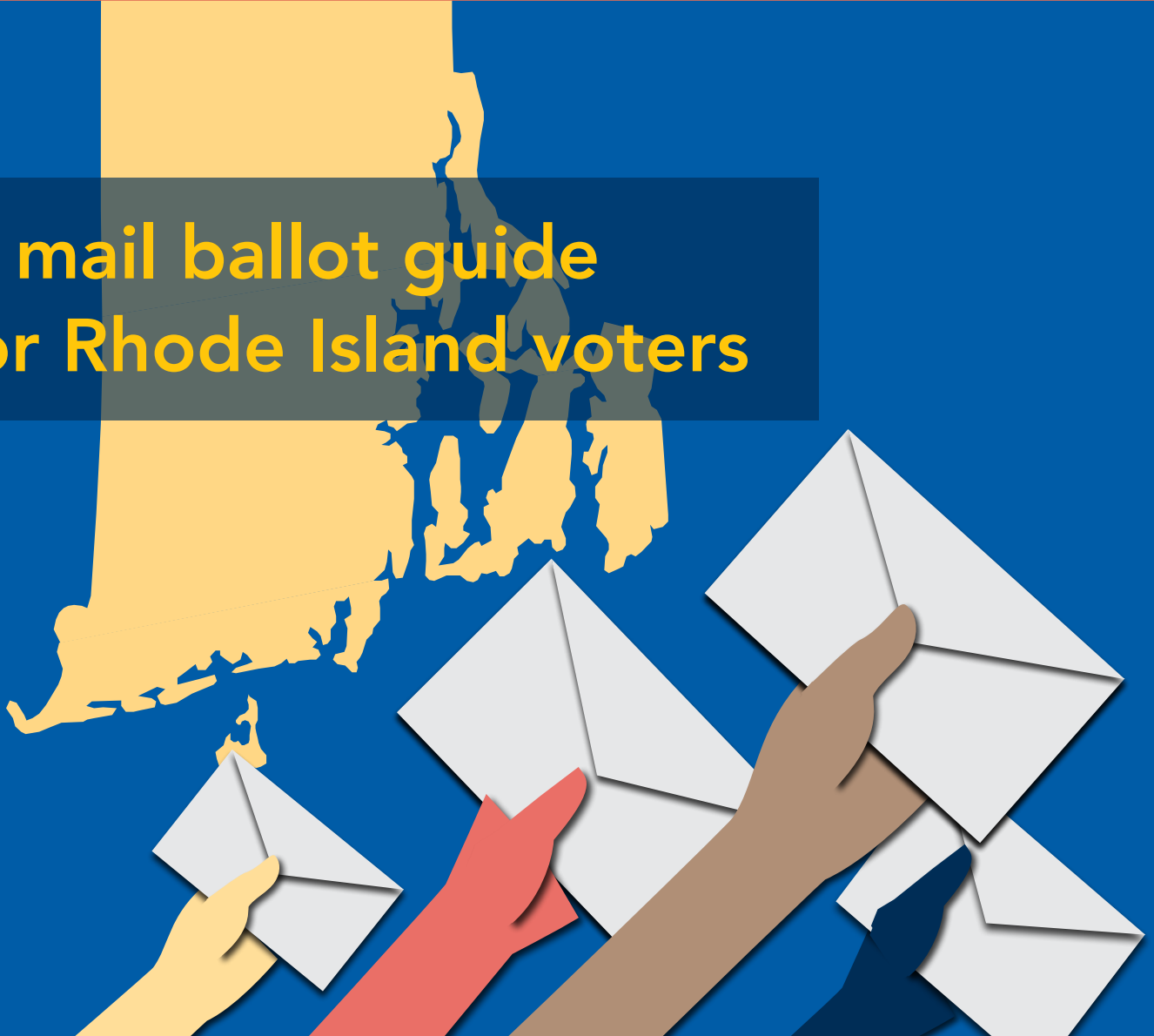


# HOW TO Vote by Mail



2024 STATEWIDE PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION

## A mail ballot guide for Rhode Island voters



This guide was produced by  
the Rhode Island Department of State

☎ 401-222-2340

✉ [elections@sos.ri.gov](mailto:elections@sos.ri.gov)

💻 [vote.ri.gov](http://vote.ri.gov)

✕ @RISecState

📘 Like us on Facebook  
RISecState

📷 Follow us on Instagram  
RISecState



**Gregg M. Amore**  
*Secretary of State*

# A letter from Secretary Amore



Dear Rhode Island Voter,

The right to vote is one of our most important rights as Americans and Rhode Islanders. As your Secretary of State, it is my responsibility and honor to ensure everyone who has the right to vote has access to their ballot.

