

VOTE BY MAIL, CHICAGO!

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Your voting experience



When did you first vote?

Have you applied to vote by mail this fall?

How do you FEEL when you vote?

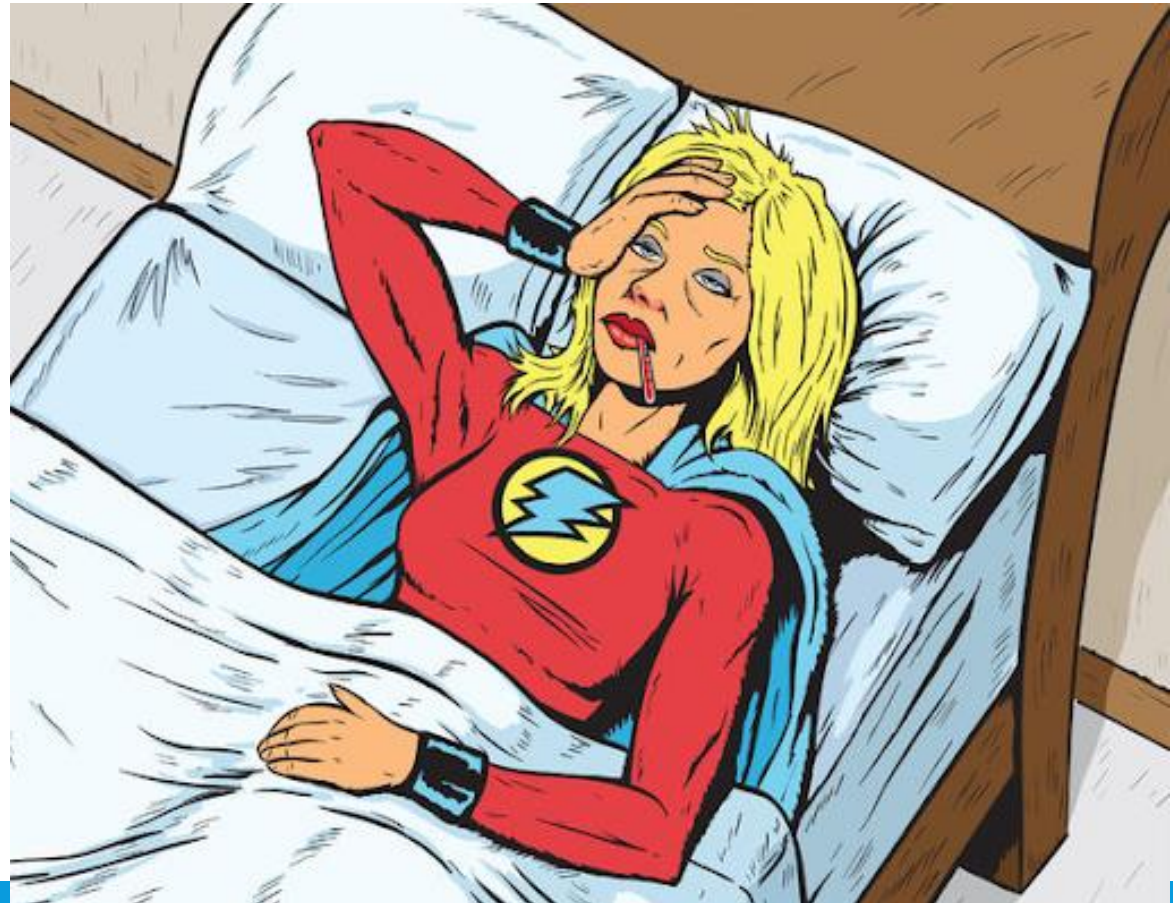
Why vote by mail?



Chat

Election Day in the polling place

If you can't make it that day,
you don't vote!



Election Day in the polling place

Possible long lines due to a shortage of poll workers



Election Day in the polling place

Multiple face-to-face interactions





Voting by mail =
Voting at home



Why vote by mail?



- You can protect your health & public health.
- You can be SURE you'll get to vote.
- Take the time you need in the comfort of your home.

What about “voter fraud”?



Credible research and investigation demonstrates fraud by voters at the polls is **exceedingly rare**.

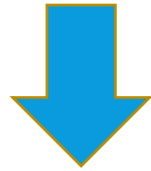
~Brennan Center (a non-partisan law & policy institute), 2017

What about “voter fraud”?



Mail-in ballots:

- have **security barcodes**
- require **signatures** to be matched to a registration form



The rate of ballot fraud is vanishingly small.

