



Absentee Voting Requirements

No updates required since April 11, 2024

Background

Absentee voting allows voters to cast their ballot without going to a traditional polling place, in most cases by voting through the mail. States differ in the requirements to qualify to vote absentee, with some states allowing any voter to do so and others requiring an excuse, such as a medical emergency. States that conduct all-mail elections, where every eligible voter is mailed a ballot, are categorized here as no-excuse absentee states.

Scoring

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee, 1 point
- State requires an excuse to vote absentee, 0 points

Summary Table

Category	Number	List
State does not require an excuse to vote absentee	36 states & D.C.	Alaska Arizona California Colorado D.C. Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Iowa Kansas Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Montana Nebraska Nevada New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio



		Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Dakota Utah Vermont Virginia Washington Wisconsin Wyoming
State requires an excuse to vote absentee	14 states	Alabama Arkansas Connecticut Delaware Indiana Kentucky Louisiana Mississippi Missouri New Hampshire South Carolina Tennessee Texas West Virginia

State-by-State Sources and More Detail

Alabama (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Ala. Code § 17-11-3](#)).

Alaska (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Alaska Stat. § 15.20.010](#)).

Arizona (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Ariz. Rev. Stat. §§ 16-541](#)).

Arkansas (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Ark. Code Ann. § 7-5-404](#)).



California (1)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Cal. Elec. Code § 3003](#)).

Colorado (1)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 1-13.5-1001](#)).

Connecticut (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Conn. Gen. Stat. § 9-135](#)).

Delaware (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([DE SB 320](#) (2022)).

D.C. (1)

- Does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([D.C. Mun. Regs. tit. 3, § 720](#)).

Florida (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Fla. Stat. §101.62](#)).

Georgia (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Ga. Code Ann. § 21-2-380](#)).

Hawaii (1)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Haw. Rev. Stat. § 15-2](#)).

Idaho (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Idaho Code § 34-1001](#)).

Illinois (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([10 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/19-1](#)).

Indiana (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Ind. Code § 3-11-10-24](#)).

Iowa (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Iowa Code §§ 53.1 et. seq.](#)).

Kansas (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Kan. Stat. Ann. § 25-1119](#)).



Kentucky (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 117.085](#)).

Louisiana (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([La. Stat. Ann. § 18:1303](#)).

Maine (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Me. Stat. tit. 21-A, §751](#)).

Maryland (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Md. Code Ann. Elec. Law §9-304](#)).

Massachusetts (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 54, § 86](#) (2022)).

Michigan (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Mich. Comp. Laws § 168.759](#)).

Minnesota (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Minn. Stat. § 203B.02](#)).

Mississippi (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-673](#)).

Missouri (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.277](#)).

Montana (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Mont. Code Ann. § 13-13-201](#)).

Nebraska (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-938](#)).

Nevada (1)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Nev. Rev. Stat. § 293.313](#)).

New Hampshire (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 659:50](#)).



New Jersey (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:63-3](#)).

New Mexico (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([N.M. Stat. Ann. § 1-6-3](#)).

New York (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([N.Y. Elec. Law § 8-400](#)).

North Carolina (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-226](#)).

North Dakota (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([N.D. Cent. Code § 16.1-07](#)).

Ohio (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3509.02](#)).

Oklahoma (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Okla. Stat. tit. 26, § 14-105](#)).

Oregon (1)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Or. Rev. Stat. §§ 254.465, 254.470](#)).

Pennsylvania (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([25 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 3150.11](#)).

Rhode Island (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([17 R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-20-2](#)).

South Carolina (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([S.C. Code Ann. § 7-15-320](#)).

South Dakota (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([S.D. Codified Laws § 12-19-1](#)).

Tennessee (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-6-201](#)).



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Texas (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([Texas Elec. Code Ann. §§ 82.001](#) et. seq.).

Utah (1)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Utah Code Ann. §20A-3a-202](#)).

Vermont (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 17, § 2531](#)).

Virginia (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Va. Code Ann. § 24.2-700](#)).

Washington (1)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Wash. Rev. Code § 29A.40.010](#)).

West Virginia (0)

- State requires an excuse to vote absentee ([W. Va. Code, § 3-3-1](#)).

Wisconsin (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Wis. Stat. §§ 6.85, 6.86](#)).

Wyoming (1)

- State does not require an excuse to vote absentee ([Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 22-9-102](#)).

Democracy Map & Additional Resources

- See our Democracy Map, [Availability of Absentee Voting](#), which is updated in real time