

# DALLAS COUNTY VOTING GUIDE

By ICE Out of Tarrant County  
& Faith In Texas

The ICE Out of Tarrant County coalition seeks to abolish ICE. Our mission is to protect immigrant rights in Tarrant County and empower our communities. This voting guide includes relevant information for the November 2020 election: local races, answers to common questions, and how to be democratically engaged beyond voting.



**ICE OUT OF  
TARRANT** END 287G



**FAITH IN TEXAS**  
*The Power of Faithful People*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Important Dates for Voting	3
2. Opportunities for Democratic Engagement	3
3. Need a Ride to the Polls?	4
4. Absentee Ballot	4
5. Sample Ballot & Polling Locations	5
6. Health Protocols	5
7. Know your Rights	6
★ Election Protection Resources	6
★ ID Requirements in Texas	6
★ Rights as a Registered Voter	7
★ Rights if you are Disabled	7
★ Language Interpretation	7
★ Voting in Jail or if Previously Incarcerated	7
★ LGBTQIA+ Communities	8
★ Military Voting	9
8 FAQs and More Resources	10
9. Sources	11

# Important Dates for Voting in the November Election

<b>October 5</b>	<b>Last day to register to vote</b>
<b>October 13</b>	<b>First day of early voting</b>
<b>October 23</b>	<b>Last day to apply for ballot by mail (received, not postmarked)</b>
<b>October 30</b>	<b>Last day of early voting</b>
<b>November 3</b>	<b>Election day and last day to Receive Ballot by Mail</b>

## Opportunities for Democratic Engagement

- Please make sure to fill out the census for your household and encourage your friends and family to do so - it helps our community thrive and get help when we need it.
- [Volunteer at the polls!](#) Poll workers help prevent long lines, mass confusion, and miscounted ballots, and hopefully reflect the communities they serve. Jurisdictions may close polling locations due to a lack of poll workers. If you'd like to become a poll worker, learn more at [powerthepolls.org](http://powerthepolls.org). You get PPE, training, and possibly even a paid position. You can self register to sign up for the state training program here: [pollworkertraining.sos.texas.gov](http://pollworkertraining.sos.texas.gov)
- You can become a volunteer deputy registrar and register people to vote here: [bit.ly/volunteerregistrar](http://bit.ly/volunteerregistrar)
- [Help get out the vote!](#) Volunteer with a campaign you care about.
- Attend forums, debates, and meetings - even hold your own! Organize your neighborhood or community to get involved! We encourage you to attend public meetings like the city council meeting and commissioners meetings or even volunteer with us or another community organization!

## Need a ride to the polls?

On early voting days Saturday, October 17 and Saturday, October 24, as well as election Day, Tuesday, November 3, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) is providing free rides via bus, light rail, streetcar, GoLink and Paratransit services to voting locations. You can plan out your individual trip on the GoPass app with the “Plan” tool or using Trip Planner on DART.org.

## Absentee Ballot

The deadline to request a ballot by mail is (application received not postmarked by) Friday, October 23. If possible, you can even fill out the form and drop it off at a ballot dropbox to bypass mailing it. To report issues with your election mail, visit: [electionmail.org](http://electionmail.org)

Request your ballot at [vote.org](http://vote.org), and then fill out sections 1-8, sign and date section 10, print the application, affix your postage and mail it. Address and mail to the early voting clerk of Dallas County. If you fax or email, the early voting clerks must receive the original, hard copy no later than four business days after the fax/email. You can call their number below to confirm that they have received your fax or to answer any other questions.

### Mailing Address:

Early Voting Clerk Dallas County Elections  
1520 Round Table Drive. Dallas, Texas 75247

Phone: (214) 819-6359 | Fax: (214) 819-6303 |  
[dallascountyvotes@dallascounty.org](mailto:dallascountyvotes@dallascounty.org)

## Sample Ballot & Polling Locations

You can visit: [dallascountyvotes.org/upcoming-election-information/](https://dallascountyvotes.org/upcoming-election-information/) to check your local polling place, sample ballot, and registration.

Here are some helpful resources to find and learn about your candidates outside of their campaign websites:

[my.lwv.org/texas](https://my.lwv.org/texas)  
[bit.ly/statecandidateinfo](https://bit.ly/statecandidateinfo)

## Health Protocols

Our best recommendation is to wear your mask over the nose and mouth and keep a distance of at least six feet of separation from others and to utilize early voting if possible!

Know that an election official cannot require a voter's temperature to be checked prior to placing a vote nor can they require voters to wear face coverings prior to entering the polling location. They can ask you to temporarily lower or remove your mask to determine your identity. If you refuse to temporarily lower your mask and they cannot confirm your identity, they should offer you a provisional ballot. You are encouraged to wear your face covering through the rest of the process.

