

CHAPTER 8210
SECRETARY OF STATE
ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Table with 2 columns: Code and Description. Codes include 8210 0200, 8210 0500, 8210 0600, 8210 0700, 8210 2200, and 8210 3000. Descriptions include Absentee Ballot Application, Instructions to Absent Voter, Statement of Absentee Voter, Absentee Ballot Return Envelope, Duties of County Auditor or Municipal Clerk, and Mail Balloting.

8210.0200 ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION.

Subpart 1 Application form. An absentee ballot application prepared pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 203B 06, subdivision 1, shall be in the form in subpart 1a. An absentee ballot application prepared pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 203B 06, subdivision 1, in jurisdictions where absentee balloting is allowed for any reason, shall be in the form in subpart 1b. An absentee ballot application prepared pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 203B 17, subdivision 2, must be in the form in subpart 1c. An absentee ballot application prepared pursuant to part 8210 0100 must be in the form in subpart 1d. An absentee ballot application for an election may include the date of the election.

Subp 1a. General application form.

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION

READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING

RETURN THE APPLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. BALLOTS RECEIVED AFTER ELECTION DAY CANNOT BE COUNTED.

I hereby apply for absentee ballots for

(Check one)

- () both primary and general elections
() primary election only
() general election only

I will need an absentee ballot for the following reason:

(Check one)

- () absence from precinct
() illness or disability
() religious discipline or observance of religious holiday
() service as election judge in another precinct

Name _____
(please print)

My legal residence address is:

Street or Route No Apt No Rural Box No

() City () Township County Zip
(check whichever is applicable)

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Telephone number (optional) _____
 Date of birth (optional) _____

Mail my absentee ballot to me at the following address:

Street or Route No.	Apt. No	Rural Box No
City	State	Zip
Date _____		Legal Signature _____

Subp 1b Alternative application form.

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION

READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING

RETURN THE APPLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. BALLOTS RECEIVED AFTER ELECTION DAY CANNOT BE COUNTED.

I hereby apply for absentee ballots for

(Check one)

- both primary and general elections
- primary election only
- general election only

Name _____
 (please print)

My legal residence address is:

Street or Route No.	Apt No	Rural Box No
() City () Township (check whichever is applicable)	County	Zip
Telephone number (optional) _____		Date of birth (optional) _____

Mail my absentee ballot to me at the following address:

Street or Route No	Apt No	Rural Box No
City	State	Zip
Date _____		Legal Signature _____

[For text of subps 1c and 1d, see MR]

Subp 1e. [Repealed, 25 SR 616]

Subp 1f [Repealed, 25 SR 616]

Subp 2. **Absentee ballot instruction.** The following instructions must be sent with an absentee ballot application prepared pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 203B 06, subdivision 1 Jurisdictions where absentee voting is allowed for any reason may omit instruction number 2

INSTRUCTIONS

1. To vote by absentee ballot

- you must be an eligible voter, and
- you must reside at the legal residence address you give on this application on election day

It is a felony to make a false statement in an application for an absentee ballot, to apply for an absentee ballot more than once in an election with the intent to cast an illegal ballot, to show a ballot marked by a person to another person, or to violate an absentee ballot provision for the purpose of casting an illegal vote or to help anyone to cast an illegal vote

2. Be sure to check the appropriate box indicating why you cannot go to your polling place on election day, these are the only reasons that entitle you to vote by absentee ballot.

3 Be sure to give your correct legal residence address as completely as possible, since this is used to verify your precinct number

4 Be sure to sign the application.

5 Return the completed application as soon as possible to the election official from whom you received it

Remember

- You must indicate whether you are requesting ballots for the primary or general election, or both
- Do not submit more than one application for each election
- Your absentee ballots will be mailed or delivered to you as soon as they are available.
- Ballots received by election officials after election day will not be counted

Subp. 3. **Postcard application.** The absentee ballot application may be printed as a postcard application or in any other manner deemed appropriate by the secretary of state If the application is printed as a postcard application, it must conform to United States Postal Service requirements

[For text of subp 4, see MR]

Subp 4a. **Permanent application form.**

APPLICATION TO AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE
ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS

Name _____
Last First Middle

Township or City _____
of Legal Residence Township or City County

Address of
Legal Residence _____
Street Address or Route and Box Number

Mailing Address
for Application
(if different) _____
Street Address or Route and Box Number

Mailing City State Zip

Telephone Number (optional) _____

Date of Birth (optional) _____

I certify that I reasonably expect to be permanently unable to vote in person at the polling place for my precinct due to illness or disability and hereby request that an application for absentee ballots be sent to me before each election in which I am eligible to vote

Signature

Date

Subp 5 [Repealed, 25 SR 616]

[For text of subp 6, see M.R.]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 203B 04, 203B 08, 203B 09, 203B 125*

History: *25 SR 616*

8210.0250 [Repealed, 25 SR 616]

8210.0500 INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSENT VOTER.

[For text of subpart 1, see M.R.]

