Health Protocols at the Polling Location For Poll Workers and Voters Against COVID-19
Health Protocols for Voters

☑️ CHECKLIST FOR VOTERS

The following are the minimum recommended health protocols for all voters in Texas. These minimum health protocols are not a limit on the health protocols that individuals may adopt. Individuals are encouraged to adopt additional protocols consistent with their specific needs and circumstances to help protect the health and safety of all Texans.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread to others by infected persons who have few or no symptoms. To mitigate this threat, everyone should rigorously follow the practices specified in these protocols, all of which facilitate a safe and measured reopening of Texas. The virus that causes COVID-19 is still circulating in our communities. We should continue to undertake practices that protect our communities.

Please note, public health guidance cannot anticipate every unique situation. Individuals should stay informed and take actions based on common sense and wise judgment that will protect health and support economic revitalization.
Health protocols for voters:

☐ To the extent feasible, maintain at least six feet separation from other individuals at the polling location. In addition to practicing such distancing when feasible, other measures such as hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced.

☐ Self-screen before going to a polling place for any of the following, new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19:

☐ Cough
☐ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
☐ Chills
☐ Repeated shaking with chills
☐ Muscle pain
☐ Headache
☐ Sore throat
☐ Loss of taste or smell
☐ Diarrhea
☐ Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
☐ Known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19

☐ Voters who exhibit any of the above-mentioned symptoms associated with COVID-19 when they arrive at a polling location may want to consider utilizing curbside voting, to the extent they meet the eligibility requirements, which is available at all polling locations. These voters should contact their county election office with questions about the curbside voting process in their county and the eligibility requirements.

☐ Voters should consider bringing their own marking instruments such as a pen, pencil with eraser, or stylus to use when checking-in to vote and for marking their ballot. Voters should contact their county election office to determine what type of marking devices are appropriate to use for the ballots in their county.

☐ Upon entering a polling place, wash or disinfect hands. Wash or disinfect hands after any interaction with election workers, poll watchers, or other individuals at the polling place and after using voting system equipment or marking a ballot.

☐ Voters should bring their own hand sanitizer into the polling location and should use hand sanitizer to disinfect their hands after leaving the polling location.
Consistent with the actions taken by many individuals across the state, consider wearing cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth) when entering the polling place, or when within six feet of another person who is not a member of the individual’s household. If available, individuals should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.

If the election judge is not able to determine the identity of a voter wearing a face covering, the voter should be prepared to lower or remove their face covering when checking-in at a polling place. After the voter’s identity has been confirmed, the voter should wear their face covering through the rest of the voting process.

If a voter contracts COVID-19 (or other sickness or physical condition that prevents the voter from appearing at the polling place on election day without a likelihood of needing personal assistance or of injuring the voter’s health) after the deadline to submit an application for a ballot by mail, the voter should contact their county election officer for more details about submitting an Application for Emergency Early Voting Ballot Due to Sickness or Physical Disability.

Individuals aged 65 or older are at a higher risk of COVID-19. To the extent possible, avoid contact within six feet with individuals aged 65 and older. Individuals aged 65 and older should stay at home as much as possible. Such individuals may consider submitting an Application for a Ballot by Mail to their county election officer so that they can receive a blank ballot and return their voted ballot by mail.
Health Protocols for Elections

☑️ Checklist for Elections

The following are the minimum recommended health protocols for all elections in Texas. County election officers may adopt additional protocols consistent with their specific needs and circumstances to help protect the health and safety of all voters, office personnel, polling place workers, and poll watchers. Any such protocols also must be consistent with ensuring and maintaining the integrity of the election process.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread to others by infected persons who have few or no symptoms. To mitigate this threat, everyone should rigorously follow the practices specified in these protocols, all of which facilitate a safe and measured reopening of Texas. The virus that causes COVID-19 is still circulating in our communities. We should continue to undertake practices that protect our communities.

Please note, public health guidance cannot anticipate every unique situation. As always, election officials should also be mindful of federal and state employment and disability laws, workplace safety standards, and accessibility standards to address the needs of election personnel, polling place workers, poll watchers, and voters.
Health protocols for serving voters:

- Encourage voters, office personnel, polling place workers, and poll watchers to follow the Texas Department of State Health Services health protocols, including maintaining at least six feet separation from other individuals not within the same household. In addition to encouraging the practice of such distancing when feasible, other measures such as hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced.

- Encourage voters to wear cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth) when entering the polling place, or when within six feet of another person who is not a member of the individual’s household. If available, individuals should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.

- Provide varied voting opportunities for voters by utilizing available early voting locations, extended voting hours, weekend hours, and well-advertised curbside voting.

- Provide updated information on the local election website regarding early voting schedules and voting procedures.

