

**Pilot Program - Ongoing Absentee Voter Status**  
**Instructions for Participating Voters and Municipalities**  
*Prepared by the Office of the Secretary of State, August 2009*

- 1. Description of ongoing absentee voter status.** Voters who request this status will automatically be sent an absentee ballot for each of the 3 elections during the pilot program period. This is a pilot program with a limited number of participating municipalities.
- 2. Elections covered by the pilot program.** The following state elections will be included in this pilot program period for the ongoing absentee voter status:

  - November 3, 2009, Referendum Election;
  - June 8, 2010, Primary Election; and
  - November 2, 2010, General Election.
- 3. Application for ongoing absentee voter status.** A person who is registered to vote in a municipality that is participating in the Pilot Program for Ongoing Absentee Voter Status may apply, in writing, for status as an ongoing absentee voter, on a form designed by the Secretary of State. Each qualified applicant shall automatically receive an absentee ballot for each ensuing statewide election (that occurs during the pilot program period) for which the voter is entitled to vote (i.e. Unenrolled voters cannot vote in the primary election). The voter who chooses ongoing absentee voter status does not submit a separate request for each election.
- 3. Ballot issued to ongoing absentee voter.** Upon receipt of the absentee ballots from the printing contractor before each covered election – approximately 45 days before the election - the clerk shall immediately issue an absentee ballot and return envelope by mail to any voter who has properly applied for ongoing absentee voter status.
- 4. Return of ballot to the clerk by ongoing absentee voter.** A ballot that was issued to a voter who has filed an application for ongoing absentee voter status must be returned by mail or in person by the voter or an immediate family member of the voter.
- 5. Termination of ongoing absentee voter status.** Ongoing absentee voter status shall be terminated upon any of the following events:

  - (1) The written request of the voter;
  - (2) The death or disqualification of the voter;
  - (3) The cancellation of the voter's registration record in the central voter registration system;
  - (4) The return of an absentee ballot as undeliverable;
  - (5) The moving of a voter from the municipality in which the voter had status as and ongoing absentee voter; or
  - (6) The designation of a voter's status as inactive in the central voter registration system.
- 6. Voter must provide written notice of change of address or termination of status.** If a voter with ongoing absentee voter status experiences any of the events that would terminate their status, or if the voter has a change of mailing address for delivery of the absentee ballot, then the voter must provide a signed, written notice to the municipal clerk indicating the change of mailing address or requesting termination of ongoing absentee voter status for one of the events listed in the previous section.



**Pilot Program Application  
Ongoing Absentee Ballot Status  
November 3, 2009 Referendum Election  
June 8, 2010 Primary Election  
November 2, 2010 General Election**

<b><u>Application Received</u></b> (Date/Time)
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**Maine Election Law permits any registered voter to cast an absentee ballot at any election.**

1. Full Name of Registered Voter Requesting the Ballot \_\_\_\_\_
2. Residence Address of Voter \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Address) (Municipality)
3. Voter's Date of Birth       /       /              
          m   m      d   d      y   y   y   y
4. Daytime Phone Number (optional) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Deliver the Ballot to the Voter at this Address \_\_\_\_\_

6. I understand that ongoing absentee status will be cancelled upon any of the following events: (1) written request of voter; (2) death or disqualification of voter; (3) cancellation of voter's registration record in the central voter registration system; (4) return of an absentee ballot as undeliverable; (5) moving of a voter from the municipality in which the voter had status as an ongoing absentee voter; or (6) designation of voter's status as inactive in the central voter registration system. I further understand that I must notify the municipal clerk of any changes to my residence or mailing address.

Signature of Voter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

7. Signature of Immediate Family Member Returning the Ballot \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Voter \_\_\_\_\_  
(Complete Section # 7 Only if Ballot was Returned by an Immediate Family Member of the Voter)

<p><b><u>AIDE CERTIFICATE</u></b> (Must be Completed if Applicant was Assisted as Designated Below)</p> <p>If the voter received assistance in reading and/or signing this application, the person who assisted the voter must complete and sign this certificate.</p> <p><b>I helped this voter:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> read the application <input type="checkbox"/> sign the application <input type="checkbox"/> read and sign the application</p> <p>Signature of Aide _____ Printed Name of Aide _____</p>
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**FOR MUNICIPAL CLERK USE ONLY:**

<b>ELECTION DATE</b>	<b>BALLOT ISSUED</b>	<b>BALLOT RECEIVED</b>
November 3, 2009		
June 8, 2010		
November 2, 2010		