

TOWN OF GROTON

EARLY VOTING – Frequently Asked Questions

What is early voting?

New to Massachusetts, any registered voter can vote prior to a scheduled biennial state election during the Early Voting period. Voters can vote early in-person or by mail. The ballot will be cast on Election Day. Unlike Absentee Voting, no reason is required to Early Vote.

When is the Early Voting period for the November 6, 2018 election?

Monday, October 22th until Friday, November 2th during extended Town Clerk business hours.

Who is eligible to vote early?

All registered voters. The voter registration deadline is October 17.

Where do I vote early?

All eligible voters may vote in-person at Groton Town Hall, 173 Main St during these extended Town Clerk hours:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
OCT 22 8am-7pm	OCT 23 8am-4pm	OCT 24 8am-4pm	OCT 25 8am-7pm	OCT 26 8am-1pm	OCT 27 9am-1pm
OCT 29 8am-7pm	OCT 30 8am-4pm	OCT 31 8am-4pm	NOV 1 8am-7pm	NOV 2 8am-1pm	NOV 3 No Early Voting Allowed

How do I get an early voting ballot?

You can get an early voting ballot in person or by mail.

IN PERSON-

Voters voting in person will fill out an affidavit envelope as part of the early voting process. The ballot will be sealed in that envelope until Election Day. A voter may request a ballot at any early voting location by providing their address and name. Early voting ballots cannot be removed from an early voting location.

BY MAIL

Voters voting by mail must complete an [early vote application](#) or provide a request in writing. Early ballots cannot be mailed until October 22, and must be returned by election day.

How do I return my early voting ballot?

If voting in person, the voter will return the sealed affidavit envelope containing his/her early voting ballot to the election official.

If voting by mail the voter may return it by mail to the Town Clerk in the envelope provided by the Town Clerk or the voter may deliver the ballot in person to the Town Clerk. A family member is NOT authorized to deliver any early voting ballots.

Can I pick up an early voting ballot for a family member or friend?

No. The Early Voting regulations do not provide for the application for or delivery of ballots by anyone other than the voter.

I requested an early voting ballot but did not receive it, what should I do?

If you requested an early voting ballot but did not receive it, please call Town Clerk at 978-448-1100.

If I vote early can I also vote at the polls on Election Day?

No. Your ballot will be considered cast and you will not be eligible to vote by mail, in person or at the polls. Early Voters may NOT retrieve an early voted ballot.

Is absentee voting still available?

Yes. If you are qualified to vote by absentee ballot you may still do so. To apply for an absentee ballot you must be:

A registered voter who will be unable to vote at the polls on Election Day due to:

- absence from the Town of Groton during normal polling hours; or
- physical disability preventing you from going to the polling place; or
- religious beliefs

Applications for an absentee ballot must be in writing with a signature. The voter or a family member may request an absentee ballot. Absentee Voters may also vote in person at the Town Clerk's Office.

[Absentee Ballot applications](#) may be mailed, faxed, or emailed to the Town Clerk. The deadline for all absentee applications is NOON November 7. You must allow sufficient time for mailing. USPS recommends to allow up to 10 days for mailing of the ballot to the voter and return of the ballot by mail. All absentee ballots must be received by the close of the polls on November 6.

For any additional information please contact the Town Clerk at 978-448-1100 or townclerk@townofgroton.org.