

Absentee Voting



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MAY 20, 2025 (SPECIAL ELECTION) – SCHOOL TAX *(General Instructions)*

Dear Absentee Voter:

On behalf of our Absentee Election Office, we want to thank you for taking the time to make your vote count in this upcoming election. The Absentee Election Office will open **March 26, 2025**, and the deadline to vote in-person at the Absentee Election Office is **Thursday, May 15, 2025, @ 5:00 p.m.**

Applications for absentee voting are available online at alabamavotes.gov or etowah.alacourt.gov. Pursuant to Title 17-11-8(a), Code of Alabama, **applications for absentee ballots** that are being returned by **U.S. MAIL OR COMMERCIAL CARRIER TO THE ABSENTEE ELECTION MANAGER** must be received not less than **SEVEN (7) days** prior to the election (**Tuesday, May 13, 2025**). Pursuant to Title 17-11-3(a), the deadline for **voters that are requesting to apply and vote an absentee ballot IN-PERSON is Thursday, May 15, 2025.**

Emergency Absentee Applications - a qualified voter requiring **emergency medical treatment** by a licensed physician within (5) days before an election. This emergency medical treatment application must be signed by the physician and returned to the Absentee Election Manager **no later than Thursday, May 15, 2025, by the voter's designee.** The **absentee ballot** must be returned to the Absentee Election Manager by **the voter's medical designee, no later than Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at (NOON).**

A voter with a **business emergency is required to apply and vote in-person** at the Absentee Election Manager's Office, the deadline is **Monday, May 19, 2025.** *Note: The voter shall sign and swear to an affidavit acknowledging that he or she was not aware of the business emergency FIVE (5) DAYS prior to the election (Thursday, May 15, 2025).* **A caregiver for a person who requires emergency medical treatment by a licensed physician** (the voter/caregiver must deliver their application by hand to the Absentee Election Manager no later than (5) days prior to the election (Thursday, May 15, 2025)). **A family member to the second degree of kinship by affinity or consanguinity that has passed away within (5) days prior to the election** (Thursday, May 15, 2025) the voter/family member must deliver the application by hand to the Absentee Election Manager and vote in-person no later than one day prior to the election).

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Permanent Disability Application for Absentee Voting – a qualified voter that has a permanent disability preventing his/her attendance at the polls may vote by absentee and have a ballot automatically mailed to the voter before each election during the 2025 election calendar year in which the application is submitted pursuant to Title 17-11-3.1. The Permanent Disability Absentee application shall be signed and notarized by the voter’s primary physician. Applications returned by mail must be received not less than SEVEN (7) DAYS prior to the election, **Tuesday, May 13, 2025**. Applications returned in-person must be received not less than FIVE (5) DAYS prior to the election, **Thursday, May 15, 2025**.

UOCAVA Voters – (**Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act**) **Military and overseas voters may now choose to receive their ballots for Federal offices either electronically or by U.S. Mail.** Military and other overseas citizens are welcome to use the standard procedure for absentee voting by mail or electronically. However, there are also special provisions for members of the U.S. Armed Forces and merchant marine, commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, along with their family members, and other **citizens who reside outside the United States**. Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request (*Federal Post Card Applications*) are required to be mailed to the Absentee Election Manager’s Office (*applications submitted electronically will not be accepted*). For additional information, please visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at: **www.fvap.gov**.

Board of Registrar’s Office - If the voter has had a recent name or address change and has not updated their voter information with the Board of Registrar’s Office, please update your voter information immediately (before mailing your application to request an absentee ballot). The last day to update your voter information with the Board of Registrar’s Office or register to vote is **Monday, May 5, 2025, or you may register to vote online at alabamavotes.gov**. If you do not know your voting precinct or have any questions, you may contact the Etowah County Board of Registrar’s office at (256) 549-5384 for assistance.

Upon completing and **signing your application**, you are required to **attach a copy of a valid photo ID or Voter ID to your application when mailing by U.S. Mail or by commercial carrier. Only the voter may hand-deliver his/her application to the Absentee Election Manager office. (No one is permitted to hand-deliver an absentee ballot application for another voter). The only exception is for a Medical Emergency designee.** The Absentee Election Manager is only permitted to accept one application per envelope when mailing. Your application must include the Alabama residence address where the voter is registered to vote, (*even if the ballot is to be mailed to another address*). The Absentee Election Manager will send your Absentee ballot by U.S. Mail, it is very important that you read and follow all instructions carefully and return your Absentee ballot to the Absentee Election Manager as soon as possible. It is recommended that you mail your absentee ballot at least 7-10 days prior to the election. **No one is permitted to receive or return an Absentee ballot for any other voter unless you are named as the voter’s designee in the voter’s application for a Medical Emergency Ballot.**

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The deadline to hand-deliver your absentee ballot to the Absentee Election Manager's Office is **Monday, May 19, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.** Ballots that are sent by U.S. mail or commercial carrier must be received by the Absentee Election Manager **by no later than NOON on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, (ELECTION DAY).**

Please print and mail your Absentee application or Absentee ballot to the following address:

Cassandra Johnson, Absentee Election Manager/Circuit Clerk

**Absentee Elections Division
801 Forrest Avenue – Suite 202
Gadsden, AL 35901
Phone: (256) 549-5355**

(We are located on the 1st floor of the Etowah County Judicial Building)

The Absentee Election Office is open (Monday thru Friday) (except holidays)

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

(open during lunch)

Note: For additional information or if you choose to download an absentee ballot application, you may visit online the Secretary of State Office at alabamavotes.gov or the Etowah County Circuit Clerk's Office website at etowah.alacourt.gov.

Thank you for VOTING!

*Cassandra Johnson - Absentee Election Manager
Circuit Clerk of Etowah County, AL*