- Disinfect any items that come into contact with voters such as check-in tables, writing utensils, voting system equipment, ballot boxes, and doors leading into and out of the polling place.

Health protocols for your employees and polling place workers:

- Train all office personnel and polling place workers on appropriate cleaning and disinfection, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.

- Screen employees and polling place workers before coming into a polling place:
  - Send home any employee or polling place worker who has any of the following new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19:
    - Cough
    - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
    - Chills
    - Repeated shaking with chills
    - Muscle pain
    - Headache
    - Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19

☐ Do not allow employees or polling place workers with new or worsening signs or symptoms listed above to return to a polling place or election office until:
  - In the case of an employee or polling place worker who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to work when all three of the following criteria are met: at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications); and the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or
  - In the case of an employee or polling place worker who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to work until the individual has completed the same three-step criteria listed above; or
  - If an employee or polling place worker has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to work before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must obtain a medical professional’s note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis.

☐ Do not allow employees or polling place workers with known close contact to a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 to return to work until the end of the 14-day self-quarantine period from the last date of exposure (with an exception granted for healthcare workers and critical infrastructure workers).

☐ Have employees and polling place workers wash or sanitize their hands upon entering the election office or polling place, and between interactions with voters or other personnel.

☐ Have employees and polling place workers maintain at least six feet separation from other individuals, when necessary. In addition to encouraging the practice of such distancing when feasible, other measures such as hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced.

☐ Consistent with the actions taken by many businesses across the state, consider having all employees and polling place workers wear cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth)
at all times. If available, employees and polling place workers should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.

☐ If a polling place worker is serving as an assistant to a voter, the polling place worker should wear a face covering while providing assistance. Polling place workers should also wash or sanitize their hands after completing the assistance.

☐ If a polling place worker is processing a curbside voter, the polling place worker should wear a face covering while interacting with the voter. Polling place workers should also wash or sanitize their hands after completing their curbside voting duties.

Health protocols for poll watchers:

☐ To the extent feasible, poll watchers should maintain at least six feet separation from other individuals not within the same household. In addition to practicing such distancing when feasible, other measures such as hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced.

☐ Consistent with the actions taken by many individuals across the state, poll watchers should consider wearing face coverings (over the nose and mouth) when entering the polling place, or when within six feet of another person who is not a member of the individual’s household. If available, individuals should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.

Health protocols for your polling places:

☐ Provide markings on the floor of the polling place that allow voters to maintain a six feet separation from other individuals not within the same household. In addition to encouraging the practice of such distancing when feasible, other measures such as hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced.

☐ Election workers are not required to ask a voter to remove their face covering upon check-in. However, if an election judge is not able to determine the voter’s identity while wearing a face covering, the election judge has discretion to ask the voter to lower or remove their face covering. The voter should be permitted to wear their face covering through the rest of the voting process after their identity has been confirmed.

☐ Arrange voting stations to allow voters to maintain at least six feet separation from other voters.
☐ Block off frequently touched items of the facility that are not being utilized as part of the polling place to prevent the spreading of germs between parties.

☐ Regularly and frequently clean and disinfect any regularly touched surfaces, such as doorknobs, tables, writing utensils, chairs, handrails, and restrooms.

☐ Disinfect any items that come into contact with voters after such contact.

☐ Make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available to polling place workers and voters.

☐ Place readily visible signage at the polling place to remind everyone of best hygiene practices.

☐ For facilities that experience high voting traffic, consider having a polling place worker wholly or partially dedicated to ensuring the recommended health protocols are successfully implemented and followed.
Dallas County Health Protocols for Voters

Dallas, Texas – On Tuesday, May 26, 2020, Secretary of State’s Office released Guidance on Recommended Health Protocols for Texas Election Officials and Voters. Below is the SOS link for detailed review.
https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/forms/health-protocols-for-voters.pdf

The following are the minimum recommended health protocols for all voters. These minimum health protocols are not a limit on the health protocols that individuals may adopt. Individuals are encouraged to adopt additional protocols consistent with their specific needs and circumstances to help protect the health and safety of all Poll Workers and Voters.

In preparation for the upcoming Democratic Primary Runoff Election, of Tuesday-July 14, 2020 Dallas County Elections Department is implementing the following procedures for all voters who wish to cast their ballot in person, during Early Voting or on Election Day.

Health Protocols for Voters

- Voters should perform a Self-Assessment before going to a polling location for any new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19. Below are some of the known symptoms.

  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Chills
  - Repeated shaking with chills
  - Muscle pain
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Diarrhea
  - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
  - Known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19

- We ask that if voters who exhibit any of the above-mentioned symptoms associated with COVID-19 consider utilizing curbside voting, to the extent they meet the eligibility requirements, https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/early-voting-information/early-voting-information-2/

- Voters should consider bringing their own marking instruments such as a pen, pencil with eraser, or stylus to use when checking-in to vote and for marking their ballot.

