

One-stop Absentee Voting

One-stop Absentee Voting or Early Voting allows any registered voter to cast an absentee ballot in-person on select days prior to Election Day. One-stop voting begins on the third Thursday prior to Election Day and ends on the last Saturday before the election. The location for One-stop Voting is either in the county board of elections office, or an alternative site, if the county board office is not equipped to handle in-person voting. County boards of elections may also designate additional one-stop sites in various other parts of the county.

Same-Day Registration

The deadline to register to vote is 25 days before the day of the election; however, individuals who miss the registration deadline, may register in person and then vote at an one-stop absentee voting site in the person's county of residence, during the one-stop absentee voting period. To register and vote under this statutory provision, the person must:

1. Sign and complete a voter registration form, attesting that the person meets each eligibility requirement under law. Such attestation is signed under penalty of a Class I felony.
2. Provide proof of residence by presenting a document which shows the person's name and current address in the County.

Acceptable identification includes: a North Carolina drivers license; a photo identification from a government agency; or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.

A person who registers to vote during the one-stop voting period shall vote a retrievable absentee ballot immediately after registering. If the registrant declines to vote immediately, the same-day registration shall be processed, and the person may later return to vote only during the one-stop absentee period; however, the same-day registrant may not return to vote on the day of the election.

Within two business days of an one-stop registration, the county board of elections will attempt to verify the registrant's North Carolina drivers license or Social Security number, update the statewide registration database and search for possible duplicate registrations, and proceed to verify the registrant's address. The registrant's vote will be counted unless the county board determines that the person, for some statutory reason, is not qualified to vote.

In the event the county board of elections cannot verify the person's address by mail, the registrant's voter registration and one-stop absentee vote may be subject to challenge. In the event of a challenge, the registrant will receive notice and instructions on how to appeal the challenge. Challenged voters must be prepared to present documentation that verifies their name and address.

North Carolina State Board of Elections • 441 North Harrington Street, Raleigh, NC 27603 • (919) 733-7173