



VOTING BY MAIL IN 2020

All registered voters in Michigan will receive an application to vote by mail in the August and November 2020 elections. You can use this application to apply now for both your August primary ballot **and** your November ballot!

- Every registered voter in Michigan has the right under the Michigan constitution to vote by mail, as a result of the passage of Proposal 3 in 2018.
- Voting by mail is a **convenient, safe and reliable** way to vote that is used by voters of both parties, including our military service members. Even President Trump and Vice President Pence vote by mail.
- Absentee voter fraud is incredibly rare—a **voter is more likely to be struck by lightning in their lifetime (.006%) than to commit voter fraud**. Over a 20-year period in Oregon, where the voting process is entirely absentee, just 495 cases of proven fraud have occurred since 2000, while over 100 million ballots were cast (0.0000001%).
- Only registered voters can request an absentee ballot, and the request must be in writing. The request must be signed by the voter, and the local clerk checks the signature against the signature on file before issuing a ballot. When the absentee ballot is returned, the voter must sign the outer envelope, and the local clerk again checks the signature.
- The voter registration process includes verification of the voter's identity and residency in the place where they are registering.
- Absentee ballots are tabulated publicly just as normal ballots are, and volunteer observers appointed by both political parties are permitted in counting rooms to make sure all proper procedures are followed.
- Voters can track their absentee ballot application and ballot throughout the **entire voting process** at the Michigan Voter Information Center (MVIC), michigan.gov/vote. There, voters can monitor when their application was received, when their ballot was mailed, and when their ballot was received. On MVIC, you can also find your clerk's contact information, so that you can easily call or email your clerk to check on the status of your ballot.
- Michigan's absentee voting process includes several security measures. In addition to checking the voter's signature on the ballot, the local clerks verify that the voter has not died, moved, or been sentenced since requesting the ballot. Voters who have requested an absentee ballot and not returned it are flagged in the electronic poll book, and must either turn in the absentee ballot or sign an affidavit that it was lost or destroyed before voting in the polling place.

Questions? Call the MDP's Voter Assistance Hotline, 1-833-MI-VOTES (1-833-648-6837)