



Town of Hopkinton

Voting by Mail

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When do I need to get the request form completed?

A: Either form needs to be submitted no later than noon on the last business day before the election. However, since the ballot will have to be sent to you by mail, we recommend submitting the forms to us as soon as possible so that we can get you your ballot as soon as they are available.

Q: When do I need to get my voted ballot in so it is counted?

A: The completed ballot needs to be received by us before the close of polls on election day. It can be received by mail, hand delivered to the Town Clerk/Assistant Town Clerk at the polls, or hand delivered through one of the drop boxes outside of the Town Hall.

Q: I can vote absentee or early by mail in this election. What is the difference and which should I choose?

A: The differences are very minor. Early voting by mail is only for our Annual Town election. Early voting by mail is currently what we are recommending most voters do unless they have already submitted a request for an absentee ballot.

Q: I have already requested an absentee ballot for this election or for all elections this year. Do I need to fill the form out again?

A: No, if you have already submitted a request for an absentee ballot this calendar year, then you do not need to complete this form again. Your ballot will be mailed as soon as they are available.

Q: I or my child had already requested an absentee ballot while away at college. Do we need to do anything else?

A: Maybe, if you requested that an absentee ballot be sent to you for this election or all elections this year at school then you will need to update where we will mail your ballot with a new application or by emailing townclerk@hopkintonma.gov to inform us that you will need us to send your ballot to your residential address rather than your school address.

Q: If I filled out an absentee ballot last year, do I need to fill one out for this year?

A: Yes, if you request ballots for the year, then you must request again every calendar year. If you sent in a request for this year then you should be all set for this election.

Q: If I send in the early ballot, but then decide to go to the polls, can my early ballot be omitted?

A: No, once you submit your voted early ballot you will be counted as having voted in the election and will not be able to come to the polls and vote another ballot.

Q: Does the risk of COVID-19 allow me to vote absentee? It isn't listed on the application.

A: Yes, the Secretary of the Commonwealth recently included the following reasons that allow a voter to qualify for an absentee ballot due to physical disability:

- You are ill;
- You are confined to your home because you may transmit infection;
- You cannot leave your home because you are a member of a population vulnerable to illness; or
- You are staying in your home or avoiding your polling place as a precautionary measure in response to COVID-19.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Town Clerk's office.