



Town Clerk's Office

Town Hall Room 12

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Amy E. Hennessy Neves, Town Clerk

FAQ- Absentee Ballots

I can't get to the polls on Election Day...Can I vote?

Yes, you may vote by absentee ballot if you:

1. Will be absent from Milford on Election day and/or
2. You have a physical disability that prevents you from voting at your polling place and/or
3. You cannot vote at the polls due to a religious belief.

How can I apply for the absentee ballot?

Apply with an Absentee Ballot application or send us something in writing or by email to the Town Clerk's Office and include your:

1. Name (as you are registered to vote)
2. Address where you are registered to vote
3. The party ballot you wish to receive if "Unenrolled"
4. Signature

The link to the Absentee Ballot application is here:

https://www.milfordma.gov/sites/milfordma/files/uploads/absentee_ballot.pdf

Can anyone else apply for an absentee ballot for me?

Yes. A family member may apply for you.

The link to the Family Member application is here:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elepdf/absentee/English-Absentee-Ballot-Application.pdf>

When should I submit my application for an absent ballot?

If you wish to vote by absentee ballot for an election or multiple elections, please apply as soon as possible to allow for sufficient time to mail paper work and a ballot to you and for the ballot to be returned to the Town Clerk's Office before the close of polls on Election Day.

You can not hand carry a ballot out of the office, but you or a family member can hand carry a ballot back to the Town Clerk's Office before 8:00 pm on Election day.

The deadline to apply for an Absentee Ballot is noon on the day before the election, but please remember if you need a ballot mailed that you need to allow sufficient time for the mailing process. It is also possible to vote by Absentee Ballot at the Town Clerk's Office. Please call the Town Clerk's Office to make sure the Absentee Ballots are available to vote in person.

Must I be a registered voter in order to vote by absentee ballot?

Yes, unless you are a “specially qualified voter”. A specially qualified voter is a person who is otherwise eligible to register as a voter and can vote by absentee whose present domicile is outside the United State and whose last domicile is the United State was in Milford, MA. A “specially qualified” voter also had to be:

1. Absent from the Milford and in the active service of the armed forces or in the merchant marines of the United State or a spouse/dependent of such person; or
2. Absent from the commonwealth; or
3. Confined in a correction facility or jail (without a felony conviction).

Must my ballot be witnessed?

No.

What if I'm not able to mark my absentee ballot?

You may ask any person to assist you with voting. The person assisting must print his/her name on the envelope and also indicate the reason you needed assistance. They will also sign their name as the assisting person on the envelope.

Are polling places accessible to the elderly and disabled voters?

Yes. Federal law requires polling places to be accessible.

I am permanently disabled. Can I still vote or vote by absentee?

Yes. You must apply with the Town Clerk's Office as a “permanent absentee voter”. By doing so, you will be required to provide the Town Clerk's Office with a letter from your doctor that states you are permanently unable to cast your ballot at the polling place due to a physical disability. You would still need to provide an Absentee Ballot application annually to the Town Clerk's Office that we would keep with your doctor's documentation. The application will be for all elections within that calendar year.

My parent is in a nursing home. Is he/she able to vote by absentee ballot?

Yes, as long as that individual is not under a court ordered guardianship which specifically prohibits voting. Any parent in a nursing home must be a registered voter in order to vote by absentee and must complete an absentee ballot application. A family member can also assist with this process if needed.

My child is away at college, can he/she vote by absentee ballot?

Yes, if they are unable to complete an application on their own behalf, a family member can apply for an absentee ballot for them. The family member would need to provide the following information on the application:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elepdf/absentee/English-Absentee-Ballot-Application.pdf>

1. Name (as the person is registered).
2. Address where they are registered to vote in Milford
3. Address where they need the ballot mailed (school mailing address).

**Keep in mind the ballot will be mailed in a larger envelope that may exceed their mailbox size at school. Have them check with their school post office frequently if expecting a ballot in case it is being held at another place in the mailroom/school post office.

We would ask that again, if a ballot needs to be mailed that the application is received by the Town Clerk's Office as soon as possible to allow for sufficient mailing time.

Any additional questions, please call the Town Clerk's Office at (508) 634-2307. Thank you.