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State Senator **LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS** Your District 38 Update



Virtual Election Town Hall

Last night we hosted a town hall conversation about the upcoming election with Secretary of State Kathy Boockvar. We discussed changes to voting and answered questions about the November General Election. Watch the Town Hall below.

Virtual Town Hall with Department of State Secretary Boockvar Thursday, October 1 @ 6:00 PM



Senator
Lindsey M. Williams



Secretary Kathy Boockvar
Department of State

FAQs on the 2020 Election



I applied to vote by mail in the primary, do I need to apply again?

It depends on how you marked your original application. If you checked the box to vote by mail for all elections in 2020, you do not need to reapply. If you did not mark the box you do need to reapply and do so before October 27. You can check your status at www.votespa.com.

I have not received my ballot yet; when will ballots be mailed out?

Ballots began being mailed out the last week of September.

My spouse/neighbor/friend has received their ballot, but I haven't. Can you tell me the status of mine?

Ballots are not sent out based on names, addresses or even neighborhoods. They're being sent out in batches and it's not unusual for ballots to arrive on different days for individuals who live in the same household. As ballots are continuing to go out, we expect that all voters who have applied to date will have received their ballot in the next 10 days to 2 weeks. You can track the number of applications approved, ballots delivered to post office, and ballots returned at <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/elections/index.aspx>.

Can I vote in person after requesting a ballot?

If you change your mind and want to vote in person after being approved for a mail in ballot you should bring your ballot & both the secrecy and outside envelopes to the polls with you. We suggest bringing the entire envelope that you received from the Elections Department to be safe. You will give your ballot & envelopes to a Poll Worker and they will void it for you and you will sign a declaration that you have not voted elsewhere, enabling you to vote in person.

The Poll Workers will be able to tell who has requested a mail-in ballot, so if you forget to bring your mail-in ballot & envelopes or you lose them, you will be given a provisional ballot to complete at your polling location. This ballot will only be counted if it is verified that your mail-in

ballot has not been received by the Election Board.

I applied for an absentee/mail-in ballot online but have not heard back. Do I apply again?

No. First check the status of and track your application at www.votespa.com.

There are a few different statuses that can appear when you track your application:

No Match: This means that you have not applied yet or that the county board of elections has not processed your application. Please allow 10-14 business days from the time you submit your application for processing. If you provided your email address on your application, you will receive an email indicating that your application was processed.

Pending: This means that your application was received and approved, but that your ballot has not been mailed yet.

Processed: This means that your application was received and approved, and your ballot has been mailed.

Vote Recorded: This means that your ballot has been received and that your vote has been recorded.

If you provide your email address in your application, you will receive an email when your application has been processed. You will also receive an email when your vote has been recorded.

The PA State system only recognizes an email address once. Therefore, if you and another member of your household provided the same email address you will only receive an email for one ballot. The system will indicate which ballot you applied for and should expect to receive. In this case, you should track the status of your application at www.votespa.com.

If you still have questions about the status of your ballot, please call my office at 412-364-0469 or email us at SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com and we will do our best to get an update for you.

What's over the counter voting?

Over-the-counter voting entails a voter going to the counter in the Elections Division in the County Office Building, 542 Forbes Avenue, Room 601, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, and applying in-person for a mail-in or absentee ballot. The application is the same as the one found [online](#) and can be completed in advance of going to the County Office Building. Once the application is completed and submitted to the Elections staff, the application will be processed using the SURE system to ensure the voter is registered to vote, hasn't already applied for a ballot, or has any other barriers to voting.

Once reviewed and approved, the ballot for that person's municipality, ward and precinct will

be provided to the voter, along with security and declaration envelopes and instructions for voting. Privacy screens will be set up on the counter to allow the voter to complete their ballot in secret. Once voted, the ballot is folded and **placed in the security envelope**, which is then placed inside of a second envelope with the voter's declaration printed on the back. The voter will complete and sign the declaration before returning the envelope to Elections staff.

The voter's record will be updated to show that the individual's ballot has been returned. Voted ballots are secured within the Elections Division before being transported to the Elections Warehouse, where they are stored in a locked room which is also under camera surveillance.

Will the County be setting up drop boxes for the General Election?

