ballot:

- In person: You may go to the board of elections office of the county in which your voting residence is located during regular business hours after absentee ballots are available for voting, but no later than the day before the election, and request, receive and vote your ballot at the board office.
- 2. By mail: You may mail your properly completed absentee ballot application bearing your original signature to the board of elections of the county in which your voting residence is located. The board must receive your request by noon on the Saturday before the election. However, you should submit your request as far in advance of the election as possible to ensure there is sufficient time for the board to mail you a ballot and for you to timely return that ballot.
- 3. By fax: If you are a member of the U.S. armed forces or an organized state militia, you may fax your absentee ballot request to the board of elections of the county in which your voting residence is located. The board must receive your request by noon on the Saturday before the election. You may request that the board fax your ballot to you, but you must return your marked ballot by mail.
- 4. If you or your minor child is in the hospital on Election Day: Regardless of where you or your minor child are hospitalized, you must submit a properly completed and signed request to the board of elections of the county in which your voting residence is located by 3 p.m. on Election Day. To be eligible under this provision, you or your minor child

must be confined in a hospital because of an unforeseeable medical emergency. Your application must specify where, why and when you or your minor child came to be hospitalized. If you or your minor child are hospitalized in the same county where you are registered to vote, two representatives of the board of elections can deliver the ballot to you, wait while you mark the ballot, and return your voted ballot to the board office. Additionally, you may include in your absentee ballot application a request that your county board of elections give your unmarked ballot to a designated relative – your spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, sister, son, daughter, adopted parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece – who shall deliver the ballot to you in the hospital and return your voted ballot to the board office.

For your absentee ballot to be counted, it must be received as follows:

- 1. If cast from anywhere in the U.S. and you return it by mail, it must be postmarked\* (the day before the election) and received by the board of elections no later than 10 days after the election. If you return it in person or if a near relative delivers it to the board for you, it must be delivered to the board of elections no later than the close of polls on Election Day.
- 2. If you are a voter outside the U.S. on Election Day, your ballot envelope must be signed and postmarked by the close of polls on Election Day and received by your county board of elections not later than the 20th day after the presidential primary election or by the 10th day after a special or general election.
  - \*Postmarked does not include a date marked by a postage evidence system such as a postage meter.

# On Or Before Election Day:

# VOTING BY PROVISIONAL BALLOT (R.C. 3505.181)

# What is a provisional ballot?

A provisional ballot is used to record a vote if a voter's eligibility is in question and the voter would otherwise not be permitted to vote at his or her polling place. The content of a provisional ballot is no different from a regular ballot, but it is cast "provisionally" until election officials can verify the voter's eligibility.

There are several scenarios in which a voter may cast a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot may be used on Election Day if a voter's eligibility is in question, or before (or on) Election Day if a voter has recently

changed his or her address or name and did not update his or her voter registration.

# What Election Day scenarios would require me to cast a provisional ballot?

Any of the following scenarios would require you to cast a provisional ballot on Election Day:

- Your name does not appear on the official poll list for an election, or an election official asserts that you are not eligible to vote or is unable to determine your eligibility;
- You are unable or decline to provide the required proof of identity, which includes a current and valid photo identification, military identification; or a copy of a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill (including cell phone bill), bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and current address (including from a public college or university). (Note: You cannot use as proof of identification a notice that the board of elections mailed to you.);
- Your name appears on the poll list or signature book as having requested an absentee ballot;
- Your name is marked on the poll list or signature book with a notation that registration mailings have been returned as undeliverable;
- A hearing on a challenge to your eligibility as an elector has been postponed until after Election Day;
- Your signature, in the opinion of the precinct officers, does not match the signature on your registration form; or
- Your eligibility to cast a ballot has been challenged by the precinct officers.

# After I cast a provisional ballot, do I have to do anything to make sure my vote is counted?

Before your provisional ballot can be included in the official count of an election, the board of elections must confirm your eligibility to cast the ballot, as well as the validity of the ballot that you cast.

If you cast your provisional ballot and provided acceptable proof of identity, you typically do not need to provide any additional information to the board of elections.