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

## ★ Election Protection Resources

Contact an Election Protection Hotline.

Texas Voter Protection [texasvoterprotection.org/  
votetexas.gov/your-rights/  
votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/index.html](https://texasvoterprotection.org/votetexas.gov/your-rights/votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/index.html)

English: 866-OUR-VOTE or 866-687-8683

Spanish: 888-VE-Y-VOTA or 888-839-8682

Asian Languages (Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Vietnamese, Bengali, Urdu, Hindi, and Tagalog): 888-API-VOTE or 888-274-8683

Arabic 844-YALLA-US or 866-925-5287

ASL Video Call: 301-818-VOTE or 301-818-8683

Disability Rights Texas: 888-796-VOTE or 888-796-8683

## ★ ID Requirements in Texas

To vote you need to show a Photo ID and there are seven acceptable forms: Texas driver's license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas election ID certificate, Texas personal ID card, Texas handgun license, TUS military ID with photo, US citizenship certificate with photograph, or a US passport. All of the above must be current or expired less than four years, except for voters aged 70 or older; then, their photo identification can be expired for whatever length of time as long as the ID is otherwise valid.

For voters that do not have ID and cannot get one due to reasonable impediment, you will need to sign a sworn statement that certifies there is a reason you do not have any of the accepted IDs. In place, you must present either: a certified birth certificate, valid voter registration certificate, a current utility bill, government check, bank statement or paycheck, or government document with your name and an address.

For voters that do not have ID and have no reasonable impediment to obtaining one or did not bring ID to the polling place, you may cast a provisional ballot. In order to have the provisional ballot counted, you will be required to visit the voter registrar's office within 6 days of the date of the election to either present one of the forms of photo ID or submit a temporary affidavit, or, if applicable, qualify for the disability exemption.

## ★ Rights as a Registered Voter

- A ballot with written instructions on how to cast a ballot.
- Cast your vote in secret and free from intimidation.
- Receive up to two more ballots if you make a mistake while marking the ballot.
- Bring an interpreter to assist you as you qualify to vote if you do not understand the English language.
- Help to cast your ballot if you cannot write, see the ballot, or understand the language in which it is written.
- Report a possible voting rights abuse to the Secretary of State (1.800.252.8683) or to your local election official.
- Vote once at any early voting location during the early voting period within the territory conducting the election.
- Cast a provisional ballot if your name does not appear on the list of registered voters.

## ★ Rights if you are Disabled

Voters may vote early, either in person or by mail. All polling places in Texas must be accessible, which means voters may use interpreters. It also means in every federal election (and most non-federal elections), each polling place will provide at least one type of accessible voting equipment or Direct Record Electronic device, which allows voters to vote directly on the system or assist them in marking the paper ballot. Depending on the device available, voters may use headphones or other assistive devices to help them vote independently and secretly.

Voters May Receive Assistance at the Polls. Tell the election official if you are a voter who needs help to vote. You do not have to provide proof of your disability. Voters may be assisted by: 1) Any person the voter chooses who is not an election worker, 2) two election workers on Election Day, or 3) one election worker during early voting.

Voters that are disabled may vote curbside, though it is recommended you call ahead so your polling location knows to expect you. You may vote curbside during the early voting period or on Election Day. Learn more here: [votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/](https://votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/)

## ★ Language Interpretation

Both state and federal laws mandate that all voting materials must be translated to Spanish across Texas and that there should be bilingual clerks in certain election precincts. If you have any doubts, call your voting location ahead of time. If you do not speak English, you can bring an interpreter to help you. Your interpreter cannot work for your employer or be involved in your work union.

## ★ Voting in Jail or if Previously Incarcerated

Only a felony conviction would affect your right to vote in Texas. If you are in jail waiting for trial or have been convicted of a misdemeanor, you can vote by mail [See section on Absentee Ballots]. If you have been convicted of a felony, you are eligible to vote in Texas once you have fully completed your sentence (including any time incarcerated, on parole, under supervision, or court ordered probation) or you were pardoned. Make sure to register again once you have completed your sentence. More here: [sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/effects.shtml](https://sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/effects.shtml)

## ★ LGBTQIA+ Communities

We recommend you check your voter registration status and confirm that your name and address are up to date and make sure to register to vote if you haven't. Above, you can find Texas' ID requirements and bring along an acceptable form of ID and confirm that your name and address match. It is not required by law that your gender identity and gender presentation need to match. A discrepancy on Gender on ID is not a valid reason to deny a regular ballot. If you are denied a regular ballot, request a provisional ballot and request follow up information. Call the National Election Protection Hotline above if you face any issues and are told you cannot vote.

