

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE THE ELECTION

We have all had to adapt to the changes in our daily lives over the past two months or so. I'm sure you are like me and want to get back to normal soon. However, as we plan for the election, we must be aware that there are some of our fellow voters and Election Officers who are vulnerable to COVID-19 and that we need to do everything that we can to help keep them safe and healthy. We believe that we have created additional avenues within the guidelines that have been set forth, giving eligible Anderson County voters the flexibility to cast their ballots. The remainder of this page is full of questions and answers on how you the voter can exercise your right to select your candidates in the upcoming Primary Election.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When is the last day to register to vote?

Tuesday, May 26, at 4 p.m.

How can I register?

There are several easy ways to register. Call our office at 502-839-3041 for the details.

Can I change my party and still be eligible to vote during the Primary Election Cycle?

No, the deadline was December 31, 2019; however, you can change any time after June 23.

When will the online portal be ready?

We are being told around May 25. Once the portal is operational, the State Board of Elections will mail post cards to every eligible registered voter making them aware that it is ready.

Do I have to wear a mask to vote in person?

In accordance with CDC and state guidelines, we are asking the voter to wear a facial covering to protect the Election Officers, fellow voters and yourself. All Election Officers will have facial coverings and gloves on the entire time.

How is the privacy of my mail-in or hand-delivered ballot protected?

In short, once the voted ballot envelope has been received and checked back in at the Clerk's Office, the signature is verified as the voter's. The ballot will be separated from the envelopes in front of the County Board of Elections, made up of Democrats and Republicans. Once all the ballots have been separated from their envelopes, the ballot will be inserted into the scanner to be counted. This process prevents anyone from knowing how someone voted. The process has been open to the public in the past. We are currently working on a live stream of the process for this election for anyone to watch.

What options do I have in order to vote in the 2020 Primary Election?

The regulation set by the Governor with the assistance of the Secretary of State was unanimously passed and adopted by the State Board of Elections. This regulation has given the County Boards of Elections guidelines we must follow. However, we have some flexibility, and the local board voted to give me approval to move forward establishing as many ways possible for a voter to cast their ballot.

SEVERAL WAYS TO VOTE

MAIL IN (PHONE REQUEST)

Until the online portal is operational, you can call our office at 502-839-3041 to request an application. The application will be mailed to the voter. Once the voter receives the application, he or she will sign it and mail it back to the Clerk's Office. At that time, we will mail the voter their ballot. Once the voter receives their ballot, they will make their selections, place the ballot in the appropriate envelope, sign the yellow and white envelopes on the highlighted areas, seal the envelope and mail it back to the Clerk's Office using the postage paid envelope.

WALK UP

You also may come to our newly installed walk-up window (on the parking lot side of the building) beginning Tuesday, May 26, during normal business hours. You will need your ID and will be asked to sign an application for your ballot. You will receive your ballot and envelopes. Once the voter has made their selections, they will place their ballot in the appropriate envelope, signing both the yellow and white envelopes on the highlighted area and seal the envelope. The voter can either mail their ballot back, bring it back to the window, drop it in the drive-thru window, put it in the night drop box located in the drive-thru area or place it in the election drop box located in the second drive-thru lane (arriving around May 25).

IN-PERSON VOTING

Beginning Monday, June 8, eligible voters will be able to go to the basement of the Anthony D. Stratton Community Building (located at the County Park) to cast their ballot in person. Voters are asked to make an appointment in order for Election Officers to control social distancing regulations; however, no qualified voter will be turned away. We also ask voters wear masks in order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 to those who might be vulnerable. Election Officers will be wearing a facial covering and gloves the entire time. We must follow all the guidelines, and voters will be asked to keep a 6-foot distance while in line and voting. Voters are asked to have their ID ready in order to not hold up the lines. Voters will be checked in as normal and given your ballot and their own pen to keep. Voters will be directed to a table in order to mark their ballot. Once the ballot is marked, the voter will be directed to the appropriate scanner into which the voter will insert his or her ballot. Hours of voting will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 8 through June 22 and from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on June 23.

DRIVE-THRU VOTING

Beginning Monday, June 8, qualified voters will be able to go to the Anderson County Extension Service (top level) and pull under the covered area while remaining in their vehicle. Voters are asked to make an appointment ahead of time in order for Election Officers to control the lines; however, no qualified voter will be turned away. Voters will be asked to provide ID, so please have it ready in order to not hold up the lines. Voters will be checked in and given their ballot and their own pen to keep. The voter will be asked to pull up and make their selections. An Election Officer will then roll the scanner close to the vehicle in order for the voter to scan their ballot. Election Officers will be wearing a facial covering and gloves the entire time. Hours of voting will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 8 through June 22 and from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on June 23.



Jason Denny,
Anderson
County Clerk

Continue to watch The Anderson News in coming weeks, as well as our Facebook page at Anderson Clerk in the near future. We will be posting live videos to assist you. As always, call our office with any questions at 502-839-3041. You can also email me at jason.denny2@ky.gov with any questions.