If you cast a provisional ballot and **did not** provide acceptable proof of identity at the time of voting, you must appear in person at the board of

elections to provide such proof within the 10 days immediately following Election Day, in accordance with Ohio law. The following guidelines apply:

- If you cast a provisional ballot because you had but could not provide to election officials at the time you voted – acceptable proof of your identity or the last four digits of your Social Security number, you must provide to the board of elections **one** of the following:
  - a. Acceptable proof of your identity in the form of a current and valid photo identification;
  - b. A military identification;
  - c. A copy of a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill (including cell phone bill), bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document (but not a voter registration notification mailed by a board of elections) that shows your name and current address (including from a public college or university); or
  - d. The last four digits of your Social Security number.
- 2. If you cast a provisional ballot because, at the time you voted, you had but declined to provide an acceptable form of identification or the last four digits of your Social Security number, and you declined to execute the written affirmation statement swearing to your identity under penalty of election falsification, you must provide to the board of elections **one** of the following:
  - a. Acceptable proof of your identity in the form of a current and valid photo identification;
  - b. A military identification;
  - c. A copy of a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill (including cell phone bill), bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document (but not a voter registration notification mailed by a board of elections) that shows your name and current address (including from a public college or university); or
  - d. The last four digits of your Social Security number.
- 3. If you cast a provisional ballot because, at the time you voted, you did not have any acceptable form of identification or a Social Security number, and you declined to execute the written affirmation statement swearing to your identity under penalty of election falsification, you must provide to the board of elections one of the following:
  - a. Acceptable proof of your identity in the form of a current and valid photo identification;
  - b. A military identification;
  - c. A copy of a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill (including cell phone bill), bank statement, government check, paycheck, or

- other government document (but not a voter registration notification mailed by a board of elections) that shows your name and current address (including from a public college or university); or
- d. The last four digits of your Social Security number; or
- e. A signed affirmation statement (provided by the board of elections) stating that you do not have any of the above items.
- 4. If you cast a provisional ballot because your right to vote was challenged at the polling place under R.C. 3505.20, and the election officials either determined that you were ineligible to vote or were unable to determine your eligibility, you must provide any identification or other documentation required to resolve the challenge.

# If I have recently moved but did not update my voter registration, can I vote a provisional ballot?

Yes. If you are an Ohio voter who moved from one Ohio precinct to another Ohio precinct and did not submit your change of address to election officials by the 29th day before the election, you still may vote in that election by taking the following steps:

- 1. If you move from one precinct to another in the same Ohio county, you may report the change and vote using one of the following procedures:
  - (a) During the 28 days immediately before the election, go to your county board of elections office or designated site, submit a proper change of address and provisional affirmation statement and vote a provisional ballot for your new voting address; or
  - (b) On Election Day, go to one of the following three places: the polling place in the precinct in which your new voting address is located, the board of elections office, or a site designated by that board of elections; submit a proper change of address and provisional affirmation statement and vote a provisional ballot for your new voting address.
- 2. If you move from the Ohio county in which you are registered to vote to another Ohio county, you may report the change and vote using one of the following procedures:
  - (a) During the 28 days immediately before the election, go to the board of elections office of the county in which you now reside, submit a proper change of address and provisional affirmation statement and vote a provisional ballot for your new voting address; or
  - (b) On Election Day, go to one of the following two places: the board of elections office in the county in which you now reside or a site designated by that board of elections; submit a proper change of address and provisional affirmation statement and vote a provisional ballot for your new voting address.

# If I have recently changed my name but did not update my voter registration, can I vote a provisional ballot?

Yes. If you changed your name and did not submit your change of name to election officials by the 29th day before the election, you may report the change and vote using one of the following procedures:

- (a) During the 28 days immediately before the election, go to your county board of elections office or designated site, submit a proper change of name and provisional affirmation statement and vote a provisional ballot; or
- (b) On Election Day, go to one of the following three places: your polling place for your precinct, the board of elections office, or a site designated by that board of elections; submit a proper change of name and provisional affirmation statement and vote a provisional ballot.

