



MONTANA

HOW TO VOTE IN THE 2024 ELECTION

KEY DATES

Regular voter registration deadline
Monday, Oct. 7 (postmarked; must be received by Oct. 10)

Late registration (in person only)
Monday, Nov. 4, noon

Election Day registration
Tuesday, Nov. 5, by 8 p.m.

Early in-person voting
Monday, Oct. 7, through Monday, Nov. 4, noon

Deadline to apply for an absentee ballot
Monday, Nov. 4, noon

Election Day
Tuesday, Nov. 5

Deadline for absentee ballots to be received
Tuesday, Nov. 5

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WHAT'S NEW?

New state legislative maps take effect in 2024 that may affect the boundaries of your districts and the candidates on your ballot.

The state Supreme Court upheld a lower court decision striking down laws that eliminated same-day registration, introduced new voter ID requirements and prohibited paid efforts to collect absentee ballots.

The secretary of state's office posted a series of videos on the election process at votemt.gov/election-videos.

WHAT ELSE YOU NEED TO KNOW

How can I register to vote?

By mail: Download a voter registration application from the secretary of state's website at votemt.gov. You can also request a form by calling your county election administrator. See sosmt.gov/elections and click on Administrator Contact Info for details. Or call the secretary of state's toll-free voter hotline at 888-884-8683. Mail the completed form and related documents to your county election administrator. Applications must be postmarked by Monday, Oct. 7, and received by Thursday, Oct. 10, for the Nov. 5 election.

In person: Visit your county election administrator to drop off or fill out a registration form. Offices generally are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays, except for holidays. You can also register to vote when you apply for or renew your driver's license or state-issued ID card at a Motor Vehicle Division office.

Regular registration closes Monday, Oct. 7. If you miss that deadline, you can still register in person by visiting your county election administrator's office until noon, Nov. 4, or on Election Day by 8 p.m. To check your voter registration status, go to votemt.gov, scroll down and click Check Registration Status.

IMPORTANT: As of press time, election issues were still being contested in some states. Before voting, AARP recommends confirming details at the Montana secretary of state's official site, **votemt.gov**, or by scanning the code to the right. The state's voter hotline is 888-884-8683. More updates at **aarp.org/mtvotes**.

How can I get an absentee ballot?

All registered Montana voters can request an absentee ballot, and you can also opt to receive absentee ballots for future elections.

By mail: At votemt.gov, click Learn More under MT Election Forms to print an absentee ballot application. Or request a mailed application by calling your county election administrator or the secretary of state's voter hotline at 888-884-8683. Mail the completed form to your county election office.

In person: Visit your county election office to drop off or fill out an application. Offices generally are open weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

County election officials must receive applications by Monday, Nov. 4, at noon. If you drop off your application, you should be able to pick up your absentee ballot then.

Absentee ballots will be mailed to voters who request them starting Friday, Oct. 11.

How do I submit my absentee ballot?

Completed ballots must be received by your county election administrator or polling place by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

How can I track my absentee ballot?

Go to sosmt.gov/elections and click on My Voter Information.

Can I vote in person before Election Day?

You can vote by absentee ballot in person from Monday, Oct. 7, through Monday, Nov. 4, at noon. You can apply for and cast your ballot at your county election administrator office weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

When is Election Day?

Tuesday, Nov. 5. At sosmt.gov/elections, select My Voter Information to find your polling place. Polls are generally open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., but confirm with your county. People in line by 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

What ID do I need on Election Day?

Bring a photo ID (a Montana driver's license or state ID card), or a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or government document with your name and address. For details, go to votemt.gov and click on View Montana Identification Requirements.

What about military or overseas voters?

Go to sosmt.gov/elections and click on Military & Overseas Voters

What if I have a disability?

Go to sosmt.gov/elections and click on Voters With Disabilities. —*Natalie Missakian*

RACES TO WATCH

- ◯ **U.S. President**
- ◯ **U.S. Senate:** One seat
- ◯ **U.S. House:** Both districts
- ◯ **Governor**
- ◯ **State Senate:** 25 of 50 seats
- ◯ **State House:** All 100 seats

Instructions are for computer use and may differ on mobile devices. As a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, AARP does not endorse candidates or make political donations.

ILLUSTRATION BY CHRIS O'RILEY