

MILITARY & OVERSEAS CITIZENS
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSENTEE VOTING BY MAIL

State of Louisiana

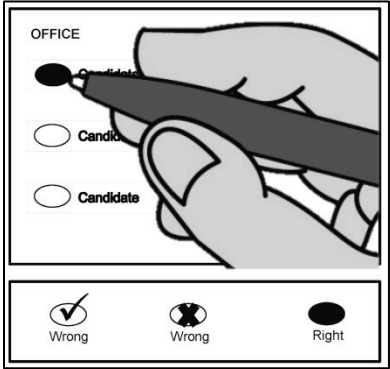
★ ★ **IMPORTANT: Mailing your ballot can take 7-10 days for delivery.** ★ ★
Your ballot must be delivered to the registrar of voters by 8:00 PM the DAY OF THE ELECTION.
Questions or Information: 1-800-883-2805

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY, INCLUDING FOOTNOTES, BEFORE VOTING.

COMPLETE.  SIGN.  MAIL. 

PRIMARY ELECTION OR GENERAL ELECTION (WHITE PAPER BALLOT):

- VISIT** www.GeauxVote.com or the GeauxVote App on a smartphone or tablet to view your sample ballot and confirm your absentee ballot is correct.
Primary election includes:
 - ✓ Primary election white paper ballot and ballot envelope with affidavit flap;
 - ✓ General election (green ranking ballot) and green ballot envelope with affidavit flap; and
 - ✓ One return envelope addressed to the registrar of voters.**General election includes:**
 - ✓ General election white paper ballot and ballot envelope with affidavit flap for any propositions added to the general election; and
 - ✓ One return envelope pre-addressed to your registrar of voters.
- MARK** your white paper ballot – all pages, front and back.
 - ★ Completely fill in the oval next to your choice.
 - ★ Pencil, black or blue pen are accepted. ¹
 - ★ Do not make any stray or identifying marks on ballot.
 - ★ You **must** mark your own ballot unless you are eligible for assistance. ²
 - ★ Request a replacement ballot, if necessary. ¹
- PLACE** voted white paper ballot (all pages) in the ballot envelope and seal. **The ballot envelope has a perforated affidavit flap attached - do NOT detach/remove the affidavit flap from the ballot envelope.**
- COMPLETE SECTION 1: ELECTION DATE AND VOTER INFORMATION** - Fill in all blanks that are not pre-populated on the affidavit, specifically:
 - ★ Print the date of election.
 - ★ Print name, parish and your Louisiana residential address where registered to vote if not pre-populated on the ballot envelope affidavit flap.
 - ★ Print your mother’s maiden name or “unknown”.
- COMPLETE SECTION 2: CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURES** - Sign and print your name on the affidavit flap after reading the statements that you are attesting to in voting.
- COMPLETE SECTION 3: ASSISTANCE ACKNOWLEDGMENT** - If registered for assistance², the person assisting you in voting **must** sign and print their name on the acknowledgment signature line at the bottom of the affidavit flap. **If you are not registered for assistance in voting, leave blank.**
- PLACE** the sealed ballot envelope with attached completed affidavit flap containing the voted ballot in the white return envelope that is addressed to the registrar of voters. (If voting a general election (green ranking ballot), do not seal until you have completed voting your general election ballot (green ranking ballot) and included it in the return envelope.)



GENERAL ELECTION (GREEN RANKING BALLOT):

- The general election (green ranking ballot) is sent with the primary election white paper ballot in order to timely vote in both elections for all candidate races, if there are more than two candidates in a race. The deadline to add a proposition or question to the general election falls after the ballots are mailed and therefore, a general election white paper ballot may be sent in a separate mailing before the general election if a proposition or question was added to the election.
- MARK** your general election (green ranking ballot) by **preference for each candidate** by ranking your candidate choices by placing the number one (1) in the box next to the candidate’s name of your first choice, the number two (2) next to the candidate’s name of your second choice, and so on until you have completed voting. You may rank all candidates in each race.
- PLACE** voted general election (green ranking ballot) (all pages) in the green ballot envelope and seal. **The green ballot envelope has a perforated flap with an affidavit - DO NOT DETACH OR REMOVE THE AFFIDAVIT FROM THE BALLOT ENVELOPE.**
- FOLLOW** the instructions in numbers 4-7 above to complete the process.

RETURNING VOTED BALLOT(S) AND COUNTING INFORMATION

- ★ No postage is necessary. ³
- ★ Return ballots by mail, commercial courier, hand delivery, or by fax (Contact your registrar of voters for fax information or other special return methods).

Ballots will be counted election night by the parish board of election supervisors with a digital scanner or by hand. ⁴ If your first choice candidate is eliminated in the primary, your second choice candidate will receive your vote in the general election and so on until order of preference is exhausted. If you choose to number only one candidate and if that candidate does not advance to the general election, you will NOT have cast a vote for a candidate for that office in the general election.

¹ To **change a vote**, use pencil and erase completely or if black or blue pen were used, request a replacement ballot from your registrar of voters. If you will not have time to request a replacement ballot by mail, contact the registrar of voters for another delivery method. Only vote for the number of candidates to be elected or only vote for or against a proposition. If you overvoted, your ballot will be **VOID** in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1309(E)(5)(b)(i).

² A voter is eligible for assistance if registered to vote as needing assistance, unable to read, or physically disabled including visual impairment. A voter may receive assistance from any person he chooses, **except from a CANDIDATE, employer, employer’s agent or union agent**. A voter registration application requesting a change for assistance in voting or proof of disability is required to be filed with the registrar of voters either by mail or in person if you become disabled after registering and need assistance in voting, unless assistance is needed because you are unable to read. The person assisting a voter **must** inform the voter that a signature or mark constitutes certification that all statements on the affidavit are true and correct and subject to fine or imprisonment, or both, for false or incorrect statements (La. R.S. 18:1310).

³ To be mailed without prepayment of postage, the balloting materials must be deposited at a U.S. Post Office, an overseas U.S. Military Post Office (APO/FPO), a Diplomatic Post Office (DPO), or an American Embassy or American Consulate in accordance with DMM 703.8.2.2.

⁴ Your ballot will be counted by comparing the name on your affidavit to the list of absentee by mail ballots and determining if your ballot is valid. A ballot may be rejected if: (1) it is successfully challenged by a candidate or their representative, a member of the board, or a qualified elector on grounds that the voter is not qualified to vote in the election or precinct or is not the person whose name is shown as being registered to vote; (2) the board has cause to reject the ballot; or (3) the ballot contains a distinguishing mark or feature that allows it to be identified as the voter’s ballot. **Cause may include failure to fill in any and/or all blanks on the affidavit flap of the ballot envelope.**