

Q. What is the date of postponed Georgia Presidential Preference Primary (PPP)?

A. On or about March 14, 2020, the Georgia Secretary of State (“SOS”) advised county election officials that the Presidential Preference Primary and all special elections originally scheduled for March 24, 2020 would be postponed to May 19, 2020, which was also the date for the state’s general primary election, due to the public health crisis caused by COVID-19.

Q. Was the May 19, 2020 General Primary/General Nonpartisan/Special Election postponed?

A. Yes, on or about April 9, 2020, the SOS advised county elections officials that the May 19, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary/Special Election/General Primary Election would be postponed to June 9, 2020.

Q. What is the date of the postponed PPP/Special Election and the General Primary/General Nonpartisan/Special Election?

A. June 9, 2020

Q. I voted in the March 24, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary, does my vote count?

A. Yes, all votes previously cast in the 2020 PPP/Special Election originally scheduled for March 24, 2020, will be counted on June 9, 2020.

Q. I did not have an opportunity to vote in the PPP/Special Election before the election was postponed, will I have an opportunity to vote for those races?

A. Yes, voters who have not yet cast a ballot in the 2020 PPP/Special election will receive a ballot that contains both the PPP/Special election races and the General Primary/General Nonpartisan Election races.

Q. The Georgia Secretary of State stated that his office would be mailing an absentee ballot application to all registered voters in the State of Georgia. I did not receive my application in the mail, what should I do?

A. There are several options to obtain an absentee ballot application.

Option 1: An elector can call the DeKalb County Registration and Elections office and ask that an application be sent to him/her via USPS, electronically or fax.

Option 2: A pdf fillable Official State of Georgia Absentee Ballot Application can be found at <https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Fillable%20Absentee%20Ballot%20Form%202020.pdf>. The elector must complete, print, sign and return the application to the DeKalb County Voter and Elections Office via

- Email: absenteeballot@dekalbcountyga.gov
- Fax: (404) 298-4038
- Hand-delivery/USPS: 4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300, Decatur, GA 30033

Q. How can I check the status of my absentee ballot application?

A. Electors can check the status of their application by visiting www.mvp.sos.ga.gov, checking the daily absentee download file at <https://elections.sos.ga.gov/Elections/voterabsenteefile.do>. If an elector is unable to determine if his/ballot has been received using the information above, we ask that you wait at least 7 days before inquiring with our office.

Q. When is the deadline for requesting an absentee by mail ballot?

A. Friday, June 5, 2020 by 4:00pm.

Q. How can I view my sample ballot?

A. [Composite General Primary/General Nonpartisan Sample Ballot](#) and [Composite Combined PPP/Special/General Primary/General Nonpartisan](#)

A voter's assigned sample ballot may be found by visiting www.mvp.sos.ga.gov

Q. If I voted in the March 24, 2020 PPP/Special Election, why is the Sheriff's Race listed on my General Primary/General Nonpartisan Ballot?

A. The Sheriff Race listed on the March 24, 2020 PPP/Special Election Ballot was for a Special Election to fill the unexpired term of Jeffery Mann (resigned) whose term would have expired on December 31, 2020. The General Primary/General Nonpartisan is to select a candidate for November 3, 2020 Ballot for Office of Sheriff whose term will begin on January 1, 2021 and conclude on December 31, 2024.

Q. Why is the date on my ballot May 19, 2020?

A. As stated earlier the original General Primary/General Nonpartisan election was scheduled for May 19, 2020. Ballots must be generated at least 49 days prior to an election in order to meet federal and state Uniformed and Overseas Citizen Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) Voters deadlines and the election was postponed after the original April 4, 2020 deadline for these voters.

Q. The instructions in ballot packet states “after voting your ballot, enclose and securely seal the ballot in the smaller of the two envelopes provided,” which is white and on which is printed “Official Absentee Ballot,” I did not receive this envelope. How do I remedy this situation and if my ballot is not in enclosed in the white envelope?

A. There are several ways to remedy the situation, your choice depends on your level of comfort.

Option 1: An elector can call our office (404.298.4020) to request a secrecy envelope (small white envelope with Official Absentee Ballot written across the front) be sent to him/her via USPS.

Option 2: An elector can place his/her ballot in a white envelope and write Official Absentee Ballot across the front before placing the envelope in the second (or larger) envelope.

Option 3: An elector can send in his/her ballot in the returned oath envelope and pursuant to O.C.G.A. 21-2-386(c) during the opening of the ballots on Election Day if “an outer envelope is found to contain an absentee ballot that is not in an inner envelope, the ballot shall be sealed in an inner envelope, initialed and dated by the person sealing the inner envelope, and deposited in the ballot box and counted in the same manner as other absentee ballots, provided that such ballot is otherwise proper.”

Q. Instead of a smaller white (secrecy envelope) with the words Official Absentee Ballot across the front, I received a folded 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper/ privacy sleeve with the words Official Absentee Ballot printed on the front. How do I secure my ballot?

