

## 2012 Election Dates and Deadlines

**Presidential Preference Primary**  
March 6

**Last day to register**  
February 6

*A separate absentee ballot application  
must be completed for this election*

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**General Primary**  
July 31

*Apply for absentee ballots as  
early as February 2*

**Last day to register**  
July 2

**Runoff**  
August 21

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**General Election**  
November 6

**Last day to register**  
October 8

**Runoff**  
December 4

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### Contact Us

Monday – Friday: 8:00am – 5:00pm  
Phone: 678.226.7210  
Fax: 678.226.7209  
[absentee@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:absentee@gwinnettcounty.com)

Meeting the needs of  
Gwinnett County voters

**gwinnettcounty**  
**Board of Registration and Elections**

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**gwinnettcounty**  
**Voter Registration and Elections**

## Absentee Voting 2012 Questions and Answers



Important information for  
assisted living and nursing home  
staff and family members

### **Absentee voting by mail is a two-step process:**

1. The voter or a family member must apply for a ballot, which will be mailed to the voter
2. The voter then completes the ballot and returns it in person or by mail

## **Absentee Ballot Application**

### **How do I request blank absentee ballot applications for our residents?**

Applications may be requested by phone to be mailed, downloaded from our website, or picked up in bundles of 25. Family members may also apply for absentee ballots at the main office for a disabled voter. **In all cases, the ballot will be mailed to the voter.**

### **Do I sign the application if I'm assisting a resident and I'm not a family member?**

Yes, sign next to the line where the voter makes a signature or mark.

### **Does the resident need to put his or her signature or mark on the application if he or she is being assisted by someone other than a relative?**

Yes.

### **What if the resident's signature has changed?**

The voter's signature on the application and the ballot must match the Voter Registration record. The voter will be notified if the signature does not match and will be required to complete a new voter registration application to update the signature prior to the ballot being issued.

### **How and who can return an application?**

The application may be mailed, e-mailed, hand delivered, or faxed to this office. If the voter is disabled, an adult family member may complete an application for the disabled elector. Ballots cannot be carried out of the office.



### **How early can applications be received prior to the Election Day?**

180 days.

### **When will the voter receive the ballot?**

Ballots with federal candidates are available by mail 45 days before the election, and usually 21 days for a special or municipal election. Once the application is received, the ballot will be mailed within approximately two days of receipt. Ballots for runoffs are printed and mailed as quickly as possible.

### **May a resident receive a ballot for more than one election with one application?**

A disabled voter or a voter 75 years or older may submit one application for the General Primary. By checking the appropriate box on the application, he or she will automatically be mailed ballots for the General Primary Runoff, General Election, and General Runoff (not applicable for Presidential Preference Primary or Special Elections).

### **Is a resident required to complete a separate application for the Presidential Primary?**

Yes, the "all" option is not applicable to a Presidential Primary election.

### **Does a voter have to complete a separate application for a Special Election?**

Yes, the "all" option is not applicable to a Special Election.

### **Can a ballot be mailed to a second Gwinnett County address that's not the one at which the voter is registered?**

Only if a voter is disabled.

## **Voting and Returning the Ballot**

### **What is the last day a voter can apply for an absentee ballot before an election?**

Friday before the election is the last day to apply for an absentee ballot.

### **Is it important for a resident to make a mark on the yellow oath envelope if he or she is blind?**

A signature/mark of the voter is required for the ballot to be counted. The voter is swearing or affirming the oath contained on the envelope.

### **Who can assist the resident with the ballot and sign the yellow oath envelope?**

Any Gwinnett County registered voter or adult relative. Be sure to check the box that indicates the elector requires assistance either due to physical disability or inability to read English.

### **How many voters may one person assist?**

If there is a federal candidate on the ballot: unlimited.  
No federal candidate on ballot: 10.

### **How can we return the ballot?**

If the voter is disabled, the ballot can be returned by an adult relative, individual living in the household of the disabled voter, or mailed. If the voter is not disabled, the voter must return the ballot in person or by mail.

### **My spouse isn't disabled, but I want to bring his/her ballot to the Election's office when I return mine. Is this possible?**

Unless the voter is disabled, only the voter may mail or return the voter's ballot.

### **When is the deadline for a ballot to be returned?**

Absentee ballots must be received through the mail or in person at the Elections Office by 7:00pm on Election Day. Disabled voters may have a family member deliver the ballot to the Elections Office.