

# WHAT PENNSYLVANIA VOTERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CIVILIAN ABSENTEE BALLOTS

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# What Pennsylvania Voters Need to Know About Civilian Absentee Ballots

General Election Day is November 7, 2017

October/November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15 October	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1 November	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

**20**  
Suggested deadline  
to mail absentee  
ballot application

**27**  
Suggested deadline  
to mail voted  
absentee ballot

**31**  
deadline for county  
to receive  
absentee application

**3**  
deadline for county  
to receive voted  
absentee ballot

**7**  
General  
Election Day

Absentee ballot applications and voted ballots must be submitted to and **received** by the county board of elections office by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the deadline. **Postmarks do not mean "received."**

The United States Postal Service established the following service standards for mail delivered to Pennsylvania. Voters should mail their absentee ballot materials early and be prepared for the possibility of delivery delays beyond these standards:

- Mail sent from instate: two days (plus possibility of delay)
- Mail sent from outofstate: three to five days (plus possibility of delay)

To avoid any problems caused by unforeseen delays in delivery, voters should submit their absentee ballot requests and voted absentee ballots well in advance of the suggested deadlines above.



## ABSENTEE VOTING

You may vote absentee before Election Day if you cannot appear to vote at your polling place on Election Day. You must have a reason or excuse.

Who can vote an absentee ballot?

- 1) Voters who are away from their municipality
  - because of: business, duties or occupation
  - leave of absence or sabbatical leave
  - vacation
  - college student living at school
- 2) Voters who who cannot go to the polling place
  - because of: illness or disability
  - veterans who are bedridden or hospitalized
  - observance of a religious holiday
  - election duties
- 3) Voters who are:
  - outside of the United States because of business and their accompanying spouses and dependents
  - serving in the armed forces or Merchant Marine

Go to [votesPA.com/absentee](https://votesPA.com/absentee) for more information about absentee voting

How do I request an absentee ballot?

- 1) You can request an absentee ballot by:
  - submitting an absentee ballot request form (by mail or in person). You can download an application form from [votesPA.com/absenteeballot](https://votesPA.com/absenteeballot)
  - sending a letter to the county board of elections in the county in which you are registered
- 2) Print, complete, sign and deliver or mail the application to your local county election office. The address and telephone number for your local county elections and voter registration office may be found using the *County Information Link* at [votesPA.com/county](https://votesPA.com/county).