Subp. 2. Instructions for unregistered voters.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSENTEE VOTERS

Follow these instructions carefully

Before you vote by absentee ballot you must have a witness.

Step 1 Locate one of the following individuals to serve as your witness

- a. anyone who is registered to vote in Minnesota including your spouse or another relative who meets this qualification,
- b a notary public, or
- c any person having authority to administer oaths.

Step 2. Fill out the voter registration card. Remember to sign your name at the bottom of the card.

Step 3 Show your witness your proof of residence in the precinct One of the following documents may be used as proof of residence

a. a valid Minnesota driver's license, permit, or identification card, or a receipt for any of these forms, that contains your current address,

b one document from the list in (i) and one document from the list in (ii)

(i) an original bill in your name for gas, electric, telephone, cable television, solid waste, water, or sewer services showing your current address and due up to 30 days before or after election day, and

(ii) your Minnesota driver's license or identification card, United States passport, United States military identification card with your photograph, or Minnesota postsecondary student identification card with your photograph,

c. the signature of a registered voter who lives in your precinct; if your witness is registered to vote in your precinct, your witness may also vouch for you;

d. a student identification card, registration card, or fee statement that contains the student's current address in the precinct, or

e. a current valid registration in the same precinct

Step 4 Show your witness the unmarked ballots

Step 5. Mark the ballots in secrecy. If you are disabled or otherwise unable to mark the ballots, you may ask your witness to assist you.

Step 6 Fold each ballot so that your votes cannot be seen. Do not put any identifying marks on the ballot.

Step 7 Place all voted ballots in the tan ballot envelope and seal the envelope. Do not write on the ballot envelope.

Step 8. Place the tan secrecy envelope and your completed voter registration card into the white ballot return envelope and seal the envelope.

Step 9 Print your name and address and sign your name on the back of the white ballot return envelope. The name, address, and signature of your witness are required as well.

Step 10 Return your ballot to the address on the white ballot return envelope in one of the following ways:

a. by mail so it will be delivered by election day,

b. in person no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day before election day, or

c. by having someone else return your ballot by 3:00 p.m. on election day (this person cannot be a candidate and cannot return ballots for more than three voters).

Note: Follow these instructions carefully. An improperly completed ballot, or statement of voter or witness, will invalidate your votes. If you have any questions, please call

Subp 3 Instructions for registered voters.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSENTEE VOTERS

Follow these instructions carefully.

Before you vote by absentee ballot you must have a witness.

Step 1 Locate one of the following individuals to serve as your witness:

a. anyone who is registered to vote in Minnesota including your spouse or another relative who meets this qualification,

b. a notary public, or

c. any person having authority to administer oaths.

Step 2 Show your witness the unmarked ballots.

Step 3. Mark the ballots in secrecy. If you are disabled or otherwise unable to mark the ballots, you may ask your witness to assist you.

Step 4 Fold each ballot so that your votes cannot be seen. Do not put any identifying marks on the ballot.

Step 5 Place all voted ballots in the tan ballot secrecy envelope and seal the envelope. Do not write on the ballot envelope.

Step 6 Place the tan ballot secrecy envelope into the white ballot return envelope and seal the envelope.

Step 7. Print your name and address and sign your name on the back of the white ballot return envelope. The name, address, and signature of your witness are required as well.

Step 8 Return your ballot to the address on the white ballot return envelope in one of the following ways:

- a by mail so it will be delivered by election day,
- b in person no later than 5 00 p.m on the day before election day; or
- c by having someone else return your ballot by 3:00 p m on election day (this person cannot be a candidate and cannot return ballots for more than three voters).

Note: Follow these instructions carefully An improperly completed ballot, or statement of voter or witness, will invalidate your votes. If you have any questions, please call

Statutory Authority: *MS s 203B.04, 203B 08; 203B 09, 203B 125*

History: *25 SR 616*

8210.0600 STATEMENT OF ABSENTEE VOTER.

Subpart 1 **Form.** Except as provided in subpart 4, the statement of absentee voter for persons voting under Minnesota Statutes, sections 203B.04 to 203B 15, must be printed in the form shown in subpart 1a.

Subp. 1a. **Statement of absentee voter form.**

↓ TO BE COMPLETED BY VOTER ↓

VOTER'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

VOTER'S ADDRESS (PLEASE PRINT)

I certify that on election day I will meet all the legal requirements to vote by absentee ballot

VOTER'S SIGNATURE

DATE

↓ TO BE COMPLETED BY WITNESS ↓

I certify that the voter

- showed me the blank ballots before voting,
- marked the ballots in secrecy or, if physically unable to mark the ballots, the ballots were marked as directed by the voter,
- enclosed and sealed the ballots in the secrecy envelope,
- registered to vote by filling out and enclosing a voter registration card in the ballot envelope, and
- provided proof of residence as indicated below.