~Heather Cox Richardson, Boston College

What about “voter fraud”?



Out of billions of ballots cast nationwide from 2000-2012, there have been **only 491** prosecutions for fraud (under 38 per year, on average, nationwide).

QUIZ

Which states in the USA use mail-in voting as their PRIMARY method of voting?



Chat

QUIZ

1. Washington
2. Oregon
3. Utah
4. Colorado
5. Hawaii



QUIZ

1. Washington
2. Oregon
3. Utah
4. Colorado
5. Hawaii



FACT

In 2018, more than 31 million Americans voted by mail, representing 1/4 of election participants.

~Washington Post



What about “voter fraud”?



None of the five states that hold their elections primarily by mail **has had any voter fraud scandals** since making that change

~Brennan Center

What about “voter fraud”?



Voter fraud is very rare, and the risk of widespread fraud is probably **very minimal, even with all-mail elections.**

~Associate Professor Anthony Fowler,
University of Chicago

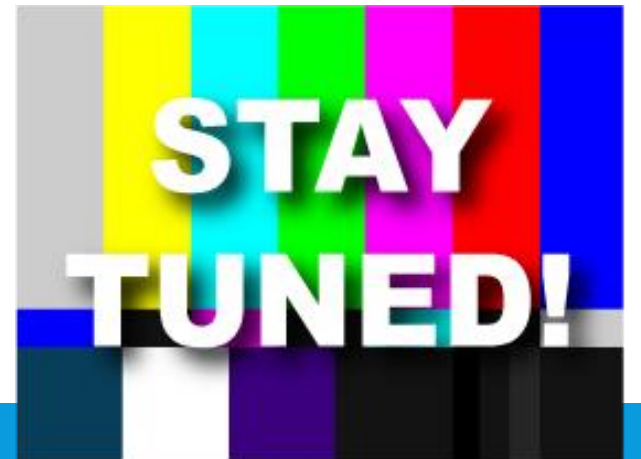
Can we trust the mail?



Can we trust the mail?



There may be a valid concern about USPS service at this time, but you can ensure YOUR mail-in ballot WILL be received and counted.



How to vote by mail in Chicago



Overview

1. Apply to vote by mail
2. Receive your ballot
3. Mail or drop off your ballot

How to vote by mail in Chicago



1. Apply to vote by mail

a. Get info from Chicago
Board of Elections:

bitly.com/ChiVBM

b. Apply online:

bit.ly/ChiApplyVBM

How to vote by mail in Chicago



Welcome, Voters!

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Vote by Mail

NOTICE: Due to COVID-19, voters are encouraged to use [Vote By Mail](#) or [Early Voting](#) before Election Day on Nov. 3, 2020.

1. Apply Now to Vote By Mail

Any Chicago voter may [apply online now to Vote By Mail](#) ahead of the Nov. 3, 2020 Election. No reason or excuse is needed to Vote By Mail.

[Mail-in application form](#) | [Need to check the status of your Vote By Mail application?](#)

Chicago voters who apply online between now and Sept. 24 will be among the first to receive ballots. Ballot mailings will begin Sept. 24-Oct. 5.

Chicago voters who [apply online to Vote By Mail](#) will receive emails:

- In the days that follow their online application, to confirm that the online application has been received and processed;
- When the ballot is being mailed to the voter -- with a unique link to a system to track the ballot through the US Postal Service;
- When the Vote By Mail "Ballot Return Envelope" is received by the Election Board; and,
- When the Vote By Mail "Ballot Return Envelope" has been approved for counting -- or if there is a question or problem with your Ballot Return Envelope.

If you are unable to apply online, the Election Board also will be sending Vote By Mail applications and postage-paid return envelopes in late July to all voters who have voted in any election(s) since Nov. 2018 and to any voters who have registered for the first time or updated their registrations since March 18, 2020.



2. Mark Your Ballot

Follow all instructions that come with your ballot and be sure to vote in secret.

