

## **FAQs: Preparing for the April Election**

**Q: Please reiterate that spouses of military electors can request a ballot from the last place they were registered in Wisconsin, if they were not registered in the last place they resided in Wisconsin before being relocated to a military base out of state with the military spouse. I think this is correct based on an experience I had a few years ago. Correct?**

A: Spouses are allowed to claim the residential address of their military spouse.

**Q: For the spoiled ballots and the request for up to 1-3 ballots, may the witness for each of the attempts to vote be a different person? I am getting a little confused about correcting incomplete certification envelopes and requesting a replacement ballot for a spoiled ballot.**

A: Each spoiling of a ballot creates a whole new instance of voting, correcting an insufficient envelope is continuing the same instance of voting and would require the same witness.

**Q: Question re: proof of residence for mailed-in registrations. No POR is required for previously registered Wisconsin voters because the post card verification procedure will verify the existing WI voter residence. Correct?**

A: Correct.

**Q: How can I print the information?**

A: It's in the same location as the webinar access information under recent clerk communications.

**Q: Do you treat a walk-in voter registration the same as a mailed registration during open registration? Even if someone else brings it in for the voter?**

A: If someone else brings it in, that's a "by mail," if it is the voter themselves, it is "in-person."

**Q: We sent out an absentee ballot to one of our permanent status electors. She returned the ballot right away but failed to sign the cert or have a witness. Can we send this back to her for a signature/witness since there is time before the deadline?**

A: Yes or she can spoil that ballot and you can send her a new one.

**Q: Are we required to put postage on the return envelope for a hosp. voter or can we just ask if they will be mailing it back?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Is a 24 hour notice required for MBOC on election night?**

A: Yes, see page 57.

**Q: Please go back to cell phone bill - is it or is it not an acceptable POR? If it is not acceptable, what is the difference between cell phone and mobile phone?**

A: It is acceptable POR and there is no difference between the two.

**Q: Is it acceptable for clerks to notify military and overseas voters requirement for AB request yearly? I notified all with absentee ballot docs in 2012, however I'm wondering if some may have forgotten about the yearly app requirement.**

A: Yes.

**Q: I'm not referring to MBOC reconvening - I understand a 24-hour notice is required for that. I am wondering if a 24-hour notice must be given prior to Election Day for MBOC on election night?**

A: No.

**Q: So this information on the GAB website, signing a copy of your email is outdated: "Request by E-Mail or Fax: A voter may request that a ballot be sent to them by sending an e-mail or fax to their municipal clerk. (See Directory of Local Municipal Clerks.) Before the ballot can be counted on Election Day, the municipal clerk must have received a request from the voter with an original signature. (Print your emailed request, sign it, and return it with your ballot, but outside the certified ballot envelope.) This request must be made no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the election in order for an absentee ballot to be mailed to you."**

A: We will check it out. Thanks.

**Q: If a voter registers during late registration AND absentee votes, do you need to issue them the certificate of registration GAB-133 since they voted?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Since we trust the municipal clerk to determine whether or not there are any outstanding absentees on Election Night, shouldn't we also trust them to properly determine and complete the paperwork if no absentees are received by Friday at 5 without having to establish a meeting?**

A: It's the law.

**Q: Overseas Voters - if a person is overseas for work (not military) but have no idea when they will return to the US, can they vote absentee?**

A: Yes, they are a regular absentee voter.

**Q: Overseas Voters - if a person is overseas for work (not military) but have no idea when they will return to the US, can they vote absentee?**

A: If they have intent to return sometime.

**Q: The agent doesn't have to live in that voter's district, correct?**

A: Correct.

**Q: Please clarify: Not required to check on Sunday. If we are a full-time office, are we required to check on Saturday? We operate Monday through Friday. It was a little misleading whether Saturday was required.**

A: Yes, Saturday is required as well.

**Q: If they have been sent a postcard, been inactivated, and now a year later does a MyVote, are they a New Voter? Their address did not change. So do they need to show their ID?**

A: No.

**Q: Can you use a letter from WIC saying they are enrolled in the WIC program? It does have an account number on it and their address.**

A: We will get to that shortly, but yes, as a "document from a unit of government."

**Q: Do they have to mail in the original signed application (absentee)?**

A: Do you mean if they have made an absentee request by email or fax?

**Q: If on the poll list they have a POR by their name then when they vote their ballot, would be considered "provisional" unless they provide POR?**

A: Yes. If they have POR REQ by their name on the poll list, they are a first-time voter by mail who did not include POR.

**Q: On page 36 it states that a cell phone bill is not acceptable, but on page 30 it states that a mobile phone is acceptable. Which is it?**

A: Please read the first line of p. 37 - we include cell phone bills as utility bills.

**Q: You are asking for the chief inspector to be opening someone else's mail. Shouldn't the voter be opening his own mail?**

A: Regarding a sealed bill - the voter would open it. The point is the sealed bill can't be used as POR.

**Q: As far as postmarks, how are we to deal with the new stamps that do not get cancelled by the post office?**

A: If an envelope lacks a postmark assume that it was postmarked by election day.

**Q: What about something from WIC programs?**

A: Yes, it's a unit of government.

**Q: I have two people who were contacted by one of the main parties (Dem or Rep). One person doesn't want to work each election and the other one hasn't come in to do training or has returned my phone calls. I know that the party has to be contacted about this. Where can I find a contact number to call the Democratic or Republican party?**

A: Did they submit lists? They would have included a name and contact information on the list.

**Q: Page 61 #1, Where on the internet is this reported?**

A: Where you have determined to post it, on your website or perhaps the county website if you don't have one.

**Q: What if someone turns in an absentee application and requests a ballot to be emailed to them but they are not a military or oversea voter?**

A: Contact the voter and let them know that they can't get it by email or fax or if time is short, go ahead and mail it.

**Q: If you receive a voice message from a registered voter for an absentee ballot, do they need to first do the app or will the certificate envelope be enough?**

A: Absentee applications must be in writing. It doesn't have to be on the GAB-121 if the request in writing includes the required information. Please check the manual.