

2024 Early Voting and Ballot Question General Election Fact Sheet

TOP THINGS TO REMIND VOTERS

Registration Deadline

Voter Guide Available at: MyVote.ct.gov/voterguide

- Friday, October 18, 2024
 - Deadline for:
 - Mail-In voter registration applications to be received or post-marked by this day to the Registrars
 - Online voter registration by 11:59 pm
 - Registering to vote at the DMV by the close of business
 - In-Person registration at the Registrars' office by 8 pm

Early Voting

- THE DAYS OF THE EARLY VOTING PERIOD FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ARE 10/21/24 to 11/3/24: Eligible voters are able to vote in-person at their early voting location 10 AM 6 PM on these days.
 - Note: On October 29th and October 31st, Early voting locations will be open from 8 am to 8 pm.
 - Early voting is in-person, it is safe and secure, and ballots remain unopened until Election Day.
- Check the Secretary of the State <u>website here</u> or your municipality's website to find your early voting location(s).

Same Day Registration (SDR)

- SDR allows any eligible CT voter, who is not yet registered or who is registered in one town but has moved to another, to register and vote during the early voting period or on Election Day.
 - At least one SDR location will be designated in each town where you may register and vote during the early voting period or on Election Day. In most towns, the SDR location will be the same as the early voting location.

Election Day

- NOTHING HAS CHANGED ON ELECTION DAY
 - On Tuesday, November 5, polls are open from 6 AM 8 PM.
 - **Absentee ballots** must be received by **8 PM** on Election Day (by mail/by drop-box/in-person by designee).

EARLY VOTING

EARLY VOTING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is early voting?

Early voting allows voters to vote in-person safely and securely before Election Day.

How many early voting locations will be in each city/town?

Each town/city will have at least one early voting location. Voters can check their municipality's website for its early voting location or visit MyVote.CT.gov approximately one month before the election for the location.

What should voters expect at the early voting location?

When voters arrive at the early voting location, they will check in and be verified as an eligible voter. They will then receive a ballot with an envelope. They will complete their ballot at a privacy booth and seal it in the approved envelope. Before leaving, they will place the sealed envelope in the secure receptacle as instructed by the election officials. Ballots will be secured unopened until Election

When will ballots be counted?

Ballots cast during early voting will be sealed and stored securely in each town. They will be opened and counted on Election Day.

How does early voting differ from voting by absentee ballot?

Absentee ballot voting requires a reason. If you are unable to appear at your polling place on Election Day for any of the following reasons you may vote by absentee ballot: active service in the armed forces; absence from town; sickness (not necessarily your own); physical disability (not necessarily your own); religious beliefs; and duties as an elections' official in a town other than one's own. Early voting is available to every eligible voter, without a specific reason needed. Early voting may be done only in-person, not via mail or drop box.

WHAT'S THE QUESTION ON THE BALLOT THIS NOVEMBER?

ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTING AMENDMENT

BALLOT QUESTION - (In Spanish): <u>2024-constitutional-amendment-question-and-explanatory-text---spanish.pdf (ct.gov)</u>

1. "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to allow each voter to vote by absentee ballot?"

CONTENT AND PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Under the current state constitution, qualified voters may cast an absentee vote only if they are unable to vote in person at their polling place on election day due to (1) absence from their city or town, (2) sickness or physical disability, or (3) their religious beliefs prohibiting secular activity on that day.

If this amendment is approved, the state constitution would no longer limit the reasons why absentee voting may be used. Therefore, it would expand the state legislature's authority to pass laws regarding voting by qualified voters who will not appear at their polling place on election day. The preceding explanatory text was prepared by the nonpartisan Office of Legislative Research subject to approval by the General Assembly's joint standing Committee on Government Administration and Elections in accordance with Section 2-30a of the Connecticut General Statutes.

TEXT OF THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

(As set forth in H.J.R. No. 1 in 2023)

Section 1. That the following be proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the State, which, when approved and adopted in the manner provided by the Constitution, shall, to all intents and purposes, become a part thereof:

Section 7 of article sixth of the Constitution is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7. The general assembly may provide by law for voting in the choice of any officer to be elected or upon any question to be voted on at an election by qualified voters of the state who [are unable to] will not appear at the polling place on the day of election. [because of absence from the city or town of which they are inhabitants or because of sickness or physical disability or because the tenets of their religion forbid secular activity.]

Adopted May 30, 2023

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROCESS In accordance with Article Sixth of the amendments to the Connecticut State Constitution, this proposed amendment was approved by the General Assembly and is to be voted upon by the electors of each town at the state election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

If a majority of the electors voting on the proposed amendment approve it, the amendment will become part of the state constitution.

RELEVANT WEBSITES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- Downloadable Early Voting One-Sheets in English and Spanish Civics 101.ct.gov
- 2024 Voter Guide <u>MyVote.CT.gov/voterguide</u>
- Early Voting and SDR Locations https://portal.ct.gov/sots/election-services/early-voting-locations---2024-general-election
- Sample Ballots by Town https://portal.ct.gov/sots/election-services/town-ballots/2024-general-election-sample-ballots
- Absentee Ballot Application (English) (Spanish) (Online)
- Official Office of the Secretary of the State Elections and Voter Information
 Webpage MyVote.ct.gov
- Online Voter Registration VoterRegistration.ct.gov
- Voter Registration Lookup Tool https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx
- Election Day Hotline to Report Voting Issues 1-866-733-2463 or Email:
 elections@ct.gov
- Election Night Results Reporting https://ctemspublic.pcctg.net/#/selectTown
- Election Results Archive https://electionhistory.ct.gov/eng/
- Connecticut General Statutes Title 9 Elections -https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/title_09.htm