

Election Day FAQs

Q1. Can I surrender my mail ballot and vote at the polls?

A1. All voters now receive mail ballots. If you want to vote at the polls, you can surrender your mail ballot and vote in-person at a voter service and polling center.

Q2. Do I need identification if I vote in person?

A2. All voters who vote in-person must provide identification. While there are many forms of [acceptable identification](#), most voters find it convenient to bring their Colorado driver's license. A Colorado ID is available at no cost to those who are eligible. For more information, please contact the [Colorado Department of Revenue](#).

Q3. When I vote and show an ID like my Colorado driver's license, does the address on my ID need to match my voter registration?

A3. If you show ID that has an address on it, the address must be in Colorado but it does not have to match your voter registration.

Q4. If I am a new citizen, must I show proof of citizenship when I vote?

A4. If you are registered to vote, you have already affirmed to your citizenship and are not required to show proof when voting. Keep in mind that all voters are required to provide ID if they vote in person (and sometimes if they vote by mail). Please see the list of [acceptable identification](#).

Q5. Can I get time off from my job to vote?

A5. Yes. By law, an elector may get time off without loss of pay if he or she does not have sufficient time outside of regular working hours to vote.

Q6. How can I find my polling location?

A6. All general, primary, odd-year, coordinated, recall, and congressional vacancy elections are now conducted by mail ballot. But if you want to vote at a polling location, you can find your polling location by visiting www.govotecolorado.com and reviewing your information.

Q7. Will I still be able to vote if I am in line past 7:00 PM on Election Day?

A7. Voters who are in line at their polling location by 7:00 PM are allowed to vote no matter how long it takes for each person to cast his or her ballot.

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Q8. If I am voting by mail, when must the county clerk and recorder receive my ballot?

A8. Mail ballots must be received by the county clerk and recorder no later than 7:00 PM on Election Day. Electors are encouraged to drop off ballots at designated drop off sites or mail their ballots in time to be received by the county clerk before the polls close. Postmarks do not count; ballots must be in the hands of the county clerk by 7:00 PM on Election Day in order to be counted.

Q9. How do provisional ballots work?

A9. If you try to register to vote on Election Day, but do not have verifiable identification, you may vote a provisional ballot. After Election Day, the election official will review the provisional ballot to verify your eligibility to vote. If you are eligible, your ballot will be counted. For more information please see [Provisional Ballot FAQs](#).

Q10. Will my ballot be counted if I don't vote every race on it? What if I leave some races blank?

A10. You do not have to vote on every race unless you choose to do so. For example, some electors only cast a vote for President while others may vote for every race. Whatever races you do choose to vote on will be counted.

Q11. What if I need assistance with voting?

A11. Voters with special needs, including the need for language assistance, have the right to have an election judge or any other person they choose assist them with voting. Additionally, some counties provide election materials in both English and Spanish.

Q12. What should I do if I do not receive my mail ballot or make a mistake, damage, or lose my mail ballot?

A12. You may request a replacement mail ballot from your [county clerk](#). You may also vote in-person at a voter service and polling center.

Q13. Are accessible voting machines available in every polling location?

A13. Accessible voting machines are available in every polling location for voters. Accessible voting machines provide the ability for voters with disabilities, including visual impairments, to vote privately and independently.

Voters using a touch screen voting machine or voting machines that use a wheel to make choices (called DREs) are encouraged to review their choices on the machine and on the paper printout. Touch screen machines place votes based on where the voter touches the screen. Sometimes voters may inadvertently touch a section of the screen that does not reflect the voter's choice. For voting machines that use a wheel to navigate to the ballot, voters are encouraged to carefully maneuver the wheel to make appropriate selections.

Q14. What kind of campaign activities are not allowed in a polling place?

A14. Electioneering, also called campaigning, is not allowed both in a polling location and within 100 feet of each polling location. Each polling place should have a sign marking the limit. Voters may not wear pins, t-shirts, hats, or other apparel that displays a preference for a candidate, political party, or ballot question.

"Electioneering" also includes soliciting signatures for a candidate petition, a recall petition, or a petition to place a ballot issue or ballot question on a subsequent ballot.

Campaign workers may be outside of polling places to offer water, snacks, and other items to voters who are in line to vote. These "comfort teams" may not campaign or wear campaign paraphernalia for a candidate, political party, or ballot question if they operate within 100 feet of the polling location.

Q15. How are election judges assigned to polling locations?

A15. All major political parties provide lists of election judges to the election official, and the election official uses the lists to assign bi-partisan teams of election judges to polling locations.

Q16. Can people observe the voting process?

A16. Many polling place will have poll watchers assigned to observe the voting process. Poll watchers are certified by political parties, unaffiliated candidates, and proponents and opponents of ballot questions. Poll watchers may observe the election process from before the polls open until after the election results are posted.

Q17. Can electors show how they voted or how others voted?

A17. Colorado law does not permit anyone to show how they voted or to show how others voted. In addition, some county clerks do not permit cameras, cell phones and other electronic devices inside the polling place.