

ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION

Missourians who are not able to go to their polling place on Election Day may vote absentee beginning six weeks prior to an election. Absentee voters must provide one of the following reasons for voting absentee:

- 1. Absence on Election Day from the jurisdiction of the election authority in which such voter is registered to vote;
- 2. Incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability, including a person who is primarily responsible for the physical care of a person who is incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability;
- 3. Religious belief or practice;
- 4. Employment as an election authority, as a member of an election authority, or by an election authority at a location other than such voter's polling place;
- 5. Incarceration, provided all qualifications for voting are retained.

Voters can request absentee ballots from their local election authority in person or by fax. Faxed absentee ballot requests should be submitted to the appropriate local election authority. Relatives within the first degree (parents and children) may complete an absentee ballot application, in person, on behalf of the voter who wishes to vote absentee. **DO NOT SEND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE. ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS MUST BE SENT TO THE APPROPRIATE LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITY BY THE DEADLINE IN ORDER TO BE VALID.** Contact information for local election authorities and an absentee ballot form may be found at the links below.

<u>Local Election Authority Contact Information</u> www.sos.mo.gov/elections/countyclerks.asp <u>Request for Missouri Absentee Ballot Form</u> www.sos.mo.gov/forms/election/absentee.pdf

Mail in or faxed absentee ballot requests must be received by the election authority no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to any election. Voters can vote by absentee ballot in the office of the local election authority until 5:00 p.m. the night before the election.

If you have registered to vote by mail and are voting absentee the first time you vote, you are required to provide a **copy** of your identification with your absentee ballot request unless you provided a copy with your voter registration application. Examples of identification are:

- 1. Identification issued by the state of Missouri, an agency of the state, or a local election authority of the state;
- 2. Identification issued by the U.S. government or agency thereof;
- Identification issued by a Missouri institution of higher education, including a university, college, vocational and technical school;
- 4. A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that contains the name and address of the voter; or
- 5. Driver's license or state identification card issued by another state.

This identification requirement, as well as the notary requirement for absentee ballots, does not apply to overseas voters, those on active military duty or members of their immediate family living with them or voters who are declared disabled and their caregivers. Additional information for military and overseas voters may be found at the section entitled <u>Military and Overseas Voters</u>.

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