



ELECTION DAY

Where do I Vote?

Each voter must cast his/her ballot at his/her assigned polling place. If you do not know the location of your polling place, call the Election Office at 402-441-7311 or log on to www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov and click on "Polling Place".

Your polling place is also listed on the polling place information card that was mailed to you when you registered to vote.

Which offices are elected by district in Lancaster County?

The following offices are elected by district: University of Nebraska Regent, State Board of Education, Legislature, Southeast Community College, Lower Platte South and Nemaha Natural Resources Districts, Lancaster County Commissioners, Boards of Education (Lincoln, Raymond Central and Waverly), Lincoln City Council, Norris Public Power District and Educational Service Units.

Candidates for the Norris Board of Education are nominated by district/ward in the Primary Election but are elected at-large in the General Election.

Do I need a voting card in order to vote?

No, the card is for information only and does not need to be presented to election officials in order to vote.

When are the polls open?

The polls are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Am I able to vote if I did not update my registration?

If you are currently registered to vote in Lancaster County but you have not updated your voter registration information, you can vote on Election Day. You will vote at the polling place based on your current residence. (See "Where do I Vote" above). Additional paperwork will be required at the polling place.

What is the voting procedure?

The first step in casting a ballot involves stating your name and address to the clerk serving as an election official. The clerk will verify that you are eligible to vote. Then you will be asked to sign your name in a voter book and a judge will give you the proper ballot.

Instructions for marking ballots at your polling place

You will be voting a paper ballot. You must darken the oval completely. Do not erase or cross out any voting marks on your ballot. If you make a mistake in voting, ask an election worker for a new ballot. Ballots in Lancaster County are electronically scanned and counted, and a pencil mark, even if erased, might be detected.

Why is an election official required to place my voted ballot in the ballot box?

Nebraska state law requires this procedure to help ensure that only the properly issued ballots are deposited in the ballot box (32-916).

Can voters receive assistance in voting?

Voters who cannot read, are blind or have a physical disability may request assistance in marking their ballots. The voter may have a friend or relative assist him/her or he/she may request the assistance of two election board workers, one each of a different party (32-918). In addition, an Automark voting machine is available at each polling location. A visually or physically disabled voter will be able to use this machine and will be able to mark his/her ballot in private and unassisted.

Are the polling places accessible?

Yes. All polling places are handicap accessible. You can ask for your ballot to be brought to your car if it is difficult for you to get into the polling place.

Restricted activities on Election Day

No one may campaign, hand out political literature, wear political badges or insignia inside a polling place or within 200 feet of a polling place.

ELECTION DATES

Type of Election	Date of Election
State Primary	May 10, 2016
State General	Nov. 8, 2016
Lincoln City Primary	April 4, 2017
Lincoln City General	May 2, 2017
State Primary	May 15, 2018
State General	Nov. 6, 2018
Lincoln City Primary	April 9, 2019
Lincoln City General	May 7, 2019

Participate in Democracy and Get Paid For It!

If you are interested in serving as an Election Board Worker, please call the Election Office at 402-441-7311.

Additional information?

If you would like a program for your group, contact the Election Office and someone would be happy to make a presentation. If you have further questions or need additional information, please contact the Election Commissioner's office at 402-441-7311 or by email at dshively@lancaster.ne.gov. You may find answers to many of your questions by visiting the Election Commissioner's website at lancaster.ne.gov/election.



★ A VOTER ★ INFORMATION GUIDE

FOR LANCASTER COUNTY VOTERS



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VOTER REGISTRATION

Does everyone have to be registered to vote?

Yes. Registration is required in Nebraska to be eligible to vote. The only exception is during Presidential elections. If you have recently moved to Nebraska or moved to another state after the registration deadline, then you may only vote a Presidential ballot.

Who may register to vote?

Anyone who...

- Will be 18 years of age or older on General Election Day (first Tuesday after the first Monday in November).
- Is a United States citizen.
- Is a resident of Nebraska.
- Has not been convicted of a felony, or if convicted, it has been at least two years since the completion of the sentence for the felony including any parole term.
- Has not been found mentally incompetent.

Who needs to re-register?

You must re-register whenever you change your name, your address or your political party affiliation. Failure to vote in a previous election does not require re-registration. If you have not updated your voter registration, you may check with the Election Office and go to your new polling place on election day and vote a provisional ballot. Voting in a precinct where you do not reside is a Class III misdemeanor (32-1528).

What is the registration deadline?

Mail-in registration applications must be post-marked and online registration applications must be submitted on or before the third Friday before an election. You also may register in person at the Election Office up to 10 days before an election.

Must you designate your party affiliation?

You must designate your party affiliation if you wish to vote for partisan candidates in a statewide partisan primary election. If you decide to change your party affiliation prior to a statewide primary election, you must do so by meeting the voter registration deadlines outlined above. Political party designation has no bearing on the general election ballot or on races which are nominated on a nonpartisan basis.