More of your questions can be answered at the links below:

[texaslawhelp.org/article/lgbtq-voting-rights-guide](https://texaslawhelp.org/article/lgbtq-voting-rights-guide)

[bit.ly/LGBTQvotingresource](https://bit.ly/LGBTQvotingresource)



## ★ Military Voting

If you are an active-duty military, a part of their family, or an overseas citizen, you can register to vote and request your absentee ballot using the Federal Post Card Application. First you need to fill out the application, and in case the federal election official has any questions, please make sure to include your email address or phone number. Once you have filled out the application, please send it in to your election official. Please submit your FPCA as soon as possible and then fill out and send back your ballot as soon as you receive it. Below are some recommended dates:

- 35 days before election - On a ship at sea: September 28, 2020
- 30 days before election - Outside of the US: October 2, 2020
- 11 days before the election - Stateside: October 23, 2020

Since Texas begins to mail out absentee ballots at least 45 days before Election Day, if you still have not received your ballot 30 days before Election Day, please contact your local election office. In case you do not receive the ballot, you can print, sign, and mail your Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to your local election office. If you receive your absentee ballot after mailing your FWAB, please also fill out and mail your regular absentee ballot. For more information, check out [FVAP.gov](https://www.fvap.gov) or call 1-800-438-VOTE or email [vote@fvap.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.gov).

# FAQS AND MORE RESOURCES

## Did you move within your county?

- Please, notify your local voter registrar in writing of your new address. You will be mailed a new certificate with your new address and be able to vote in your new precinct 30 days after you submitted your change.

## Did you move to another county?

- You must re-register and fill out and mail a new application to the voter registrar. You will receive a new voter registration certificate 30 days after your application is submitted and accepted.

## Are you too late to register in your new county?

- If you have moved to a new county and have not re-registered in the new county by the October 5, 2020 deadline, you may be eligible to vote a limited ballot in your new county. A limited ballot means that you would be allowed to vote on any candidates and measures in common between your former and new county. This procedure is only available during the early voting period at the main early voting polling place; you may NOT vote a limited ballot on election day. You must be a current registered voter in your former county in order to qualify OR you must have been registered in your old county at the time you submitted a voter registration application in your new county, if you have done so. If you feel you qualify to vote a limited ballot, we recommend that you contact the office of the Early Voting Clerk in your new county.

## You can find more information at the links below:

[my.lwv.org/texas/voters-guide](https://my.lwv.org/texas/voters-guide)

[ballotpedia.org/Texas\\_voter\\_guide](https://ballotpedia.org/Texas_voter_guide)

[vote411.org/texas](https://vote411.org/texas)

[ivoterguide.com/](https://ivoterguide.com/)

[votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/need-id](https://votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/need-id).

[texasvoterprotection.org/](https://texasvoterprotection.org/)

[vote.org/state/texas/](https://vote.org/state/texas/)

# SOURCES

[DART.ORG/RIDERALERTS/FULLRA.ASP?ID=5053](https://www.dart.org/rideralerts/fullra.asp?id=5053)

[SOS.STATE.TX.US/ELECTIONS/PAMPHLETS/LARGEPA  
M.P.S  
HTML](https://sos.state.tx.us/elections/pamphlets/largepamp.shtml)

[VOTETEXAS.GOV/REGISTER-TO-VOTE/NEED-ID.HTML](https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/need-id.html)

[VOTETEXAS.GOV/VOTERS-WITH-SPECIAL-NEEDS/](https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/)

[DALLASCOUNTYVOTES.ORG/UPCOMING-ELECTION-  
INFORMATION/](https://dallascountyvotes.org/upcoming-election-information/)

[SOS.STATE.TX.US/ELECTIONS/LAWS/ADVISORY-2014-13-  
MINORITY-LANGUAGE.SHTML](https://sos.state.tx.us/elections/laws/advisory-2014-13-minority-language.shtml)

[TEXASLAWHELP.ORG/ARTICLE/VOTING-TEXAS-TOOLS-  
AND-TIPS#TOC-8](https://www.texaslawhelp.org/article/voting-texas-tools-and-tips#toc-8)

[TEXASLAWHELP.ORG/ARTICLE/LGBTQ-VOTING-RIGHTS-  
GUIDE](https://www.texaslawhelp.org/article/lgbtq-voting-rights-guide)

[TRANSEQUALITY.ORG/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/DOCS/RESO  
URCES/VOTING%20WHILE%20TRANS.PDF](https://transequality.org/sites/default/files/docs/resources/voting%20while%20trans.pdf)

[VOTETEXAS.GOV/MILITARY-OVERSEAS-  
VOTERS/INDEX.HTML](https://www.votetexas.gov/military-overseas-voters/index.html)

[SOS.TEXAS.GOV/ELECTIONS/LAWS/ADVISORY2020-  
19.SHTML](https://sos.texas.gov/elections/laws/advisory2020-19.shtml)