

VOTING

How do I register to vote?

The Supervisors of the Checklist administer voter registration. They issue guidelines for the taking of evidence of qualifications presented by applicants. The Supervisors have special hours determined by State Law to accept voter registrations; these hours are posted at Town Hall and are printed in the local newspapers. They are generally held just before elections and before the beginning of a filing period. The Town Clerk's office will also accept applications during regular business hours. The Supervisors will approve applications when they meet. Voter registration closes 10 days before an election. New Hampshire also has same day voter registration. You may not register to vote at school district and town meetings. You may register to vote at our polling place on Election Day and vote. You are required to show proof of age, domicile and citizenship. Acceptable forms of proof of age include a driver's license, passport, or birth certificate. A driver's license or utility bill is acceptable for proof of domicile. Naturalization papers are proof of citizenship if you were not born in the United States. Domicile and citizenship affidavits are available if you cannot provide necessary documentation. When you register to vote you are registered for all elections and town and school meetings.

When are elections held?

Town elections are held annually on the second Tuesday in May, then the Town Meeting is held on Saturday morning at 9:00 am. This meeting is where the Town Warrant is voted on by the taxpayers present. I strongly urge everyone to come and voice his or her opinion. Please make sure you have your voter ID with you when entering the Polls for all elections; this will help to keep the lines moving along.

The Presidential Primary election is held usually in January every four years always in an even-numbered year. Every two years (also in even-numbered years) there is a State Primary election held on the second Tuesday in September and a State General Election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Every four years this election also includes the Presidential election.

Further information about voting can be found at the [NH Secretary of State website](#).

ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Absence from Town on Election Day
2. Observance of a religious commitment.
3. By reason of a physical disability.

REQUESTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT:

An Official [Absentee Ballot request](#) form may be obtained at the Town Clerk's office or the voter can go to the [NH Secretary of State's web site](#) and download the absentee ballot request there. The request may be submitted in person, by mail or by fax at (603) 887-4334. All requests require a signature.

If you are a Chester voter, mail your request to:

Chester Town Clerk
84 Chester Street
Chester, NH 03036

PLEASE NOTE: If you are requesting an absentee ballot for a Primary election, please be sure to indicate whether you want a Republican or Democratic ballot if you are an undeclared voter.

If you are affiliated with a party, you will be mailed the ballot of that party. Please contact your Supervisors of the Checklist to confirm your party affiliation.

RETURNING YOUR BALLOT:

Make your vote count! Carefully follow the instructions enclosed with your ballot. After marking your ballot, place it in the small envelope and seal this envelope, sign the affidavit and return it to the Town Clerk's office. Affix postage and mail the envelope so that it is received before 5:00 PM on Election Day. If the ballot is hand delivered personally by the voter it must be received by 5:00 PM the day before the election. No personally delivered ballots will be accepted on Election Day.