Pennsylvania Voter Education Guide

2020 Election Dates
Last Day to Register to Vote for Primary: May 18*
Last Day to Apply for an Absentee or Mail-in Ballot: May 26*
Primary Election: June 2*
Last Day to Register to Vote for General Election: October 19
General Election: November 3

Ways to Vote
At the polls on Election Day, or
By mail-in (no excuse) or absentee ballot, or
In-person at County Board of Elections

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (If you’re in line by 8:00 p.m., you can vote!)

Need to register to vote or have questions?
Call 877-VOTESPA or go to www.votespa.com

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Contact your County Voter Services https://www.votespa.com/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx
Apply for a mail-in ballot to stay safe. https://bit.ly/ApplyMail-inBallot

*New dates are due to the pandemic.
How to Register to Vote

Online at [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com/) or By mail on a form available at libraries, PennDOT, State liquor stores or Call your state rep or In-person at county election offices.

°Check registration and polling location at [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com/)

°Deadline to register: 15 days before Election Day. Same to re-register for change of name, address or party affiliation.

°Eligibility to register: US citizen, PA resident for at least 30 days before Election Day, and 18 years old on or before Election Day. A PennDOT ID is required if you have one but if not, the last 4 digits of social security number or other accepted ID will be needed. If released from prison, in pretrial detention, or incarcerated for a misdemeanor you may register ([https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/Convicted-Felon,-Misdemeanant-or-Prettrial-Detainee.aspx](https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Pages/Convicted-Felon,-Misdemeanant-or-Prettrial-Detainee.aspx)).

°Closed primaries: You must register with an affiliated party to vote for that party’s candidates in the primary election.

°Voter ID: Only needed if first time voter or new to polling location.

PA has changes to its election law (Act 77).

°More Time to Register to Vote. The deadline to register to vote is now 15 days, rather than 30 days, prior to Election Day. **May 18, 2020** is the last day to register to vote for the primary on **June 2, 2020**.

°Mail-in Voting. New option for no excuse voting-by-mail. Apply by **May 26, 2020**. Absentee voting still exists for military, PA residents abroad, excused for work or vacation, disabled or illness, religious reasons, college student or incarcerated inmates not convicted of a felony. Website, [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com) online, guides applicant on choosing mail-in vs. absentee ballot. You can request an application from your state representative. *Mail-in and absentee ballots function the same way.

°Early In-person Voting. Vote in-person at the county board of election offices.

°Extended Deadline to Return Mail-in or Absentee Ballots. Submit mail-in or absentee ballots until 8 p.m. on Election Day, now June 2, 2020 (received by county board of election).

°Elimination of Straight Party Voting. It is no longer possible to vote for all of a party’s candidates with a single action. Only applicable in general election. *It helps to fill out the ballot from the bottom up.

°50-day Mail-in Voting Period. All voters can request and submit their mail-in or absentee ballot up to 50 days before the election

°Cannot vote in-person for primary if received a mail-in or absentee ballot. Polling locations will no longer be sent absentee ballots for counting. Instead, all mail-in and absentee ballots will be counted in one county location. *If for some reason a ballot was not received or sent in time, please request a provisional ballot at the polling location. This will change for the general election. Track the status of your request and ballot here: [http://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/BallotTracking.aspx](http://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/BallotTracking.aspx)

°New Voting Systems. All 67 counties will be using new voting systems that are auditable and provide a voter verified paper trail. For a demo of each county’s voting system go to [www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-System-Demos.aspx](http://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Voting-System-Demos.aspx).