

How do I get an Absentee Voter (AV) ballot?

Per Election Law any voter who requests an Absentee Voter Ballot must do so in writing, therefore there is an application process to complete prior to receiving an Absentee Voter Ballot. You must select or state one of the reasons below for requesting an AV Ballot:

- I am 60 years of age or older.
- I am physically unable to attend the polls without assistance of another.
- I am an appointed precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where I reside.
- I expect to be absent from the community in which I am registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day.
- I cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of my religion.
- I cannot attend the polls because I am confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

If you qualify for one of the reasons stated above you may request an AV Ballot anytime up to the Monday prior to election day. However, the *last day for us to mail an AV Ballot to you* would be the Saturday prior to election day. Any AV Ballots requested on Monday prior to election day MUST be done in person. No AV Ballots can be mailed out on Monday prior to election day. ALL AV Ballots get counted on Election Day therefore ALL AV Ballots must be returned no later than 8:00pm election day.

In Algoma Township to get an AV application one would either visit the Township Clerk's office or call 616-866-1583. If you call we will mail to you one of our pre-printed applications.

Once you have completed an AV application you would then either mail it back or drop it off to the Township Clerk's office at 10531 Algoma Ave., Rockford, MI 49341. (You may also print one of the Secretary of State's applications off and send to the Algoma Township Clerk at the same address as mentioned earlier)

If the Township Clerk's office has ballots at the time you return your AV application you will be mailed or handed a ballot to vote. However, it should be noted that the Clerk's Office can only legally hand a ballot to the person who has asked for an AV ballot...we cannot hand you someone else's un-voted ballot. If we do not have ballots at the time you apply we will hold your application until we do and then mail it to the address you request at the time you applied. (By law the Township Clerk's Office will have ballots no later than the 45th day prior to the election)

***Ballots can NOT be forwarded by the US Postal Service. You must request to have your ballot mailed to where you will be at the time you apply.

Once you vote your ballot and seal it in the return mailing envelope you must return your ballot with the appropriate postage to the Township Clerk's Office no later than 8:00pm on election day. If your ballot is received after that time and date it can NOT be counted. All ballots get counted on election day.

Also, be sure to sign the outside of the return mailing envelope. If your signature is not on the outside return mailing envelope it can NOT be counted.