NOTE: When marking your ballot, use a black or blue ballpoint pen or a felt-tip pen. Do NOT use a red pen, because red ink cannot be

Excerpt

How to vote by mail in Chicago



Apply to Vote by Mail

Step 3:

NOTICES TO VOTERS RELATED TO VOTE BY MAIL

- Due to Covid-19, voters are encouraged to use Vote By Mail or Early Voting before Election Day.
- Voters may apply to Vote By Mail using this online system, or in person at the Chicago Clerk's Office.
- Voters whose completed Vote By Mail applications are received on or before Sept. 24, 2020, will receive their ballots by mail.
- After Oct. 4, the Board will mail ballots within two business days of receiving complete applications.
- Voters may ask to have the ballots sent to their registration addresses or to another valid address.
- Vote By Mail Ballot Return Envelopes will have postage paid;
- Vote By Mail Ballot Return Envelopes may be completed and submitted at a Secured Drop location or by mail.
- If submitted by mail, the Ballot Return Envelope must be received by the Board of Elections no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 3, 2020. If mailed, the Ballot Return Envelope must be postmarked on or before Election Day.
- The Ballot Return Envelope must be signed and dated by the voter, and that signature must match the signature on the application.
- **Warning: Knowingly providing false information on an application to Vote By Mail is a crime.**

☒ Yes, I have read and understand these notices.

☐ No, I want to close this window.

[Continue to Vote By Mail Application](#)

NOTICES TO VOTERS RELATED TO VOTE BY MAIL

- Due to Covid-19, voters are encouraged to use Vote By Mail or Early Voting before Election Day on Nov. 3, 2020;
- Voters may apply to Vote By Mail using this online system, or in person at the Chicago Election Board, or by mail, or by email;
- Voters whose completed Vote By Mail applications are received on or before Sept. 24 should receive their ballots between Sept. 24 and Oct. 5;
- After Oct. 4, the Board will mail ballots within two business days of receiving complete applications;
- Voters may ask to have the ballots sent to their registration addresses or to another valid mailing address for that voter;
- Vote By Mail Ballot Return Envelopes will have postage paid;
- Vote By Mail Ballot Return Envelopes may be completed and submitted at a Secured Drop Box at any Early Voting site or at the Election Board no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 3, 2020. If mailed, the Ballot Return Envelope must be postmarked before or on Election Day, Nov. 3, 2020;
- The Ballot Return Envelope must be signed and dated by the voter, and that signature will be compared to the voter's registration record;
- **Warning: Knowingly providing false information on an application to Vote By Mail or on Vote By Mail materials is a Class 3 felony.**

How to vote by mail in Chicago



Deadline to apply:

Thurs, October 29, 5:00 pm

But don't wait that long.

APPLY NOW.



How to vote by mail in Chicago



2. Receive your ballot

- a. If you applied online, you'll get an email confirming your application was received.
- b. Ballot mailings begin on Sept 24.

How to vote by mail in Chicago



2. Receive your ballot (cont.)

c. You'll get an email when your ballot is mailed – with a unique link to a system to track the ballot through the USPS.

How to vote by mail in Chicago



2. Receive your ballot (cont.)

d. Mark your ballot with **black** or **blue** pen only.

e. Fill in the **bubbles** next to your choices.

f. If you make a **mistake**, you can fix it.



How to vote by mail in Chicago



3. Mail or drop off your ballot

- **SEAL** your ballot in the envelope + **SIGN** the envelope; then:
 - a. Send by **mail** – free/no stamps!
 - b. Send by **UPS** or **FedEx**
 - c. **Drop off** directly (2 options)

How to vote by mail in Chicago



If you MAIL your ballot:

It **MUST** be postmarked by
Nov. 3 (Election Day).

But **DON'T DELAY**. Mail your
ballot **ASAP**:
before Oct 14.



How to vote by mail in Chicago



DROP-OFF OPTION #1

Chicago Board of Elections
69 W. Washington,
Sept 24 –Nov 3

24-hour Secured Drop Box!



How to vote by mail in Chicago



DROP-OFF OPTION #2

Secured Drop Box

- All Early Voting Sites
Oct 14-Nov 3
- Loop Super Site*
Oct 1-Nov 3

*191 N Clark (Clark & Lake)



*Generic
image!*

How to vote by mail in Chicago



Early Voting Info (sites with Secured Drop Boxes)

<https://chicagoelections.gov/en/drop-boxes.html>

A screenshot of the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners website. The header features the Chicago logo and the text 'Welcome, Voters!'. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: 'Voting', 'Participating', 'Running for Office', 'General Information', 'Election Board', 'News', and 'Election Results'. The 'Drop Boxes' link is highlighted with a yellow circle. Below the navigation bar, the text 'Home - Voting - Drop Boxes' is visible. The main content area is titled 'Drop Boxes' and contains information about the Nov. 3, 2020 Election, including instructions for returning the Ballot Return Envelope and the location of the 24-HOUR Drop Box at 69 W. Washington St. The text is in English, with links to other languages (Español, Polski, 中文, हिंदी, 한국어, Tagalog) and a 'Hor' link. The text is in a sans-serif font, and the overall layout is clean and professional.

