



2020 Absentee Voting

As of April 20th, the South Dakota Primary Election is still scheduled to be held in the Box Elder Event Center on June 2, 2020. However, due to COVID-19, the City is encouraging voters to vote by absentee ballots to decrease the amount of people showing up to the poll. Absentee ballots allow you to cast your vote without physically showing up to the polls/voting location. Voters do not need a reason to absentee vote.

Recently, the South Dakota Secretary of State's office stated that absentee ballot applications will be sent to all registered voters in South Dakota. The Secretary of State's press release on the issue can be found here:

<https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/assets/AbsenteeBallotRequestApplicationsPressRelease.pdf>

If you wish to vote by absentee ballot, and did not receive an application in the mail, the application can be found at:

<https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/assets/AbsenteeBallotApplicationFillable.pdf>

In addition to mailing in absentee ballots, any voters who are confined due to sickness and/or disability may (under SDCL § 12-19-2) apply in writing and obtain an absentee ballot by authorized messenger. The authorized messenger will deliver your absentee ballot to you and bring it back to the Election Officials after you have cast your vote. Any application for a ballot by authorized messenger must be received by the person in charge of the election before 3:00 p.m. the day of the election.

Basic Absentee Voting Process:

1. You must be a registered voter (inactive voters must update their voter registration information prior to returning absentee ballot).
2. Complete application for absentee voting and mail/submit to your county auditor:

Pennington County Auditor
130 Kansas City Street, Ste 230
Rapid City, SD 57701

Meade County Auditor
1300 Sherman Street, Ste 126
Sturgis, SD 57785



3. Absentee Ballot mailed (or delivered via authorized messenger) to voter. There will be a special envelope included with your absentee ballot for you to return your ballot.
4. Voter completes Absentee Ballot.
5. Mail (or return via authorized messenger if an authorized messenger is used) Absentee Ballot.

By using absentee ballots, everyone can continue to practice social distancing and reduce the spread of the coronavirus/COVID-19.