



Kate Noble  
Boone County Election Commissioner  
222 S 4th Street  
Albion, NE 68620-1247

The Boone County Election Commissioner's office will be providing important information and dates during the election year. Our goal in the Boone County Clerk's office is to keep our county voters informed. If you have any questions, please contact the Boone County Clerk's Office.

**Primary Election Day: Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**General Election Day: Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026**

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **< PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES >**

#### **How many election precincts are in Boone County?**

- Boone County has 9 election precincts. The following precincts are **Boone, Beaver, Cedar, Dublin-Bonanza, North-Branch Shell-creek, North Manchester, Oakland, Southeast Manchester, and Southwest Manchester**.

#### **What are the hours the Boone County Courthouse is open for voting in the Nebraska Primary on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and the General Election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026?**

- For the Primary and General election, the Boone County Courthouse will be open from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM.
- For the days leading up to the election, the Boone County Courthouse will be open regular business hours (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM)

### **< CANDIDATE FILING INFORMATION >**

#### **How can a person file as a candidate for an office during any upcoming election?**

- You can obtain a candidate filing form through the Secretary of State's website at, <https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/information-candidates> , you can also visit the Boone County Clerk's website for a candidate filing form.
- If you need assistance with the filing for your local Clerk's/Election commissioner's office and/or the Secretary of States (Election's Division) can help.

#### **When is the candidate filing deadlines for the Primary Election (May 12, 2026)?**

- Candidates may begin filing for office on January 5, 2026.
- The incumbent (any current office holder) deadline is February 17, 2026.
- The non-incumbent (new filer) deadline is March 2, 2026.

#### **When is the candidate filing deadlines for offices that only appear in the General Election (November 3, 2026)?**

- The incumbent (any current office holder) deadline is July 15, 2026.
- The non-incumbent (new filer) deadline is August 3, 2026.

## **< VOTER REGISTRATION >**

### **Do I have to be registered to vote in Nebraska?**

- Yes, voter registration is required in Nebraska to be eligible to vote.
- The only exception is that during a Presidential election, persons who have recently moved to Nebraska, may vote a Presidential-only ballot by contacting the county election's office. To vote on a Presidential-only ballot, the voter needs to complete an application and affidavit and return it to the county's election office.

### **What qualifications are there for a person to vote in an Nebraska election?**

- 18 years of age or older on General Election Day
- A citizen of the United States
- A resident of Nebraska
- Not convicted of a felony, or if convicted voting rights are restored upon the completion of your incarceration plus any period of parole or probation. You should receive a notice from the Department of Corrections, parole administrator or judge that you have completed your sentence. At that time, you will need to submit a new voter registration application to the county election office where you intend to reside in order to vote
- Not to have been found mentally incompetent

### **What if my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday is before the November 3, 2026 General Election, am I still able to vote on the May 12<sup>th</sup> Primary Election?**

- Yes, if you are 18 on/before the November 3<sup>rd</sup> General election you can still vote in the May 12<sup>th</sup> Primary.
- In Person Voter Registration deadline for the May 12<sup>th</sup> Primary is May 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Do I have to be a resident for a certain amount of time to register?**

- No, you may register to vote the same day you become a resident of the State of Nebraska.

### **How do I register to vote?**

- You can register to vote at the Boone County Clerk's Office during normal business hours (Monday through Friday 8 AM – 4:30 PM)
- You can mail in your Nebraska Voter Registration Applications, which are available at several locations throughout the state (i.e. post offices, libraries).
  - Mail In Voter Registration deadline for the Primary Election is April 27, 2026.
  - Mail In Voter Registration deadline for the General Election is October 16, 2026.
- You can register to vote through the DMV upon address update or in-person.
  - DMV Registration deadline for the Primary Election is April 27, 2026.
  - DMV Registration deadline for the General Election is October 16, 2026.
- You can register to vote online through the Boone County website or the Secretary of State's website
  - Prior to midnight, online voter registration for the Primary Election is April 27, 2026.
  - Prior to midnight, online voter registration for the General Election is October 16, 2026.
- **What political parties can I register as in Nebraska?**
- Voters may choose from one of the four statewide parties currently recognized in Nebraska; **Democratic, Republican, Libertarian and Legal Marijuana NOW**.
- Voters can also select **Nonpartisan** (independent) as their party. For Nonpartisan voters, if you wish to vote in the Primary election, you will need to declare a party for the ballot to choose the government offices.
- If you decide to not declare a party for the Primary ballot, the voter will receive a **Nonpartisan Ballot**, which you can vote on Senate and House congressional races only
- If you register without a political party affiliation, you will receive only a non-partisan ballot at the Primary Election.
- Party designation has no bearing when voting a non-partisan ballot or in the General Election.