How to vote by mail in Chicago



Excerpt

Drop Boxes

Loop Super Site at Clark & Lake - 191 N. Clark St.

Ward 1 - Goldblatts Building, 1615 W Chicago Ave.

Ward 2 - Ogden Elementary School, 24 W Walton St.

Ward 3 - Beethoven Elementary School, 25 W 47th St.

Ward 4 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, 4314 S Cottage Grove

Ward 5 - Ray Elementary School, 5631 S Kimbark Ave.

Ward 6 - Harvard Elementary School, 7525 S Harvard Ave.

Ward 7 - Burnham Elementary School, 9928 S Crandon Ave.

Ward 8 - Olive Harvey College, 10001 S Woodlawn Ave.

Ward 9 - Curtis Elementary School, 32 E 115th St.

Ward 10 - Sadlowski Elementary School, 3930 E 105th St.

Ward 11 - Sheridan Elementary School, 533 W 27th St.

Ward 12 - Kelly High School, 4136 S California Ave.

Ward 13 - West Lawn Park, 4233 W 65th St.

Ward 14 - Edwards Elementary School, 4815 S Karlov Ave.

Ward 15 - Carson Elementary School, 5516 S Maplewood Ave.

Ward 16 - Lindblom Park, 6054 S Damen Ave.

Ward 17 - Southside High School, 7342 S Hoyne Ave.

Ward 18 - Carroll Elementary School, 2929 W 83rd St.

Ward 19 - Clissold Elementary School, 2350 W 110th Pl.

Ward 20 - Dulles Elementary School, 6311 S Calumet Ave.

Ward 21 - Turner - Drew Language Acad., 9300 S Princeton Ave.

How to vote by mail in Chicago



Once you submit your ballot:

You'll get an email when:

- Your "Ballot Return Envelope" is **received** by the Election Board
- Your Ballot Envelope is **approved** for counting

How to vote by mail in Chicago



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What if I make a mistake?

Cross out the mistake and write in your correction. Add a note to show it is a correction.

How to vote by mail in Chicago



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can someone else drop my ballot in a Secured Drop Box?

YES – as long as your ballot envelope is sealed shut and is properly signed by **both you AND the person** dropping it off for you.

How to vote by mail in Chicago



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can I change my mind & decide to vote in person?

Yes, **IF** you have not yet sent in your mail-in ballot.

- Bring your ballot to polling place & ask judge to spoil it. Vote with a regular ballot.

How to vote by mail in Chicago



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can I change my mind & decide to vote in person? (cont)

- If you lost your mail-in ballot or never received it, you may have to vote on a **provisional ballot**.

How to vote by mail in Chicago



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What if I don't get my ballot?

Report to 312-269-7967
on or before Thursday, Oct. 29

How to vote by mail in Chicago



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IMPORTANT:

Once you submit your completed ballot, you **can't** change your mind or vote again.

Early Voting in Chicago



- **Oct 1-Nov 3:**
Loop Super Site, 191 N. Clark
- **Oct 14-Nov 3:**
Early Voting Sites

Early Voting page at Chicago Board of Elections:

<https://chicagoelections.gov/en/early-voting.html>

Early Voting in Chicago



Welcome, Voters!

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Early Voting

In-Person Early Voting & Registration

NOTICE: Due to Covid-19, voters are encouraged to use Vote By Mail or Early Voting before Election Day on Nov. 3, 2020.

NEW THIS FALL: Secured Drop Boxes will be available at every Early Voting site for any Chicago Vote By Mail voter to submit the signed and sealed Ballot Return Envelope.

Every voter is encouraged to wear a facemask that covers the mouth and nose, whether visiting to use in-person Early Voting or to use a Secured Drop Box.

Voters in line must practice social distancing with 6 feet (2 meters) of space between persons in line.

For the Nov. 3 General Election, Chicago voters may use any Early Voting & Registration location in the city, starting Oct. 1 at the Loop Super Site, and then starting from Oct. 14 at the 50 Ward sites. Chicago voters may use any Early Voting location in the city.

Any ballots that voters cast in Early Voting are final. After casting ballots in Early Voting, voters may not return to amend, change or undo a ballot for any reason. It is a felony to vote more than once -- or to attempt to vote more than once -- in the same election.

