

How to Vote by Mail

Voting by mail is:

- ★ *Safe*
- ★ *Fast, and*
- ★ *Accurate*
- ★ *Easy!*

Why do most California voters vote by mail?

Because it's safe, accurate, fast, and easy. Here's why:

- ★ **Safe.** The U.S. Post Office delivers your ballot to the Registrar of Voters. We keep all vote-by-mail ballots in a locked room
- ★ **Accurate.** You can study your ballot at home. Take your time to make informed choices and mark your ballot correctly.
- ★ **Fast.** Vote at home when *you* want. Then put your ballot in the mailbox. No standing in line on Election Day!
- ★ **Easy.** We mail your ballot to you. And you can mail it back to us.

Is voting by mail the same as Absentee Voting?

Yes. In 2007, the law changed the name to "voting by mail."

How do I sign up to vote by mail?

Fill out an application. (You must be registered to vote in this county.) To get an application:

- ★ Call: **458-0500** or **1-877-458-0501 toll free**
- ★ Go to: www.countyofcolusa.org/elections
- ★ Fax: (530) 458-0512
- ★ Fill out the application on the back cover of your Voter Information Pamphlet, or
- ★ Mail us your request at the address below.

Is there a deadline to apply?

Yes! We must **receive** your application by mail or fax at least **7 days before the election**.

What if I miss the deadline?

You must apply in person at the Registrar of Voters' Office. If you are unable to get to our office, you may authorize someone to take your application for you. We will give you or that person your vote-by-mail ballot.

If I sign up to vote by mail, will I *always* have to vote by mail?

No, not unless *you* want to. You can apply to vote by mail for just one election.

Or you can apply to be a *Permanent Vote-by-Mail Voter* and get your ballot in the mail automatically before every election.

Can I vote by mail before an election?

Yes. We start mailing vote-by-mail ballots 29 days before the election. You can vote as soon as you receive your ballot.

How will I get my ballot?

We mail election materials to all vote-by-mail voters starting 29 days before the election.

You will receive a:

- ★ Ballot,
- ★ Instructions, and
- ★ A return envelope.



What if I don't get my ballot?

Call us, and we will send you a replacement ballot.

How do I turn in my vote-by-mail ballot?

Place your ballot in the envelope provided in the packet. Sign the envelope. Then, return your ballot:

- ★ By mail,
- ★ In person to the Registrar of Voters Office during business hours, or
- ★ In person to any polling place in this county from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Important! Sign your return envelope! If you do not, your ballot will not be counted.

What is the deadline to turn in my ballot?

We must receive it by **8 p.m. on Election Day**. If it arrives late, we cannot count it.

Can I confirm that you received my vote-by-mail ballot?

Yes. Call us at the number below. Or track your ballot at: www.countyofcolusa.org/elections

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