

What you need to know about casting an



Absent Voter Ballot

A new law allows any Ohioan to vote by mail up to 35 days before an election without having to state a reason why. For some voters this is an added convenience given their work schedules, family commitments or the traditionally long line at their poll location.

BUT THERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT THINGS VOTERS SHOULD KNOW BEFORE REQUESTING AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT:

For the upcoming Nov. 7 general elections...

...absent voting **begins**

Oct. 3. It goes until 7:30 p.m. on Election Day

when ballots can be turned in directly to county boards of election.

Applications for an absent voter ballot can be received by county boards of election as late as **Nov. 4**, but we strongly advise voters to get the application in much earlier than that. When returning the ballot by mail, you should also allow enough time for county boards of election to receive it by

Nov. 6.

PRINTED IN-HOUSE BY



OHIO CIVIL SERVICE
EMPLOYEES
ASSOCIATION

AFSCME
LOCAL 11
AFL-CIO

- 1 Applications for an Absent Voter/Vote by Mail Ballot must be submitted to the county board of elections **by Nov. 4** at noon. However, to ensure the board of election sends the ballot on time, you should submit the application sooner.
- 2 Once you request an Absent Voter Ballot, you must be sure to fill it out and send it in. Otherwise, if you lose or forget to send in the Absent Voter Ballot, you would only be able to cast a provisional ballot. Provisional ballots are not counted on Election Day and are more likely to be invalidated.

TO VOTE BY MAIL...

... fill out an Absent Voter Ballot application at your county board of elections, OR

...go to OCSEA's website at www.ocsea.org and download a form.

To apply, all you need is ONE of the following:

- **your driver's license number, OR**
- **the last four digits of your Social Security number, OR**
- **a copy of a valid photo I.D., bank statement, utility bill or pay check showing your name and address.**