

VOTE EARLY IN PERSON!

The one-stop "in-person" absentee voting process permits voting in person at any of the designated remote locations.

Many long term care facilities will take advantage of the one-stop voting process. The following suggestions are offered in an effort to promote a positive voting experience:

- Curbside voting is available for handicapped residents who might have difficulty getting into the one-stop voting location. Look for the curbside parking space to activate the curbside bell.

- Consider calling ahead to alert the Elections personnel so that they can be prepared for the number of residents that will arrive to vote early.

- Please encourage staff and residents to call the Election Services office at **250-4200**, ahead of time to resolve questions in regard to voter eligibility.

SAME DAY REGISTRATION

Voters may apply to register to vote and cast a ballot on the same day during the one-stop voting period.

ONE-STOP VOTING DATES & TIME

One-Stop 2012 Primary Election

Beginning:

Thursday, April 19, 2012 (10am - 6 pm)

Monday thru Saturday

Ending: Saturday, May 5, 2012 (8am - 1pm)

Call **250-4200** or check our website for Early Voting Locations.

THIS BROCHURE WAS PRINTED APRIL 2012:

Be aware the NC legislature may consider election law changes during the April 23rd, and May 16th short sessions. Law changes may make this guide and dates obsolete.



2012 ELECTION DATE

Primary Election - May 8, 2012

General Election - November 6, 2012

ELECTION DAY VOTING

To vote in Buncombe County you must:

- have been a county resident for 30 days by the date of the election.
- be registered to vote in Buncombe County.

You will be assigned a voting location within the precinct where you live when you register or when you notify Election Services of an address change within Buncombe County.

AT THE VOTING PLACE

Upon entering the voting place, give your name, address and party (partisan primary election only) to the precinct election officials. If you are properly registered, you will be given the appropriate ballot. If there is a problem with your registration, you will be given a **PROVISIONAL BALLOT**; this allows Election Services an opportunity to verify your registration status.

TRANSFER VOTING

If you have moved within Buncombe County more than 30 days prior to an election and failed to notify Election Services, it is a violation of the law to return to your old precinct and vote. *There are procedures that will allow you to vote in your new precinct.* Call Election Services for further information.

CURBSIDE VOTING

If you are unable to enter the voting place because of a physical disability, you will be allowed to vote either in your vehicle or immediately outside the voting place. Look for the curbside parking space to activate the curbside bell or have someone come inside to inform our workers of your desire to vote in this manner.

Election
2012
BUNCOMBE
COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

**BEFORE YOU VOTE, FIND YOUR
POLLING LOCATION**

WITH OUR *New* MOBILE WEBSITE

YOU CAN VIEW YOUR { CORRECT POLLING LOCATION.
VOTER INFORMATION.
COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT.

**ITS EASY! JUST VISIT.
VOTER.BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG**



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2012
BUNCOMBE
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24 HOUR VOTER HOTLINE
828.250.4200

ELECTION SERVICES ★ 35 WOODFIN ST. ASHEVILLE, NC 28801
PO BOX 7468 ASHEVILLE, NC 28802
FAX - 828.250.6262



Election Dates

PRIMARY - MAY 8TH, 2012

GENERAL - NOVEMBER 6, 2012

For more information visit:

BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG/VOTE

VOTER REGISTRATION

You may register to vote if you are:

- a citizen of the United States.
- a person 18 years of age or older.
- a person 17 years of age who will be 18 by the date of the general election.
- a legal resident of Buncombe County.
- not a convicted felon.
- a person 16 or 17 years of age but who is otherwise qualified to register may preregister to vote.

Buncombe County has a permanent registration system. You need to register only if you:

- have not previously registered in Buncombe County.
- your Buncombe County registration has been cancelled because you registered in another county or state.
- your voter registration has been cancelled because you were convicted of a felony and your citizenship rights have now been restored.

You need to update your registration if you:

- have moved within Buncombe County since you registered.
- have changed your name.
- wish to change your party affiliation.

A voter registration card will be mailed to you: once your registration has been processed. **Keep the card** as a reference for your election districts and voting location. You may use this card to change your address or party affiliation. You do not need to present this card to vote.