- Voters should consider wearing their personal cloth face covering when entering the polling place.
• The voter should be prepared to lower or remove their face covering when checking in at the polling place if the election judge is not able to determine the identity of a voter wearing a face covering. If a voter contracts COVID-19 (or other sickness or physical condition that prevents the voter from appearing at the polling place on election day without a likelihood of needing personal assistance or of injuring the voter’s health) after the deadline to submit an application for a ballot by mail, the voter should contact Dallas County Ballot by Mail at 214-819-6364, for more details about submitting an Application for Emergency Early Voting Ballot Due to Sickness or Physical Disability.

**Health Protocols for Serving Voters**

• Voter will be greeted at the Polling Location entrance and introduced to the Safety Vote Sanitation Station. **Voters will be advised to sanitize their hands before and after voting.** The Sanitation Station includes:
  - Hands-Free Gel Dispenser, Sanitizer.
  - Disinfectant Wipe Containers.
  - Multifold Paper Towel Dispenser.
  - Gallon Trash Can.

• Upon entering, voter will be directed to the Check-In Table. A Protective Shield will be used as a clear barrier at the voter check-in stations. Shields are designed to support public health measures at all polling locations.
  - Voters will maintain at least six feet separation from other individuals.
  - All voting surfaces and shields will be sanitized throughout the day.
  - Voter will be assigned a Stylus for use during the voting process.
    - Check in on the Electronic Poll Book
    - Make selections on the ExpressVote ballot marking device.
    - After voter completes the voting process, they will return the stylus before exiting, where it will be sanitized before reuse.

• Poll workers will disinfect any items that come into contact with voters such as:
  - Check-in tables, writing utensils, Voting system equipment, ballot boxes and doors leading into and out of the polling location.

• All voting equipment will be placed 6 feet apart at all times and will be wiped down after each voter, at some locations voters may experience longer wait time for available voting devices.

• Polling Location Stations will be thoroughly wiped down throughout the day, but no less than 3 times a day with the following intervals:
  - Before voting Begins
  - Mid Afternoon
  - After last voter leaves.

**Health Protocol for Poll Workers**

• All Election Judges and Poll Workers will be supplied with and advised to wear gloves and face masks throughout the day.

• All Election Judges and Poll Workers will be instructed on appropriate cleaning and disinfecting process and hand hygiene.

For more detailed instructions visit our website at [www.dallascountyvotes.org](http://www.dallascountyvotes.org) or call our office (469)627-VOTE (8683)

###
**POLLING LOCATION RECOMMENDED SET UP**

**SAFETY VOTE SANITATION STATION**

Voter's will be greeted and introduced to the sanitation station.

**CHECK IN TABLE**

Voter will be issued a stylus for use in the EPB and ExpressVote Ballot Marker.

**CHECK IN TABLE**

Voting Equipment will be 6 Feet Apart

**SOLUTION TABLE**

Voter will deposit the stylus on table and a clerk will sanitize after every voter for reuse.

---

**PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

**WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN**

Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

**AVOID TOUCHING YOUR FACE**

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

**COVER YOUR COUGH & SNEEZE**

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when coughing. Do not sneeze or cough into your hands.

**IF VOTING AT A POLLING LOCATION**

We ask that if voters who exhibit any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19 consider utilizing curbside voting, to the extent they meet the eligibility requirements.

Dallas County Elections Department
Toni Pippins-Poole, Elections Administrator
Health Protocols for Voters

Voters who exhibit any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19 when they arrive at a polling locations may want to consider utilizing Curbside Voting.

