



How to Vote Absentee By-Mail in Knox County, Tennessee

STEP 1: Determine whether you qualify for by-mail voting.

You must be a registered voter for the county in which you live. You can vote absentee if you meet one of the eligibility criteria. The most common criteria are:

- you are 60 years or older
- you are sick or disabled (which includes persons who have underlying medical or health conditions which in their determination render them more susceptible to contracting COVID-19 or at greater risk should they contract it.)
- you are caring for someone who is sick or disabled (which includes persons who have underlying medical or health conditions which in their determination render them more susceptible to contracting COVID-19 or at greater risk should they contract it.)

RECENT CHANGE: By order of the U.S. District Court on September 9, 2020, first-time voters are not required to vote-in-person if they meet a legal reason to vote-by-mail. However, first-time voters will need to submit a photo and documentation of residence in Knox County with their ballot. Instructions will be included with the ballot mailed to a first-time voter.

Detailed information at: <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting#7>

STEP 2: Complete your request 7-90 days before an election

BE SAFE-REQUEST BEFORE MID OCTOBER—DO IT NOW!

- Download the application at <https://www.knoxcounty.org/election/>

No printer?

- Call the Knox County Election Commission and request a form: **865-215-2480**
- OR submit all required information in writing.
(See item #2 at: <https://sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting>)

STEP 3: Submit your request to arrive before October 27, 2020 deadline.

- Do As Soon As Possible! Do NOT Delay!
- You can submit in one of three ways:

(1) MAIL:
 Knox County Election Commission Office
 Old Court House, 300 Main St., Suite 218
 Knoxville, TN 37902

(2) EMAIL:
tammy.cole@knoxcounty.org

(3) FAX:
 865-215-4239



Knoxville Knox County

STEP 4: Vote with your mail-in ballot. After you receive your ballot, be sure to:

- Carefully follow the instructions.
- Place your completed ballot in the correct envelope.
- Sign the affidavit that is part of the outside of this envelope.
IMPORTANT: Your signature must match the signature on your request form.

STEP 5: Mail your ballot to the Election Commission.

- **Make certain your ballot will arrive no later than close of polls on November 3, 2020.**

IMPORTANT: ELECTION OFFICIALS CANNOT ACCEPT A HAND-DELIVERED BALLOT.

STEP 6: Make sure your vote counts.

- Track the status of your request and your mail-in ballot at tnmap.tn.gov/voterlookup (Type in your name and address. After your request—and later your ballot—has been processed, you will see a notification from the Election Commission.)
- Absentee ballots will be mailed out as soon as the Election Commission approves them and your request has been processed.
- *You can still vote in person on a provisional ballot **if** (1) you are concerned that your completed ballot will not reach the Election Commission office by the deadline, or (2) you change your mind after you submit your request.*
- *To vote in person, go to any early voting location—OR—on Election Day, go to your precinct polling place. Tell the poll workers that you are unsure your mail-in ballot was received and processed (or that you changed your mind). They will allow you to vote a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot will be counted once election staff verify that they did not receive your mail-in ballot by the deadline of November 3, 2020.*

To ensure success, remember to:

- *Submit your request **EARLY. DO IT NOW—BY MID OCTOBER IF POSSIBLE!** (Once received, the Election Commission will call or send you a letter if there is a problem.)*
- *Sign **BOTH** your request **AND** your ballot envelope. Your signatures will be checked to be sure that they match. (You must scan your signature on an emailed or faxed request.)*
- *Include a complete address where you live—and, if different, a second complete address for where you want to receive your ballot.*
- *Be sure to affix first class postage on the envelope.*

Questions or Assistance?

- Call the Knox County Election Commission at 865-215-2480
- Contact the League of Women Voters Knoxville/Knox County at 865-408-846