



## Permanent Absentee Lists

No updates required since February 25, 2025

### Background

In addition to policies governing which voters qualify for absentee ballots, some states have implemented options for voters to sign up to be placed on a list to permanently receive absentee ballots each election. States differ on whether all voters or only certain voters are eligible for this option, and other states allow annual or bi-annual sign ups. In addition, certain states will send applications rather than actual ballots. Following the 2020 election, a small number of Republican states have implemented bans on the unsolicited distribution of absentee ballots or applications. Note: States that conduct all-mail elections have been scored as having a permanent absentee list.

### Scoring

- State allows some or all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list to receive ballots, 1/2 point
- State allows some or all voters to sign up for an annual or bi-annual absentee list to receive ballots OR permanent list to receive applications, ¼ point
- State has no applicable law, 0 points
- State bans unsolicited distribution of absentee ballots or applications, -½ point

### Summary Table

Category	Number	List
State allows some or all voters to sign up for permanent absentee list	24 states & D.C.	Alabama California Colorado Connecticut Delaware D.C. Hawaii Illinois Kansas Louisiana Maryland Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Montana Nevada New Jersey New Mexico New York Oregon Utah Vermont Washington



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		West Virginia Wisconsin
<b>State allows some or all voters to sign up for an annual or bi-annual absentee list to receive ballots OR permanent list to receive applications</b>	10 states	Alaska Florida Massachusetts Missouri North Dakota Oklahoma Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Dakota Tennessee
<b>State has no applicable law</b>	11 states	Arizona Idaho Indiana Kentucky Maine Nebraska New Hampshire North Carolina Ohio South Carolina Virginia
<b>State bans unsolicited distribution of absentee ballots or applications,</b>	6 states	Arizona Arkansas Georgia Iowa Louisiana Texas Wyoming



## State-by-State Sources and More Detail

### Alabama (1/2)

- State allows disabled voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Ala. Code § 17-11-3.1](#)).

### Alaska (1/4)

- State allows certain categories of voters to sign up for permanent list to receive absentee applications ([Alaska Admin. Code tit. 6, § 25.650](#)).

### Arizona (0)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-544 \(A\)](#)).
- State bans unsolicited distribution of absentee ballots to voters not on the permanent absentee list ([Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-542](#)).

### Arkansas (-1/2)

- State bans unsolicited distribution of absentee ballots or applications ([Arkansas Code § 7-5-409](#)).

### California (1/2)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Cal. Elec. Code § 3201](#)).

### Colorado (1/2)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Colo. Rev. Stat. § 1-5-401](#)).

### Connecticut (1/2)

- State allows disabled voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Conn. Gen. Stat. § 9-140e](#)).

### Delaware (1/2)

- State allows disabled, UOCAVA, and other defined categories of voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([De. Code tit. 15, § 5503\(k\)](#)).

### D.C. (1/2)

- Allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([D.C. Board of Elections](#)).

### Florida (1/4)

- State allows applications for absentee ballots to be effective for a calendar year ([Fla. Stat. §101.62](#)).

### Georgia (-1/2)

- State prohibits election officials from sending unsolicited absentee ballot applications ([Ga. Code § 21-2-381](#)).



Hawaii (1/2)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Haw. Rev. Stat. § 11-102](#)).

Idaho (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Illinois (1/2)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Ill. Pub. Act. 15 \(2021\)](#)).

Indiana (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Iowa (-1/2)

- State prohibits election officials from sending unsolicited absentee ballot applications ([Iowa Code § 53.2](#)).

Kansas (1/2)

- State allows disabled voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Kan. Stat. § 25-1122\(h\)](#)).

Kentucky (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Louisiana (0)

- State allows disabled, senior, and other defined categories of voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Louisiana Secretary of State](#)).
- State bans the unsolicited distribution of absentee ballot applications ([LA SB 218](#) (2024)).

Maine (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Maryland (1/2)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Md. Code, Elec. Law § 9-311.1](#)).

Massachusetts (1/4)

- State allows permanently disabled voters to sign up for permanent list to receive absentee applications ([Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 54, §86](#)).

Michigan (1/2)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Michigan Proposal 2 \(2022\)](#)).



Minnesota (1/2)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Minn. Stat. § 203B.04](#)).

Mississippi (1/2)

- State allows disabled voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Miss. Code § 23-15-629\(2\)](#)).

Missouri (1/4)

- State allows permanently disabled voters to sign up for permanent list to receive absentee applications ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.284](#)).

Montana (1/2)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Mont. Code § 13-13-212\(3\)](#)).

Nebraska (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Nevada (1/2)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([AB 321 \(2021\)](#)).

New Hampshire (0)

- State has no applicable law.

New Jersey (1/2)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([N.J. Stat. § 19:63-3\(a\)\(1\)](#)).

New Mexico (1/2)

- State allows all voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([NM HB 4 \(2023\)](#)).

New York (1/2)

- State allows disabled voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([N.Y. Elec. Code 8-400\(4\)](#)).

North Carolina (0)

- State has no applicable law.

North Dakota (1/4)

- State allows applications for absentee ballots to be effective for a calendar year ([N.D.. Cent. Code §16.1-07-05\(1\)](#)).

Ohio (0)



- State has no applicable law.

Oklahoma (1/4)

- State allows applications for absentee ballots to be effective for a calendar year ([Oklahoma AC 230:30-5-13](#)).

Oregon (1/2)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Or. Rev. Stat. §§ 254.465, 254.470](#)).

Pennsylvania (1/4)

- State allows all voters to sign up for permanent list to receive absentee applications ([25 P.S. § 3150.12](#)).

Rhode Island (1/4)

- State allows disabled voters to sign up for permanent list to receive absentee applications ([R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-20-9](#)).

South Carolina (0)

- State has no applicable law.

South Dakota (1/4)

- State allows applications for absentee ballots to be effective for a calendar year ([S.D.. Codified Laws Ann. §12-19-2](#)).

Tennessee (1/4)

- State allows certain categories of voters to sign up for a permanent list to receive absentee applications ([T. C. A. § 2-6-201](#)).

Texas (-1/2)

- State prohibits election officials from sending unsolicited absentee ballot applications ([TX SB 1 \(2021\)](#)).

Utah (1/2)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3a-202](#)).

Vermont (1/2)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Vermont Secretary of State](#))

Virginia (0)

- State has no applicable law.



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#### Washington (1/2)

- State conducts all-mail elections ([Wash. Rev. Code § 29A.40.010](#)).

#### West Virginia (1/2)

- State allows disabled voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([W. Va. Code §3-3-2b](#)).

#### Wisconsin (1/2)

- State allows disabled voters to sign up for a permanent absentee list ([Wis. Stat. § 6.86\(2\)\(a\)](#)).

#### Wyoming (-1/2)

- State bans the unsolicited distribution of absentee ballot applications ([WY SB 78](#) (2025)).