

Can I confirm that you received my vote-by-mail ballot?

Yes. Track your ballot at:
www.marinvotes.org

Or call: (415) 473-6456

How are vote-by-mail ballots processed?

We follow these steps:

1. We record your ballot when it is received.
2. We compare your signature to your registration card. If it does not match or you forgot to sign, we will notify you.
3. We sort the ballots by precinct.
4. Seven business days before the election, we get the ballots ready to count.

How are vote-by-mail ballots counted?

We:

1. Open all ballots one precinct at a time, with the address face down.
2. Take the ballots out of their envelopes and set the envelopes aside.
3. Unfold and inspect each ballot for damage. We divide ballots into 2 groups: damaged and ready for counting.
4. Damaged ballots are repaired so they can be counted.
5. Ballots that are ready for counting are counted using optical scanners.

When will I know the vote-by-mail ballot results?

We count all ballots turned in *before* Election Day by 8 p.m. on Election Day. (In Marin County, 76% of vote-by-mail voters turn in their ballots before the election.)

We count ballots that are turned in or received *on* Election Day within a week of the election.



3501 Civic Center Dr., Room 121
San Rafael, CA 94903
P.O. Box E, San Rafael, CA 94913

Hours: M-F: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Election Day Hours: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

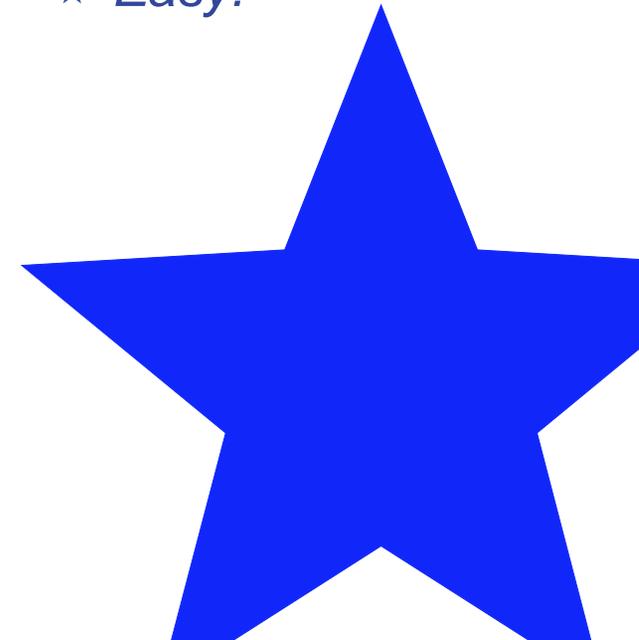


415-473-6456
FAX: 415-473-6447
www.marinvotes.org
voterinfo@marincounty.org

How to Vote by Mail in Marin County

Voting by mail is:

- ★ *Safe*
- ★ *Accurate*
- ★ *Fast, and*
- ★ *Easy!*



Why do most Marin County voters vote by mail?

Because it's safe, accurate, fast, and easy.

Here's why:

- **Safe.** The U.S. Post Office delivers your ballot to the Registrar of Voters. We keep all vote-by-mail ballots in a locked room with an alarm and video cameras.
- **Accurate.** You can study your ballot at home. Take your time to make informed choices and mark your ballot correctly.
- **Fast.** Vote at home when *you* want. Then put your ballot in the mailbox. No standing in line on Election Day!
- **Easy.** We mail your ballot to you. And you can mail it back to us.



Is voting by mail the same as Absentee Voting?

Yes. In 2007, the law changed the name to “voting by mail.”

How do I sign up to vote by mail?

Fill out an application. (You must be registered to vote in Marin County).

To get an application:

- Call: **(415) 473-6456**
- Go to: **www.marinvotes.org**
- Fax: (415) 473-6447
- Fill out the application on the back cover of your Voter Information Pamphlet, or
- Mail us your request at the address on this brochure.

Is there a deadline to apply?

Yes! We must **receive** your application by mail or fax at least **7 days before the election**.

What if I miss the deadline?

You must apply in person at the Registrar of Voters' Office. If you are unable to get to our office, you may authorize someone to take your application for you. We will give you or that person your vote-by-mail ballot.

If I sign up to vote by mail, will I *always* have to vote by mail?

No, not unless *you* want to. You can apply to vote by mail for just one election. Or you can apply to be a *Permanent Vote-by-Mail Voter* and get your ballot in the mail automatically before every election.

How soon before an election can I vote by mail?

We start mailing vote-by-mail ballots 29 days before the election. You can vote as soon as you receive your ballot. And you can also vote at the Registrar of Voters' Office.

How will I get my ballot?

We mail election materials to all vote-by-mail voters starting 29 days before the election. You will receive a:

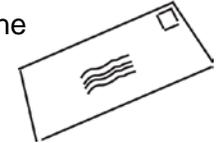
- Ballot,
- Return envelope, and
- Instructions.

What if I don't get my ballot?

Call us at (415) 473-6456, and we will send you a replacement ballot.

How do I turn in my vote-by-mail ballot?

Place your ballot in the envelope provided in the packet. Sign the envelope. Then, return your ballot:



- By mail,
- In person to the Registrar of Voters Office during business hours, or
- In person to any polling place in Marin County from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Important!

Sign your return envelope!
If you do not, your ballot will not be counted.

What is the deadline to turn in my ballot?

We must receive it by **8 p.m. on Election Day**. If it arrives late, we cannot count it.