

# Instructions

## How to vote by absentee ballot

### Get ready

- Ballot
- Tan ballot envelope
- Minnesota driver's license with your address or other authorized proof of where you live. *See other side for a list of options*
- Witness  
Anyone registered to vote in Minnesota including your spouse or relative, or a notary public, or a person with the authority to administer oaths

### You will need:

- Voter registration application
- White signature envelope
- Pen with black ink

**Important: You must submit the voter registration application with your ballot (in the white signature envelope) for your vote to be counted.**

### 1 Fill out the voter registration application and sign it

- Show your witness your driver's license or other authorized proof of where you live. *See the other side for a list of options.*

### 2 Vote!

- Show your witness your blank ballot, then mark your votes in private.
- Follow the instructions on the ballot.
- Do not write your name or ID number anywhere on the ballot.
- Do not vote for more candidates than allowed. *If you do, your votes for that office will not count.*

*See the other side if you make a mistake on your ballot.*

### 3 Seal your ballot in the tan ballot envelope

- Do not write on this envelope.

### 4 Slide the tan ballot envelope and the voter registration application into the top of the white signature envelope

### 5 Complete the white signature envelope

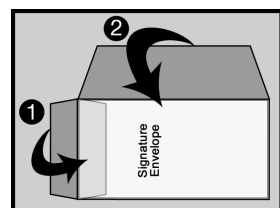
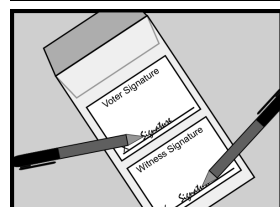
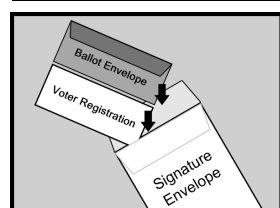
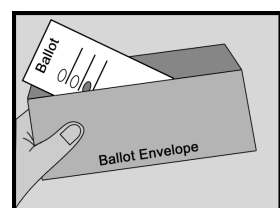
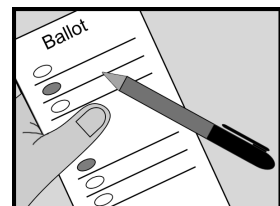
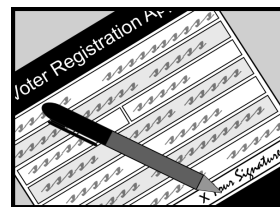
- If there is no label, print your name and Minnesota address.
- Read and sign the oath and write the date.  
**This signature will be compared to the one on your absentee ballot application.**
- Ask your witness to print their name and Minnesota address, indicate which proof you showed them, and sign their name.  
*If your witness is an official or notary, they must print their title instead of an address. Notaries must also affix their stamp.*
- Seal the envelope. First the small flap, then the large flap.

### 6 Return your ballot by election day to the address on the signature envelope

**Ballots may not be delivered directly to your polling place.**

You have three options:

- Send it so it arrives by election day, using U.S. mail or a package delivery service,
- Deliver it in person by 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election, or
- Ask someone to deliver it by 3:00 p.m. on election day.  
*This person cannot deliver more than 3 ballots.*



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## Options for proof of where you live

A valid Minnesota driver's license, Minnesota ID card, or permit with your current address

or

A photo ID that does not have your current address along with a document that has your current address

- **Eligible photo IDs:** Minnesota driver's license, Minnesota ID card, U.S. passport, U.S. military ID card, Minnesota college/university student ID card, or tribal ID card with your signature, from a tribe recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- **Eligible documents with your current address:** a current student fee statement, or an original utility bill with a due date 30 days before or after the election, or a rent statement showing utility expenses. Eligible utility bills are gas, electric, solid waste, water, sewer, phone, television, or internet provider services.

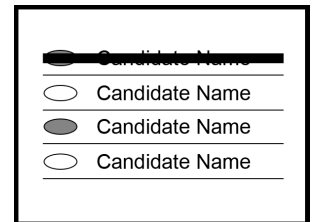
or one of the following:

- A yellow receipt for a valid Minnesota driver's license, Minnesota ID card, or permit with your current address
- Vouching: the signature of a registered voter who lives in your precinct and personally knows that you live in the precinct. If your witness is registered to vote in this precinct, your witness may vouch for you. *This person must complete and sign the voucher form on the back of the voter registration application.*
- A tribal ID card with your name, address, signature and picture, from a tribe recognized by the BIA
- A "Notice of Late Registration" if you received one from the county auditor or city clerk
- If you have moved within your precinct or changed your name, a current registration in the precinct
- Vouching for residents of certain residential facilities: the signature of an employee of your residential facility, including nursing homes, group homes, battered women's shelters, homeless shelters, etc. If you are not sure if the residential facility where you live is eligible, call your local election official. *The employee must complete and sign the voucher form on the back of the voter registration application.*

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## Correcting a mistake

- Completely erase the mistake, or
- Completely cross out the name of the candidate you accidentally marked and then mark your ballot for the candidate you prefer (do not initial your corrections), or
- Ask for a new ballot from your election office. Their contact information can be found in the return address section of the envelope in which you received these materials.



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## If you have a disability:

If you have a disability or cannot mark your ballot, your witness may assist you by marking your ballot at your direction, assembling the materials, and filling out the forms for you.

When signing the envelope, Minnesota law says you may:

- Sign the return envelope yourself, or
- Make your mark, or
- Ask your witness to sign for you in your presence. (Have the witness sign their own name as well.)
- If you have adopted the use of a signature stamp for all purposes of signature, you may use your signature stamp or ask your witness to use your signature stamp in your presence.

Minnesota Statutes, section 645.44, subd. 14

Please note: Voting is not covered by a power of attorney. A person with power of attorney may only sign for you in your presence, as outlined above.