In Rhode Island, you have three different ways to cast a ballot. You may choose to vote with a mail ballot, vote early in person at a location designated by your city/town, or vote at your polling place on Election Day.

This guide offers detailed information about how to safely and securely request a mail ballot and cast your ballot. Eligible voters are now able to complete their mail ballot request entirely online.

I also encourage you to sign up for the Rhode Island Department of State's ballot tracking service, which will allow us to text or email you regular updates on the status of your mail ballot. You can do this by clicking the "Track My Ballot" icon at the top of [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov).

Thank you for being a voter.

Secretary of State

## OFFICIAL ELECTION MAILINGS

Official election mail will have this logo:



## CONTACT US

- 401-222-2340
- [elections@sos.ri.gov](mailto:elections@sos.ri.gov)
- [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov)
- @RISecState
- Like us on Facebook  
RISecState
- Follow us on Instagram  
RISecState



# 2024 Election Dates

## SEPTEMBER 10 | PRIMARY DAY

**AUG  
11**

Deadline to register to vote;  
deadline to disaffiliate if voting  
in a different party primary

**AUG  
20**

Deadline to apply for a mail  
ballot or a Braille/tactile ballot



**EARLY VOTING PERIOD**  
**AUGUST 21 - SEPTEMBER 9**

**SEP  
10**

**PRIMARY DAY**  
All mail ballots must be  
received by 8 p.m.

## NOVEMBER 5 | ELECTION DAY

**OCT  
06**

Deadline to register  
to vote

**OCT  
15**

Deadline to apply for a mail  
ballot or a Braille/tactile ballot



**EARLY VOTING PERIOD**  
**OCTOBER 16 - NOVEMBER 4**

**NOV  
05**

**ELECTION DAY**  
All mail ballots must be  
received by 8 p.m.

### ★ SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION

Same day voter registration on Election Day is available for the Presidential and Vice Presidential races only. Contact your local board of canvassers for more information.

# How to vote by mail

Every election, millions of voters around the country, including our military and overseas voters, cast their ballot by mail.

## How to submit a mail ballot request

You can submit an application for a mail ballot in three different ways:

---

NEW



### ONLINE

Use the online mail ballot application portal on [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov).

Voters requesting a mail ballot through the online mail ballot application portal must have a Rhode Island-issued Driver's License or State ID.



### IN PERSON

Complete the paper mail ballot application, which you can find at your local board of canvassers or download yourself from [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov). Return the form to your local board of canvassers by the deadline. See page 10 for addresses.



### THROUGH THE MAIL

Download, complete, and mail the paper mail ballot application, which you can find here: [Paper Mail Ballot Application](#)



Applications must be signed originals and cannot be emailed or faxed to boards of canvassers.

# How to fill out a paper mail ballot application

The first step to voting by mail is requesting a mail ballot by completing and returning a mail ballot application. You must fill out a separate paper application for each election you plan to vote with a mail ballot. Below are tips to make sure you complete the paper application properly. **Remember to return your mail ballot application well before the application deadline.**

The date of the election you are applying to vote by mail for is listed here.

Your application must be received by the date listed here.

Fill out with your home address (where you are registered to vote).

Fill out the address where you want to receive your mail ballot (if different than address in Box A).

Voters eligible for a mail ballot under category 1 are entitled to electronically access their mail ballot.

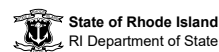
If you choose to vote by mail, check this box.

Your signature here will be compared to the signature in your voter record. If you think your signature has changed, please contact your local board of canvassers.

Voters requesting a mail ballot that cannot sign their name must have their application witnessed to verify the identity of the person requesting the ballot.

## Mail Ballot Application

### DATE OF ELECTION



Due to your local board of canvassers by: **DUE DATE**

#### A Your information

Voter's Full Name

Home Address (where you are registered to vote)

City/Town State Zip Code

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

Telephone Number (Optional)

Email Address (Optional)

#### B Address where your mail ballot is to be sent

☐ Same as home address

Name of Institution (if applicable)