# On Election Day:

#### VOTING AT THE PRECINCT POLLING PLACE

## Where do I vote on Election Day?

On Election Day, you cast your ballot at your precinct's designated polling place between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. If you do not know where your precinct polling place is located, please contact your county board of elections. If you have access to the Internet, you may also visit the Secretary of State's Web site, <a href="https://www.sos.state.oh.us">www.sos.state.oh.us</a>, for the location of your polling place.

### How do I cast my ballot?

Instructions for casting your ballot are posted in each polling place. If you have any questions about how to mark or cast your ballot, or if you have incorrectly marked a ballot, immediately contact a precinct election official (poll worker) for instructions before you continue.

### May I receive assistance in voting?

A voter with a physical or mental disability or a voter who is unable to read or write may be assisted by anyone of the voter's choice, except a candidate whose candidacy is being voted on in that precinct, the voter's employer or the employer's agent, or an officer or agent of the voter's union. A voter may also be assisted by two poll workers (each of a different political party). No one who assists a voter may disclose any information about how that person voted.

# In a primary election, how do I establish which political party's ballot I am entitled to vote?

You may vote the primary ballot of the political party with which you currently wish to be affiliated. If you wish to vote a party's ballot different from that of what you voted in 2006 or 2007, you must complete a statement at your polling place confirming the change in your political party affiliation.

# May I vote on ballot issues at a primary election without declaring my party affiliation?

Yes. You may vote on the issues and questions, if any, that are on the ballot in your precinct absent from a party's ballot by requesting an "issues-only" ballot.

#### Will I need an ID to Vote?

Yes. All voters must bring identification to the polls in order to verify their identity. Identification may include a current and valid photo identification, military identification; or a copy of a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill (including cell phone bill), bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notification mailed by the board of elections, that shows the voter's name and current address (including from a public college or university). Voters who do not provide one of these documents at the polling place will still be able to vote a provisional ballot as described earlier in this guide, and may provide such identification to the board of elections within the 10 days following Election Day. Voters who do not have any of the above forms of identification, including a Social Security number, will still be able to vote by signing an affirmation statement swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot. (See *Voting by Provisional Ballot* on page 15 for more information.)

### **TTY Assistance**

The secretary of state's office maintains a telephone line to provide information on registration and voting for hearing-impaired citizens: (614) 466-0562.

### **VOTING RIGHTS INSTITUTE (VRI)**

The Ohio secretary of state's office seeks to promote civic participation and a stronger democracy by ensuring every Ohioan's right to vote in an election system that is free, fair, open and honest.

### The Voting Rights Institute will:

- Work with communities, partner with organizations, and implement programs that will ensure a safe, reliable, and trustworthy process that fosters and enhances access to voting in Ohio by all of its eligible citizens;
- Act as a clearinghouse to address voter concerns; and
- Provide leadership on legislative and policy initiatives to accomplish this mission.

If you have a voting issue, concern or experience you would like to share, please visit the VRI's Web site at: <a href="https://www.sos.state.oh.us">www.sos.state.oh.us</a>, and complete the "Share Your Voting Experience" survey.

For more information on the VRI, our advisory council, upcoming events, or to receive the quarterly newsletter, please contact:

Voting Rights Institute
Office of the Ohio Secretary of State
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 995-1619 (Main)
(614) 752-4360 (Fax)

