

Disclaimer:

This guide is designed for informational purposes only. It is not legal advice and is not intended to create an attorney-client relationship. The Election Protection Coalition does not warrant any information contained in this guide, nor does the Coalition suggest that the information in this guide should be used as a basis to pursue legal advice or decision making.

Questions Involving Access to the Ballot:

1. It is after 7:00 AM and the polling place is not open. What should I do?

If you are a field volunteer, immediately contact 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, notify your Captain immediately. The leadership at the Command Center will immediately contact the County Elections Office to report the problem. You can find information on County Election Offices at <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147>.

If the polling place is open at 7:00 a.m. but the voting machines have not arrived, immediately call 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If there are no machines available, voters should be permitted to vote by paper ballots or, as a last resort, by provisional ballots.

2. It is 7:00 PM and my precinct is closed or closing and they will not let me vote. What should I do?

If you are a field volunteer, immediately call 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, notify your Captain immediately. Also, encourage voters to stay in line and inform them that they have the right to vote. The leadership at the Call or Command Center will immediately contact the County Elections Office to report the problem. You can find information on County Election Offices at <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147>.

3. There are equipment problems at my precinct and I cannot vote. What should I do?

If you are a field volunteer, immediately call 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, notify your Captain immediately. The leadership at the Command Center will immediately contact the County Elections Office to report the problem. You can find information on County Election Offices at <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147>.

Encourage the voter to ask to vote by a back-up paper ballot or, as a last resort, by provisional ballot. If you are in a county using Vote Centers, you may also direct the voter to the next closest Center.

Identification and Provisional Ballots:

1. I do not have any identification with me. Can I vote?

Identification is required in order to vote in Colorado. (See paragraph below for the proper forms of identification.) If the voter does not have the proper identification, he or she must be allowed to cast a provisional ballot. Provisional ballots completed without ID will be counted only if the election official can verify the voter's eligibility through one of several state databases.

Identification includes a valid Colorado driver's license, a valid identification card, a valid United States passport, any government employee identification card including a photograph, a valid pilot's license including a photograph, a valid United States military identification card including a photograph, a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter, a valid Medicare or Medicaid card, a certified copy of a United States birth certificate, a certified documentation of naturalization, or a valid student identification card with a photograph, issued by an institution of higher education in Colorado.

2. I am a registered voter who is not on the rolls at my precinct. Can I vote?

Yes. First, verify that the voter is, in fact, at the correct precinct. (You can find information on County Election Offices at <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147> . If you are a field volunteer, you can verify this information by calling 1-866-OUR-VOTE.) If he or she is at the correct precinct, he or she has the right to vote by provisional ballot. See the answer to Identification and Provisional Ballots Question 4 for an explanation of the procedure to cast a provisional ballot.

3. Poll workers are turning voters away if they don't have photo ID.

Voters without ID are allowed to cast a provisional ballot, and therefore should NOT be turned away at the polls. If you are a field volunteer, immediately call 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, notify your Captain immediately. The leadership at the Command Center will immediately contact a County Clerk. You can find information on County Election Offices at <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147> .

4. I have been offered a provisional ballot. What should I do?

Provisional ballots are a LAST resort because they will not be counted unless they "pass" a post-election research inspection by election officials. Thus, voters should always request a REGULAR ballot first.

If the elections official refuses to give the voter a regular ballot, the voter should demand that the elections official explain the reason for such refusal. If the reason for such refusal is that:

- there is a question about the voter's right to vote at the polling place, such as the absence of the voter's name on the voter rolls at the polling place;
- the voter does not have the proper identification; or
- the voter moved from one address to another within the same county without updating the voter's address for voter registration purposes;

Then the voter should follow the elections official's instructions to vote the provisional ballot. A voter casting a provisional ballot shall complete and sign the provisional ballot affidavit given by the election judge, and cast the ballot. After the voter casts the provisional ballot, the election judge shall give the voter a written notice that the voter has the right to know whether the provisional ballot was counted

and, if not counted, the reason why. The notice shall specify the toll-free telephone number, internet website, or other free access system established for the voter to learn this information.

If the elections official gives the voter *any other reason* for refusing to give the voter a regular ballot, contact a Call Center Captain immediately so that an attorney can go to the precinct to check on the problem.

Where to Vote:

1. Where do I vote (for voters who have not moved)?

If you are a field volunteer, call 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, you can look up polling places at the following website:

https://www.sos.state.co.us/Voter/secuVoterHome.do;jsessionid=0000XQAsKrTg8II9xXs0yne_ypG:l397to15i

You can also contact your County Elections Office. For the specific contact information, go to: <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147>.

2. I have moved within the same PRECINCT and have not updated my address for voter registration purposes. Where should I vote?

You may vote using a REGULAR ballot at your precinct. Before you vote, fill out a change of residence form at the polling place on Election Day.

3. I have moved to a different precinct within the same COUNTY and I have not updated my address for voter registration purposes. Where should I vote?

A voter who moved between precincts no later than thirty (30) days before the election may complete a change of address form in person at the County Clerk's office. The clerk must verify the registration of the voter, and if verified, must supply the voter with a Certificate of Registration. If the request is received on Election Day, the voter may, at the discretion of the County Clerk and Recorder, vote in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder rather than voting in the precinct where the new address is located. If the voter decides to vote at his or her new precinct (instead of at the office of the County Clerk and Recorder), the Election judges shall allow the voter to vote, using the Certificate of Registration as a substitute registration record.

In the alternative, the voter can cast a provisional ballot at the polling place associated with the voter's new address; however, as mentioned above, voting with a provisional ballot should be a last resort.

