

Absentee: Postal Voting

Voters may request a postal absentee ballot for the immediate upcoming election at any time. Ballots, however, are not mailed earlier than 30 days prior to the election. After a postal absentee ballot request is received, processed, and approved, the absentee ballot is mailed to the voter. **Regardless of the method used to request them, absentee ballots are required by state law to be mailed.**

HOW DO I REQUEST A POSTAL ABSENTEE BALLOT?

Voters may apply for and request a postal absentee ballot by **one** of the following four ways:

1. **in person** at the Brunswick County Board of Elections office, 10 Referendum Drive, Building F at the Government Complex , Bolivia, NC, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., M-F.
2. **via an “Absentee Request Form”**. The voter submits a completed and signed “Absentee Request Form” that is available only from the Brunswick County Board of Elections office. This form may be mailed from our office to only the voter or his/her near relative or legal guardian.
3. **in writing**. The voter submits a **handwritten** request that states the following:
 - A. the election for which he/she would like an absentee ballot (i.e. the 2009 Municipal Election)
 - B. the voter’s name. Please print.
 - C. the voter’s date of birth
 - D. the voter’s physical address in Brunswick County
 - E. the address to which the voter would like the absentee ballot mailed
 - F. a daytime phone number
 - G. the voter’s signature.
4. **via a legal guardian or near relative**. The voter may direct a verifiable legal guardian or a near relative to do ONE of the following:
 - A. complete an “Absentee Request Form” on his/her behalf
 - B. submit a **handwritten** request on his/her behalf which includes:
 - a. items A-F in #3 above
 - b. the guardian/near relative’s printed name
 - c. the guardian/near relative’s relationship to the voter
 - d. the guardian/near relative’s physical address in Brunswick County
 - e. the guardian/near relative’s signature.

******NCGS 163-230.1(f) defines a near relative as one of the following: spouse, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling, stepparent, stepchild, parent-in-law, daughter-in-law, or son-in-law.

POSTAL ABSENTEE VOTING DEADLINES

For the 2009 Municipal Election absentee ballots are mailed beginning **Monday, October, 5, 2009**. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, October 27, 2009**, at 5:00 p.m. A sick or disabled voter or his/her verifiable legal guardian or near relative may request an absentee ballot until 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 2, 2009. **In order to be considered, ALL postal absentee ballots must be returned to the Brunswick County Board of Elections office by 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 2, 2009.**