www.myvoteohio.com 877-VOTE-VRI vri@sos.state.oh.us

# **February 4**

**Voter registration ends for March 4 elections** 

# March 4 Primary Election:

Polls are open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

# July 7

Voter registration deadline for August 5 special elections

# August 5

Special elections may be held

#### October 6

Voter registration ends for November 4 general election

# November 4 General Election:

Polls are open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

#### **ADAMS COUNTY**

215 N. Cross St., Rm 103 West Union, OH 45693 Phone: (937) 544-2633

#### **ALLEN COUNTY**

204 N. Main St. Lima, OH 45801 Phone: (419) 223-8530

#### **ASHLAND COUNTY**

110 Cottage St. Ashland, OH 44805 Phone: (419) 282-4224

#### **ASHTABULA COUNTY**

8 West Walnut St. Jefferson, OH 44047 Phone: (440) 576-6915

#### **ATHENS COUNTY**

15 S. Court St., Room 130 Athens , OH 45701 Phone: (740) 592-3201

#### **AUGLAIZE COUNTY**

209 S. Blackhoof, Rm. 205 Wapakoneta, OH 45895 Phone: (419) 739-6720

### **BELMONT COUNTY**

103 Plaza Dr., Ste. B St. Clairsville, OH 43950 Phone: (740) 526-0188

#### **BROWN COUNTY**

800 Mt. Orab Pk., Suite 111 Georgetown, OH 45121 Phone: (937) 378-3008

#### **BUTLER COUNTY**

Princeton Road Campus 1802 Princeton Rd. Hamilton, OH 45011-4742 Phone: (513) 887-3700

