



Mail Your Vote Everybody

Meeting One:

Help people apply for mail-in ballots

Time

■ Part One: 20 minutes

■ Part Two: 20 minutes

Timelines

August and September 2020



Template for inviting people to join Step up: Vote by Mail!

In Advance

- Recruit up to 8 participants for this session. See **Recruiting template flyer** Attachment #1 (below).
- Contact each person to let them know they need to bring
 - 1) Email address
 - 2) MN ID number or Social Security number
 - 3) Date of birth and
 - 4) Mailing address, including unit or apartment number.
- Ask participants to bring paper and wide fat markers to the meeting. They will use them to make an **I Will Vote poster**.
- Look over **Vote Early Factsheet: Attachment #2** (below).
- Review and test **Absentee Ballot Application Steps: Attachment #3** (below).
- Go to vote.selfadvocacy.org

Template for inviting people to join
Step up: Vote by Mail!

- People with disabilities have the right to vote.
- Now we can do it by mail.
- Join in power with others—apply for a mail-in ballot.

Name of event _____
Date and time _____
Venue (Facebook Live, Zoom, etc.) _____

What we'll do:
 ■ Talk about why voting matters.
 ■ Commit to making our voices heard for our rights.
 ■ Apply for mail-in ballots.

To apply for your mail-in ballot, you will need to bring these four things to the meeting:

1. Email address
2. If you don't have an email address, go to [this site](http://this.site) to get one.
3. MN ID number or social security number
4. Date of birth
5. Mailing address (including apartment number if there is one)

NOTE: Bring some paper and a wide, fat marker to the meeting.

Sponsored by (your organization) _____
RSVP to _____
Deadline for RSVP _____

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Attachment #1

VOTE EARLY BY ABSENTEE BALLOT 2020

VOTE EARLY
Vote by mail or in person June 26 through August 10.

VOTE EARLY IN PERSON
You can cast an absentee ballot at your local elections office starting 46 days before Election Day. Visit mnvotes.org for hours and locations.

VOTE EARLY BY MAIL
You can also apply to have an absentee ballot sent to you in the mail. You must return your ballot by Election Day.

2020 DATES
VOTE EARLY Vote by mail or in person June 26 through August 10.
PRIMARY ELECTION Tuesday, August 11 (if necessary)
VOTE EARLY Vote by mail or in person September 18 through November 2.
ELECTION DAY Sunday, November 3

① Apply for a ballot any time during the year at mnvotes.org. Election officials will send voting materials once ballots are available. (See back for dates).

② Read the instructions that come with your ballot carefully! Your ballot will not count if you do not complete all the forms.

③ You will need a witness when you vote and complete your ballot. The witness can be either a registered Minnesota voter or a notary. Your witness must sign the signature envelope and list their address.

continued on back...

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Attachment #2

Application Steps

Go to the Secretary of State's website and open the Absentee Ballot Application.
It is a two-page form.

On page one you will see three drop-down menus.

1. Choose the correct County for the person you are assisting.
2. Choose your correct City and Zip Code.
3. Choose 11/03/2020 General Election.

Then, click **Continue**.

Now, you are ready to fill out page two of the application.

1. Complete each field, verifying as you go that you have the correct information.
2. At the bottom of the page, read the list of bullet points that each voter must follow to cast their ballot.
3. Ask the voter if they have questions about any item and be sure they understand what they are being asked.

For example, some people under guardianship have been told they do not have the right to vote. Due to most guardianship cases, a person's right to vote HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN AWAY. According to the Secretary of State's office this is very unlikely in MN now, so guardianship should not be seen as a barrier to voting.

4. Read the voter's oath in red, and if the voter agrees, **click the box** next to the oath.
5. Sign the voter's name into the box at the bottom.

Then, click **Submit**.

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Attachment #3

ACT

Self Advocates

Step Up!

