

VOTER INFORMATION

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT DURING THE PANDEMIC, IN-PERSON CONTACT IS BEING LIMITED. CURRENTLY, THE AMHERST TOWN CLERK IS OPERATING BY APPOINTMENT THROUGH AN OUTSIDE WINDOW TO ENABLE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED SAFELY.

Voter Registration ----To be eligible to register and vote in New Hampshire a person must be:

- 18 years of age or older on Election Day;
- A United States citizen;
- Domiciled in the town or ward where the person seeks to vote.

To register, you will need to provide proof of your identity, age, citizenship, and domicile. Proof can be either by documents or if you do not have documents with you, by affidavit (a Qualified Voter Affidavit). Documents may be presented in paper or electronic form.

Documents that prove identify and age

- A driver's license or non-driver ID from any state

Documents that prove citizenship

- A birth certificate, U.S. Passport/Passcard, or naturalization document*

*Note: A New Hampshire Real ID compliant driver's license is NOT proof of U.S. Citizenship. If you do not have any of these documents, you can prove your identity, age, and/or citizenship, by signing a Qualified Voter Affidavit, under oath, in front of an election official.

Documents that prove domicile:

You will also need to prove that you are domiciled in the town or ward where you intend to vote. Proof can be either by documents (such as a bill, rental or lease agreement, deed, NH driver's license or registration, etc.) or if you do not have any documents with you, by affidavit. The law requires a document that "manifests an intent to maintain a single continuous presence for domestic, social, and civil purposes relevant to participating in democratic self-government." RSA 654:12 .

How to Register to Vote:

New voters have several options:

- 1) They may register at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours until 10 days before Election Day or at a Supervisor of the Checklist Session. New voters are always able to register on Election Day.
- 2) New voters may register by mail by contacting the Town Clerk at 673-6041 X-208 and requesting a voter registration packet.

If you are currently registered and wish to change your party:

Important Reminder: June 2, 2020 is the deadline for changing party before the Sept. 8, 2020 State Primary

Check your current party affiliation by going to: <http://app.sos.nh.gov>. It is important that you do this as people often forget the party in which they were last registered and are disappointed to find that their options on Primary Election Day are different than they expected.

How to change your party:

- 1) You may change your party by filling out a card at the Town Clerk's office or at a publicly noticed Supervisor Session (June 2, 2020 from 7pm to 7:30 pm). Under Covic19 restrictions, all business is currently by appointment only at the outside window.
- 2) The Secretary of the State's Office has also authorized a means of changing your party via mail so that voters may do so without in-person contact.
Download the change party form located on the Secretary of State's website <https://sos.nh.gov/ElecForms2.aspx> or request that the form be sent to you or pick one up at the Town Clerk's office by appointment.
To change party affiliation, a voter must mail a completed application, signed by the voter and a witness, to the town clerk's office prior to the deadline (in this case, June 2 for the Sept. 8 State Primary).
Alternately, a voter may drop off their application at the Town Clerk's office by 5:00 on Tuesday, June 2, 2020. There is a drop box located in the hallway as you enter the front doors.

Contact Information:

Amherst Town Clerk
2 Main St.
Amherst, NH 03031
603-673-6041 Ext. 208 (Tel.)
603-673-4138 (Fax)
lfucci@amherstnh.gov

To help those new to the primary process in NH, here is a brief explanation:

On Election Day, if you are registered Undeclared (independent) you can select either a Republican or Democratic ballot. Your party will become that of the ballot you chose until you change back to Undeclared. After submitting your ballot, you may return to Undeclared at the polls by visiting the table specifically designated for those wanting to return to Undeclared status. If you forget to do this at the polls, you will need to stop by the Town Clerk's office to return to Undeclared beginning the day after the election. (The procedure for returning to Undeclared may be different under pandemic circumstances.)

On Election Day, if you are registered Republican you will automatically be handed a Republican ballot when voting in the primary. If you are registered Democrat you will automatically be handed a Democratic ballot when voting in the primary.

Securing an Absentee Ballot – New Guidelines:

It's important to note that the Secretary of State's Office has issued revised absentee ballot qualifications for the 2020 September Primary and November elections. In order to enable people to safely vote in NH during the pandemic, those who wish to vote by mail due to concerns over COVID19 exposure, can qualify by checking the disability box to receive an absentee ballot. See the official announcement below:

Absentee Ballots

1. Municipal Elections to be held in 2020

With respect to any upcoming municipal elections, we offer the following guidance as to who is eligible to vote by absentee ballot in light of the current public health crisis. As explained below, in light of the current public health state of emergency, Emergency Orders #16 and #26, and current public health guidance on social distancing and avoiding being in public in groups of 10 or more, all voters have a reasonable ground to conclude that a "physical disability" exists within the meaning of RSA 657:1. Therefore, all voters may request an absentee ballot on that basis

Once the ballots are printed and ready to be distributed, you can request an absentee ballot through the Town Clerk and return it by mail, or physically return it to the outside window of the Town Clerk's office by 5:00 on the Monday before the Election or have your delivery agent drop it off at the polls before 5:00 pm on Election Day.

Note: Information will be updated as it is received from the Secretary of State's Office.

For any questions regarding registering to vote, the election or securing an absentee ballot, call or visit the Town Clerk's office. **Amherst – 673-6041 X-208**

If you're unsure of your current voter registration status, you may review the paper checklist posted at the Town Hall (after May 22) and the Library or go online to check it at: <http://app.sos.nh.gov>