



ESSEX COUNTY JULY 7th, 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION

Introduction

Due to COVID-19, New Jersey Elections are pushed to July 7th, and now will be ***Primarily A Vote-By-Mail Election.***

On May 15, 2020, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order #144 stating that the July 7th Primary Election will be conducted ***primarily by Vote by Mail Ballot Election.*** It is important for voters to understand how the new process will work so we can be sure that votes are valid under the new rules. Make sure your vote counts.

Who is going to automatically receive a Vote-By-Mail Ballot?

All *active registered Democrats and Republicans* will automatically be mailed a Vote-By-Mail Ballot.

For purposes of the Certification that you must sign stating that you applied for the Vote-By-Mail Ballot, please be advised that Governor Murphy's Executive Order No. 144 acts as your certification.

Who is going to automatically receive a Vote-By-Mail Application?

All *Unaffiliated voters or inactive Republican or Democrat voters* will automatically receive a Vote-By-Mail Ballot Application. The Vote-By-Mail Application will be specifically designed by the Secretary of State for the July 7th Primary Election. The Vote-By-Mail Application will require you to declare your affiliation with either the Democratic or Republican Party. Once the completed Vote-By-Mail Application is received by the Essex County Clerk's Office, you will receive a ballot based upon your desired party election on the Vote-By-Mail Application.

Is there a deadline to submit a VBM Application to receive a mailed VBM Ballot in time for the Primary Election?

Yes, the deadline for the Essex County Clerk's Office to receive a VBM Application in time to provide a VBM Ballot to the Voter by mail is June 30, 2020.

Is there a deadline to request an In-Person VBM Application?

The 3 PM July 6th deadline to submit a VBM Application in-person has been suspended. In-person VBM Applications will be accepted by the County Clerk's Election Office until 8:00 pm on July 7, 2020.

Do I have to put a stamp to return the VBM Ballot and/or VBM Application?

NO. All VBM Ballots and/or VBM Applications will have prepaid return postage.



How do I return my VBM Ballot?

Your ballot will include a return postage-paid envelope, (no stamp necessary) which will be included in the VBM Ballot packet that you will receive. You may mail your ballot through the US Postal Service. You also may deposit your ballot in one of the “secure mail drop boxes” located throughout the county that has daily pick-up or you or a bearer of your ballot may deliver your ballot directly to the Board of Elections at the Hall of Records in Newark.

What will the VBM Ballot look like?

The ballot will be posted on the Essex County Clerk’s Website as soon as it is available. www.essexclerk.com

When will the ballots be mailed?

As per Governor Murphy’s Executive Order, the New Jersey Secretary of State has designated June 12, 2020 to commence mailing of VBM Ballots.

What is the deadline for returning your VBM Ballot?

If you are using the US Postal Service, the ballot must be postmarked on or before July 7, 2020 and received by the Board of Elections by 8 pm on July 14, 2020 to be considered valid and to be counted.

If you are using one of the “secure mail drop boxes”, the deadline for delivering your ballot is 8:00 pm on July 7, 2020. Please contact the Board of Elections at 973-621-5071 for drop box locations.

If you are delivering your ballot in-person, you may deliver it and submit your completed ballot to the Board of Elections Office up until 8 pm on July 7th; the night of the Primary Election.

If someone other than the voter is delivering the ballot to the Board of Elections make sure that they fill out and sign the Bearer Section on the left-front side of the return envelope.

Does the Board of Elections and your Municipal Clerk require identification if I choose to deliver my VBM Ballot directly to them?

YES. A voter delivering their own ballot is required to produce identification. If a Bearer is delivering the voter’s ballot, they too must produce identification. Contact the Board of Elections at 973-621-5071 or your Municipal Clerk to find out what identification is acceptable.

What should I do if I lose my VBM Ballot, it is destroyed, or I do not believe I received it?

If your VBM Ballot is lost, damaged or you do not believe you received it, you may request a duplicate from the County Clerk’s Office by downloading and submitting the 2ndballot



request form at www.essexclerk.com. You may also visit the County Clerk's Office up until 8 pm on Election night to request a 2nd ballot.

Will I be notified if my VBM Application is rejected?

