

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT EARLY VOTING BY MAIL

## **How is my ballot protected in the vote by mail process?**

Any person who knowingly improperly uses, handles or interferes in delivery or voting of an early ballot is subject to criminal penalties. Early ballots are handled only by U.S. Postal Service workers and election staff. The election logo on the envelope alerts postal workers of official election material that requires priority handling and special attention.

For delivery, ballots by mail cannot be forwarded to another address. Undeliverable ballots are returned to the City Clerk for further action or to attempt to contact the voter when appropriate.

You can also protect your ballot by exercising appropriate precautions in how you return it. Place it directly into the U.S. mail or deliver it to an early voting location or, on Election Day, to any polling place. Do not give your ballot to anyone you do not know or trust to return it for you.

Upon receipt, the security of your ballot is protected by verification of the signature on the ballot affidavit envelope. Each signature is compared to and must match the signature on the voter registration record.

## **How can I get information about the election or the contests on the ballot?**

Information about the election is available at [phoenix.gov](http://phoenix.gov) and is provided in the pamphlet mailed to each residence with a registered voter about 30 days before the election. The pamphlet contains the full text of ballot measures and any arguments submitted supporting or opposing the measures. Information about ballot measures or candidates may be available on political committee websites or by contacting the candidates or committees. Contact information for candidates and committees is available at [phoenix.gov](http://phoenix.gov) or by calling the City Clerk Department. Election information is also made available through various news media.

## **Can I get assistance marking my ballot?**

If you are unable to mark the ballot, you may get assistance from a person of your choice. Ask a trusted friend or relative to help you. Also, you can take your ballot, along with the affidavit envelope, to any early voting site or polling place to get assistance. Voting devices designed to enable persons with various disabilities to vote independently are available at Early & Accessible Voting locations through Election Day. Call the City Clerk Department for locations and hours of operation.

## **Can I still vote at the polls if I have requested or received an early ballot?**

If you have not voted and returned your early ballot, you may vote a provisional ballot at your polling place. The provisional ballot will be counted after verification that you did not already vote the early ballot. You will be required to present identification to vote at a polling place. Information about acceptable identification is available at [phoenix.gov](http://phoenix.gov) or by calling the City Clerk Department.

## **Are all early ballots counted?**

Every early ballot is counted if it is returned in the ballot affidavit envelope signed by the voter and received by the City Clerk or a polling place by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots delivered to polling places are counted and included in the official results within a few days after the election. These ballots are counted even if the remaining ballots will not affect the outcome of any contest on the ballot.

Need further assistance or have a question? Please visit [phoenix.gov](http://phoenix.gov) or contact the City Clerk Department at (602) 261-VOTE (8683) or (TTY) (602) 534-2737.

