

FAQS - DEC. 1ST AND JAN. 5TH GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTION RUNOFFS

How do I vote in the December 1st and January 5th runoff elections?

You can vote by mail, drop box, advanced in-person, or on Election Day. Request your absentee ballot now. Due to mail delays, we strongly encourage voters to request their absentee ballots more than 10 days before the election.

What is on the ballot?

Based on where you live, the following races may be on your ballot: Congressional District 5, Doraville City Council District 1. The Public Service Commission seat and the two U.S. Senate seats are on the January 5 ballot.

Can I still register to vote in the upcoming elections if I wasn't registered before?

You must already be registered to vote to cast your ballot in the December 1 runoff election. However, there is still time to register to vote for the January 5 runoff election. The voter registration deadline is December 7, 2020. Individuals who will turn 18 on or before January 5, 2021 are eligible to register to vote in the January 5 runoff election.

Can I vote in a runoff election if I didn't vote in the general election in November?

Yes, any registered voter in DeKalb County can vote in the December 1, 2020 and January 5, 2021 runoff elections.

If I received an absentee ballot for the Nov. election will I automatically receive an absentee ballot for the runoff elections?

No. Voters living overseas, including those in the military, voters with disabilities, and voters 65 of age and older who checked the box to always receive absentee ballots, will receive absentee ballots for the runoff elections. We encourage voters to call our office at (404) 260-4220 to confirm if we have you listed to receive an absentee ballot.

How do I check my voter registration status?

Visit the Georgia Secretary of State's website mvp.sos.ga.gov to check your voter registration status, update your registration information, find your polling location, and more. You must already be registered to vote to participate in the December 1 election.

Will my vote be counted if I put it in the drop box?

As long as you follow the instructions on the absentee ballot form and place it in the drop box it will be counted. Drop boxes are under camera surveillance and can only be accessed by election officials. The deadline to submit your absentee ballot via drop box is 7 p.m. December 1 for the Congressional District 5 and Doraville City Council District 1 races. The deadline is 7 p.m. January 5 for the Public Service Commission and the U.S. Senate runoffs.

How will I know that you've received my submitted absentee ballot?

Track the status of your returned ballot by signing up at <https://georgia.ballottrax.net/voter/>. Sign up for text or email alerts to see the real-time status.

I dropped my ballot off at the designated drop box but it's not showing up when I logged in to the Secretary of State's site. Is my vote going to be counted?

If your ballot has not shown up in the system within 10 days, immediately call the DeKalb Registration and Elections Office at (404) 298-4020 to follow-up.

Can someone else drop off my completed absentee ballot?

A family member or a roommate can drop off your completed absentee ballot. Caregivers may drop off a ballot if the voter is physically disabled. Eligible family members include mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law of the age of 18 or over.

I received my absentee ballot but I'd rather vote in person. What should I do?

Just bring your absentee ballot with you when you vote in person and give it to the poll worker. You will then be permitted to cast your vote at the voting booth. If you don't have your absentee ballot, you will be asked to sign an affidavit acknowledging you wish to cancel your absentee ballot and vote in person instead.

If you have already submitted your absentee ballot by mail or via drop box and your ballot has been received and processed, you cannot vote in person.

I want to vote in person but I'm concerned about COVID-19. What is being done to ensure public safety protocols are being followed at the polls?

All DeKalb County polling locations will follow the CDC's COVID-19 safety guidelines. Poll workers will be wearing masks and we encourage voters to wear masks. If you are feeling ill, we urge you to vote by absentee. Voters will also receive a disposable stylus to reduce the need to touch the machines by hand. Note, long lines may form as a result of social distancing. The length of the line may not indicate how long it will take to cast your vote.