



Recommendations for Accessible Voting

Michigan.gov/Coronavirus

The following guidance is based on the most current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommendations for prevention of the spread of COVID-19.

For the **November 3, 2020**, general election in Michigan:

- All voters must be registered to cast a ballot. Same-day registration is available at designated locations. (Not sure if you are registered to vote? Check [here.](#))
- All voters can request an absentee ballot.
- Early voting (in-person absentee voting) is available at your local clerk's office.
- Polling places are open on Election Day.
- All voters will be asked to show a photo ID. Voters without ID can sign an affidavit and still vote.

Accessible voting by mail is easy and safe

If you can mark, verify and cast a paper mail-in ballot privately and independently, voting by mail is a healthy and easy option, especially if you can use a drop-off location to return your ballot. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, **all registered voters may request to vote by mail** in the November 3 general election. The deadline to request a ballot is **Friday, Oct. 30**. The U.S. Postal Service recommends requesting a ballot as soon as possible, no later than **Monday, Oct. 19**. You may mail back your ballot or drop it off at your clerk's office or a ballot drop box. You can [track your ballot online.](#)

The deadline to return your ballot is by **8 p.m.**, on Election Day, **Tuesday, Nov. 3**. All ballots must be delivered to your local clerk's office by this time.

Accessible tools for voting by mail

Michigan has an accessible vote-by-mail program, Remote Accessible Vote-By-Mail, that allows voters with disabilities to receive and mark a mail-in ballot electronically. You may have to request access to the program. To use accessible tools for voting by mail, typically you:

- Download an electronic ballot.
- Mark the ballot on your personal computer, with your own assistive technology.
- Print the ballot and voter's signature form.
- Sign the form and seal the ballot in an envelope.
- Return it by mail or in-person.

Be sure to check with your [local elections office](#) for information about how to use the accessible voting-by-mail program and for information about additional options for dropping off your ballot.

Early voting in person

Early voting is voting in person before Election Day, which is usually less crowded. Fewer people and shorter lines reduce your COVID-19 exposure, so early voting is another safe and easy way to vote.

Voters with disabilities may be able to use an accessible voting system at the elections office before Election Day. Local clerks offices are open for absentee in-person voting **September 24 through November 2**. All voters will be asked to show a photo ID. Voters without ID can sign an affidavit and still vote. Voters seeking to use an accessible voting system for early voting in person are encouraged to **contact their local elections office**.

Accessible voting in person

For the **November 3 general election** in Michigan:

- All polling places are open on Election Day.

Federal law requires that every in-person voting location has at least one accessible voting system. Look for information about how to use the accessible voting systems on the [state accessibility information page](#) or contact your [local elections office](#).

Check your [local election website](#) for up-to-date information about voting locations and opening hours.

If you have a choice of when to vote, in-person voting [locations](#) are usually less crowded mid-morning or early afternoon.

Other accessible voting options

Ask your [local elections office](#) about whether these accessible voting options are available:

- Ballot delivery to your home or a “ride to the polls” program.
- Curbside or drive-up voting, so you don’t have to get out of your car.
- Election and voting information in large print, audio or Braille versions.
- Any requirements to have someone assist you in marking and casting your ballot.