YES. Should your Application be rejected, the Essex County Clerk's Office will notify you of the reason(s) and you will be given an opportunity to cure the defect. Once the defect is cured, you will be issued a VBM Ballot. Be advised that if a VBM Application is received too close to Election Day, time may not permit the application to be cured to allow the voter to receive a VBM Ballot.

How will I know where my polling place will be located?

The Board of Elections will be choosing a limited number of Polling Places available for voters on Election Day, *where only Provisional Paper Ballots will be available* to cast your vote. A *Provisional Paper Ballot is similar to a VBM Ballot*. You will be receiving a post card notifying you of the polling location in your municipality.

When is the deadline to register to vote?

The deadline to register to vote is June 16, 2020. Registration must be mailed and postmarked by June 16, 2020. You may also deliver your Registration to your Municipal Clerk or to the Essex County Commissioner of Registration by 9 pm on June 16, 2020. (insert link to voter registration form)

Will I be receiving a Sample Ballot?

NO, but you will be receiving a postcard in the mail that notifies you of the address of your polling place and that you can view your Sample Ballot at www.essexclerk.com

How will I be notified of the location of the 5 secure drop boxes?

Please contact the Board of Elections at 973-621-5071. The County Clerk's office will also post the locations on its website once the locations have been identified by the Board of Elections

Will I be permitted to vote in-person on the voting machine if I go to my polling place?

NO. You will not be permitted to vote on the machine if you go to your polling place. Voters who appear at the polling location will be permitted to vote *Only on a Provisional Paper Ballot*.

A Provisional Paper Ballot is similar to a VBM Ballot

We urge you to use your VBM Ballot, as Provisional Ballots are counted last and must be checked against the VBM Ballots that have already been cast before they are accepted and canvassed.



How will I vote if I am disabled and require an accessible ballot?

If you have a disability and need an accessible ballot, please contact the Essex County Clerk's Office at 973-621-4922 or you may go to your assigned polling place, which will provide access to an in-person accessible voting device on Primary Election Day.

May I return my VBM Ballot to the polling location on Primary Election Day?

NO. Vote by Mail Ballots *will not be accepted at the polling locations.*

Will I be notified if my VBM ballot is rejected?

YES. The Board of Elections will notify you following the Election with the reason why your ballot was not counted.

When will we know the results of the July 7, 2020 Primary Election?

Due to the challenges of this election and the time allotted to receive ballots and counted by the Board of Election; the results may not be available until the end of July. Every effort will be made to provide results as quickly as possible. The goal is to be accurate.

Will I continue to get VBM Ballots for all future elections after this Primary?

Voters that have previously requested to receive ballots by mail for all future elections will continue to receive ballots for all future elections. Voters who have not submitted an application for the July 7, 2020 Primary Election will receive the VBM Ballot for the July 7, 2020 election only.

How do I contact the County Clerk's Office and/or the Board of Elections Office?

Essex County Clerk
Hall of Records Room 247
465 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, NJ 07102
973-621-4922

Essex County Board of Elections
Hall of Records Room 411
465 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, NJ 07102
973-621-5071

Superintendent of Elections
& Commissioner of Registration
Hall of Records Room 417A
465 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Newark, NJ 07102
973-621-5061



What nominations and elections are up for this election?

- * Election Nomination for President
- * Election Nomination for United States Senate
- * Election Nomination for Member of the House of Representatives (7, 8, 10, and 11)
- * Election Nomination for County Clerk
- * Election Nomination for (4) At-Large Freeholders
- * Election Nomination for (1) District Freeholder
- * Election Nomination for Bloomfield Township Ward Councilperson
- * Election Nomination for Caldwell Borough (2) Council seats
- * Election Nomination for Essex Fells Borough (2) Council seats
- * Election Nomination for Fairfield Township (2) Council seats
- * Election Nomination for Glen Ridge Borough (2) Council seats
- * Election Nomination for Livingston Township (2) Township Committee seats
- * Election Nomination for Maplewood Township (2) Township Committee seats
- * Election Nomination for Millburn Township (2) Township Committee seats
- * Election Nomination for North Caldwell Borough (2) Council seats
- * Election Nomination for Roseland Borough (2) Council seats
- * Election Nomination for West Caldwell Township (2) Council seats
- * Election for (2) Republican County Committee seats per district

Quick Tips for Voting by Mail



Christopher J. Durkin
Essex County Clerk
New Jersey







Thank you for participating in the Election process through Essex County's Vote by Mail program. Here are some tips to help you on the way and to ensure that your vote counts. For more information, please visit www.essexclerk.com.


