



DALLAS COUNTY ELECTIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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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.

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

- 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 or call our office (469)627-VOTE (8683)

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