A. After voting his/her ballot elector is encouraged to place his/her voted ballot into the white paper sleeve and then place the privacy sleeve, containing the ballot, into the return oath envelope. Electors are not encouraged to seal the privacy sleeve with tape, staples or glues for this may damage the ballot upon removal.

Q. I have made an error, spoiled or defaced by absentee by mail ballot, how can I remedy this situation?

A. As stated in the ballot packet instructions, you should contact the DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections Office immediately to receive instructions for remedying this situation.

Contact Information:

Phone: (404) 298-4020

E-mail: absenteeballot@dekalbcountyga.gov

Q. I requested a ballot for one party's primary, but I have changed my mind and wish to vote in another party's primary. What are the procedures for making this change?

A. Voter's are asked to contact the DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections Office to receive the procedures for making this change.

Contact Information:

Phone: (404) 298-4020

Email: absenteeballot@dekalbcountyga.gov

Q. MVP states that my ballot has been issued, but I have not received my ballot in the mail. How long should I wait before I request before I contact the DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections Office?

A. If you have not received your ballot within seven days of the issue date listed on MVP, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(5) *“in the event an absentee ballot which has been mailed by the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk is not received by the applicant, the applicant may notify the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk and sign an affidavit stating that the absentee ballot has not been received. The board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall then issue a second absentee ballot to the applicant and cancel the original ballot issued. The affidavit shall be attached to the original application. A second application for an absentee ballot shall not be required.”*

Q. What is the deadline for returning my absentee by mail ballot?

A. Absentee ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on June 9, 2020. Uniformed and Overseas Citizens (UOCAVA) ballots must be postmarked by June 9, 2020, and received no later than Friday, June 12, 2020.

Q. How can I return my absentee by mail ballot?

A. There are 4 ways a voter can returned a voted absentee by mail ballot?

Option: 1 – A voter can hand-deliver his/her absentee by mail ballot to the DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections Office located at 4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300, Decatur, GA 30032. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §21-385(a) *“the elector shall then personally mail or personally deliver same to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk, provided that mailing or delivery may be made by the elector's mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or an individual residing in the household of such elector. The absentee ballot of a disabled elector may be mailed or delivered by the caregiver of such disabled elector, regardless of whether such caregiver resides in such disabled elector's household. The absentee ballot of an elector who is in custody in a jail or other detention facility may be mailed or delivered by any employee of such jail or facility having custody of such elector.”*

Option 2: A vote may mail his/her voted ballot to the DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections Office at 4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300, Decatur, GA 30032.

Option 3: A voter may return his/her voted absentee by mail ballot to any advance voting site. A list of advance voting times and locations may be found on our website at <https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/sites/default/files/users/user3587/Advance%20Voting%2020%206.9%20revised.pdf>.

Option 4: A voter may place his/her voted absentee ballot into one of the DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections Office’s Official Absentee by Mail Drop Boxes. A list of Official Absentee by Mail Drop Box Locations can be found on the DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections website’s homepage.

Q. I no longer would like to vote absentee by mail. Will I be able to vote in person during Advance Voting or on Election Day?

A. O.C.G.A. 21-2-388 provides instructions for voters who would like to cancel his/her absentee ballot by mail ballot and vote in person during the Advance Voting Period or on Election Day.

“When an absentee ballot which has been voted shall be returned to and received by the board of registrars, it shall be deemed to have been voted then and there; and no other ballot shall be issued to the same elector. If an elector has requested to vote by absentee ballot and has not received such absentee ballot, has such ballot in his or her possession, has not yet returned such ballot, or has returned such ballot but the registrars have not received such ballot, such elector may have the absentee ballot canceled and vote in person on the day of the primary, election, or runoff in one of the following ways:

(1) If the elector is in possession of the ballot, by surrendering the absentee ballot to the poll manager of the precinct in which the elector's name appears on the electors list and then being permitted to vote the regular ballot. The poll manager shall mark "Canceled" and the date and time across the face of the absentee ballot and shall initial same. The poll manager shall also make appropriate notations beside the name of the elector on the electors list. All such canceled absentee ballots shall be returned with other ballots to the superintendent; or

(2) If the elector has not received the ballot, has not yet returned the ballot, or if the elector has returned the ballot but the registrars have not received the ballot, by appearing in person before the managers of the elector's precinct, the registrars, or the absentee ballot clerk and requesting in writing that the envelope containing the elector's absentee ballot be marked "Canceled." After having satisfied themselves as to the identity of such elector and confirming that the elector's absentee ballot has not yet been received by the board of registrars, the registrars or the absentee ballot clerk shall grant the request and shall notify the managers of the elector's precinct as to such action so as to permit the elector to vote in person in that precinct. If the absentee ballot is in the mail, has not yet been returned, or its exact location is unknown, the registrar or the absentee ballot clerk shall write "Canceled" beside the elector's name on the master list of absentee voters and shall cancel the ballot itself as soon as it is received. If the location of the requested absentee ballot is known to the elector and it has not been surrendered to the poll manager, the elector shall destroy the absentee ballot after casting his or her vote in person. Canceled absentee ballots shall be disposed of in the same manner as provided in subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-386 for absentee ballots returned too late to be cast.”