How Your Vote-by-Mail Ballot Works

All registered voters in California will be mailed a ballot by October 5 for the General Election on Tuesday, November 3.

- Fill out your ballot, insert it into the return envelope and seal it.
- Complete ALL required information on the back of the return envelope, including your SIGNATURE and DATE.
- Return your ballot by mail (no stamp needed), or at any Drop Box, Vote Center, County Elections Office or Polling Place.

Return Your Ballot Early ...and skip the lines!

BY U.S. MAIL

Must be postmarked by Tuesday, November 3
Mail your ballot at any U.S. Postal Service mailbox or post office (if mailed on Election Day, make sure another collection is scheduled). No stamp is needed. Do not mail your ballot after November 3.

AT ANY BALLOT DROP BOX

October 5 – November 3, Election Day
To find secure county Drop Boxes:
Check ...... County Voter Information Guide mailed to you
Visit ........ Vote.CA.gov → Early Voting Locations
Visit ........ Website of your County Registrar of Voters

AT ANY VOTE CENTER

October 5 – November 3, Election Day
To find Vote Centers for ballot drop-off (not available in some counties):
Visit ........ Vote.CA.gov → Early Voting Locations

AT YOUR COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE

October 5 – November 3, Election Day
Visit ........ Vote.CA.gov → County Election Contacts

AT ANY POLLING PLACE

Only on Election Day 7:00 am–8:00 pm
To find a Polling Place near you:
Check ...... Back of your Voter Information Guide
Visit ........ Vote.CA.gov → Polling Places
Text ........ Vote to GOVOTE (468683)
Call ........... (800) 345-VOTE (8683)
Register to Vote

Online deadline: October 19 at midnight
Register online (10 languages available), or contact your County Elections Office.
Visit .......... Vote.CA.gov → Register to Vote

Register in-person: October 20 – November 3, Election Day
Same Day Voter Registration allows eligible citizens to conditionally register (or re-register) and vote in person at any Vote Center, Polling Place, or your County Elections Office. Your ballot is counted once officials have completed the voter verification process.
Visit .......... Vote.CA.gov → Same Day Voter Registration

Vote & Track Your Ballot!
Sign up for BallotTrax to see where your ballot is – and its status – every step of the way.
Visit .......... WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov

Voting In Person
If you choose to vote in person, bring your unused Vote-by-Mail ballot with you. It will be exchanged for a ballot that you can use instead. If you lost, damaged, or forgot to bring your ballot, request poll workers give you a Provisional Ballot which will be counted after it is confirmed you are registered and did not already vote in this election. You have the right to vote if you’re in line when the polls close at 8:00 pm.

October 5 – November 3, Election Day 7:00 am–8:00 pm
- ANY VOTE CENTER (not available in some counties)
- YOUR COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE

Only on Election Day 7:00 am–8:00 pm
- YOUR ASSIGNED POLLING PLACE

When to Ask for a Provisional Ballot
If your status to vote is questioned for any reason at a Polling Place or Vote Center, you have the right to request a Provisional Ballot which will be counted after it is confirmed you are registered and did not already vote in this election.

Request a Provisional Ballot if:
- You did not receive, lost, or damaged your Vote-by-Mail ballot
- You are voting in person but did not bring your ballot with you
- Your name is not on the voter list at your Polling Place or at a Vote Center, or you are at a Polling Place other than your own