

## **Election 2020 FAQs for November 3, 2020**

### **Can I vote at the Polls?**

Yes. Polling locations will be open from 6:00am – 8:00pm on November 3, 2020 at Samuel Staples Elementary School located at 515 Morehouse Road, Easton.

### **Can I vote by Absentee Ballot?**

Connecticut has strict laws regarding who can vote by Absentee Ballot. If you answer yes to **any** of the questions below, you are eligible to vote absentee for the 2020 election.

- **All voters are eligible to vote by absentee ballot in the general election held on November 3, 2020 due to the COVID-19, pursuant to Public Act 20-03 July Spec. Sess. Just check the COVID-19 box on the application.**
- Are you an active member of the armed forces of the United States?
- Will you be out of town during all the hours of voting on Election Day?
- Does illness prevent you from voting in person on Election Day?
- Do your religious beliefs prevent you from performing secular activities like voting on Election Day?
- Will you be performing duties as an election official at a polling place other than your own during all the hours of voting on Election Day?
- Do you have a physical disability that prevents you from voting in person on Election Day?

### **College Students...**

Students away at college or away from home can apply to vote absentee. Students can enter their school mailing address on the absentee ballot application and the ballot will be mailed to them.

### **Military Service Personnel...**

Military Service personnel may ask to receive a 90-day ballot for an election. Visit [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) for details.

### **Emergency Ballots...**

Emergency ballots within 6 days of an election are available in certain circumstances such as an unforeseen illness or physical disability, or to a person admitted to the hospital. The emergency ballot requires the assistance of a "designee" who will deliver the application and return the ballot on behalf of the voter.

Around mid-September, an Application for Absentee Ballot sent by the Secretary of State (SOTS) will be arriving to the address the Registrars of Voters have on file for you. If you do not receive an application in the mail, you can visit our website to access the [Application for Absentee Ballot with COVID-19 modified version for this election](#). \*\*\*Apply early and mail your ballot back quickly to make sure your ballot arrives on time!\*\*\*

### **General Information**

- Ballots must be received in the Town Clerk's office by dropping off in the secure Official Drop Box by 8:00 PM on the day of the election.
- A ballot returned by someone other than the voter must be signed and dated on the back, and noted with the relationship to the voter.
- Adults (over the age of 18) may return someone else's ballot (per the instructions on the envelope).
- A child (under the age of 18) may not return someone's ballot.

### **Do I have to Vote by Absentee Ballot?**

No. Our polling location at Samuel Staples Elementary School will be open November 3, 2020 6am – 8pm.

### **Will I automatically get an application for absentee ballot in the mail?**

Yes. The State of Connecticut will mail out applications for absentee ballots mid-September to all eligible voters. The voter may request the absentee ballot by completing this application and submitting it to the Town

Clerk Office by Official Drop Box located outside the Easton Police Department or by mail in order to receive an absentee ballot.

**Will I automatically get a ballot in the mail?**

No. Eligible voters must complete an Application for Absentee Ballot and submit it to the Town Clerk to receive an absentee ballot.

**How can I register to vote?**

You can register to vote [here](#).

**Is it too early to apply for an absentee ballot?**

No! You may apply now for an absentee ballot for November and return it to the Town Clerk; however, please do not send in more than one application.

**Where may I return my application for an absentee ballot?**

You may return your completed application to the Town Clerk at Town Hall via the Official Ballot Drop Box located directly across the street from the Easton Police Department or via mail to Easton Town Clerk, 225 Center Road, Easton, CT 06612.

**May I get a ballot now?**

Absentee Ballots are scheduled to be available October 2nd, 2020.

**Can I get an absentee ballot to my college or snow-bird residence?**

Yes. Please include your preferred mailing address (legibly) on your application to ensure accuracy. College students - please keep in mind that your campus mail service may add additional delay in the return of your ballot.

**What if I applied for an absentee ballot and my college dismissed all on campus residents due to COVID-19?**

Upon change of your requested mailing address, please contact the Town Clerk's Office [townclerk@eastonct.gov](mailto:townclerk@eastonct.gov) or (203) 268-6291.

**Can I avoid the Post Office and return my absentee ballot in person?**

Yes. You can return your ballot to the secure [Official Ballot Drop Box](#) located directly across the street from the Easton Police Department and available 24/7 for your convenience.

**I am a military/overseas voter. How can I apply for an absentee ballot?**

Military and overseas voters can apply using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

**How do I know if you received my Application for Absentee Ballot?**

Please email [townclerk@eastonct.gov](mailto:townclerk@eastonct.gov) to verify receipt of your application. Please be patient with our response time due to the increased number of absentee ballot applications we are receiving.

**How do I know if the Town Clerk received my ballot?**

You may check the status of receipt of your ballot through the [voter lookup tool](#) or email [townclerk@eastonct.gov](mailto:townclerk@eastonct.gov). Please be patient with our response time due to the increased number of absentee ballot applications we are receiving.

**For Election 2020:**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS** Connecticut law allows you to receive an absentee ballot if you cannot appear at your assigned polling place on election day because of active service in the Military, absence from the town during all of the hours of voting, illness, religious tenets forbid secular activity on the day of the election, duties as an election official at a polling place other than your own during all of the hours of voting, or physical disability. The State of Connecticut, via P.A. 20-3 July Spec. Sess. has determined that the existence of the COVID-19 virus allows you to vote by absentee ballot if you so choose for your own safety. To receive your absentee ballot please complete and sign the application (or the application sent from the State of Connecticut) and return it to your Town Clerk using the enclosed postage prepaid envelope to the Official Drop Box located outside the Easton Police Department or by US mail. If you have already submitted your application, you **DO NOT** need to submit an additional application.

**IMPORTANT!**

- To help ensure your ballot is received on time and counted at the polls, please place your ballot into both the inner and outer envelopes per the instructions.
- Insert your ballot into the secure [OFFICIAL DROP BOX](#).
- The drop box will be closed and locked per State Statute at **8:00 P.M. NOVEMBER 3, 2020.**