NAME OF WITNESS (PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS OF WITNESS (PLEASE PRINT)

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

DATE

TITLE OF WITNESS (IF AN OFFICIAL)

↓ PROOF OF RESIDENCE USED BY VOTER ↓

Witness - please check one:

- MN Driver's License/Permit/ID Card or receipt with current address.
Number _____
- Utility bill plus a MN Driver's License/ID Card, U S passport, U.S military ID card with picture, or student ID card with picture.
Number _____
- Previous registration in the same precinct
- Student ID. Number
- Notice of Late Registration from county auditor or municipal clerk
- Registered voter in the precinct who vouched for absentee voter's residence in the precinct
(Please complete the next three lines)

VOUCHER'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

VOUCHER'S ADDRESS (PLEASE PRINT)

VOUCHER'S SIGNATURE

*[For text of subps 2 to 4a, see MR]***Statutory Authority:** *MS s 203B 04, 203B 08, 203B 09, 203B 125***History:** *25 SR 616***8210.0700 ABSENTEE BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE AS PROVIDED BY MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTIONS 203B.04 TO 203B.15.***[For text of subps 1 and 2, see MR]*

Subp 3 **Mailing address.** County auditors and municipal clerks shall cause a mailing address to be printed on each return envelope that they mail or deliver to an absent voter. The address block shall be located in the lower right one-quarter of the envelope. A return envelope may be addressed to the county auditor, to the municipal clerk, or to the election judges of the precinct in which the absent voter is eligible to vote.

When an auditor has the duty to address envelopes for a municipality and the envelopes are to be addressed to the election judges, the clerk shall notify the auditor of the proper mailing address of each polling place in the municipality. The clerk shall immediately notify the auditor of every change in the initial notification.

*[For text of subps 7 to 10, see MR]***Statutory Authority:** *MS s 203B.04, 203B 08, 203B 09, 203B.125***History:** *25 SR 616***8210.2200 DUTIES OF COUNTY AUDITOR OR MUNICIPAL CLERK UPON RECEIPT OF ABSENTEE BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE.**

Subpart 1 **Personal delivery.** Absentee ballot return envelopes that are delivered in person by an absent voter must be received by the county auditor or municipal clerk

by 5.00 p m on the day before election day. Absentee ballot return envelopes that are delivered in person by an agent must be received by the county auditor or municipal clerk by 3 00 p m on election day.

[For text of subps 2 and 3, see M R]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 203B 04, 203B 08; 203B 09, 203B 125*

History: *25 SR 616*

8210.3000 MAIL BALLOTING.

[For text of subps 1 to 4, see M.R.]

Subp 4a. **Form of instructions to mail voters.**

INSTRUCTIONS TO MAIL BALLOT VOTERS

Follow these instructions carefully

Before you vote you must have a witness.

Step 1 Locate one of the following individuals to serve as your witness.

a anyone who is registered to vote in Minnesota including your spouse or another relative who meets this qualification,

b a notary public, or

c any person having authority to administer oaths

Step 2 Show your witness the unmarked ballots.

Step 3 Mark the ballots in secrecy If you are disabled or otherwise unable to mark the ballots, you may ask your witness to assist you.

Step 4. Fold each ballot so that your votes cannot be seen. Do not put any identifying marks on the ballot

Step 5 Place all voted ballots in the tan colored Ballot Secrecy Envelope and seal the envelope. Do not write on this envelope

Step 6 Place the tan colored ballot secrecy envelope into the white ballot return envelope and seal the envelope.

Step 7. Print your name and address and sign your name on the back of the white ballot return envelope. The name, address, and signature of your witness are required as well

Step 8 Return your ballot to the address on the white ballot return envelope by mail so it will be delivered by election day or in person or through your designated agent no later than 8:00 p m. on election day

If you have questions, please call () - .

[For text of subp 4b, see M R]

Subp 4c [Repealed, 25 SR 616]

[For text of subps 5 and 6, see M.R.]

Subp. 6a **Form of replacement mail ballot affidavit.**

REPLACEMENT MAIL BALLOT AFFIDAVIT OF

(print or type legal name of voter)

(print or type legal address)

I certify that

- I am a resident and eligible voter in

(name of township or territory)

- I am requesting a replacement ballot because I spoiled, lost, or did not receive the ballot mailed to me,
 - if I spoiled the ballot, I have returned the spoiled ballot to the official who issued the ballot or that it is enclosed with this affidavit,
 - if I receive both ballots or find the first ballot, I will destroy the unused ballot and will vote only once, and
 - I understand that voting twice is a felony punishable by not more than five years imprisonment and a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both

(date)

(legal signature of voter)

[For text of subp 7, see M.R.]

Subp. 8. **Returning ballots.** Mail ballots may be returned to the official conducting the election by mail, in person, or by designated agent. The official conducting the election must accept ballots returned in person, or by designated agent, until 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election. An individual shall not be the designated agent of more than three absentee voters in one election.

[For text of subps 9 to 12, see M.R.]

Subp. 13. **Alternate forms.** The secretary of state may authorize the alternate use of envelopes and other forms related to mail elections.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 204B 45*

History: *25 SR 616*