#### **CARROLL COUNTY**

119 S. Lisbon St., Suite 102 Carrollton, OH 44615-1489 Phone: (330) 627-2610

#### **CHAMPAIGN COUNTY**

1512 S. U.S. 68, Ste. L100 Urbana, OH 43078-9288 Phone: (937) 484-1575

#### **CLARK COUNTY**

3130 E. Main St. Springfield, OH 45505 Phone: (937) 521-2120

#### **CLERMONT COUNTY**

76 S. Riverside Dr. Batavia, OH 45103 Phone: (513) 732-7275

#### **CLINTON COUNTY**

46 S. South St., 1st fl. Wilmington, OH 45177 Phone: (937) 382-3537

#### **COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

41 N. Park Ave. Lisbon, OH 44432 Phone: (330) 424-1448 Ext:1652

#### **COSHOCTON COUNTY**

724 S. Seventh St., Rm 100 Coshocton, OH 43812 Phone: (740) 622-1117

#### **CRAWFORD COUNTY**

130 N. Walnut St., Suite A Bucyrus, OH 44820-2383 Phone: (419) 562-8721

#### **CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

2925 Euclid Ave. Cleveland, OH 44115-2497 Phone: (216) 443-3200

#### **DARKE COUNTY**

300 Garst Ave. Greenville, OH 45331 Phone: (937) 548-1835

#### **DEFIANCE COUNTY**

1300 E Second St., Suite 103 Defiance, OH 43512 Phone: (419) 782-8543

#### **DELAWARE COUNTY**

140 N. Sandusky St. Delaware, OH 43015 Phone: (740) 833-2080

### **ERIE COUNTY**

2900 Columbus Ave. Sandusky, OH 44870 Phone: (419) 627-7601

### **FAIRFIELD COUNTY**

951 Liberty Drive Lancaster, OH 43130 Phone: (740) 687-7000

#### **FAYETTE COUNTY**

133 S. Main St., Suite 404 Washington C.H., OH 43160 Phone: (740) 335-1190

#### FRANKLIN COUNTY

280 E. Broad St., 1st floor Columbus, OH 43215-4572 Phone: (614) 462-3100

#### **FULTON COUNTY**

525 N. Shoop Ave. Wauseon, OH 43567 Phone: (419) 335-6841

#### **GALLIA COUNTY**

18 Locust St., 2nd Floor Gallipolis, OH 45631-1292 Phone: (740) 446-1600

#### **GEAUGA COUNTY**

470 Center St. - Building 6A Chardon, OH 44024-1238 Phone: (440) 279-2030

#### **GREENE COUNTY**

651 Dayton-Xenia Rd. Xenia, OH 45385 Phone: (937) 562-7478

#### **GUERNSEY COUNTY**

627 Wheeling Ave., Ste. 101 Cambridge, OH 43725 Phone: (740) 432-2680

### **HAMILTON COUNTY**

824 Broadway Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 632-7000

#### HANCOCK COUNTY

201 E. Lincoln St., Rear Findlay, OH 45840 Phone: (419) 422-3245

#### HARDIN COUNTY

1 Court House Sq., Ste 170 Kenton, OH 43326 Phone: (419) 674-2211

#### HARRISON COUNTY

100 W. Market St. Cadiz, OH 43907

Phone: (740) 942-8866

#### **HENRY COUNTY**

1813 Oakwood Ave Napoleon, OH 43545 Phone: (419) 592-7956

#### **HIGHLAND COUNTY**

1575 N. High St., Suite 200 Hillsboro, OH 45133 Phone: (937) 393-9961

#### **HOCKING COUNTY**

1 E. Main St. PO Box 109 Logan, OH 43138 Phone: (740) 380-8683

#### **HOLMES COUNTY**

75 East Clinton St., Suite 108 Millersburg, OH 44654 Phone: (330) 674-5921

#### **HURON COUNTY**

180 Milan Ave. Norwalk, OH 44857 Phone: (419) 668-8238

#### **JACKSON COUNTY**

275 Portsmouth St., Suite 2 Jackson, OH 45640 Phone: (740) 286-2905

#### **JEFFERSON COUNTY**

117 N. Third St. Steubenville, OH 43952 Phone: (740) 283-8522

#### **KNOX COUNTY**

117 E. High St., Suite 210 Mt. Vernon, OH 43050 Phone: (740) 393-6716

#### LAKE COUNTY

105 Main St., PO Box 490 Painesville, OH 44077 Phone: (440) 350-2700

#### **LAWRENCE COUNTY**

111 S. Fourth St. Ironton, OH 45638 Phone: (740) 532-0444

#### **LICKING COUNTY**

20 S. Second St. Newark, OH 43055 Phone: (740) 670-5080

#### **LOGAN COUNTY**

225 S. Main St. Bellefontaine, OH 43311 Phone: (937) 599-7255

#### LORAIN COUNTY

1985 North Ridge Rd. East Lorain, OH 44055 Phone: (440) 326-5900

#### **LUCAS COUNTY**

1 Government Ctr. Ste 300 Toledo, OH 43604-2250 Phone: (419) 213-4001

#### **MADISON COUNTY**

117 W. High St., Suite 102 London, OH 43140 Phone: (740) 852-9424

#### MAHONING COUNTY

2801 Market St. Youngstown, OH 44507 Phone: (330) 783-2474

#### **MARION COUNTY**

222 W. Center St. Marion, OH 43302 Phone: (740) 223-4090

#### **MEDINA COUNTY**

4210 N. Jefferson, Box 506 Medina, OH 44256 Phone: (330) 722-9278

#### **MEIGS COUNTY**

117 E. Memorial Dr., Suite 1 Pomeroy, OH 45769-0688 Phone: (740) 992-2697

#### MERCER COUNTY

101 N. Main St., Rm 107 Celina, OH 45822 Phone: (419) 586-2215