### **If I have not voted in several elections, am I still able to vote in the upcoming elections?**

- If you have not voted in the past **2 federal elections**, please contact the Boone County Clerk's office to update and/or verify your voter registration.
- If you need to make changes to your voter registration (i.e. address), you will need to contact the Boone County Clerk's office
- Failure to vote in a previous election does not require re-registration.

**Are there situations where I would need to re-register to vote?**

- You must re-register whenever you change:
  - Your name
  - Your address
  - Your political affiliation

**How is residence determined?**

- By law, your residence is that place at which you have established a home, where you are habitually present and to which, when you depart, you intend to return.
- Leaving for temporary purposes, such as military service, school attendance, hospital stays, or missions work need not result in a change of residence for voting purposes.
- However, any permanent change in your residence or address will require you re-register to vote.

**When is the last day to register to vote or to make changes to my voter registration to vote in the Primary/General Election?**

- ❖ Primary Election:
  - April 27, 2026, with the Department of Motor Vehicles, deputy registrars, online registration, or postmarked on April 28<sup>th</sup> for mail-in voter registrations with illegible postmark.
  - May 1, 2026, by 6:00 P.M. for in-person voter registration at the Boone County Clerk's Office.
- ❖ General Election:
  - October 16, 2026, with the Department of Motor Vehicles, deputy registrars, online, or postmarked pm October 20<sup>th</sup> for mail-in voter registrations with illegible postmark.
  - October 23, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. for in-person voter registration at the Boone County Clerk's Office.

**< ELECTIONS BY MAIL >****Is Boone County an elections by mail county?**

- Effective with the 2020 Primary/General Elections, Boone County became an “Elections by Mail” county. All voters will receive their ballots by mail. The Boone County Courthouse will be considered a polling place for purposes of returning a ballot or requesting a replacement or early voter’s ballot.

**When can I expect to see my ballot in the mail?**

- Under Title 432 (Nebraska Administrative Code) voters can expect their ballot in the mail 22 days prior to the Primary and General elections.
  - Primary Election – April 20, 2026
  - General Election – October 12, 2026
- Voter’s ballot’s will be mailed to the address that is associated to the voter and that has been verified in the Boone County Clerk’s office. If you need to update your address, please contact the Boone County Clerk’s office.

**In what ways can I return my ballot and what is the deadline for returning the ballot? How can I return my ballot and when is the last day the Boone County Clerk’s office can receive my ballot?**

- You can return your ballot by mail; you do not need to pay for postage – postage to return your ballot has been paid for by Boone County.
- You can drop your ballot off at the office of the Boone County Clerk’s Office.
- You can put your ballot in the secure drop box located in the west parking lot at the Boone County Courthouse.
- All ballots must be returned by 8 P.M. on the day of the election to be eligible for counting.

**What happens if my ballot is lost or not received?**

- An Affidavit for Replacement Ballot will need to be completed to obtain a new ballot. You can obtain the Affidavit for Replacement Ballot at the Boone County Clerk’s office. The Affidavit for Replacement ballot applies to a ballot being lost, this does not include address changes.
- The last day for an Affidavit for Replacement for the Primary Election to be mailed to the voter is May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6PM.
- The last day for an Affidavit for Replacement for the General Election to be mailed to the voter is October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 PM.

**What happens if I receive my ballot and after I have marked it, decide to change my ballot before submitting it to the County Clerk's Office?**

- If you receive your ballot, mark it, and decide you want to change something on the ballot, you will need to return the ballot to Boone County Clerk's office. This is considered a spoiled ballot.
- Upon returning the ballot, you will need to sign an Affidavit for Replacement Ballot before another ballot can be issued to you. The last day an Affidavit for Replacement Ballot can be processed is 8:00 P.M. on the day of the election.

