

ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION

Who is qualified to vote an Absentee Ballot

Persons who are **registered** voters in McHenry County are eligible to cast an absentee ballot if they meet one of the following conditions:

1. Persons expecting to be absent from McHenry County on Election Day
2. Persons physically incapacitated or hospitalized
3. College or university students temporarily residing away from their home precincts
4. Persons who will be serving as election judges outside their home precinct on Election Day
5. Officials employed by the County Clerk or a law enforcement agency
6. Persons serving on jury duty on Election Day
7. Persons who are observing a religious holiday
8. Persons in jail as pre-trial detainees not serving jail sentences
9. Persons unable to enter their voting site due to Illinois Code 720 ILCS 5/11-9.3

Persons who have registered to vote by mail, must provide identification or vote in person the first time they cast a ballot.

In addition, the following **unregistered** voters are eligible to vote by absentee ballot:

1. Members of the Armed Forces or Merchant Marine and their spouses and dependents whether serving in the United States or abroad
2. U.S. citizens who maintained a residence in McHenry County immediately prior to their temporary departure from the U.S.
3. U.S. citizens and their spouses or dependents, overseas by virtue of employment

How to Obtain an Absentee Ballot

By Mail

You may request an application for an absentee ballot to be mailed to you. To request an application you may call the County Clerk's office at 815-334-4242 or email The County Clerk's office at countyclerk@co.mchenry.il.us

The Clerk's office will need the voter's name, residence address and date of birth for verification purposes. A phone number will be helpful, if the Clerk's office needs to contact you for additional information. The Clerk's office will also need to know the address that you want the application mailed to. Once you receive your application for an absentee ballot, you will need to complete the application, sign it and return said application to the County Clerk's office, for your absentee ballot. Absentee ballots may not be mailed more than 40 days nor less than 5 days prior to an election.

The returned ballot will need to be postmarked prior to Election Day and received by the Clerk's office within 14 days after the date of the election, to be counted.

In Person

You may vote an absentee ballot, in person, at the McHenry County Government Center, 667 Ware Rd., Woodstock, or at one of our other offsite voting locations. In person, absentee balloting will be conducted not more than 40 days nor less than one day prior to the election.

Early voting is also offered to any McHenry County registered voter, commencing 22 days prior to an election and ending 5 days prior to the election. Early voting does not require you to have a reason for voting prior to Election Day. For further information contact the County Clerk's office at 815-334-4242.

Early Voting information is posted approximately 30 days prior to an election.