Government-issued photo ID is not required but is helpful if there is a question about the voter's registration, address, signature or if there are two voters at the same address with the same names or similar names.

Registration services are available at every Early Voting site. [Two forms of ID](#), one of which shows the voter's current address, are needed to register for the first time or to file a name change or an address update.

Early Voting in Chicago



FOR EARLY VOTING:

“Government-issued photo ID is not required but is helpful if there is a question about the voter's registration, address, signature or if there are two voters at the same address with the same names or similar names.”

<https://www.chicagoelections.gov/en/when-you-need-id-to-vote.html>

Early Voting in Chicago



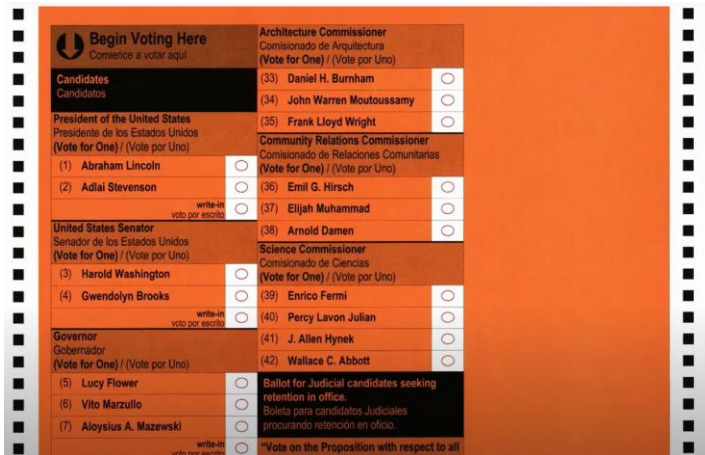
Early Voting sites will:

- **Require** social distancing in line
- **Encourage** voters to wear masks



What's on the ballot?

- President/Vice President
- US Senate (Sen Durbin's seat)
- US House
- IL State Senate
- IL State House
- County Court Clerk
- Cook County State's Attorney
- Various judges
- Metro Water Reclamation District
- BALLOT INITIATIVE



What's on the ballot?

BALLOT INITIATIVE

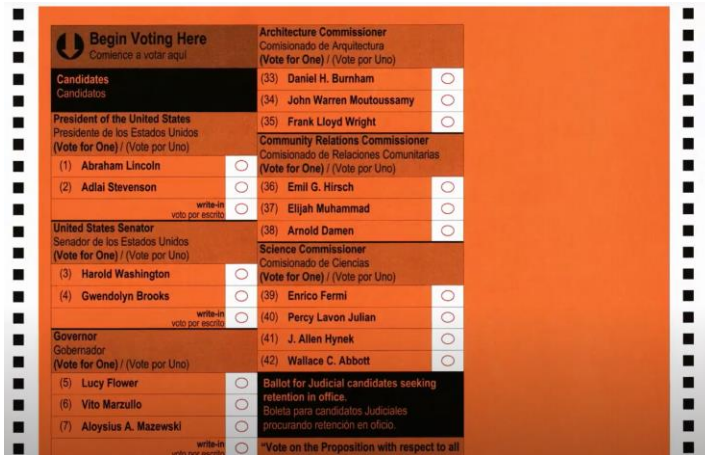
The Illinois Allow for Graduated Income Tax Amendment (2020)

AKA "Fair Tax amendment"

The image shows a sample ballot from Illinois. It is divided into two columns. The left column lists candidates for various offices, and the right column lists candidates for the same offices. Each candidate's name is followed by a circle containing a number, indicating the order of the candidates. The ballot is titled "Begin Voting Here" and "Comience a votar aquí".

Office	Candidate	Order
President of the United States (Vote for One) / (Vote por Uno)	Abraham Lincoln	(1)
	Adlai Stevenson	(2)
	Frank Lloyd Wright	(35)
United States Senator Senador de los Estados Unidos (Vote for One) / (Vote por Uno)	Harold Washington	(3)
	Gwendolyn Brooks	(4)
	Enrique Fermi	(39)
Governor Gobernador (Vote for One) / (Vote por Uno)	Lucy Flower	(5)
	Vito Marzullo	(6)
	Aloysius A. Mazewski	(7)
Architecture Commissioner Comisionado de Arquitectura (Vote for One) / (Vote por Uno)	Daniel H. Burnham	(33)
	John Warren Moutoussamy	(34)
	Emil G. Hirsch	(36)
Community Relations Commissioner Comisionado de Relaciones Comunitarias (Vote for One) / (Vote por Uno)	Elijah Muhammad	(37)
	Arnold Damen	(38)
	Percy Lavon Julian	(40)
Science Commissioner Comisionado de Ciencias (Vote for One) / (Vote por Uno)	J. Allen Hynek	(41)
	Wallace C. Abbott	(42)
	Ballot for Judicial candidates seeking retention in office. Boleta para candidatos Judiciales procurando retencion en oficio.	
Vote on the Proposition with respect to all		

What's on the ballot?