PARTY AFFILIATION

You may register with any political party recognized in the State of North Carolina. If you do not declare a party, you will be registered as unaffiliated. Party affiliation determines the partisan primary for which you are eligible to vote. In a partisan primary election, unaffiliated voters may choose to vote in any one recognized party's primary and will be asked to state their preference at the time they vote. If an unaffiliated chooses not to participate in a partisan primary, a nonpartisan ballot will be provided.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

2012 Primary Election Registration

If mailed, the registration form must be postmarked Friday, **April 13, 2012.**

2012 General Election Registration

If mailed, the registration form must be postmarked Friday, **October 12, 2012.**

Hand delivered forms must be received by Election Services office no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the respective registration deadline.

For exceptions, please see Same Day Registration in the Early Voting section.

REGISTRATION LOCATIONS

You may register to vote or make changes to your registration information at:

- **Election Services** – 35 Woodfin Street
Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Or you may obtain a mail-in registration form at the following locations in Buncombe County:

- **Public Libraries**
- **Public High Schools**
- **Various Town Halls**

Or when receiving services at the following public service agencies:

- **Drivers License Offices**
- **Public Assistance Agencies**
- **Agencies Serving Persons with Disabilities**

DECEASED VOTER

Election Services must have official notification from a near relative (*spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, brother, or sister*), or from the Dept. of Health and Human Services to remove a person's name from the registration records. Please call **(828) 250-4200** for more information.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS BY MAIL

Every voter in the state of North Carolina is permitted to vote absentee by mail, or in person, without an excuse. Therefore, you need not be sick or disabled to request a ballot for absentee voting.

REQUESTS BY MAIL

Send a written request to the office of Election Services or call **(828) 250-4222** to request an absentee ballot request form.

A written request must include full name, residential address, mailing address, telephone number, date of birth and voter signature. A written request is only valid if it is signed and written in its entirety by the requester. Requests must be received by Election Services office no later than 5:00 p.m. the Tuesday before the election. After the request is processed, a ballot will be mailed to the voter.

NEAR RELATIVE REQUEST

A near relative (*spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepchild, or verifiable legal guardian*) may request in writing no later than 5:00 p.m. the Tuesday prior to the election, an Absentee Request on your behalf. After the request is processed, a ballot will be mailed to the voter.

If a voter becomes ill after the Tuesday deadline, a qualified near relative can come into the office and apply for a ballot for the voter and a ballot will be issued at that time. **A voted ballot must be returned by the voter or the voter's near relative.**

RETURNING VOTED BALLOTS

The voted ballot must be returned to the Election Services office by 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election.

MORE ABSENTEE VOTING LAWS

It is declared a Class I felony for any owner, manager, director, employee or other person other than the voter's near relative or legal guardian to make a written request or mark or assist in marking the voter's absentee ballot on behalf of a registered voter who is a patient in any hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home in this State or for any owner, manager, director, employee, or other person other than the voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian, to mark the voter's absentee ballot or assist such a voter in marking an absentee ballot.

Nursing homes and rest home facilities may request a bi-partisan team trained by the Election Services office to assist voters with absentee ballots. Please call our office for details.

It is declared a Class I felony for any person to take into that person's possession for delivery to a voter or for return to a county board of elections, the absentee ballot of any voter, provided however, that this prohibition shall not apply to a voter's near-relative or the voter's verifiable legal guardian.

The absentee ballot request application must be signed only by the voter or the voter's near relative as defined under Near Relative Request. **Power of Attorney does not apply and will not be accepted for the absentee voting by mail process.**

If you have additional questions about absentee voting by mail, please call **(828) 250-4222.**

IT'S 9:00 P.M. AND YOU JUST WATCHED ANOTHER POLITICAL AD... AND NOW YOU'RE WONDERING WHERE, HOW OR EVEN IF YOU ARE REGISTERED? NO NEED TO WAIT TIL MORNING.

CALL OUR 24 HOUR VOTER HOTLINE
828.250.4200

An operator will ask for your birthdate, street number and zip code. Then they will give you your current voter information, and an option if there are changes you need to make. You can also be directed to request absentee ballots, maps, or directions to your precinct.

DON'T WAIT TIL MORNING! YOU CAN CALL NOW!