
VOTING AT THE POLLING PLACE OR VOTING CENTER

QUESTION: WHERE IS MY POLLING PLACE?

ANSWER: FIND IT ONLINE OR ON YOUR SAMPLE BALLOT & OFFICIAL VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET

A voter's assigned polling place is subject to change from election to election, due to changes in precinct boundaries or circumstances at the rented facilities. It's always wise to verify before heading out the door to vote. The location can be verified in several ways:

- **On the back cover of the voter's Sample Ballot & Official Voter Information Pamphlet**
- **Online, at the Elections web site** (www.shapethefuture.org) or from a mobile device (<http://m.shapethefuture.org>). Click on "Check My Registration/Election Information" and enter the requested voter identity information



HELPFUL TIP # 1: If the voter's information can't be found with this tool, that suggests the voter is not registered to vote in this election. But you can locate the correct polling place for the voter's address. Go to www.smartvoter.org (a non-partisan website sponsored by the League of Women Votes and several Bay Area counties.) **NOTE: Please caution the voter** that, if the voter's name does not appear in the Roster of Voters at the polling place, the voter is entitled to vote a provisional ballot.



HELPFUL TIP # 2: On Election Day, any voter may vote at a Voting Center:

- 40 Tower Road, San Mateo (Elections Office); or
- 555 County Center, First Floor, Redwood City (Office of the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder)

PROVISIONAL VOTING

QUESTION: WHAT IS A PROVISIONAL BALLOT?

ANSWER: IT ALLOWS VOTERS OF QUESTIONED ELIGIBILITY TO CAST A BALLOT

A provisional ballot is identical in form to a polling place ballot cast on Election Day, but it is accepted provisionally (conditionally), and will be accepted for counting only after verifying the voter's eligibility and appropriate ballot. The provisional paper ballot is sealed inside a provisional envelope and voter information is written on the envelope. (If unusual circumstances require provisional voting to be done on an electronic voting machine, the machine identifies the ballot as provisional.) During the post-election vote counting period,

the voter's eligibility is examined and acceptable ballots are counted, but only those contests on which the voter was eligible to vote.

QUESTION: WHO RECEIVES A PROVISIONAL BALLOT?

ANSWER: VOTERS OF QUESTIONED ELIGIBILITY

From the day after the end of the voter registration period (October 25) and through Election Day, a variety of situations will cause election officials to issue a provisional ballot when a voter appears at a Voting Center or polling place and asks to cast a polling place ballot:

- Voter's name is not found on the official Roster of Voters for that precinct; or
- Voter's address does not match the address listed in the Roster of Voters; or
- Voter is a registered Vote by Mail voter, but is unable to surrender the issued Vote by Mail ballot; or
- Voter is physically unable to enter the polling place and must vote at the curbside; or
- Voter is required to present a valid identity document and is unable to do so

Note: Normally, a voter need not present an official identification document in order to vote. The only exception applies to some newly registered voters who have not provided a valid driver's license number or Social Security number (last four digits only) on the voter registration form and who are voting for the first time in a federal election.

If a provisional ballot is accepted for counting, only those contests for which the voter was eligible to vote will be counted.

QUESTION: CAN I FIND OUT IF MY PROVISIONAL BALLOT WAS COUNTED?

ANSWER: YES

Any provisional voter may call the Elections Office, beginning on the 29th day after the election (December 7) to find out if the voter's ballot was accepted and counted and, if the ballot or any contest voted on the ballot was rejected, the reason for the rejection. (The official vote count must be certified and publicly reported by December 6.)

The Elections Office can be reached at (650) 312-5222 or toll-free at 1-866-830-8683.