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## Maryland State Board of Elections Reassures Voters that Mail-in Voting is a Secure and Convenient Option for Casting Your Vote

**ANNAPOLIS, MD (January 14, 2026)** - Amidst new United States Postal Services (USPS) policy changes, the Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE) wants to remind voters that mail-in voting remains a safe, convenient and effective way to vote.

USPS proposed a new rule, Postmarks and Postal Possession, [90 FR 38716](#), effective December 25, 2025. This new language was intended to provide clarity on postmarks and their relationship to the date of mailing. The rule advises that, due to postal operations, the postmark date does not always correspond to the date on which the Postal Service first accepted possession.

“I urge every voter who wants to cast a mail-in ballot with USPS to act early or to utilize one of our 286 ballot drop boxes. Ballot drop boxes are located throughout the State to ensure equal access for all voters. Each ballot drop box is routinely emptied, well lit, and under surveillance to ensure safety and prevent any tampering.” said Jared DeMarinis, State Administrator of Elections. “Mail-in voting remains a secure and convenient option for casting your vote. Remember that the State Board of Elections is the trusted source of information for elections and mail-in voting. Please don’t let the new rule on postmarks disenfranchise you, make a plan for voting.”

Mail-in ballots returned by mail must be postmarked by or before 8 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, June 23. If returned by hand, ballots must be dropped at a ballot drop box or local board of elections by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23.

To receive a mail-in ballot by mail, your request must be received (not just mailed) by June 16. The deadline to request a web delivery mail-in ballot is June 19. Visit SBE’s mail-in ballot [webpage](#) for more information on how to request a ballot.

For registered voters who do not want to cast a mail-in ballot, there are two other ways to vote in the upcoming election: vote early in-person or vote on Election Day.

**Vote Early In-Person:** Early voting begins Thursday, June 11 and runs through Thursday, June 18. Early voting centers are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Find the list of early voting centers [here](#).

**Vote on Election Day:** To find your Election Day polling place, visit SBE’s [Find My Polling Place portal](#). Election Day polling places will be open June 23 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Please remember** to rely on your state and local government election officials as your trusted sources for election information. Visit SBE's [website](#), follow SBE on social media, or contact your local elections office for accurate election information. Report any suspicious information to SBE's disinformation [portal](#).

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