- Voters will see COVID-19 safety signs as they enter the polling locations.
  - Self-Assessment
  - Social Distancing
  - Mask use recommendations- How to wear and take down your mask
  - How to prevent the spread of COVID19
- Voters should consider wearing their personal cloth face covering when entering the polling place. The voter should be prepared to lower or remove their face covering when checking in at the polling place.
- Voters should consider bringing their own marking instruments such as a pen, pencil with eraser, or stylus to use when checking-in to vote and for marking their ballot
- **Station 1** - Voter will be greeted at entrance and introduced to the Safety Vote Sanitation Station. **Voters will be advised to sanitize their hands before and after voting.** Safety Vote Sanitation Station includes
  - Hands-Free Gel Dispenser, Sanitizer.
  - Disinfectant Wipe Containers.
  - Multifold Paper Towel Dispenser.
  - Gallon Trash Can.
- **Station 2** - Voter will be directed to the Check-In Table, A Protective Shield will be used as a clear barrier at voter check-in stations. Shields are designed to support public health measures at polling places.
  - Voters will maintain at least six feet separation from other individuals at the polling location.
  - Surfaces of shields will be cleaned with 70% isopropyl alcohol.
  - Voter will be assigned a Stylus for use during the voting process.
    - To check in on the Electronic Poll Book
    - To make selections on the Express Vote ballot marking device.
    - After voter completes the voting process, they will deposit the stylus on table for sanitation and reuse.
- Poll workers will disinfect any items that come into contact with voters such as check-in tables.
  - Writing utensils, Voting system equipment, Ballot boxes, Doors leading into and out of the polling place
- **Station 3** - All voting Equipment will be placed 6 feet apart at all times.
- All used Voting equipment will be wiped down after each voter.
- All Voting Stations will be thoroughly wiped down throughout the day, but no less than 3 times a day.
  - Before voting Begins
  - Mid Afternoon
  - After last voter leaves.
- All Election Judges and Poll Workers will be supplied and advised to wear gloves and masks throughout the day.
- All Election Judges and Poll Workers will be instructed on appropriate cleaning and disinfection, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
ATTENTION VOTER

BEFORE ENTERING
FACE MASK RECOMMENDED

MAINTAIN
YOUR
DISTANCE

ATENCIÓN VOTANTE

ANTES DE ENTRAR USO DE
MÁSCARA RECOMENDADA

MANTENGA SU
DISTANCIA

Dallas County Elections Department
Toni Pipkins-Poole, Elections Administrator
How to Wear Your Mask

Wear your mask all the way up, close to the bridge of your nose and all the way down under your chin. The mask should snug around your face without gaps.

WAYS YOU SHOULD NOT WEAR YOUR MASK

Do not wear your mask such that it only covers the tip of your nose
Do not push your mask on your neck
Do not leave your chin exposed
Do not wear the mask below the nose

Removing a Mask
It is important to remove the facemask correctly to ensure you do not transfer germs to your hands or face. It is just as important discard or store the mask safely.

Preparation
• Before you take off the mask, wash your hands well or use hand sanitizer.
• Avoid touching the mask itself, as it could be contaminated. Hold it by the loops, ties or bands only.

Removal
1. If the mask has...
   • ...Ear Loops, unhook both ear loops and lower mask away from face.
   • ...Ties, untie the bottom bow first, followed by the top one.
   • ...Dual Elastic Bands, remove the bottom band first by lifting it over your head, and then do the same with the top band.

2. Hold the mask by the loops, ties or bands and either:
   • Discard the mask by placing it in a covered trash bin or
   • Place the mask in a disinfected plastic container for storage.

3. Wash your hands thoroughly or use hand sanitizer.
ATTENTION VOTERS – ATENCIÓN VOTANTES
Daily Health Self-Assessment - Autoevaluación Diaria de la Salud

Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms?

- Fever (100.4 degrees or above)
- New cough
- New shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New chills
- New muscle aches
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell

¿Está experimentando alguno de los siguientes síntomas?

- Fiebre (100.4 grados o más)
- Nueva Tos
- Nueva falta de aliento o dificultad para respirar
- Nuevo resfriado
- Nuevos dolores musculares
- Dolor de garganta
- Dolor de cabeza
- Diarrea
- Nueva pérdida de sabor o olor

For the safety of our voters and our poll workers
Para la seguridad de los votantes y nuestros trabajadores

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, we ask that you consider utilizing Curbside Voting.
Si experimenta alguno de estos síntomas, le pedimos que considere votando por la acera.

POLLING LOCATION RECOMMENDED SET UP

Voter’s will be greeted and introduced to the sanitation station.

Voter will be issued a Stylus for use in the EPP and ExpressVote Ballot Marker

Voting Equipment will be 6 Feet Apart

Voter will deposit the stylus on table and a clerk will sanitize after every voter for reuse.
SAFETY VOTE®

- RUGGED, MOBILE 2-WHEEL DESIGN
- NO-TOUCH HAND SANITIZER DISPENSER
- ADA COMPLIANT

SAFETYVOTE® OPEN STORAGE VIEW

SAFETYVOTE® SECURED STORAGE VIEW

SAFETYVOTE® FEATURES

Unit Size is 16" X 64.5". Net Weight is 50lbs.

Each Unit Includes:
- Hands-Free Gel Dispenser, Battery Operated.
- Refillable 32oz bottle of Extra Strength Hand Sanitizer.
- Two 4.5" X 8.5" Compartments for Standard-sized Disinfectant Wipe Containers.
- Multifold Paper Towel Dispenser.
- 7-Gallon Trash Can.
- 5.5" X 8.5" Placard / Tablet Device Mount.
- Available AC Power Block at extra charge.

Made in the U.S.A
Curbside Voting  Face Shields