#### **MIAMI COUNTY**

215 W. Main St. Troy, OH 45373 Phone: (937) 440-3900

#### **MONROE COUNTY**

101 N. Main St., Rm 15 Woodsfield, OH 43793 Phone: (740) 472-0929

#### **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

451 W. 3rd St. PO Box 8705 Dayton, OH 45481-8705 Phone: (937) 225-5656

#### **MORGAN COUNTY**

155 E. Main St., Rm. 157 McConnelsville, OH 43756 Phone: (740) 962-3116

#### **MORROW COUNTY**

619 W. Marion Rd. Mt. Gilead, OH 43338 Phone: (419) 946-4026

#### **MUSKINGUM COUNTY**

205 N. Seventh St. Zanesville, OH 43701 Phone: (740) 455-7120

#### **NOBLE COUNTY**

140 Court House Caldwell, OH 43724 Phone: (740) 732-2057

#### **OTTAWA COUNTY**

8444 W. SR 163, Suite 101 Oak Harbor, OH 43449 Phone: (419) 898-3071

#### **PAULDING COUNTY**

105 E. Perry St. Paulding, OH 45879-1412 Phone: (419) 399-8230

#### **PERRY COUNTY**

121 W. Brown St. Box 187 New Lexington, OH 43764 Phone: (740) 342-2134

#### **PICKAWAY COUNTY**

141 West Main St., Suite 800 Circleville, OH 43113 Phone: (740) 474-1100

#### PIKE COUNTY

230 Waverly Plaza, Ste. 1100 Waverly, OH 45690 Phone: (740) 947-2039

#### PORTAGE COUNTY

449 S. Meridian St., Rm. 101 Ravenna, OH 44266 Phone: (330) 297-3511

#### PREBLE COUNTY

101 E. Main St. Eaton, OH 45320-1758 Phone: (937) 456-8117

#### **PUTNAM COUNTY**

336 E Main St. , Suite A Ottawa, OH 45875 Phone: (419) 523-3343

#### RICHLAND COUNTY

1495 W. Longview, Ste. 101 Mansfield, OH 44906 Phone: (419) 774-5530

#### **ROSS COUNTY**

475 Western, Suite D PO Box 1663 Chillicothe, OH 45601 Phone: (740) 775-2350

#### SANDUSKY COUNTY

2020 Countryside Dr. Fremont, OH 43420 Phone: (419) 334-6180

#### **SCIOTO COUNTY**

602 Seventh St., Rm 105 Portsmouth, OH 45662 Phone: (740) 353-4178

### **SENECA COUNTY**

71 S. Washington, Ste. 1101 Tiffin, OH 44883-0667 Phone: (419) 447-4424

#### SHELBY COUNTY

230 E. Court St. Sidney, OH 45365 Phone: (937) 498-7207

#### **STARK COUNTY**

201 Third St. NE Canton, OH 44702-1296 Phone: (330) 451-8683

#### **SUMMIT COUNTY**

470 Grant St. Akron, OH 44311-1157 Phone: (330) 643-5200

#### TRUMBULL COUNTY

2947 Youngstown Rd., SE Warren, OH 44484 Phone: (330) 369-4050

#### **TUSCARAWAS COUNTY**

101 E High Ave. PO Box 69 New Philadelphia, OH 44663 Phone: (330) 343-8819

#### **UNION COUNTY**

940 London Ave., Suite 1000 Marysville, OH 43040-1621 Phone: (937) 642-2836

#### **VAN WERT COUNTY**

120 E. Main St. Van Wert, OH 45891-1428 Phone: (419) 238-4192

#### VINTON COUNTY

31935 SR 93, Unit 1 McArthur, OH 45651 Phone: (740) 596-5855

#### WARREN COUNTY

406 Justice Dr., Rm 323 Lebanon, OH 45036-2314 Phone: (513) 695-1358

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY

205 Putnam St. Marietta, OH 45750 Phone: (740) 374-6828

#### **WAYNE COUNTY**

200 Vanover Street, Suite 1 Wooster, OH 44691-4849 Phone: (330) 287-5480

#### WILLIAMS COUNTY

228 S. Main Street Bryan, OH 43506 Phone: (419) 636-1854

### **WOOD COUNTY**

1 Court House Sq. Bowling Green, OH 43402 Phone: (419) 354-9120

#### **WYANDOT COUNTY**

109 S. Sandusky Ave., Rm 12 Upper Sandusky, OH 43351 Phone: (419) 294-1226



# Make a difference! Serve your community, Ohio and your country! On Election Day - be a Poll Worker!

To sign up to be a Poll Worker, please complete the form below and send it to your county board of elections office (see pages 23-28 for county board contact information).

Name:	 	
Address:		
City, State, Zip:		
County:		
Phone Number:		
Party Affiliation:	 	 

Please mail this form directly to your county board of elections office. For more information, please contact an election official in your county.

# **Quick Facts about Poll Workers:**

- 1. Poll workers are always needed;
- 2. Serving your county on Election Day is an important contribution to democracy;
- 3. You can earn extra money by working the polls;
- 4. Work hours are approximately 5:30 a.m. 7:30 p.m.;
- 5. To be a poll worker, you must be at least 17 years of age and a registered voter; and
- 6. You will need to attend a paid training session(s) to work at the polls.

