



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003-4733



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Frequently asked Questions for the June 19, 2018 Primary Election**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The District of Columbia Board of Elections (DCBOE) is aware that media and members of the public may have questions about Election Day, so we have drafted the below questions and answers for your convenience.

**What are the voting hours for the June 2 Primary Election?**

Vote Centers will open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Any voter in line by 8:00pm will be allowed to cast a ballot.

**Who may vote?**

All voters affiliated with a major party (Democrat, Republican, D.C. Statehood Green, Libertarian) may vote on the candidates appearing on the ballot. Unaffiliated/minor party-affiliated voters may not vote in the June 2 Primary Election.

New voters participating in same-day registration and voters wishing to update their voter registration information may do so at any Vote Center. A complete list of the Vote Centers is available at [www.dcboe.org](http://www.dcboe.org).

**Is it too late to register?**

No. But you will need to show proof of residence such a driver's license, government check or paycheck, lease, utility bill, bank statement or government document showing your name and address in the District.

**What are the contests on the ballot?**

Presidential Nominee  
Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives  
At-large Member of the Council  
Ward Member of the Council for Wards 2, 4, 7 and 8  
United States Senator  
United States Representative  
National and Local Party Committee Members

**How many Vote Centers will be open?**

There will be 20 Vote Centers open throughout the District. Please refer to p. 8 of the Voter Guide, which can be found online at: <https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/Voter-Guide-4-16-2020-Final-4.pdf>.

Vote Centers will open from Friday, May 22 through Friday, June 1, 2020 from 8:30 am to 7:00 pm. All sites will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2020. Vote Centers will open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm on June 2, 2020, Primary Election Day. Voters can cast their ballot at any Vote Center regardless of where they live in the District.

Social distancing measures will be enforced, and voters will be required to wear face coverings inside the Vote Centers. Curbside voting will be available.

**Do voters need to show identification?**

Same day registrants must show proof of residence with their name and current address (this can be a photo identification, but does not have to be). First-time District voters who registered by mail or online and did not provide proof of residence at the time of registration must show proof of residence with their name and current address. Likewise, voters who are filing an Election Day change of address at the Vote Center must also show proof of residence with their name and current address. All other voters are not required to provide proof of residence, but doing so may speed up the check-in process.

**What voting equipment will voters use to cast their ballot?**

Voters have their choice of the ExpressVote ballot marking device or traditional paper ballots at every Vote Center.

**What happens if there is a power outage or other problem with the voting equipment?**

All voting equipment utilizes battery power in the event of a power outage. In addition, every DS200 optical scanner has an auxiliary bin where paper ballots can be placed if there is a power outage or a problem with the voting equipment. The Board will also have roving technical support teams available to quickly replace voting equipment if necessary.

**Who should voters call if they have a question or problem?**

If a voter has a question, problem, or concern while they are voting, the first person to contact is the supervisor at the Vote Center, who is referred to as the Site Coordinator. The best time and place to resolve a problem is where and when it happens. Voters can also call the Board of Elections with questions at (202) 741-5283. To report allegations of election misconduct, call the Board's Office of the General Counsel at (202) 727-2194.

**What is the best time to vote to avoid lines?**

In order to minimize lines and reduce the number of individuals in Vote Centers, voters are asked to observe the recommended staggered voting using the first letter of their last name. The Alpha Break by Last Name information can be found on p. 9 in the Voter Guide: <https://www.dboe.org/dboe/media/PDFFiles/Voter-Guide-4-16-2020-Final-4.pdf>.

**What rules apply to media activity at the Vote Center?**

When a representative from the media arrives at the Vote Center, they should ask for the Site Coordinator. This official has supervisory authority and is required to keep a record of all visitors in the Vote Center. You must have media credentials or permission from the Board to remain in a Vote Center when you are not voting. If you do not have generally accepted media credentials, contact the Board's Public Information Officer at (443) 716-6088 to arrange for an election observer badge.

Inside the Vote Center and within a 50-foot perimeter of the entrance, you may not:

- Talk to voters who are in the process of checking in or casting their ballot.
- Touch any official record, ballot, voting equipment, or counting form.
- Bring or ask any voter to bring campaign items or literature inside the Vote Center.
- Interview voters about their choices. Voters and observers may not support or discourage support of any candidate on the ballot within 50-feet of the Vote Center.
- Interfere with Vote Center officials or obstruct the election process.
- Compromise the secrecy of a voter's ballot.
- Talk on cell phones inside the Vote Center. You may text inside a Vote Center but all telephone conversations must be taken outside.

To avoid surprises and to make sure election workers are prepared for your visit, we encourage media representatives to contact the Board's Public Information Officer, Rachel Coll, via cell at (443) 716-6088 or via email at [lwhite@dcboe.org](mailto:lwhite@dcboe.org).

#### **What rules apply to photography in the Vote Center?**

The District of Columbia Board of Elections asks that you take only wide shots of the voting area. If you take a close-up picture, please make sure the subject agrees to have their photo taken. You may not capture any close-up image of a ballot or a voter's selection on the ballot.

#### **What rules apply to candidates' representatives inside the Vote Center?**

Candidates are permitted to have one poll watcher per Vote Center and may have a poll watcher supervisor present. Election observers who are not affiliated with a candidate may also be present. Site Coordinators are instructed to give priority access to poll watchers, then to members of the media, then to election observers. Poll watchers may challenge a voter's qualifications, but may not assist voters in casting a ballot.

#### **When and where will results be available once the polls close?**

The Board will release results on its website at [www.dcboe.org](http://www.dcboe.org).

The **estimated** timeline for posting results is as follows:

- **9:00 – 9:30pm: Results start to become available at DCBOE**

The first batch of Vote Center reports will be printed and uploaded to the BOE website, with additional precinct reports from each Vote Center updated as they are received, approximately every 30 minutes.

#### **What is the fastest way to get information on Election Day?**

The fastest way to get news and information on Election Day is by calling the Board of Elections office at (202) 741-5283 or by following the Twitter feed at @Vote4dc ([www.twitter.com/Vote4dc](http://www.twitter.com/Vote4dc)).

You may also contact the Board's Public Information Officer, Rachel Coll, at (443) 716-6088 [rcoll@dcboe.org](mailto:rcoll@dcboe.org). You can also submit media inquiries to [press@dcboe.org](mailto:press@dcboe.org).

*The District of Columbia Board of Elections is an independent agency of the District of Columbia Government responsible for the administration of elections, ballot access, and voter registration.*

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