



News Release

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ABSENTEE VOTING FOR DEMOCRATIC STATEWIDE PRIMARY AND OTHER LOCAL PRIMARY ELECTIONS HAS STARTED

RICHMOND, VA – The State Board of Elections is pleased to report that absentee voting began for the June 11, 2013 primary and all localities were able to meet the required 45 day deadline for mailing absentee ballots to voters.

The primary on June 11, 2013 will be a statewide Democratic party primary for Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General (candidate information can be found below). The Republican party will be nominating their candidates for statewide office in a convention to be held on May 17-18, 2013.

There are also numerous primary elections for the House of Delegates and local offices. In some parts of the state, voters will have to choose whether to participate in the primary for the Democratic party or the Republican party. Voters in Virginia are free to choose which primary to participate in, but they cannot participate in both.

We encourage voters to visit our website (www.sbe.virginia.gov) for more information on which candidates are on the ballot for an individual voter. Click on “What’s on my ballot” on our home page.

CURRENT ELECTION INFORMATION

Poll Hours: The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on June 11, 2013. If a voter is in line by 7:00 p.m. they will be able to vote.

Democratic Candidates for Lieutenant Governor:

Ralph S. Northam
Aneesh Chopra

Democratic Candidates for Attorney General:

Mark R. Herring
Justin E. Fairfax

Absentee Voting Overview: Absentee voting allows qualified voters to participate in upcoming elections even though they may not be able to go to the polls on Election Day. Absentee voting in person began on April 26, 2013.

There are two ways to vote absentee, either by mail or in person.

The deadline to submit an application to vote by absentee is Tuesday, June 4, 2013 by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Applications may be received by mail, fax or as a scanned email attachment. The voter's local registrar must receive the application by the deadline.

All voted absentee ballots must be submitted as directed in the instructions with the absentee ballot by the time the polls close at 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, June 11, 2013. All absentee ballots, properly cast, will be counted.

The deadline for applying and casting an absentee ballot in-person at the voter's local registrar's office is Saturday, June 8, 2013 by close of business.

The Code of Virginia authorizes the following registered voters to vote by absentee ballot in any election in which they are qualified to vote:

Virginia allows a registered voter to vote by absentee ballot for any of the following reasons:

- Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation or while on personal business or vacation, will be absent from the county or city in which he is entitled to vote;
- Any person who is (i) a member of a uniformed service of the United States, as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff-6(7), on active duty, or (ii) a member of the merchant marine of the United States, or (iii) who temporarily resides outside of the United States, or (iv) the spouse or dependent residing with any person listed in (i), (ii), or (iii), and who will be absent on the day of the election from the county or city in which he is entitled to vote. See [Absentee Voting Procedures for Overseas Personnel \(Military & Non-Military\)](#)
- Any student attending a school or institution of learning, or his spouse, who will be absent on the day of election from the county or city in which he is entitled to vote;
- Any person who is unable to go in person to the polls on the day of election because of a disability, illness or pregnancy ;
- Any person, who is confined while awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a misdemeanor, provided that the trial or release date is scheduled on or after the third day preceding the election. Any person who is awaiting trial and is a resident of the county or city where he is confined shall, on his request, be taken to the polls to vote on election day if his trial date is postponed and he did not have an opportunity to vote absentee;
- Any person who is a member of an electoral board, registrar, officer of election, or custodian of voting equipment;
- Any person serving as a designated representative of a political party, independent candidate or candidate in a political party;
- Any duly registered person who is unable to go in person to the polls on the day of the election because he is primarily and personally responsible for the care of an ill or

- disabled family member who is confined at home; or
- Any duly registered person who is unable to go in person to the polls on the day of the election because of an obligation occasioned by his religion.
 - Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for eleven or more hours of the thirteen that the polls are open (6:00 AM to 7:00 PM).
 - Certain first responders who meet code definitions for law-enforcement officers, firefighters, search and rescue personnel and emergency medical services personnel.
 - Any registered and qualified voter may request a mail ballot for presidential and vice-presidential electors only by writing across the top of their absentee application "request ballot for presidential electors only." A voter who votes a "presidential only" ballot may not later decide to vote the rest of the ballot. The same procedures and deadlines apply as for other absentee applications and ballots.

**There is additional election information on the
Virginia State Board of Elections website at:
www.sbe.virginia.gov**

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