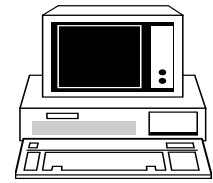


Faxing or E-mailing Absentee Ballots



All voters can request to have an absentee ballot emailed or faxed to them. If you receive a request from a voter who would like to receive their ballot by email or fax, follow these instructions when sending the voter their ballot.

REQUEST

- **Review the written request for an absentee ballot from a qualified elector.** The absentee application request may be on the form prescribed by the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) (Application for Absentee Ballot EL-121) or may be in the form of a letter, email or fax that contains the information needed for an absentee ballot request. Remember, the request must be in writing, but email and fax requests do not need to include the voter's signature. Voters can also submit their request through the MyVote Wisconsin website: MyVote.wi.gov. You will receive an email notification when the voter makes their request through MyVote.
- **All voters may receive their absentee ballot by mail, email or fax.** However, clerks must honor email and fax requests from Military, Temporary Overseas and Permanent Overseas voters. Military, Permanent Overseas, indefinitely confined, and confidential voters do not need to provide a photo ID with their request. Regular and Temporary Overseas voters must provide a photo ID with their absentee ballot request.
- After determining that the elector is qualified to receive an absentee ballot, the municipal clerk may fax or e-mail the ballot to the elector.

FAXING

- The municipal clerk should initial the ballot in the endorsement section and initial the face of the ballot.
- Fax the ballot and the face of the [Certification Envelope](#) along with the [Uniform Instructions for Absentee Voters](#).
- The voter should be instructed to vote the ballot in the presence of a witness, fold the ballot and seal it inside a regular, non-window envelope, and complete and sign the absentee certificate. A U.S. citizen, age 18 years or older, must witness, sign, and provide his or her address on the certificate. Military or permanent overseas voters must provide their birthdate. The certificate should be affixed (with glue or tape) to the envelope containing the voted ballot. The envelope with the certificate attached should be placed into another, larger, envelope, sealed and mailed to the municipal clerk. The ballot must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day.
- When faxing to military and overseas voters (temporary and permanent), follow procedures set out in [Fax & Email Guidelines](#) provided by the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

E-MAILING

- The municipal clerk should print their initials in the endorsement section of the ballot and on the face of the ballot and scan the initialed ballot. If you do not have access to a scanner, work with your county or the WEC to determine an alternate way of initialing the ballot before sending it via email.

- Email the initialed ballot and the face of the [Absentee Ballot Certificate](#) along with the [Uniform Instructions for Absentee Voters](#).
- The elector should be instructed to print the ballot, vote the ballot in the presence of a witness, fold the ballot and seal it inside a regular, non-window envelope, and complete and sign the absentee certificate. An U.S. citizen, age 18 years or older, must witness, sign, and provide his or her address on the certificate. Military or permanent overseas voters must provide their birthdate. The certificate should be affixed (with glue or tape) to the envelope containing the voted ballot. The envelope with the certificate attached should be placed into another, larger, envelope, sealed and mailed to the municipal clerk. The ballot must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

RETURN

- The absentee elector must return the hard copy of the ballot and the completed certificate to the municipal clerk in time so that the clerk can deliver the ballot to the polling place before the close of the polls.
- The elector may choose overnight delivery to assure that their ballot arrives on time. The municipal clerk is not responsible for return postage of a faxed or e-mailed absentee ballot.
- The USPS recommends that ballots be mailed at least one week prior to the date of the Election to arrive on time. If the ballot is returned from overseas, the ballot should be mailed earlier.

DOCUMENTATION

- The municipal clerk records the date absentee ballots are faxed or e-mailed to voters in WisVote or forwards the information to their WisVote Provider.
- When absentee ballots are returned to the clerk's office, the municipal clerk or their WisVote Provider records the information in WisVote. The clerk ensures the certificate is attached to the envelope holding the ballot. If the certificate is not attached, the clerk uses tape or glue to affix the certificate to the envelope. If the voter did not seal the ballot in an envelope as directed, the clerk encloses the ballot in a certificate envelope and affixes the completed certificate. The clerk delivers the ballot to the appropriate polling place in a carrier envelope.
- At the polling place, the election inspectors follow the procedures for processing absentee ballots. The ballot may be remade by 2 election inspectors so the ballot is accepted by electronic tabulating equipment.