**Will my ballot be counted if I forget to sign the return envelope?**

- **No.** The envelope must be signed otherwise the ballot is considered a rejected ballot and not counted.

**On the face of the ballot, it says "Use only the marking device provided", what are the approved forms to mark my ballot?**

- Ballot envelopes give guidance on how to complete the voting process and to use either a **black medium pen** or a **No. 2 lead pencil** using the guidelines set out on the ballot will assist in the counting of the ballots for the counting machine, the M650 machine.

**What if I use colored ink or a marker?**

- Any device used to mark a ballot other than the above-mentioned may result in the counting machine not being able to read the mark and the vote not being counted. This may cause your ballot to not be counted during the counting process.

**Will my Ballot by Mail be confidential?**

- **Yes.**
- Every measure is taken to insure the confidentiality of the vote. The ballots are kept in their respective precinct ballot boxes until May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 for the Primary Election and November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, for the General Election when the ballot boxes are opened to check the envelope signatures and prepare the ballots for counting.

**Tracking your ballot:**

- Click [here](#) to track your ballot and its status

## **< EARLY VOTING >**

**When is Early Voting available?**

- In person Early Voting begins 30 days before the election.
- The first day you may begin Early Voting for the Primary Election is April 13, 2026; Early Voting for the General Election is October 5, 2026.

**What if I am not in Boone County during the election, can I still request an Early Voting Ballot?**

- With the implementation of "Elections by Mail" in Boone County, ballots will automatically be mailed to all voters to the address that has been verified at the Boone County Clerk's office. If you will be unavailable to vote 22 days prior to the Primary/General election, please contact the Election Commissioner/County Clerk to discuss your options at 402-395-2055, Option 7.

**Do I need to give the reason I am voting early when applying for an Early Voting ballot?**

- No, since 1999 Nebraska law has not required a person disclose a reason for their request on the Early Voting application.

**How do I request an Early Voting Ballot?**

- An early voting ballot request **must be in writing**. When you have completed your early voting request, you can return the form to the Boone County Clerk's office.
- The first to request an early voting ballot request for the 2026 Primary Election is January 12, 2026.
- The first day to request an early voting ballot request for the 2026 General Election is July 6, 2026.
- The form for requesting an Early Voting Ballot is available at:
  - Secretary of State's [website](#)
  - Boone County's [website](#)

**If I am unable to bring my ballot to the courthouse, can I designate someone to bring my ballot?**

- Yes, this is what is considered *an agent*. An agent is someone designated by the voter to sign an Early Voting Ballot Request Form. The agent may pick up the ballot or request the ballot be mailed to the voter. A registered voter may function as an agent for two registered voters in addition to himself.

**May I vote my Early Voting Ballot in the County Clerk's Office?**

- Yes, you may vote an Early Voting Ballot in person at the Boone County Courthouse beginning April 13 through May 11, 2026, for the Primary Election and October 5 through November 2, 2026, for the General Election
- Ballots cannot be voted in the County Clerk's Office on election day

**When must Early Voting Ballots be returned to the County Clerk's Office?**

- The last day to return your Early Voting Ballot is by 8 PM on Election Day (5/12/2026 for Primary Election; 11/3/2026 for General Election)

**If my Early Voter's ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost or not received, what should I do?**

- The voter can obtain a replacement ballot from the Election Commissioner by signing an Affidavit for Replacement Ballot.
- The deadline to receive the replacement ballot in person at the office of the Election Commission is 7:00 P.M. on election day.
- To receive a replacement ballot by mail, the voter needs to return the affidavit to the Election Commissioner prior to 6 P.M. on Primary Election day (5/12/2026) and 6:00 P.M. on General Election day (11/3/2026)

**Will my Early Voter's ballot be confidential?**

- Yes. Every measure is taken to insure the confidentiality of the vote.

**< MILITARY & OVERSEAS VOTERS >****How to register to vote if you are overseas:**

- You may use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), National Voter Registration Form or Nebraska Voter Registration Application
- The FPCA is frequently used by military and overseas voters as it serves as both a registration application and early voting application.
- The federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act changed the effective duration of the FPCA. You will need to send an early voting request or FPCA each calendar year you wish to receive an early voting ballot.
- The Federal Post Card Application can be found by clicking [here](#)
- It is strongly encouraged that you provide an email address on your FPCA. The email address you provide will be the primary method of correspondence, meaning you will receive your ballot and other materials via email; you can also provide a mailing address and/or fax number. Whatever method you provide will be the method the county election office will send your ballot and stay connected with you.

