

**SUMTER COUNTY, ALABAMA**  
**RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS**  
**November 5, 2024**  
**General Election**

Absentee applications being returned by **mail** to the Absentee Election Manager must be received no less than **seven (7) days prior to the election (17-11-18) Tues., October 29, 2024**. The last day Absentee applications can be returned by **hand** is **Thurs., Oct. 31, 2024**. The deadline to apply for *Medical and Business Emergencies* is no later than the close of business on **Thurs., Oct. 31, 2024**. **Absentee ballots being returned by hand must be received in the office of the Absentee Election Manager no later than Mon., Nov. 4, 2024. Absentee ballots being returned by mail must be received no later than noon on Tues., Nov. 5, 2024.**

Any qualified Elector of this State may vote an Absentee ballot, provided they meet the requirements (17-10-1 et seq, Code of Alabama) as contained in the application, which is available in the office of the **Absentee Election Manager, DeVon A. James, located on the first floor of the Sumter County Courthouse in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, 115 Franklin Street, Courthouse Square, Livingston, Alabama 35470**. Applications are also available for download at the website of [www.sos.state.al.us](http://www.sos.state.al.us)

**Under Alabama ACT 2019-507, absentee ballot applications must now be accompanied by a copy of current, valid photo identification, unless the voter is exempt from the identification requirement. Failing to provide the identification with the application will result in a delay in receiving your ballot.**

**Under Alabama ACT 2019-359 effective September 1, 2019, allowing a permanently disabled voter to apply for a disabled voter absentee ballot. The application is required to be signed and notarized by the primary physician of the disabled voter. After it is verified that a voter's disability prevents his or her attendance at the polls, the voter will be placed on a permanent absentee voter list and will automatically be mailed disabled voter absentee application to apply for a ballot before each election within the calendar year. The voter's application for an absentee ballot is good through the end of the calendar year in which the application is filed. If an election continues into the following year, the application is valid for the entire election cycle.**

**Additionally, Absentee Election Managers are no longer required to publish the list of absentee voters, their addresses, and their polling places in the county courthouse. This law protects voter privacy and keeps information from being compromised by those looking to influence elections.**

Applications are also available for download at the website of [www.sos.state.al.us](http://www.sos.state.al.us). After completing and signing the application, the voter may hand deliver the application to the **Absentee Election Manager, DeVon A. James** or forward it by U.S. Mail or by commercial carrier. **NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO BRING IN AN APPLICATION FOR ANOTHER PERSON.**

The only exception is being a designee for a *medical emergency*. By law, the Absentee Election Manager can only accept one application per envelope that is received by U.S. Mail. The application must include the Alabama residence (**PHYSICAL**) address where the voter is registered to vote, even if the ballot is to be mailed to another address where the applicant/voter regularly receives mail.

The Absentee Election Manager may hand the ballot to the applicant/voter or forward it by U.S. mail to the applicant/voter's residence address or upon written request to the address where the applicant/voter receives mail. **NO ONE CAN RECEIVE OR RETURN A BALLOT FOR ANY OTHER PERSON;** only exception being a designee for *medical emergency*. **INSTRUCTIONS WILL ACCOMPANY EACH BALLOT AND MUST BE FOLLOWED CAREFULLY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR BALLOT IS COUNTED.**

Beginning with the **2014 Primary Election**, the State Legislature has mandated that a voter present valid photo identification pursuant to Act 2003-381. Valid photo identification may include, in addition to governmentally produced photo identifications, identification cards containing the photo of the elector produced by employers for employees and identification cards containing the photo of the elector produced by a public or private college, university, or post graduate technical or professional school located within the state, a valid U.S. passport, a valid U.S. military identification card, provided that such identification card contains a photograph of the elector; valid tribal identification card containing a photograph of the elector. A copy of any of the above forms of identification must be submitted with the application when voting by mail, §17-9-30 (c), except that voters entitled to vote by absentee ballot pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff; the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, or any other federal law are not required to produce identification prior to voting. § 17-9-30 (d). See also, §17-17-28 (explaining the penalties for false identification). The law provides for a Provisional Ballot where: 1.) identification is not properly provided; or 2.) the voter is not identified as appearing in the precinct for which the voter seeks a ballot; or 3.) an absentee precinct inspector or clerk has knowledge that the individual is not entitled to vote at a precinct applicable to the voter's ballot and challenges the voter's right to vote a particular ballot. The law provides ways for voters to correct deficiencies so that provisional ballots can be counted. Section 17-10A-2, Code of Alabama.

**Ballots** must be returned by the voter in person to the **Absentee Election Manager, DeVon A. James, located on the first floor of the Sumter County Courthouse, Office of the Circuit Clerk, no later than 4:00 PM on Mon., November 4, 2024**, or the last day for a ballot being returned by mail is no later than **12:00 noon on the day of the election**. Business emergency ballots must be voted in the office in person and handed to the Absentee Election Manager. *Medical emergency* ballots must be returned no later than noon on Election Day.

Any person desiring to vote Absentee may come by the office of the **Absentee Election Manager, DeVon A. James, First Floor, Office of the Circuit Clerk, Sumter County Courthouse, and 115 Franklin Street Courthouse Square, Livingston, Alabama. The mailing address is Post Office Box 936, Livingston, Alabama 35470-0936. The office hours are 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday thru Friday and closed each day for lunch from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm.**

If you need any additional information regarding Absentee Voting procedures you may call the **Absentee Election Manager, DeVon A. James, at (205) 652-2291**. You can also visit the website [www.sos.state.al.us](http://www.sos.state.al.us)