

ABSENTEE VOTING

Who can vote absentee?

- Persons with employment obligations which prevent them from voting during early voting hours for the duration of the early voting period, and during the hours the polls are open on election day.
- Persons attending a sick or physically disabled person which prevents them from voting during early voting hours for the duration of the early voting period, and during the hours the polls are open on election day.
- Persons confined to a jail or pretrial facility pending disposition of arrest or trial which prevents them from voting during early voting hours for the duration of the early voting period, and during the hours the polls are open on election day.
- Persons who will be absent from their county of residence during early voting hours for the duration of the early voting period, and during the hours the polls are open on election day.
- Persons with physical disabilities.
- Persons sixty-five years of age or older.
- Members of the Armed Forces and Merchant Marines of the United States, their spouses, and dependents residing with them (**[Learn more about procedures related to Military and Overseas Citizens](#)**).
- Persons admitted to a hospital as an emergency patient on the day of the election or within a four-day period before the election (see additional details below).

How can I vote absentee?

Step 1: Get your application

- You can submit your request for an application as early as January 1 of the election year.

- Call, visit or send your request by U.S. mail to your [county voter registration office](#).

Beaufort - 15 John Galt Rd., Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm 843-255-6900

Bluffton -Satellite Office – Myrtle Park Government Center4819
Bluffton Parkway – August 21-October 16, 2024 Wednesdays Only
9am-1pm and 2pm-4pm

- You must provide your name, date of birth and last four digits of your Social Security Number.
- You will be mailed an application.
- Find more information below on how Immediate Family Members and Authorized Representatives can request a voter’s application.

Step 2: Complete, sign and return the application

- Return the application by U.S. mail or personal delivery to your [county voter registration office](#) as soon as possible.
- The deadline to return your application is 5:00 p.m. on the 11th day prior to the election.
- Find more information below on how Immediate Family Members and Authorized Representatives can return a voter’s application.

Step 3: Receive your absentee ballot in the mail

- Voters who have applied early will be mailed their absentee ballot approximately 30 days before the election.

Step 4: Vote and return the ballot

- Return your ballot to your [county voter registration office](#) or an early voting center either by mail or personal delivery.

- Must present **Photo ID** when returning the ballot in person.
- Acceptable Photo IDs:
 - Driver's license issued by a state within the United States.
 - Another form of identification containing a photograph issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles or its equivalent by a state within the United States.
 - Passport.
 - Military identification containing a photograph issued by the federal government.
 - South Carolina voter registration card containing a photograph of the voter.
- Place the ballot in the "ballot here-in" envelope and place the "ballot here-in" envelope in the return envelope.
- Be sure to sign the voter's oath and have your signature witnessed. Anyone age 18 or older can witness your signature. A notary is not necessary.
- Ballots must be received by the **county voter registration office** by 7:00 p.m. on election day.
- Ballots returned by mail should be mailed no later than one week prior to election day to help ensure timely delivery.
- Find more information below on how Immediate Family Members and Authorized Representatives can return a voter's ballot.