VOTE

by

MAIL

Key messages

- People with disabilities have the right to vote
- Now we can do it by mail
- Join in power with others—apply for mail-in ballot

Zoom features you will be using:

- **Gallery view**
- **Shared screen** to show Mail Your Vote Everybody video
- **Turn off cameras** of participants who do not want to be included in group photo
- **Screen shot**
- **Breakout room**

Description:

Talk about why voting matters, commit to making our voices heard and apply for mail-in ballots.

Directions

Part One: Why Vote?

- 1. (Gallery view) Greet each participant by name and thank them for attending.** Ask participants to introduce themselves and say one good thing that has happened to them lately.
- 2. Tell the purpose of the meeting:** *“We are all together today to talk about voting this coming November and to apply for mail-in ballots.”*
- 3. Say “Let’s start by sharing our experience with voting.** *Has anyone in the group voted before?”* (ask for show of hands) *“Can anyone tell us one thing you remember about voting?”* *“Can anyone tell us what it felt like to vote?”*
- 4. Ask “What are some barriers that keep people from voting?”** Take several ideas about what keeps people from voting. Once everyone has had a chance to contribute—say *“I heard a few of you say that getting to the polls or concerns with social distancing can be a barrier to voting. Voting by mail is a way to break through these barriers. Let’s listen to a song about the power of voting by mail. It’s a catchy song—so feel free to sing along!”*
- 5. (Shared Screen) Mail Your Vote Everybody sing along. Go to vote.selfadvocacy.org to access the song.**

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Self Advocates

Step Up!

VOTE

by

MAIL

6. **(Back to gallery view): Ask “What is the main message of this song? Do you agree that there is power in voting? What makes you want to vote? Why do you think your vote matters?”**
7. **“Now we will take a few minutes to make an I Will Vote pledge. If you have paper and a marker, go ahead and make your poster Allow 4 or 5 minutes for this.”**
8. **When everyone is ready, ask them to hold their posters to the camera for everyone see.** Comment on the power of the message. Now ask if they want you to take a picture of the group with their signs. Tell them ACT Center is collecting photos on their website to show others the power of people with disabilities pledging to vote. Say **“IF YOU DON’T WANT YOUR PHOTO USED TELL ME NOW AND I WILL TAKE YOU OFF THE SCREEN FOR A FEW SECONDS WHILE I TAKE THE PICTURE”**. Take the screen shot.

At the end of the session

9. **Take a screen shot of your group.** Send the screen shot to pmitchell@selfadvocacy.org

Schedule second meeting

During the second meeting you will help people as they fill in their ballots. It should happen as soon as possible after folks in your group have received their ballots in the mail. The deadline for ballots to be received (not post-marked) is November 3, 2020. We urge you to hold your second session no later than October 20.

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VOTE

by

MAIL

Directions

Part Two: Getting Our Ballots

- 1. The rest of the session will be spent applying online for our ballots.** Ask everyone to take out the four things they need:
 - 1) Email address*
 - 2) MN ID number or Social Security number
 - 3) Date of birth and
 - 4) Mailing address.
- 2. Explain that you are going to meet privately with each individual in a breakout room** for a few minutes to apply for their mail-in ballot. Everyone will wait their turn. Invite group to chat with each other as they are waiting for their turn.
- 3. Explain that you are going to open the online application** and read each item to them. As the individual gives you their information, repeat what they have said to make sure you understood.
- 4. After you fill in the field with the answers they give, read it back** to them and ask them to verify that it is correct.
- 5. At the bottom of the page, read the list of bullet points** that each voter must swear to on oath. Read the voters oath in red, and if the voter agrees, check the box next to the oath.
- 6. Type the voter's name into the box at the bottom.**
- 7. Ask the voter if they have questions about any item.**

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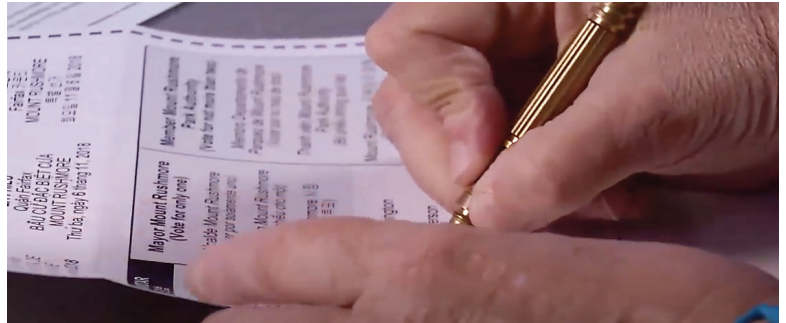
8. Press SEND.

