

# VOTE

## KEY DATES



### October 19th

First day of in-person early voting

### October 26th

Last day to register to vote for November 5th election

### November 1st

Last day of in-person early voting

### November 4th at 4pm

Deadline for new citizens to register to vote in person at a local election office if naturalized after October 26th.

### November 5th

Election day and deadline to mail or drop off vote by mail ballots

## How to Register to Vote

**You can register to vote as soon as you are naturalized** as long as you are:

- A resident of Massachusetts
- 16 years or older (you may vote if you will be 18 on or before Election Day)
- Not currently incarcerated by reason of a felony

You will need to register using a **paper form**, either by mail or in person, until the next time you renew your driver's license or state ID with the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The RMV can't verify your identity to use the Online Voter Registration System until you provide them with proof of citizenship.

To **register by mail**, you will need to print, fill out, and sign this [form](#). Once you have completed the form, mail the signed form to your local election office. The address for the local election offices can be found here: [Find Local Election Offices & Dropboxes \(state.ma.us\)](#).

To **register in-person**, visit one of these offices:

- Your election official's office.
- The Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth Elections Division, located at 1 Ashburton Place, Room 1705, Boston, MA 02108.
- The Secretary of the Commonwealth's regional offices, located at:
  - Southeastern District Office: 18 South Main St., Suite 206, Fall River, MA 02721
  - Western District Office, 436 Dwight St., Room 102, Springfield, MA 01103

If you became a U.S. citizen after the voter registration deadline (**October 26, 2024**), you can register to vote in person at your local election office until **4PM on the day before the election**.

**Make sure you bring proof that your naturalization ceremony took place after the voter registration deadline.**

Your voting rights as a new US citizen in Massachusetts.



# How to Vote

## Early by Mail

Apply for a mail-in early voting ballot online at [VoteinMA.com](https://VoteinMA.com) or complete and submit the application that was mailed to you.

Your application must reach election officials by **5PM on October 29th**. Return your ballot by mail or deliver it in person to your local election office, an official ballot return drop box in your city or town, or any early voting location in your city or town during early voting hours.

If returning your ballot by mail, it is recommended to mail at least 7 days before Election Day. Your ballot must be **postmarked or dropped-off by 8PM on Election Day**. Track your ballot or look up drop-off locations at [VoteinMA.com](https://VoteinMA.com).

## Early in Person

Go to an early voting location in your city or town from **October 19th – November 1st**.

Early voting locations and hours will be posted by **October 11th** on [VoteinMA.com](https://VoteinMA.com).

## In Person on Election Day

On **November 5th**, vote at your polling location **between 7AM – 8PM**.

If you are in line by 8PM, you have the right to vote. Confirm your polling location at [VoteinMA.com](https://VoteinMA.com).

## Why is there a police officer at my polling location?

State and federal law protects your right to vote safely in elections, free from intimidation.

Massachusetts state law requires that local police officers be at polling places to assist local election officials and to ensure that voters are not obstructed from voting (Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 54, § 72).

## What are poll observers allowed to do?

Massachusetts law provides that elections must be conducted in a manner that is open to public observation. Poll observers are allowed inside the polling place, unless they are disorderly or obstruct the access of voters (950 CMR 52.03(22); 950 CMR 54.04(22)).

Poll watchers may observe polling place operations but they cannot intimidate, threaten, coerce or otherwise interfere with your right to cast your ballot (950 CMR 52.03(22); 950 CMR 54.04(22)).

If you have questions or become aware of efforts to interfere in the upcoming election or to intimidate voters, please contact the Secretary of State at **1-800-462-VOTE** or the Attorney General's Office at **617-727-2200**.

## Are political activities allowed at polling locations?

Under Massachusetts law, electioneering, campaigning, signature-gathering and other specific political activities are prohibited within 150 feet of a voting location. The 150-foot rule applies to polling locations on Election Day and early voting sites during voting hours (950 CMR § 52.03(22)(c) and 54.04(22)(c)).

This rule extends to voters, too, in that voters may not carry or wear into a voting location any items designed to aid or defeat a candidate or question being voted on in that location. For example, this includes clothing bearing a candidate's name, slogan or image, the name of a candidate's policy proposal, or a political party name.

If you have questions or experience impermissible electioneering or campaigning at your polling location, please contact the Secretary of State at **1-800-462-VOTE** or the Attorney General's Office at **617-727-2200**.

