Voting By Mail

<u>Click here for an Application for Ballot by Mail.</u> If you are unable to find an answer to your question on this page, please call or email, 409-882-7973 or <u>elections@co.orange.tx.us</u>

All Ballot by Mail Applications EXPIRE each year on December 31st. Please reapply after January 1st to continue to receive mail-in ballots.

AM I QUALIFIED TO VOTE BY MAIL?

Voters who wish to vote by mail must meet at least one of the four eligibility requirements listed below:

- 1. 65 years of age or older
- 2. Disability (as defined in Texas Election Code 82.002(a) -"I affirm that I have a sickness or physical condition that prevents me from appearing at the polling place on election day without a likelihood of needing personal assistance or of injuring my health.")
- 3. Expected to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day.
- 4. Expected Absence from the County* (Must be absent during the entire early voting period, Election Day, AND provide an out-of-county address where your ballot can be mailed, AND include dates you can receive mail at the out-of-county address.)
- 5. Confined in jail, but otherwise eligible to vote

*Voters who are absent from the county because they are active duty military or because they reside overseas should complete a Federal Post Card Application. **More information here.**

I AM QUALIFIED! WHAT NEXT?

Submit an Application for Ballot by Mail to the Elections Department at any time during a calendar year (January 1st - December 31st) for any election held in that year, but no later than 11 days prior to any election for which you wish to receive a mail ballot. If the 11th day falls on a weekend or a legal state or national holiday, the deadline is the preceding business day.

Voters who are 65 or older and/or disabled have the option of applying for an Annual Ballot by Mail. If you select "All Elections This Year," you will receive ballots for all the elections in which you are eligible for the remainder of the calendar year, including any runoffs. Requests must be received prior to 11 days before an election to receive a ballot for that election. All annual applications expire December 31st.

Please <u>carefully review</u> the Application for Ballot by Mail, including the additional instructions on the back of the form, so that unnecessary delays are avoided.

If you wish to vote in a primary election, you must select a party so we can mail you the correct ballot. Your selection will not affect any election other than the primary or primary runoff of this calendar year.

WILL YOU LET ME KNOW THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED MY APPLICATION?

Due to the high volume of applications we process, we are not able to send a personal response upon receipt. If your application is incomplete, we will send you a notice along with a new application. You may use the Ballot Tracker on our website to check on the status of your application and mailed ballot.

Submitting an Application

Mail to

Elections Administration 123 S 6th St Orange, TX 77630

Hand Deliver

Applications must be submitted by the voter.
Elections Administration
206 Border St
Orange, TX 77630

Fax or Email

Hard copy MUST follow by mail and be received not later than the 4th business day after the fax/email.

Fax: 409-670-4176 Email: elections@co.orange.tx.us

Mailed Ballot

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY BALLOT?

Ballots are mailed within seven calendar days after the application is received, or the date the ballots become available for mailing, whichever is later.

WHEN SHOULD I MAIL MY BALLOT BACK?

You can mail it back just as soon as you've completed it. (Don't forget to sign the carrier envelope!)

Marked ballots must be received by 5PM the day after Election Day as long as it is postmarked on or before Election Day. Marked ballots must be mailed to our office via the United States Postal Service or contract carrier (FedEx, DHL, UPS, etc.).

Voters who are returning their ballots from outside of the United States must have their ballots postmarked at or before 7PM on Election Day, and the ballot must be received in our office no later than five days after the election (if the 5th day falls on a Sunday or legal state or national holiday, the ballot must be received by the next business day).

CAN I DROP OFF MY BALLOT SOMEWHERE?

Per state law, a voter may hand-deliver his or her OWN ballot to our main office (206 Border St, Orange, TX) ONLY on Election Day WITH a photo ID. We do not have a drop box.

WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND AND WANT TO VOTE IN PERSON?

You can surrender your mailed ballot to the polling site and then you will be given an in-person ballot.