Absentee Ballot Instructions

R.C. 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.08, 3505.181

Please Read Carefully

1 Complete Your Ballot

- Fill in the entire box or oval for your selection.
- Do not make any other markings on your ballot.
- Follow the specific instructions on the ballot.

2 Prepare Your Ballot and Envelope

On the *outside* of the Identification Envelope, you *must* do the following:

- Print your name and address on the Identification Envelope (if not already preprinted by your board of elections)
- Provide **ONE** of the following:
  - **A.** The last four digits of your Social Security number **OR**
  - **B.** Your Ohio driver license or state ID card number (2 letters followed by 6 numbers) **OR**
  - **C.** A **COPY** of a different form of current photo identification (a driver license, state ID card, or interim ID form issued by the Ohio BMV; a U.S. passport or passport card; or a U.S. military ID card, military dependent card, Ohio National Guard ID card, or U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID card). The copy of the photo ID must include images of the front and back, except for a passport which must include the passport's identification page.

If you choose option C above, place the **copy of your photo ID** in the Return Envelope **separate** from the Identification Envelope. Election officials must be able to see you have provided ID in order to open and count your ballot.

➔ **Please DO NOT mail your original ID!**

- Sign your name. **Important!** Your ballot cannot be counted without your signature.
- Seal your voted ballot into the Identification Envelope. Do not remove the numbered stub attached to your ballot.

- Place the sealed, completed, and signed Identification Envelope into the Return Envelope.
- Seal the Return Envelope containing your completed and sealed Identification Envelope and, if applicable, a copy of your photo ID.

printed in-house

3 Return Your Absentee Ballot

Ohio law requires all absentee ballots to be received by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day under one of the following options:

By Mail

Complete your ballot, place in ID envelope, sign and seal, insert into the return envelope, and return it with affixed postage to your county board of elections ***as soon as possible*** to allow for postal delivery by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

Your voted absentee ballot postage cost:

In Person

To a Drop Box

Complete your ballot, place in ID envelope, sign and seal, insert into the return envelope, and return it in person without postage to the drop box located at your county board of elections by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

In Person at the Board of Elections Office

Complete your ballot, place in ID envelope, sign and seal, insert into the return envelope, and return it in person without postage to your county board of elections office by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. Only you or a near relative* may deliver your ballot. A voter who is disabled may select anyone to deliver their ballot, other than their employer or an officer in their union (52 U.S.C. § 10508). The person delivering a ballot for either a family member or a voter with a disability MUST complete an attestation form at the county board of elections office (Form 12-P). For county boards of elections locations and hours, please visit: VoteOhio.gov.

You may **NOT** return your absentee ballot to your polling place.

4 Track Your Ballot

- Go to VoteOhio.gov/track.
- Select your county.
- Enter your first and last name to see where your ballot is or if it has been processed.

What happens if I make an error when I mark my ballot?

If you make a mistake when marking your ballot, please contact your county board of elections for a replacement ballot. You may request a replacement ballot only two times.

NOTICE:

If you change your mind about voting absentee and decide to vote at your polling location on Election Day, you will be required to vote a provisional ballot.

** Near relative includes the voter's spouse or the voter's father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece (R.C. 3509.05).*