Christopher J. Durkin, Essex County Clerk

FILL OUT THE BALLOT

- Use pencil or blue or black ink.
- Fill in the oval to the right of your choice.
- To make a write-in choice, fill in the oval and clearly print the name of the candidate.

		For Mayor Vote for One
	A	John Q. PUBLIC Essex County Candidate 9A 4
	B	Jane DOE Essex County Candidate 9B 5 

INSERT INTO THE CERTIFICATION ENVELOPE


- Place the ballot in this envelope and seal it.
- Complete and sign the **Certificate Of Mail-In Voter**. Do not detach it from the envelope.
- If someone assists you in completing your ballot, they must complete the bottom portion.
- Candidates cannot be assistors.

CERTIFICATE OF MAIL-IN VOTER

I, _____, (Print your name clearly) _____, (Print your home address in full)

(Date address in R.S. number) _____ (Month/Day/Year) / 2011

DO HEREBY CERTIFY, SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES FOR FRAUDULENT VOTING, THAT I AM THE PERSON WHO MARKED THE ENCLOSED BALLOT FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION OF THE _____ AND CERTIFICATE IN SECRET; HOWEVER, A FAMILY MEMBER MAY ASSIST ME IN DOING SO.

 (Signature or mark of voter)

ANY PERSON PROVIDING ASSISTANCE SHALL COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:
I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I AM THE PERSON WHO PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO THIS VOTER AND DECLARE THAT I WILL MAINTAIN THE SECRECY OF THIS BALLOT.

_____, (Signature of person providing assistance) _____, (Address of person providing assistance)

_____, (Printed name of person providing assistance)

FOR YOUR VOTE TO COUNT, YOU MUST SEAL YOUR BALLOT WITH THIS ENVELOPE AND COMPLETE & SIGN THIS CERTIFICATE.

INSERT INTO THE RETURN ENVELOPE

- Place the certification envelope in the postage-paid return envelope.
- If someone mails or delivers your ballot for you, they must complete the **Bearer Portion** in front of you before the ballot leaves your possession.
- Candidates may not serve as bearers.
- A person may serve as bearer for up to 3 voters.

Voter's Name and Address _____

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

OFFICIAL ELECTION MAIL

Official Election Ballot

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 10721 NEWARK, NJ
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
455 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BLVD. RM 411
NEWARK, NJ 07102-0348

To Protect Your Vote:
Do not allow anyone to see your ballot or to mark it for you. Do not allow anyone to take your ballot from you. Do not allow anyone to take your ballot from you. Do not allow anyone to take your ballot from you. Do not allow anyone to take your ballot from you.

_____, (Signature of Bearer)
_____, (Address of Bearer)
_____, (Address of Bearer)
_____, (Address of Bearer)

RETURN YOUR BALLOT

- Voted ballots may be mailed or delivered in person.
- Ballots delivered by mail must be postmarked on or before Election Day.
- Ballots that are returned in person must be delivered by the close of polls on Election Day. If delivered in person, you or your bearer must present ID when surrendering the ballot.

*** In order to receive a second ballot, you must submit this form:**

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SECOND BALLOT REQUEST FORM

NAME: _____
(please print)

REGISTERED ADDRESS: _____
(please print)

**MAIL MY BALLOT
TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS** _____
(please print)

DATE OF BIRTH: _____
(please print)

SIGNATURE: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____
(please print)

REASON FOR REQUEST

(please check applicable box)

1. I have not received my first ballot
2. I mistakenly threw away or misplaced my ballot
3. I accidentally made a mistake on my ballot and am requesting a second ballot.

Please contact the Essex County Clerks Office at 973-387-7314 with any questions or concerns. Once completed email this application and a vote by mail application back to iferry@clerk.essexcountynj.org or fax to 973-621-5178.