Address

Address

City/Town

State

Zip Code

Fax Number: applicable for service members and overseas citizens in Box C3

#### C Mail ballot categories (Choose one): I certify that I am eligible for a mail ballot on the following basis:

- ☐ 1. I am incapacitated to such an extent that it would be an undue hardship to vote at the polls because of illness, mental or physical disability, blindness or a serious impairment of mobility. Send my mail ballot to the address listed above.
- ☐ Select this box to receive an accessible ballot (See important information below).
- ☐ 2. I am confined in a hospital, convalescent home, nursing home, rest home, or similar institution within the State of Rhode Island. I want my mail ballot brought to the facility listed above before Election Day by a bipartisan pair of election officials from the State Board of Elections.
- ☐ 3. I am employed, in service intimately connected with military operations, a spouse or dependent of such person, or I am a United States citizen who will be outside the United States. If there is no mailing address in Box B, my mail ballot will be mailed to my local board of canvassers. An email address to contact me is provided in Box A.
- ☐ 4. I choose to vote by mail. Send my mail ballot to the address listed above. If you want your mail ballot sent to your local board of canvassers, please indicate the address in Box B.

#### D Voter's oath and signature

» I declare that all of the information I have provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

» I am a qualified registered voter and the requester of a mail ballot.

» I further state that I am not a qualified voter of any other city/town or state and have not claimed and do not intend to claim the right to vote in any other city/town or state.

#### Voter, sign your full name below:

If voter is unable to sign their name, please complete the Voter Assistant Certification below.

X

Power of Attorney signature is not valid in Rhode Island.

#### Voter Assistant Certification: To be completed when the voter is unable to sign their name.

Voter Assistant's Full Name

Residence Address

Email Address (Optional)

Telephone Number (Optional)

Voter Assistant's Signature

#### Important Information:

- » **Invalid Signature:** Your mail ballot may be disqualified if you submit an electronic or stamped signature, or someone other than you signs this application.
- » **Accessible Ballot:** Voters who need a Braille/Tactile or Large Print ballot must also submit a Braille/Tactile/Large Print Mail Ballot Application with this mail ballot application.
- » Visit [vote.ri.gov](http://vote.ri.gov) to view your voter record or track your mail ballot.

#### For Official Use Only

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

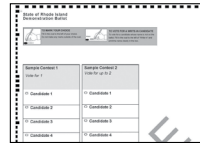
Accepted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Precinct: \_\_\_\_\_

# How to return your voted mail ballot

Voting with a mail ballot is a safe and secure option for voters who do not want to vote in person. Please contact your local board of canvassers if you missed the application deadline and do not want to vote in person.

Your ballot packet should contain:



Official Mail Ballot



Voter's Mail Ballot Certificate Envelope



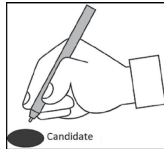
Return Envelope

Missing anything from your ballot packet?

Contact the RI Department of State Elections Division.

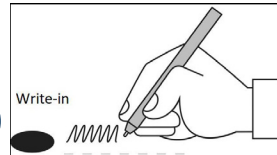
1

## Vote your mail ballot



**To mark your choice**  
Use a pen. Black ink preferred.  
Fill in the oval to the left of your choice.

or



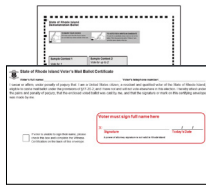
**To vote for a write-in candidate**  
Use a pen. Black ink preferred.  
Fill in the oval to the left of "Write-in" and print their name clearly.

**Made a mistake when marking your ballot?**

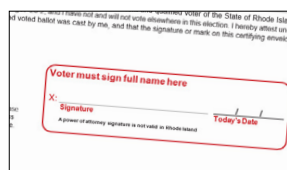
Contact the RI Department of State Elections Division to receive a replacement ballot.

2

## Secure your mail ballot



Place and seal your voted ballot into the **Voter's Mail Ballot Certificate Envelope**.



Sign and date the **Voter's Mail Ballot Certificate Envelope**.

If you are unable to sign your name, a witness must complete the Witness Certification.



Place the **Voter's Mail Ballot Certificate Envelope** into the **Return Envelope**.

3

## Return your mail ballot

**By Mail**

- Mail your ballot at least **7 days before Election Day** to ensure it is received in time.
- Your ballot must be received by **8 p.m. on Election Day**.

or

**By Drop Box**

- Drop your ballot off in a 24-hour elections drop box.
- Your ballot must be in an official elections drop box by **8 p.m. on Election Day**.



Visit **vote.ri.gov** or scan this QR code to find a drop box near you.