Do I have to be a resident for a certain amount of time to register?

You may register the same day you become a resident of Lancaster County.

How may I register?

In person: Election Office from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

By mail: Forms are available at most post offices and libraries and also at www.lancaster.ne.gov/election

Online: www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration

Will I receive notice that my registration has been accepted and processed?

Yes. When you register to vote, a polling place information card will be mailed to you. It will inform you of your polling place and most voting districts. Call the Election Office if you have completed a voter registration application and submitted it by the third Friday prior to the election and you do not receive a polling place information card within 10 days.

How is residence determined?

By law, your residence is that place at which you have established a home, where you are habitually present, and to which, when you depart, you intend to return. Leaving for temporary purposes, such as military service or school attendance, need not result in a change of residence for voting purposes. However, any permanent change in your residence or address will require you to re-register to vote.

May a student register and vote from a school address?

Yes, you may decide to register and vote from either your school or home address. If you want to vote based on your home address, contact your local election official and ask them to mail voter registration forms and an absentee ballot (See "Early Vote/Absentee Ballot" information).

Can I be called for jury duty if I register to vote?

Yes, the jury list is taken from driver's license and voter registration lists.

PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT

What is the difference between a partisan primary and a general election?

In a partisan primary election, the members of each party nominate candidates for the general election.

Some offices have nonpartisan primaries in which the two candidates receiving the most votes for an office are nominated. In a general election, all voters receive the same ballot and elect the top candidates from the primary election.

What is a closed primary?

Nebraska has a "closed primary," which means that you are only allowed to vote the ballot of the party with which you are registered.

How do I establish which ballot I am entitled to vote in a primary election?

Affiliating with a political party is optional, but in order to vote for partisan candidates in a primary election, you must register to vote with a recognized political party. If you choose not to affiliate with a political party, then you must indicate such by choosing Nonpartisan on your voter registration application. If you register as Nonpartisan (sometimes referred to as independent) you will only be able to vote for ballot issues and races which are not nominated by political parties in a primary election.

The offices of President, Governor, County and State Constitutional offices are partisan. If you are registered Nonpartisan, you will not be able to vote for those races in a primary election.

The offices of State Legislature, State Board of Education, University of Nebraska Regent, Southeast Community College Board, Natural Resources District and all local (city and boards of education) offices are nominated on a nonpartisan basis, and all voters (both partisan and nonpartisan) will vote on these offices in a primary election.

Nebraska law allows nonpartisan voters to select a political party at the polls on Primary Election Day and help nominate that political party's candidate(s) for federal legislative races (U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives).

EARLY VOTE/ABSENTEE VOTING

Who may apply for an early vote/absentee ballot?

Any registered voter may apply for an early vote/absentee ballot.

How do I apply for an early vote/absentee ballot?

In person at the Election Office, 601 N 46th St., Lincoln

Early Vote/Absentee request forms are available at www.lancaster.ne.gov/election - Click on Early Vote/Absentee Voting, or you may send a letter to the

Election Office requesting an early vote/absentee ballot and include your name, voting address and where you want the ballots mailed. This request must be signed by the voter or his/her agent. Ballots are available 35 days before a statewide election and 15 days before a city election.

May I have someone get an early vote/absentee ballot for me?

A friend or relative may act as your agent. They can pick up a ballot and deliver it to you or request that the ballot be mailed to you. An agent can act on behalf of only two (2) voters per election. No candidate or any person serving on a committee for a candidate shall act as an agent for any voter requesting a ballot except for members of their family.

Early Vote /Absentee Deadlines

- First day to submit early vote/absentee ballot applications: 120 days before an election
- First day a voter can vote at the Election Office: 30 days before election (statewide elections), 15 days before election (local elections)
- First day early vote/absentee ballots can be mailed to voter: 35 days before election (statewide election), 15 days before election (local election)
- Last day to request an early vote/absentee ballot be mailed: 4 p.m. on the Wednesday before Election Day
- Last day to vote an early vote/absentee ballot at the Election Office: The day before the election
- Last day for an agent to pick up an early vote/absentee ballot: 7 p.m. Election Day

Is there a deadline to return voted early vote/absentee ballots to the Election Office?

Yes. All early vote/absentee ballots must be returned to the Election Office by 8 p.m. Election Day.

How can I return my voted early vote/absentee ballot?

- U.S. Postal Service. Proper postage is required. Mail your ballot in a timely manner to ensure your ballot is received by 8 p.m. Election Day.
- Hand deliver to the Election Office, 601 N. 46th St., Lincoln.
- A drop box is located on the north side of the Election Office (outside the main entrance). Postage is not required if you use the Election Office drop box or hand-deliver your ballot.

