

**ACCF SPECIAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORT
ON VOTING IN ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA**

For Distribution to Civic Associations and Other Social Networks – Fall 2020

INFORMATION ON VOTING IN THE GENERAL ELECTION 2020

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Early Voting. Registered Virginia voters may vote early at a new Court House location, 2200 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite R140, **September 18 – October 31, 2020**, including the Saturday before Election Day (November 3, 2020). An excuse is no longer required.

Early in-person voting will also be available at five approved [satellite locations](#), from October 17 – October 31, 2020.

Early Voting Locations and Hours

LOCATIONS

DATES & HOURS

Courthouse Plaza **NEW LOCATION**
2200 Clarendon Blvd. (Former Wells Fargo
Space by Starbucks)

September 18 – October 31
M-F 8am-5pm Extra Hours

Sat Oct 17, 24, 31 9am-5pm
M-F Oct 19 – Oct 30 8am-7pm

[Aurora Hills Community Center](#)
735 18th Street South

October 17 – October 31
M-F 2-7pm
Sat Oct 17, 24, 31 9am-5pm

[Langston-Brown Community Center](#)
2121 North Culpeper Street

October 17 – October 31
M-F 2-7pm
Sat Oct 17, 24, 31 9am-5pm

[Madison Community Center](#)
3829 North Stafford Street

October 17 – October 31
M-F 2-7pm
Sat Oct 17, 24, 31 9am-5pm

[Walter Reed Community Center](#)
2909 16th Street South

October 17 – October 31
M-F 2-7pm
Sat Oct 17, 24, 31 9am-5pm

The voter will be asked to present a [qualified ID](#), including:

- Voter confirmation documents received after registering to vote
- Virginia DMV-issued Driver's License or Identification Card, even if expired
- Valid United States Passport

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- Any ID card issued by the US, Virginia, or a local Virginia government
- Any student ID card issued by a US university or community college
- Valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia
- Employer-issued photo ID card
- Any current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document with your name and address

A voter who lacks a qualified ID may sign an ID Confirmation Statement, or may vote by provisional ballot and later present the registrar with a qualified ID or signed ID Confirmation Statement by Friday, November 6, 2020.

Absentee Voting.

By Mail. Voters who prefer to vote by mail should apply for an absentee ballot as soon as possible, using the [Citizen Portal](#) at the Department of Elections, downloading and printing the application, applying in person at the registrar’s office, Phone the registrar’s office 703-228-3456, or obtain application from any Arlington library. Due to new processing times, mail can take up to 2 weeks. Upon receiving the ballot, it is recommended that voters complete and return it immediately.

Drop Off. A new alternative will allow voters to bring absentee ballots to secure receptacles at designated locations. The Virginia General Assembly is expected to soon pass the governor's proposals supporting voter safety during the COVID-19 health crisis. These include measures enabling local registrars to provide for absentee ballot drop-off at secure locations. These will include the local general registrar’s office and satellite voting centers before Election Day, polling locations on Election Day, and any additional secure locations designated by the local registrar. Arlington drop boxes will be available one week before the election at selected community centers at TBD set times and days. These will be posted publicly. More than 30 other states permit, or are passing measures to permit, voters to drop off their absentee ballots at secure locations such as strong locked drop boxes subject to surveillance by elections officers.

Error Correction. The General Assembly is also adopting measures that will enable absentee voters to correct certain procedural errors that would render the ballot void. The voter must be notified within three days of the error being discovered and has until noon November 6 to provide the registrar with the correction. When a voter votes in person, an elections officer guides them on procedure and the voter can correct procedural errors. Giving absentee voters similar guidance will help ensure voters do not hear a month later that their vote was not counted.

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Witness Signatures. In light of the pandemic, witness signatures will not be required on absentee ballots for the November 3, 2020 election, as a result of a [lawsuit](#), for voters who believe they cannot safely have a witness present while completing their ballot, and as a result of the election measures being adopted by the General Assembly. Security measures for absentee ballots already include the voter providing a social security number and Department of Motor Vehicles identifier when requesting the ballot, the ballot being sent to their address of record, and unique barcode tracking as the ballot moves through processing.

Prepaid Postage. A new state measure will also provide funding of prepaid return postage on absentee ballots. This is a geographic equalizer. Currently, only some jurisdictions pay for such postage. The new measures will help assure that all voters, no matter where they live in Virginia, can make their voices heard.