BALLOT PEDIA

SEARCH THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN POLITICS

BALLOT MEASURES

Illinois Allow for Graduated Income Tax Amendment (2020)

Allows for a graduated income tax

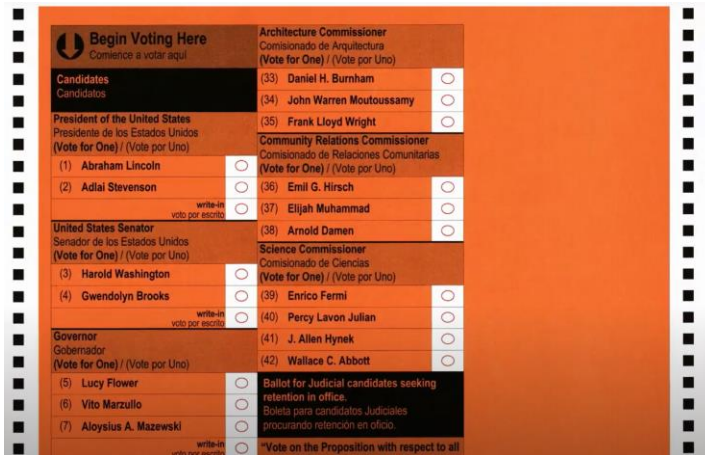


A "**yes**" vote supports repealing the state's constitutional requirement that the state personal income tax be a flat rate and instead allow the state to enact legislation for a graduated income tax.

What's on the ballot?

Ballot Resources

1. [BallotPedia](#)
2. [BallotReady](#)
3. Judicial recommendations
 - Chicago Bar Association
 - Chicago Council of Lawyers
 - [VoteForJudges.org](#)



**What's
your
voting
plan?**



**PLAN
YOUR
VOTE.**

Example

What's your voting plan?

PLAN
YOUR
VOTE.

1. **Check my email** to see when ballot is mailed to me
2. **Get my ballot & mark it**
3. **Drop off ballot** at nearest Early Voting Site: Ray School
4. **Check my email** to be sure ballot received & approved
5. **Call if problems:** 312-269-7967

Encourage Others To Vote



1. Talk
2. Ask
3. Post
4. Show off
5. Connect... with 3 friends

Encourage Others To Vote



Have you requested your mail ballot? Tell everyone!

Did your ballot arrive at your house? Share how excited you are!

Did you turn in your ballot at a drop box or election office? Take a photo of the moment!



Example



Dear Voter,
This mailing includes your new voter card and information about using Vote By Mail.
Our records show that you applied already to Vote By Mail for the Nov. 3, 2020 election.
The Election Board will begin mailing ballots in late September. If you applied online and provided your email address, the Election Board will send you emails:

- When your ballot is mailed to you,
- When the Election Board receives your Ballot Return Envelope, and
- When your ballot is processed and counted.

Questions? Call (312) 269-7967 or write to VoteByMail@chicagoelections.gov
Go to chicagoelections.gov for voter registration services, including name or address change.
Due to COVID-19, all 2020 General Election voters are encouraged to cast a ballot before Nov. 3, either by mail or during early voting.



Betsy Rubin

August 21 at 9:50 PM · 🌐

I'll be voting by mail in Chicago. Once I've filled in my ballot - SAFELY, AT HOME - I will drop it off at the early voting site nearest to me in a secured drop box.

Chicago friends, here's the info: ✓

<https://chicagoelections.gov/en/vote-by-mail.html>

Edit

👍❤️ 35

5 Comments 2 Shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



Rosemary

Thank you for posting! I just applied to vote by mail.

Love · Reply · 3w

➡️ Betsy Rubin repli... · 1 Reply



Tamara



Write a comment...



Encourage Others To Vote



- Share **links** to **accurate** info from **reliable** resources.
- **NEVER** share memes, graphics, copy/pasted info.

Voter Helpline

For voting problems you can't
resolve, phone **1-866-OUR-VOTE**

ELECTION PROTECTION

