

## Important Election Questions

Below are some helpful Questions and Answers that are frequently asked regarding voter registration, absentee or “Early” voting and the election process. If you do not find the answer to your question here, you can contact me at 402-274-4213. Thank you.

Diane Johnson  
Nemaha County Clerk

### **Q. How old do I have to be to register to vote and what do I need for information?**

You can register to vote in both the Primary & General elections if are at least 18 years of age, or you will be 18 years of age on or before the 1st Tuesday following the 1st Monday in November of this year. You need to have a valid photo ID such as a Driver’s License or State ID, and the last 4 digits of your social security number.

### **Q. What is the difference between “early voting” and “absentee voting”?**

In the past you were only allowed to vote prior to the election by “absentee” if you had a specific reason such as being out of town, being hospitalized, etc. to keep you from the polls on election day. Now any voter can request an “early voting” ballot without having a reason as to why they cannot be at the polls on election day. The two are basically the same thing, just a change in terminology. Early voting can be done by mail or in person at the Clerk’s Office.

### **Q. Is early voting available now?**

The Early Voting Ballot Request Form is available from the Clerk’s Office, on the county website at <https://nemahacounty.ne.gov/> under “Offices” & “Election Commissioner”, and will also be published in the Nemaha County Herald. You may send it in by mail, by fax, or by a scan/picture of your signed application and email it to your county election official.

### **Q. May I vote early in the County Clerk’s Office instead of going to the polls on election day?**

Yes. However, 30 days before Election Day is the first day Early Voting ballots are available to be voted at the county office. The Monday before Election Day is the last day to cast an early voting ballot at the County Election Office.

### **Q. Can I return my early voting ballot to my regular polling site?**

NO. It must be returned to the County Clerk’s Office either by mail, in person at the Clerk’s Office or placed in the Courthouse drop box located on the Northeast corner of the Courthouse square.

### **Q. When must early voting ballots be returned to the County Clerk’s Office?**

All early-voting ballots whether delivered in person or carrier to the county drop box or by mail must arrive by the close of polls (8pm central) on the day of the election.

### **Q. Can someone pick up a ballot for me?**

Yes. An agent may be designated by any voter, to sign the Early Voting Ballot Request Form. The agent then picks up the ballot or asks that the ballot be mailed to the voter. A person can only be an agent for 2 voters other than themselves.

### **Q. Will my early voting ballot be kept confidential?**

Yes. Every possible security measure is being taken to insure the confidentiality of your vote.

**Q. What is the last day to register to vote or make changes to my voter registration?**

Mail-in voter registrations must be mailed and postmarked on or before the third Friday preceding an election.

Registrations completed at the state Department of Motor Vehicles must be completed by the third Friday preceding an election.

Voter registrations delivered by personal messenger or personal agent must arrive on or before the third Friday preceding an election.

Individuals may register in person at the County Clerk/Election Commissioner's office prior to 6 p.m. on the second Friday preceding an election.

Deadlines are subject to change due to weekends and holidays. Contact 402-274-4213 to verify.

**Q. If I have moved within Nemaha County do I need to re-register to vote?**

Yes. You need to contact the Clerk's Office for a form to change your address as the move may cause you to be in a different voting precinct.

**Q. If I have not voted for several elections, am I still a registered voter able to vote in this Primary Election?**

Check with the County Clerk's Office (call 402-274-4213) to make sure your registration is current and correct.

**Q. Why is it important to verify my voter information at the County Clerk's Office?**

To make sure your voter information is correct, including any name, address or party changes. If it is not correct, it may slow your voting process at the polling site.

**Q. Why am I still receiving voting information for a family member who no longer lives here in Nemaha County?**

In order to remove someone's name from the voter list, we must have a request in writing from the voter him/herself.

**Q. If I do not vote for all of the issues on my ballot, will my vote still count on the issues I do vote on?**

Yes, you are not required to vote on every issue that is on the ballot. The issues you do vote for will be counted. However, you may only vote for the specified number for that issue. For example, if the heading says "vote for up to THREE", you may vote for 1, 2 or 3 candidates and your vote will still be counted – if you vote for more than THREE, it will register as an overvote and will not be counted.