

Electronic Ballot Request System (EBRS) – County Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the Electronic Ballot Request System (EBRS)?

A: The EBRS is an online system designed to allow Montana voters with disabilities the option to apply for an absentee ballot, access, and mark their ballot electronically.

Q: Who can use the EBRS?

A: A registered voter who meets the definition of an individual with a disability as defined in State Law:

"Disability" means a temporary or permanent physical impairment such as:

- (a) impaired vision
- (b) impaired hearing or
- (c) impaired mobility. Individuals having impaired mobility include those who require use of a wheelchair and those who are ambulatory but are physically impaired because of age, disability, or disease.

Voters must affirm their qualifications and eligibility as a voter with a disability and enter a residential address that can be matched with a Montana ballot type before they can access and mark a ballot.

Q: Can someone who is not registered to vote use the EBRS?

A: A qualified individual who is not yet registered to vote may access a voter registration application on the EBRS, but must print the application and mail or deliver in person to the county election office. A ballot cannot be accessed from the EBRS until the county election office processes the voter registration application.

Q: How does a voter access the EBRS?

A: A voter can access the EBRS from the Secretary of State's website at <https://sosmt.gov/elections/disabilities>. Click on the EBRS logo or go directly to <https://vote4mtacc.us/>.

Q: When can a voter request an absentee ballot using the EBRS?

A: Beginning 30 days before election day and ending at noon the day before election day.

Q: Which elections can the EBRS be used to vote in?

A: The EBRS is available only for federal primary, federal general, and federal special elections.

Q: How can a voter with a disability vote electronically in other elections?

A: Voters with disabilities may contact their [county election administrator](#) to request an electronic ballot for elections other than the federal primary, federal general, and federal special elections. This ballot is emailed to the voter. However, as is the case with EBRS ballots, the ballot cannot be submitted electronically.

Q: How does a voter know the county election office received the electronic ballot request?

A: The system automatically generates an email to notify the voter a ballot request was received.

Q: What does the ballot look like?

A: The EBRs has been configured with ballot information for every county in Montana. The ballot the voter accesses online will look very similar to standard county-issued ballots.

Q: The system is unable to identify a ballot style for a voter's residence. What does the county do?

A: In rare cases, the EBRs cannot match a voter's residence to the correct ballot style. The county election office should verify the address information. If that doesn't resolve the issue, contact the Secretary of State's Office at (406) 444-9608, or toll free 888-884-8683 email: soselections@mt.gov.

Q: What if a voter cannot sign ballot materials?

A: Voters with disabilities that cannot provide a signature may use a mark or fingerprint, or may have an election judge or friend sign for them. They can also use a Designated Agent to sign for them, or provide their driver's license number or last 4 of social security number in lieu of a signature.

Q: How can a voter submit a voted ballot?

A: A voter may either mail or deliver their ballot in person.

Q: Can they submit their voted ballot via email or fax to the county election office?

A: No, statute requires electronic ballots for voters with disabilities be mailed or delivered in person.

Q: Can a completed electronic ballot be deposited at a polling place on election day?

A: An electronic ballot may be deposited, along with the transmittal coversheet, secrecy envelope and signature envelope template, at the county election office. Normal polling places may be closed.

Q: How does a voter know their ballot has been received by the county election office?

A: Ballots can be tracked online at [My Voter Page](#) or they may contact the [county election office](#).

Q: Once a voter receives an access code to access their ballot, how long do they have to access it?

A: The system will be available for ballot access using the access code provided until 8:00 PM on election day.

Q: Who may I contact with additional questions or concerns about the EBRs?

A: Contact the Secretary of State's Office (406) 444-9608, toll free 888-884-8683, or soselections@mt.gov.