

## **MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY – VOTER OPTIONS GUIDE**

This guide outlines the multiple options voters have to participate in the Presidential Primary.

### **[Vote by Mail](#), [Vote Early In Person](#) or [Vote on Election Day](#)**

<b>DATE OF ELECTION</b>	<b>ELECTION DAY HOURS</b>	<b>DEADLINE TO <a href="#">REGISTER TO VOTE</a></b>	<b>VOTE BY MAIL <a href="#">APPLICATION DEADLINE</a></b>
March 5, 2024	7 AM - 8 PM	February 24 <sup>th</sup>	February 27 <sup>th</sup> - 5PM

### **SELECTION OF BALLOT TYPES - PRIMARY ELECTION ONLY**

- In a primary election, a voter who is NOT registered in a political party (Unenrolled or commonly known as Independent) must specify the party ballot type of choice on the application to vote by mail or in person voting (early or on election day).
- We are unable to process applications for Unenrolled voters who do not select a party ballot type on their application.
- Unenrolled voters who select a party ballot type do not become registered in that party - they remain Unenrolled voters.
- Voters who are registered in one of the 3 political parties (Democrat, Republican, Libertarian) MUST take that party ballot and are not given a choice of ballot type.

Helpful links:

- **[HOW TO VOTE IN A PRIMARY](#)**
- **[VERIFY YOUR PARTY ENROLLMENT](#)**
- **[CHANGE YOUR PARTY ENROLLMENT](#)**  
(prior to the deadline to register to vote (February 24<sup>th</sup>) and before applying for a mail in ballot)
- **[VIEW SAMPLE BALLOTS:](#)**
  - [DEMOCRAT](#)**
  - [LIBERTARIAN](#)**
  - [REPUBLICAN](#)**
- **[FIND YOUR PRECINCT](#)**

## VOTE BY MAIL

All registered voters qualify to vote by mail in the Presidential Primary. Application post cards will be mailed to ALL registered voters, at their mailing address, who have not already applied to receive a vote by mail ballot.

**APPLY EARLY** - to allow ample time for processing your application and for the postal services to deliver your ballot to you. If you are concerned about applying too early - please note that voters can hold on to their ballot and return it during the week prior to the election. Voters who receive a vote by mail ballot but do not return it prior to election day may appear to vote in person on election day to cast a ballot. Any voter that has returned a vote by mail ballot (or voted early in person) cannot vote on Election Day.

Applications can be returned by Mail (postage is pre-paid on the post card application mailed to you), placed in the drop box outside of the main entrance to Town Hall (1009 Main Street) or scanned & emailed to [townclerk@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@tewksbury-ma.gov)

### **IMPORTANT: A signature is required to process your application**

Voters who have applied for a vote by mail ballot may use this link to track the status of their application as well as their ballot status (mailed / received back). Please note that we anticipate a large volume of applications (there are over 24,000 voters in Tewksbury) and request you **allow at least 2 weeks before checking the status of your application and allow a minimum of 10 days to receive your ballot from the status date of mailing**. Please DO NOT contact the Clerk's Office to check on your status until the recommended amount of time listed above has passed. Inquiries should be sent to [townclerk@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@tewksbury-ma.gov)

## RETURN OF VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS

There are three ways to return voted ballots:

1. Drop ballots off in the **DROP BOX** at the Main Entrance of Town Hall  
*24-7 until 8 p.m. on Election Day*
2. **IN PERSON** at the Town Clerk's Office  
*Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. & Friday 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.*
3. **BY MAIL**  
*(Please note that US Postal delivery services are not consistent and can range from 3 to 11 days. We recommend voters return their ballots in person or in the drop box outside of the town offices by 8PM on Election Day to ensure it arrives back to us in time to count.)*

## TRACK YOUR APPLICATION AND BALLOT

Voters who receive a vote by mail ballot but do not return it prior to Election Day may appear to vote in person and cast a ballot on Election Day. Any voter that has returned a vote by mail ballot (or voted early in person) is not permitted to appear to vote in person on Election Day.

### Deadlines for ballots to be returned and counted

- All ballots must be received at Town Hall by **8PM on Election Day**

## **VOTE EARLY IN PERSON**

Early Voting in person will be available for the March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary. An application is not required to vote early in person...just show up and vote!