9. Repeat steps 1-8 with each individual.

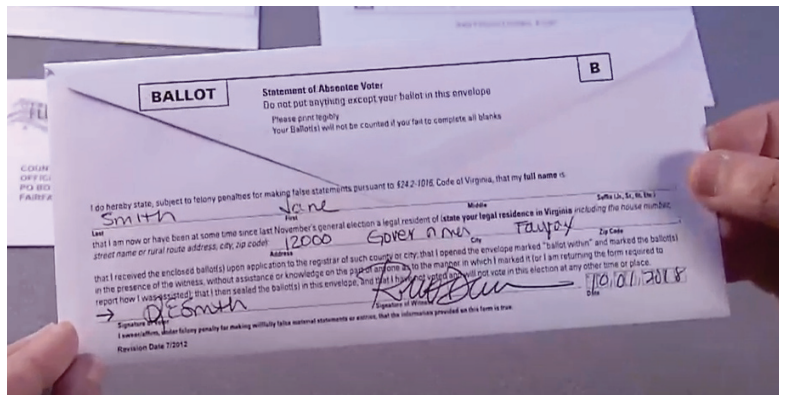
10. Review with everyone what happens next:

- Beginning September 18, 2020, the state will mail ballots to everyone who has requested them.

1. Fill out the ballot.



2. Place the ballot in envelope and fill out the outside of the envelope.



3. Place the ballot envelope in the mailing envelope, add a first class stamp and put it in the mail.



- Tell them **“Watch your mailbox for mail from the MN Secretary of State”.**
- **“Our second session will be in early October, we will walk you through the steps to complete your ballot and mail it in.”**

11. Closing: Thank each person for participating. Share excitement about helping people apply for ballots.

ACT
CENTER for
DISABILITY
LEADERSHIP
 on intellectual
 and developmental
 disabilities



**RECRUITING
TEMPLATE**

Template for inviting people to join

Step up: Vote by Mail!

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- Now we can do it by mail.
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Name of event

Date and time

Venue (Facebook Live, Zoom, etc.)

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- NOTE: Bring some paper and a wide, fat marker to the meeting.

Sponsored by (your organization)

RSVP to

Deadline for RSVP



VOTE EARLY
FACTSHEET

VOTE EARLY BY ABSENTEE BALLOT



In Minnesota, you don't have to wait until Election Day—vote early with an absentee ballot!

VOTE EARLY IN PERSON

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PRIMARY ELECTION

Tuesday, August 11
(if necessary)

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ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 3

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VOTE EARLY BY ABSENTEE BALLOT



...continued from front

**VOTE EARLY
VOTING
FACTSHEET**

④ If you are not registered to vote, you will get a registration application in your materials. To register, show your witness one of the identification options listed in the instructions. Your witness must mark which ID you showed them on your signature envelope.

⑤ After you finish, mail the ballot and forms back right away. Your ballot will not count if it is received after Election Day. You can also return your ballot in person to the elections office that sent your ballot.

TRACK YOUR BALLOT

All absentee ballots that are received on time and had the forms filled out correctly will be counted. Visit mnvotes.org to track the status of your ballot and confirm that it was received and counted.

2020 DATES	Primary Election	General Election
Ballots sent starting	Friday, June 26	Friday, September 18
Recommended you apply before	Friday, July 10	Friday, October 2
Deadline for ballot to be received	Election Day Tuesday, August 11	Election Day Tuesday, November 3

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ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION STEPS

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Then, click **CONTINUE >**

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4. Read the voter's oath in red, and if the voter agrees, check the box next to the oath.
5. Type the voter's name into the box at the bottom.

Then, click **SUBMIT >**

