

# COVID-19 ELECTIONS FAQs

## 1. Will I still be able to vote in-person on Election Day?

Yes, you will still be able to vote in-person on Election Day. However, in the event of an emergency, such as the polling place being unavailable, your polling place may be moved to a different location. Some changes may occur well before the election, and some changes may occur right before Election Day. Please contact your local Circuit Clerk's Office or Election Commissioners to verify your polling place before Election Day.

## 2. How do I find out if my polling place has moved?

Contact your local Circuit Clerk's Office or Election Commissioners for the most up-to-date and accurate information regarding your polling place. You can also confirm your polling place by using the Polling Place Locator on our Y'all Vote website ([yallvote.ms](http://yallvote.ms)) or calling the Secretary of State's Call Center at (601)576-2550.

## 3. What COVID-19 safety precautions can I expect at my polling place?

Poll managers will be equipped with masks, gloves, and face shields, while hand sanitizer and single-use pens and/or styluses will be available for all voters. Additionally, a limited number of masks will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis for voters who do not have their own. Mississippi is a bottom-up state, meaning the counties are in charge of conducting elections, so each county may implement additional COVID-19 safety measures. Any voter exhibiting signs of COVID-19 is encouraged to absentee vote. Curbside voting (weather permitting) is also an option for voters exhibiting signs of COVID-19. For questions regarding curbside voting, please contact your local Circuit Clerk or Election Commissioners.

## 4. How do I request an absentee ballot?

Mississippi allows both in-person absentee voting and absentee voting by mail for those who qualify to vote absentee. Absentee ballots for County Election are available through your County Circuit Clerk's Office. Please contact your local Circuit Clerk to see if you qualify to request an absentee ballot.

If you are absentee voting in-person, you will complete both the absentee application and absentee ballot in the Circuit Clerk's Office.

If qualified to absentee vote by mail, please request an absentee application and an absentee ballot. The Circuit Clerk will mail you both an application and ballot, but please remember, if absentee voting by mail, you must return your ballot by mail. It is illegal to hand-deliver an absentee ballot in Mississippi.

You can find the contact information for your County Circuit Clerk's Office on our Y'all Vote website. Absentee ballots for the November 3rd General Election will be available no later than September 21st.

Absentee ballots for Municipal Elections are available through your Municipal Clerk's Office.



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## 5. Can I vote absentee by mail?

Possibly. Under Mississippi law, certain excuses allow a voter to cast their absentee ballot by mail. Those who are sixty-five (65) years old or older, any person who is the parent, spouse or dependent of a temporarily or permanently disabled person who is hospitalized outside of their county of residence, or more than fifty (50) miles away from their residence and the parent, spouse or dependent will be with the hospitalized person on election day; temporarily residing outside of the county; or any person with a temporary or permanent disability, which has been expanded to include those with a physician-imposed quarantine or a person carrying from someone who is under a physician-imposed quarantine due to COVID-19 in the year 2020. Please contact your Circuit Clerk to see if you qualify to vote absentee by mail.

## 6. Can I request an absentee ballot due to COVID-19?

Possibly. Under Mississippi law, voters who meet certain requirements are entitled to absentee vote by mail. The Mississippi Legislature recently expanded those who are entitled to vote by absentee, including mail-in absentee, to include those who are under a “physician-imposed quarantine,” caring for a dependent who is under a “physician-imposed quarantine”, or the parent, spouse or dependent of a person with a permanent or physical disability who is hospitalized outside of the county they live in or are more than fifty (50) miles from their residence who is under a “physician-imposed quarantine”, due to COVID-19.

Please contact your Circuit Clerk to see if you are entitled to vote by mail.

## 7. When is the deadline to vote by absentee?

The deadline for in-person absentee voting is October 31, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Circuit Clerk’s Office are open from 8 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

While there is no deadline to request a mailed absentee ballot, please allow sufficient time for the Circuit Clerk’s Office to receive your ballot. The USPS is recommending voters request a mailed ballot no later than two weeks before the election. Absentee ballots returned by mail must be postmarked on/before the day of the election (Tuesday, November 3rd) and received by the Circuit Clerk no later than five (5) business days from the date of the election.

## 8. If I vote by absentee ballot, can I change my vote on election day?

No. Under recent changes to Mississippi’s election laws, your absentee ballot will be your final vote. This means that anyone who votes absentee (in-person or by mail) can not show up to a polling place on Election Day and cast a regular ballot.



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## 9. Can I vote from my car (curbside)?

Yes. Curbside voting is available for those that cannot leave their vehicle; have trouble entering a polling location; or have symptoms of COVID-19. Please keep in mind this process may take longer and requires two election workers. If you can vote by absentee or in-person at your polling place, we encourage you to do so.

## 10. Do I have to wear a face mask to vote?

No, you will not be denied entry to your polling place for not wearing a face mask. While you will not be required to wear a mask, it is strongly encouraged that you follow Mississippi Department of Health and Center for Disease Control, which can be found at the following links: [Mississippi Department of Health Guidance](#) and [Center for Disease Control Guidance](#).

