

Military/Overseas Citizens

Absent uniformed service members (and their eligible dependents) and U.S. citizens living outside of the United States may request an Absentee by Mail Ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA). This federal act and its corresponding law in this state allows uniformed service members and overseas citizens who are absent from their county of residence in North Carolina to request, receive and return an Absentee by Mail Ballot under special rights.

*For more information pertaining to the special rights allowed for a UOCAVA Voter, please contact the Rockingham County Board of Elections Office.

How Absentee by Mail Ballots are Counted

Absentee by Mail Ballots that are properly returned to the Board of Elections Office are placed into a security lock box and are sealed until the next Board Meeting date. At the next Board Meeting, the Elections Board will break the seal on the security lock box and remove the Absentee Ballots that have been returned. The Board will approve all properly returned Absentee Ballots at this time, but do not open the Absentee by Mail Ballot Envelopes or count the ballots until Election Day.

How Absentee in Person Ballots are Counted

Ballots cast at a One Stop (Early) Voting Location are counted in the same manner as on Election Day. The Voter marks their ballot and places the ballot into the Voting Tabulator.



Absentee Voting In Rockingham County



BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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Tina Cardwell, Elections Director

What is Absentee Voting?

When a Voter votes prior to Election Day, they vote Absentee. Absentee Voting is comprised of two methods by which registered Voters may cast their ballots other than by the traditional method of appearing in person and casting a ballot on the day of the Election. These methods are Absentee by Mail (Civilian Absentee Voting and Military/Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting) and Absentee in Person (One Stop Absentee Voting). One Stop Absentee Voting is often referred to as One Stop (Early) Voting. Properly registered Voters in Rockingham County may choose to vote Absentee due to illness, disability, being out of town on Election Day, or simply for convenience. A reason for voting Absentee is not required. All Absentee Ballots that are properly cast in any Election in Rockingham County are counted.



Absentee by Mail

Any Rockingham County registered Voter who is qualified to vote in an Election can request and receive an Absentee by Mail Ballot.

The Voter, or a near relative of the Voter may make the request.

A near relative, as defined by law, is a spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild.

Requests must be made on an official Absentee Ballot Request Form. Forms may be obtained from the Board of Elections Office or online in the Board of Elections section of the Rockingham County Website.

The request may be made beginning 50 days prior to the date of a statewide Primary Election, 60 days prior to the date of a statewide General Election, 30 days prior to Municipal Elections, but not later than the Tuesday prior to Election Day.

All requests must be signed.

Voting instructions and a return envelope will be mailed to Absentee Voters along with their ballot. Postage is required on the return envelope.

If you vote Absentee by Mail, please be sure to follow the instructions carefully to ensure that your ballot can be properly counted.

Absentee in Person

Any properly registered Voter in Rockingham County may vote prior to Election Day at a One Stop (Early) Voting Location.

For all Elections held in Rockingham County, One Stop (Early) Voting is available at the Board of Elections Office beginning the third Wednesday prior to the Election and continuing through the first Friday prior to the Election.

During busy Elections, the Rockingham County Board of Elections may vote to open Remote One Stop Voting Locations in other areas of the County in addition to the Board of Elections Office.

Multipartisan Assistance Team (MAT)

A Multipartisan Assistance Team (MAT) is a group of persons who have been appointed by the local County Board of Elections Office to provide assistance with Absentee by Mail Voting to Voters living at facilities such as nursing homes. The makeup of the Team includes persons whose Voter Registration is affiliated with two different political parties or persons who are registered as Unaffiliated. If you request help from a MAT you will receive impartial, professional assistance. Their job is to help you vote, but your voting choices will remain confidential.