Yes. Completed ballots can be returned at Elections Office (542 Forbes Avenue, Room 601) to return your voted ballot. That's available during regular business hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. There are also satellite locations available:

Boyce Park Ski Lodge

901 Centerview Dr, Plum, PA 15239

Open the following Saturdays and Sundays:

October 17th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 18th - 11 AM to 7 PM

October 24th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 25th - 11 AM to 7 PM

CCAC Allegheny

807 Ridge Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Open the following Saturdays and Sundays:

October 24th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 25th - 11 AM to 7 PM

CCAC Homewood

701 N Homewood Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15208

Open the following Saturdays and Sundays:

October 10th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 11th - 11 AM to 7 PM

CCAC South

1750 Clairton Rd, West Mifflin, PA 15122

Open the following Saturdays and Sundays:

October 17th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 18th - 11 AM to 7 PM

October 24th - 9 AM to 5 PM

DPW Garage #2 (Carnegie)

1040 Campbells Run Rd, Carnegie, PA 15106

Open the following Saturdays and Sundays:

October 10th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 11th - 11 AM to 7 PM

North Park Ice Rink

1200 Pearce Mill Road, Wexford, PA 15090

Open the following Saturdays and Sundays:

October 10th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 11th - 11 AM to 7 PM

October 24th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 25th - 11 AM to 7 PM

Shop 'n Save Hill District

1850 Centre Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Open the following Saturdays and Sundays:

October 17th - 9 AM to 5 PM

October 18th - 11 AM to 7 PM

South Park Ice Rink

300 Corrigan Dr, Bethel Park, PA 15102

Open the following Saturdays and Sundays:

October 25th - 11 AM to 7 PM

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My mail-in ballot application was declined because it was a duplicate, what does that mean?

It means that the county board of elections office already received your application. So if you apply again, it will be considered a “duplicate” and rejected. This does not cancel your previous application. It is strongly recommended that you check your status at www.votespa.com before submitting a second application.

Why was my mail-in ballot application declined?

Applications can be declined for a few reasons. Here are the most common:

Duplicate - It means that the county board of elections has already received your application. So, if you apply again, it will be considered a “duplicate” and rejected. This does not cancel your previous application.

Incomplete address – Voter is registered in Allegheny County, but the address on their mail-in application doesn't match their Voter Registration. You can go to www.votespa.com to update your voter registration before October 19.

Not registered – Voter is not currently registered in Allegheny County. You can register online at www.votespa.com before October 19.

I cannot get out to pick up an application, is there another way to apply?

Yes, you can apply online at www.votespa.com. Also, our office can mail you an application or you can contact your county board of elections office. Please contact us at 412-364-0469 or at SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com to have an application mailed to you.

I do not want to mail my ballot back using the USPS. What are my options?

For mail-in and absentee ballots, you can walk into the Elections Office (542 Forbes Avenue, Room 601) to return your voted ballot. That's available during regular business hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. There are also satellite locations available:

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How do I change the address that my ballot is being mailed to?

Ballots are not forwarded by the USPS, so if you're now living at a different address than the one you provided on your mail-in ballot application, contact your county board of elections.

I am moving to a new address within my county in October, after the date the ballots are going out. How do I make sure I get my ballot?

Ballots are not forwarded by the USPS, so if you're now living at a different address than the one you provided on your mail-in ballot application, you will need to call your county board of elections. A representative will void the ballot that was sent to your former address and assist you as you complete a change of delivery address form. After that, a new ballot will be mailed to your new address. This process must be completed before October 19. After that date, any changes made to your voter registration will take effect after the November General Election.

You cannot submit another application or the change of delivery address form without having your original ballot voided first. Otherwise, the system will identify it as a duplicate or second request for a ballot and reject the application. This helps ensure that every voter only receives one ballot.

Can I drop off a family member's ballot?

No. Like voting in person, you are only able to cast your own vote. You cannot collect, drop off or deliver ballots for other people.

If you know a voter who has an illness or disability that will prevent them from dropping off their ballot, they can designate an agent to pick up or drop off their ballot. The voter can select anyone to be an agent as long as the other party agrees to be the voter's agent. The agent can only pick up/drop off for voters who are in the same household, and the ballot can only be picked up & returned to a board of elections office. The Designation and Certificate of Agent form can be printed from the county board of elections website.

I do not have a driver's license; how do I request a mail-in ballot?

Pennsylvania residents can now apply online even if they do not have a PennDOT ID. Previously you needed to provide a PennDOT ID number on your application. Voters can alternatively provide the last 4 digits of their social security number and upload a picture of their signature.

I would like to apply to vote by mail but do not have a computer. What can I do?

Constituents can call our office at 412-364-0469 and we will mail you a mail-in ballot application. You can also contact your county board of election office.

Stay Connected

If you haven't visited my [Facebook page](#), join the conversation by 'liking' the page and follow me on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Plenty of information is available on these pages about community events and issues affecting our friends and neighbors. If you have questions or concerns, send me a direct message or post you thoughts.



Ross Office
5000 McKnight Road
Suite 405
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Phone: 412-364-0469
Fax: 412-364-0928

Harrison Office
1826 Union Avenue
Natrona Heights, PA 15065
Phone: 724-224-2131
Fax: 724-224-2145

Harrisburg Office
366 Capitol Building
Senate Box 203038
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3038
Phone: 717-787-6538
Fax: 717-787-8625