A voter who moves from the precinct where he or she is registered during the twenty-nine (29) days before any election, and therefore after the registration period has closed, can vote by an absentee ballot, by early voting, or at the polling place for the precinct where registered (the one associated with the voter's old address).

4. I have moved from one county to another and have not updated my address for voter registration purposes. Where should I vote?

If a voter was registered in another county and moved to a **different county within the state** no later than the 30th day before the election, but fails to submit a change of address form prior to the

registration deadline, the voter must appear in person at the primary office of the County Clerk and Recorder and complete an emergency registration affidavit. Upon completion and the approval and qualification of the voter by the County Clerk and Recorder or other designated election official, the name of the voter shall be placed in the registration books or added to the list of eligible voters for the election for which the registration books were closed. A voter changing his or her address in this manner on Election Day may vote in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder or in the precinct where the new address is located.

In the alternative, the voter can cast a provisional ballot at the polling place associated with the voter's new address; however, as mentioned above, voting with a provisional ballot should be a last resort.

A voter who moves from the county where he or she is registered during the twenty-nine (29) days before any election, and therefore after the registration period has closed, can vote by an absentee ballot, by early voting, or at the polling place for the precinct where registered (the one associated with the voter's old address).

5. What if the address on my ID does not match the address at which I am registered to vote on file with the County Clerk?

The voter ID required to be presented in order to vote does not need to have on it the same address as on file with the County Clerk and the voter cannot be denied the right to vote due to any such discrepancy.

In the event that the voter is denied the right to vote in this situation, if you are a field volunteer, immediately call 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, notify your Captain immediately. The leadership at the Command Center will notify the County Elections Office. You can find information on County Election Offices at: <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147> .

Assistance at the polls:

1. I have a disability. Will my polling place be accessible?

Each polling place shall be made accessible to persons with disabilities. Designated election officials shall only select as polling places sites that meet specific accessibility standards. Emergency polling places, however, are exempt from the disabled access requirements.

If, for some reason, a disabled individual is unable to access a polling place, either because it is not compliant or is exempt from accessibility requirements, the voter may request to have his or her polling place changed or shall be allowed to vote as an absentee voter.

In the event that a polling place is inaccessible on Election Day, if you are a field volunteer, immediately call 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, notify your Captain immediately.

2. I am blind, physically disabled, or cannot read English and require assistance at the polls in order to vote. Can I get assistance at the polls?

Any registered voter is entitled to assistance if he or she has declared to the election judges that, by reason of blindness or other physical disability or inability to read or write, he or she is unable to prepare the ballot or operate the voting machine without assistance. The voter shall be entitled, upon

making a request, to receive the assistance of any one of the election judges or, at the voter's option, any eligible voter selected by the disabled eligible voter.

Non-English speaking voters are entitled to assistance from:

1. An election judge who speaks English and the voter's language;
2. Any person selected by the designated election official to provide assistance in that precinct who speaks English and the voter's language; or
3. Any person selected by the voter requesting assistance, provided they speak English and the voter's language.

Any person providing assistance in this situation must sign an affirmation stating that they will not try to persuade the voter.

Voters have the right to receive ballots, instructions, and all other voting materials in Spanish in Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Crowley, Denver, Otero, Rio Grande, and Saguache counties; in Navajo in La Plata and Montezuma counties; and in Ute in La Plata and Montezuma counties.

Miscellaneous Issues:

1. I have been approached by candidates or others at the polls. What should I do?

No campaigning shall be conducted on the day of any election within 100 feet of any building in which a polling place is located. Immediately report any violation of this rule to a County Clerk. Also, if you are a field volunteer, immediately call 1-866-OURVOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, immediately notify your Captain.

2. What if I requested an absentee ballot but I want to vote in person on Election Day?

If a voter applies for an absentee ballot but does not cast it, the voter may cast a provisional ballot at the polling place, vote center, or early voter's polling place if the voter affirms under oath that the voter has not, and will not, cast the absentee ballot. The provisional ballot shall be counted if the designated election official verifies that the voter is registered to vote and did not cast the absentee ballot.

2. There are people at the polls trying to intimidate voters. What should I do?

If you are a field volunteer, immediately call 1-866-OUR-VOTE. If you are a hotline volunteer, notify your Captain immediately. The leadership at either the Call or Command Center will immediately contact the County Elections Office to report the problem. You can find information on County Election Offices at <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147>.

If possible, an attorney will be dispatched to the polling place. If the voter agrees, put them on hold while you call the County Clerk so an attorney can be dispatched to the location immediately. Then, gather as much information from the voter as possible.

4. I have a felony conviction. Can I vote?

A resident of Colorado who has been convicted of a felony and is serving a sentence of confinement or parole may not register for or vote in Colorado elections. The right to vote is automatically restored upon completion of a sentence of confinement or parole in Colorado. After completing any sentence of confinement or parole, that person must re-register before he or she may vote.

5. I am a college student, can I vote where I go to school?

Yes. College students may register and vote where they go to school, provided that they meet Colorado's eligibility requirements (citizenship, age, lack of criminal status). Students must be held to the SAME eligibility requirements as any other voter in the jurisdiction, including residency. Therefore, a college student in Colorado may be eligible to vote at the student's school residence if that residence is the student's primary home or place where the student's habitation is fixed and to which the student, whenever absent, has the present intention of returning, regardless of the duration of absence.

If a student is turned away at the polls, ascertain whether the student has fulfilled all of the registration requirements and that the student registered on time for this election -- If s/he meets the requirements, immediately contact the Legal Command Center to dispatch an attorney to the location and contact the appropriate election official. Where there is no Legal Command Center, call the County Elections Office to report the problem. You can find information on County Election Offices at <http://www.elections.colorado.gov/DDefault.aspx?tid=147> .