4

## Track your mail ballot

- Sign up to track the status of your mail ballot at **VOTE.RI.GOV**
- You will receive updates when your ballot is placed in the mail and when it is received by the Board of Elections for certification.
- **Questions about your returned ballot?**  
Contact the Board of Elections:  
401-222-2345 or at [boe.elections@elections.ri.gov](mailto:boe.elections@elections.ri.gov)

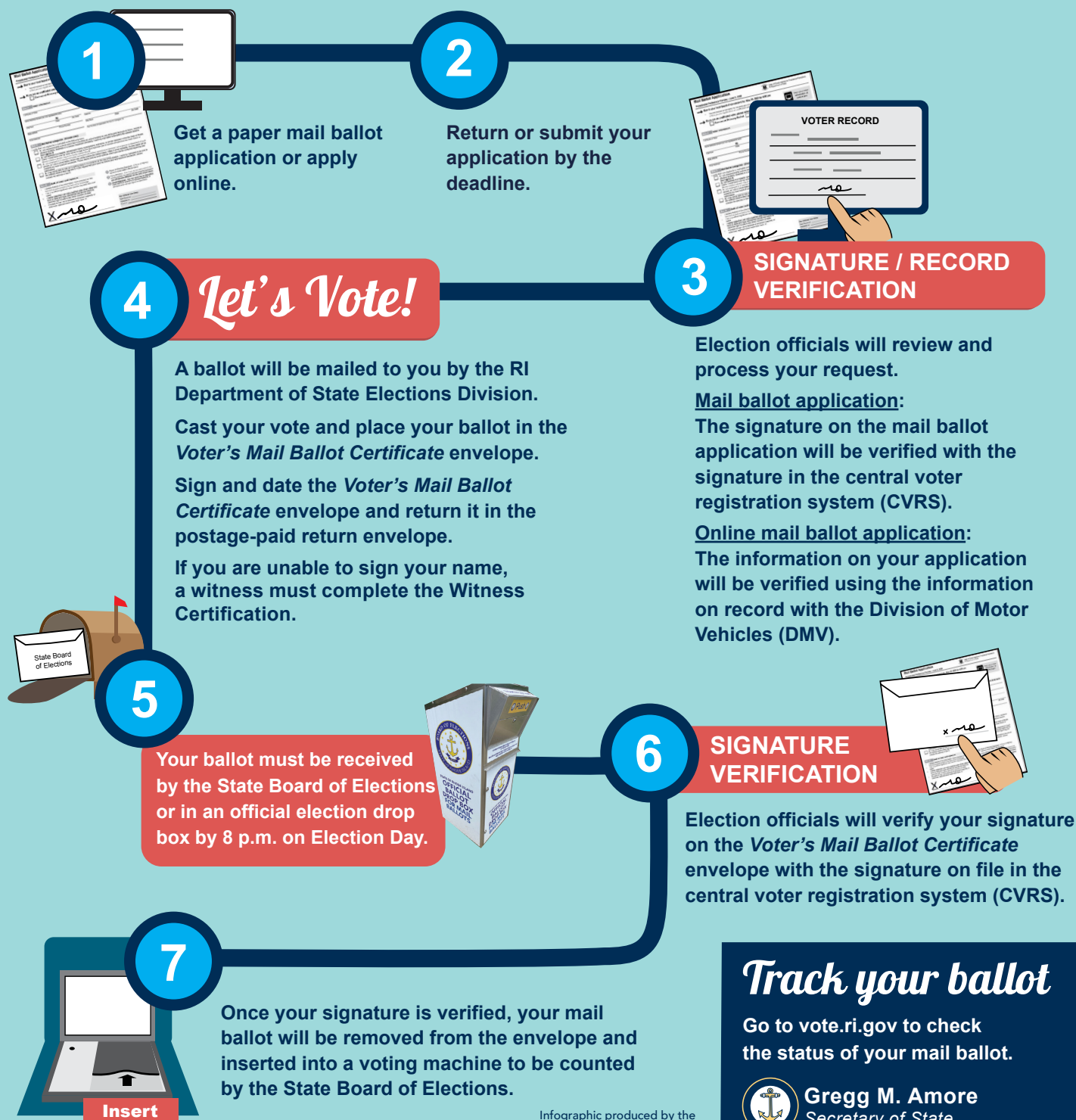
ballottrax

State of Rhode Island

Trust That Your Vote Counts!

# How voting by mail works in Rhode Island

It's easy, safe, and secure to vote from home with a mail ballot in Rhode Island.



## Track your ballot

Go to [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov) to check the status of your mail ballot.



