



Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State

Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions

Department of the Secretary of State

Julie L. Flynn
Deputy Secretary of State

To: Municipal Clerks
From: Heidi Peckham, Director of Elections
Re: Blank Absentee Ballots & Receipt
Date: August 2, 2024

Blank Absentee Ballots

This mailing includes blank absentee ballots for the November 5, 2024 General Election.

Blank absentee ballots are similar to regular absentee ballots, except candidates' names are not printed. **These are not your regular absentee ballots.** You will receive your supply of absentee ballots (with candidate names printed on the ballot) on or around October 4th, 2024. The blank absentee ballot lists the offices up for election in your county with a space for the voter to write in the name of the candidate for whom they choose to vote.

You should have three (3) blank absentee ballots enclosed specific to your County and Congressional District. Please be sure to confirm that the ballot style you received (top left) matches your County and Congressional District. Be sure to indicate as such when submitting the enclosed *Blank Absentee Ballot Receipt*.

Blank ballots should be used only if a voter is leaving town before the clerk receives regular absentee ballots and cannot provide a mailing address to mail the regular absentee ballot. If you are unsure if a blank ballot should be issued to a voter or whether you should forward the request to the Division of Elections to issue the ballot because the voter qualifies as a UOCAVA voter, please contact our office to get clarification.

Reminders:

1. **DO NOT duplicate.** The Secretary of State will provide additional blank absentee ballots at the clerk's request. Most municipalities issue this type of ballot only on rare occasions.
2. After the election, cancel and seal unused blank ballots with the other unused ballots.
3. Complete and return enclosed receipt immediately after receiving and checking the ballots and no later than **August 15, 2024.**