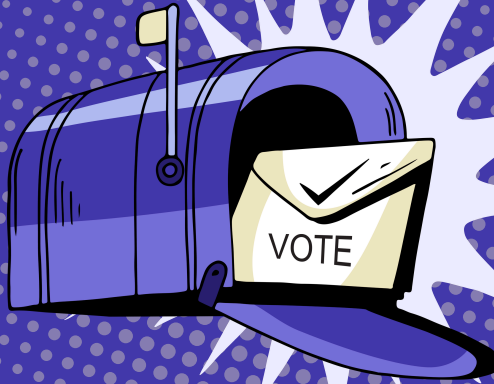




What is a



Mail-In Ballot?

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What is a Mail-In Ballot?

Mail voting, also called absentee voting, has been used in the United States since the Civil War, when it helped soldiers cast their ballots. Its use has continued to increase since the 1980s and has grown since the COVID-19 pandemic.

All states currently offer some form of mail-in voting. There are three main types of mail-in voting. The first is an “excuse required” absentee vote. For this, voters need a specific reason to request a mail-in ballot. Common reasons include being away from home, being 65 or older, or having a disability. The second is “no-excuse” absentee voting, where any voter can request a mail-in ballot without giving a reason. Lastly, there are “all mail-in” elections, where some states automatically send mail-in ballots to every registered voter. Voters can still choose to vote in person if they prefer.

Whatever the method, every mail-in ballot is carefully verified before being counted to ensure accuracy and security.

Source: [Bipartisanpolicy.org](https://bipartisanpolicy.org)

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