**Gregg M. Amore**  
Secretary of State

Infographic produced by the  
Rhode Island Department of State

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Before applying for a mail ballot

### I recently moved but didn't update my voter registration. Can I still vote by mail?

You should go to [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov) to check your voter registration information. If your address is not accurate, you may update your voter information online. You should also contact your local board of canvassers to see if you are eligible to apply for a mail ballot from your new address for the next election.

### How do I check my voter information?

Go to [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov). This website is Rhode Island's one-stop shop for elections information. Use it to register to vote online, change your party affiliation, access elections information, and more.

If you know someone who wants to check their information without internet access, have them call (401) 222-2340.

### How do I know if I'm eligible to participate in a special election?

Visit [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov). Select "View/Update My Voter Record" and enter your information. The next screen will tell you when the next election in which you are eligible to vote will take place.

### Where should I have my ballot sent?

Mail ballots cannot be forwarded and you must be able to receive mail at your requested address. If you need to update your address, you can do so online via the online mail ballot application portal or by contacting your local board of canvassers.

### What if I don't want to vote in person, but I missed the mail ballot application deadline?

If you are unable to vote in person, you may still request an emergency mail ballot application from your local board of canvassers.

### What if I don't want to vote by mail, but I can't vote on Election Day either?

Rhode Island voters have the option to vote early in person at a location designated by their city or town in the 20 days leading up to Election Day.

Early in person voting is very similar to voting at a polling place. You will check in by scanning your photo ID into an electronic poll book. You will receive a ballot, fill out your ballot, and insert your completed ballot into a voting machine.

### What if I need a Spanish mail ballot application?

Mail ballot applications in Spanish are available online at [vota.ri.gov](https://vota.ri.gov) or by contacting your local board of canvassers.

All ballots for voters in Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket are automatically provided in English and Spanish per Voting Rights Act guidelines.

### What should I do if I want to vote by mail but the mail ballot process is difficult for me and I need assistance?

Your local board of canvassers can send a pair of bipartisan supervisors to assist you if you need help voting.

### I applied for a mail ballot but have changed my mind and would like to vote at a polling place. Am I allowed to do so?

If you applied for a mail ballot, you should complete the process by mail. Any voter who applies for a mail ballot and attempts to vote in person will be required to vote a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot will be returned to the local board of canvassers where election officials will determine if you have already cast a mail ballot or if the provisional ballot should be counted.

Voting more than once is a felony.

## Receiving and voting a mail ballot

### When will I receive my mail ballot?

The RI Department of State Elections Division typically sends mail ballots three to four weeks before the election. Make sure you request to have your ballot sent to a location where you will be able to receive it three to four weeks before the election.

Go to [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov) to track the status of your mail ballot. If you have questions regarding the status of your application or mail ballot, please contact your local board of canvassers.

### What happens if I make a mistake filling it out, or if my ballot is damaged?

Call our Elections Division at (401) 222-2340 or email [elections@sos.ri.gov](mailto:elections@sos.ri.gov) to request a new one.

### When do I need to return my mail ballot?

We encourage voters to allow at least seven mailing days to ensure their ballot is received on time, or place their ballot in a secure official election drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

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## Returning your voted mail ballot

### Where do I need to return my mail ballot?

If you are concerned your ballot won't make it in time using the US Postal Service, you may drop your completed mail ballot in the sealed envelopes in any official election drop box (open 24 hours) by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Visit [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov) to find your nearest drop box.

### How can I check that my ballot was received?

You can track your mail ballot at [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov).

### Should I let someone else deliver my mail ballot to the State Board of Elections?

Every mail ballot includes a postage-paid return envelope so voters can easily return their mail ballot for free. If you don't want to mail your ballot, you can hand-deliver it to the State Board of Elections, drop it in a secure official election drop box (open 24 hours) by 8 p.m., or you can give it to someone you trust to return for you.

Never rely on a stranger to return your mail ballot.

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## Mail ballot process

### If someone loses their ballot and gets another one, how will you know they didn't vote twice?

Our office notifies the State Board of Elections that a second ballot is being mailed. We also mark the envelope so the State Board of Elections can track the ballot. There is a barcode on each envelope that is scanned when the ballot is returned. If someone votes twice, it will be detected and prevented when the State Board of Elections scans the ballot envelope.

Similarly, it will be detected and prevented if someone votes by mail and tries to vote again at a polling place.

### Won't you know who I vote for if I vote by mail? How is my vote kept private?

Your mail ballot must be inserted into the Mail Ballot Certificate envelope and then in the postage-paid return envelope. Election officials will open the postage-paid return envelope and the signature on your Mail Ballot Certificate envelope will be matched to the signature on file with your city

or town.