Period: February 24<sup>th</sup> – March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Location: Town Hall – 1009 Main Street \*

<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	2/24	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
<b>Monday</b>	2/26	7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday</b>	2/27	7:30 AM - 6:00 PM
<b>Wednesday</b>	2/28	7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
<b>Thursday</b>	2/29	7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
<b>Friday</b>	3/1	7:30 AM - 12:30 PM

### **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO VOTE:**

If you wish to verify your voter registration status or have any questions, please phone the Town Clerk's Office at 978-640-4355 or **check out these helpful Links:**

- [CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION STATUS](#)
- [VIEW SAMPLE BALLOTS:](#)    [DEMOCRAT](#)                      [LIBERTARIAN](#)                      [REPUBLICAN](#)
- [FIND YOUR PRECINCT](#)

### **Electioneering During Early Voting in Person**

The Board of Selectmen adopted policy #35.01:

#### **ARTICLE XXXV ELECTIONEERING DURING EARLY VOTING AND ABSENTEE VOTING**

Chapter 54, Section 65 of the General Laws of Massachusetts prohibits "electioneering" (the display or distribution of material intended to influence the actions of voters) at or within 150 feet of the entrance of polling places at an election of federal, state or local officers. In keeping with the requirements of this General Law, during the period designated for in-person absentee voting and the State's Early Voting Period no signs or attempts to influence voters in any manner will be allowed within 150 feet of the Tewksbury Town Hall or any other location where Early Voting or in-person Absentee Voting is taking place.

## **EARLY VOTING (by mail or in person) FAQ:**

**If I applied for a vote by mail ballot can I appear to vote in person at an early voting site or at the polls on Election Day?**

**YES** - If your vote by mail ballot has not been received back to the Town Clerk's Office, you may still appear to vote in person at the polls on Election Day. These voters will be required to complete additional paperwork and will need to show an ID. Should your mail in ballot be received after you voted early in person or at the polls on Election Day that ballot will be rejected and will not be counted

**NO** - If a vote by mail ballot has already been received back by the Town Clerk's Office. A returned vote by mail ballot is considered cast and you will not be eligible to vote by mail, early in person or in person at the polls on Election Day.

**If I vote early in person can I appear to vote in person at the polls on Election Day?**

**NO** - If you appeared to vote early in person your ballot will be considered cast and you will not be eligible to vote by mail, or in person at the polls on Election Day. Voting in Person at the Polls after submitting an early ballot is prohibited as outlined in 950 CMR 4 7.19.

**When & how is an early voter's ballot cast?**

All vote by mail and early voting in person ballots will be opened and inserted into a tabulator before Election Day or fed through the tabulators at the polls on Election Day. These ballots will be kept secured, locked, and unexamined until the polls are closed on Election Day.

## **NOTICE OF ADVANCE REMOVAL AND DEPOSITING OF EARLY VOTED BALLOTS**

In accordance with the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Regulations 47.12 and under the provision of section 10 (h) of Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2022, the Town of Tewksbury will be opening and/or depositing Early Voted Ballots at Town Hall, 1009 Main Street at the following sessions for the March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary:

Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 AM

Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 AM

Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 AM

Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 AM

Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 9:00 AM

## VOTE ON ELECTION DAY

**PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY  
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024  
Polls Open – 7:00 AM-8:00 PM**

### SAVE TIME & AGGRAVATION - KNOW BEFORE YOU GO:

#### 1. Am I a registered voter ?

Check your **VOTER STATUS** online. The deadline to register to vote for this election is Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. (The **ONLINE REGISTRATION PORTAL** will be open until midnight)

#### 2. Is my voter status "active"?

Per state law, voters must return their signed census forms annually to the Town Clerk's office to maintain an active voter status. **Inactive voters are still eligible to vote but** will be required to complete additional forms and show an ID at the polls in order to vote. Voters who appear as inactive can change their status to active by emailing a completed **CENSUS FORM** to [townclerk@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@tewksbury-ma.gov) before **Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** to avoid the longer check in process at the polls.

#### 3. Where do I vote?

Voters are strongly encouraged to know what precinct they will be voting in before arriving at the polls. **Check your PRECINCT** online. Please note that as a result of population changes from the 2020 Federal Census, the Town of Tewksbury has changed its voting precincts. These changes include the renumbering of existing precincts as well as the addition of Precinct 5A with a split representative district. For most voters, but not all, your precinct number has changed.

### TEWKSBURY VOTING LOCATIONS

Precinct 1	Senior Center	175 Chandler St.
Precinct 5 & 5A	Senior Center	175 Chandler St.
Precinct 2	Recreation Center	286 Livingston St.
Precinct 6	Recreation Center	286 Livingston St.
Precinct 3	Town Hall	1009 Main St.
Precinct 7	Town Hall	1009 Main St.
Precinct 4	Library	300 Chandler St.
Precinct 8	Library	300 Chandler St.

5A is a Sub-Precinct for State Elections and State Primaries only. Voters residing in Sub-Precinct 5A are considered Precinct 5 Voters in Local Elections.

### [VIEW THE PRECINCT MAP ONLINE](#)

#### 4. What will I be voting on?

Educated voters will reduce the amount of time necessary in the voting booths and reduce lines and crowding while voting.

### [VIEW SAMPLE BALLOTS:](#)

[DEMOCRAT](#)

[LIBERTARIAN](#)

[REPUBLICAN](#)

#### 5. What do I need to bring?

**Bring an ID** – in some cases voters will be required to show an ID. That ID can be anything (license, a current utility bill, email) but the voter name and address must match how you are registered.

If you have any questions, please phone the Town Clerk's Office at 978-640-4355 or email [townclerk@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@tewksbury-ma.gov)