**If you need to Request an Early Voting Ballot:**

- The federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act changed the effective duration of the FPCA. You will need to send an early voting request or FPCA each calendar year you wish to receive an early voting ballot.
- Once the county election office receives your application, you will receive confirmation that your application has been received.
- The first date a ballot can be mailed pursuant to a Federal Postcard Application as a UOCAVA voter is 45 days prior to the election:
  - For the 2024 Primary Election is March 27, 2026.
  - For 2024 General Election is September 18, 2026.
- If you are concerned that your ballot may not arrive to the Boone County Clerk's office by May 12, 2026 (Primary Election) or November 3, 2026 (general election) deadlines – please contact the Boone County Clerk's office.

**If you have questions:**

- Boone County Clerk/Election Commissioner: (402) 395-2055 or [clerk@boonecountyne.gov](mailto:clerk@boonecountyne.gov)
- Secretary of State's Office: (402) 471-2555 or [sos.elect@nebraska.gov](mailto:sos.elect@nebraska.gov)
- Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP.gov) 24 hours a day.

**< Voter ID >****What is the new Nebraska voter ID bill?**

- Bill LB514 was signed into law on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.
- For comprehensive information regarding the Voter ID bill and how it impacts the Nebraska Voter experience, please visit the Secretary of State's website at, <https://sos.nebraska.gov/voter-id>.

## **< VOTING THE BALLOT >**

### **Am I able to vote if I did not re-register?**

- Registered voters who moved from one residence to another in the same county, or who changed their name and remained in the same county will be allowed to vote upon providing a voter registration with updated information.
- These voters may be asked to cast a Provisional Ballot upon completing a certification and new registration form.
- Persons casting Provisional Ballots may check to see if their ballot was counted starting the second Wednesday after the election by visiting [www.sos.nebraska.gov](http://www.sos.nebraska.gov) at Elections/Voters/Voter Information Lookup. Provisional Ballots are counted only after the information the voter provided on their certification form is verified.
- Persons moving from one county in Nebraska to another county in Nebraska must re-register in their new county in order to be eligible to vote.

### **When voting do I need to vote on all issues on the ballot?**

- **No. For Example:** You may want to only vote the Congressional, School Board and Amendment and leave the rest blank. That is permissible and those votes will count in the total. The other races not voted will be in the under vote tally.

### **When voting and it says to vote for up to THREE, what if I only vote for two?**

- The two you voted for will be counted in the overall total and the one not voted will be considered an under vote.

### **When voting and it says to vote for ONE but I voted for two?**

- It is considered an over vote and neither candidate will receive a vote for that particular ballot race.

### **If I am registered as a Non-Partisan, can I vote for a partisan candidate in the Primary Election?**

- **No.** To vote for a partisan (Republican, Democratic, Libertarian or Legal Marijuana NOW) office other than for a Senatorial and/or Congressional candidate, you must change your voter registration for the Primary Election on or before May 1, 2026 at 6:00 P.M., to affiliate with a specific political party.

### **If I am registered as a Non-Partisan, can I vote for the Senatorial and Congressional candidates in the Primary Election?**

- Yes, you may ask for only one of the partisan ballots (Republican, Democratic, Libertarian or Legal Marijuana NOW). The election office cannot offer the ballot, therefore, you, as the voter, have to ask for a partisan ballot.

### **May I request help at the polls?**

- The polling site located at the Boone County Courthouse is furnished with ADA equipment, known as the ExpressVOTE.
- Assistance may be rendered by a relative or friend.
- A ballot may be taken to a car, if parked within one block of the polling place.
- An oath form is to be completed by the person rendering assistance and "Assistance Rendered" is noted in the precinct roster next to the voter's name.

### **Can I campaign at my polling place?**

- **No.** No person may campaign or hand out political literature within 200 feet of a polling place. Wearing political badges or any political insignia into the polling place on Election Day is against the law.

**Persons may call the Boone County Clerk/Election Commissioner at (402) 395-2055, Option 7 or the Nebraska Secretary of State's Office Election Division Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (402) 471-2555 to report problems.**