Once that signature has been verified, your ballot will be removed from the certificate envelope and immediately inserted into a voting machine. This ensures your vote is kept private.

### How do you ensure that someone doesn't vote using someone else's ballot?

If you are applying for a mail ballot with a paper application, the signature on your mail ballot application will be compared to the signature on file at your local board of canvassers. If you are applying for a mail ballot using the online application, you must provide a Driver's License or State ID number.

When you return your voted ballot, the signature on your Mail Ballot Certificate envelope will be matched to the signature on file with your city or town.

It is a felony to fill out a mail ballot application or a mail ballot fraudulently.

# Contact your elections officials

## Local Boards of Canvassers

\*Any mailing MUST be addressed to the attention of "Board of Canvassers."

**Barrington Town Hall**

283 County Rd. 02806  
247-1900 x301

**Bristol Town Hall**

10 Court St. 02809  
253-7000

**Burrillville Town Hall**

105 Harrisville Main St.  
Harrisville 02830  
568-4300 x132

**Central Falls City Hall**

580 Broad St. 02863  
727-7450

**Charlestown Town Hall**

4540 South County Trl. 02813  
364-1200

**Coventry Town Hall**

1670 Flat River Rd. 02816  
822-9150

**Cranston City Hall**

869 Park Ave. 02910  
780-3121

**Cumberland Town Hall**

45 Broad St. 02864  
728-2400

**East Greenwich Town Hall**

125 Main St.  
P.O. Box 111 02818  
886-8603

**East Providence City Hall**

145 Taunton Ave. 02914  
435-7502

**Exeter Town Hall**

675 Ten Rod Rd. 02822  
294-2287

**Foster Town Hall**

181 Howard Hill Rd. 02825  
392-9200 x116

**Gloicester Town Hall**

1145 Putnam Pike  
P.O. Drawer B, Chepachet 02814  
568-6206 x0

**Hopkinton Town Hall**

1 Town House Rd. 02833  
377-7777

**Jamestown Town Hall**

93 Narragansett Ave. 02835  
423-9801

**Johnston Town Hall**

1385 Hartford Ave. 02919  
553-8856

**Lincoln Town Hall**

100 Old River Rd.  
P.O. Box 100 02865  
333-1140

**Little Compton Town Hall**

40 Commons  
P.O. Box 226 02837  
635-4400

**Middletown Town Hall**

350 East Main Rd. 02842  
849-5540

**Narragansett Town Hall**

25 Fifth Ave. 02882  
782-0625

**Newport City Hall**

43 Broadway 02840  
845-5384

**New Shoreham Town Hall**

16 Old Town Rd.  
P.O. Box 220 02807  
466-3200

**North Kingstown Town Hall**

100 Fairway Dr. 02852  
268-1552

**North Providence Town Hall**

2000 Smith St. 02911  
232-0900 x1230

**North Smithfield Town Hall**

83 Greene St. 02896  
767-2200 x326

**Pawtucket City Hall**

137 Roosevelt Ave. 02860  
722-1637

**Portsmouth Town Hall**

2200 East Main Rd. 02871  
683-3157

**Providence City Hall**

25 Dorrance St. Rm. 102 02903  
421-0495

**Richmond Town Hall**

5 Richmond Townhouse Rd.  
Wyoming 02898  
539-9000 x9

**Scituate Town Hall**

195 Danielson Pike  
P.O. Box 328, N. Scituate 02857  
647-7466

**Smithfield Town Hall**

64 Farnum Pike, 02917  
233-1000 x116

**South Kingstown Town Hall**

180 High St.  
Wakefield 02879  
789-9331 x1231

**Tiverton Town Hall**

343 Highland Rd. 02878  
625-6703

**Warren Town Hall**

514 Main St. 02885  
245-7340 x4

**Warwick City Hall**

3275 Post Rd. 02886  
738-2010

**West Greenwich Town Hall**

280 Victory Hwy. 02817  
392-3800 x100

**West Warwick Town Hall**

1170 Main St. 02893  
822-9201

**Westerly Town Hall**

45 Broad St. 02891  
348-2503

**Woonsocket City Hall**

169 Main St.  
P.O. Box B 02895  
767-9223

## Rhode Island Department of State Elections Division

148 West River Street, Providence, 02904  
401.222.2340 | elections@sos.ri.gov

## Rhode Island State Board of Elections

2000 Plainfield Pike, Cranston, RI 02921  
401.222.2345 | boe.elections@elections.ri.gov