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Prepaid Ballot Postage

No updates required since December 20, 2023

Background

Oftentimes voters who utilize absentee or mail ballots return those ballots through the postal system.

States vary in their policies regarding return postage for those ballots, with some states providing prepaid return postage envelopes so voters don't need to pay for postage themselves.

Scoring

- State provides pre-paid return postage for mail ballots, 1/2 point
- State does not provide pre-paid return postage for mail ballots, 0 points

Summary Table

Category	Number	List
State provides prepaid postage for mail ballots	19 states	Arizona California Delaware Hawaii Indiana Iowa Maryland Michigan Minnesota Missouri Nevada New Mexico New York Oregon Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin
State does not provide prepaid postage for mail ballots	31 states & D.C.	Alabama Alaska Arkansas Colorado Connecticut D.C. Florida



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		Georgia Idaho Illinois Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Massachusetts Mississippi Montana Nebraska New Hampshire New Jersey North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Wyoming
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State-by-State Sources and More Detail

Alabama (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Alaska (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Arizona (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (A.R.S. § 16-542).

Arkansas (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

California (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (West's Ann. Cal. Elect. Code § 3010).

Colorado (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Connecticut (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Delaware (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (15 Del. Code § 5504).

D.C. (0)

- Does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Florida (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Georgia (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Hawaii (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (HRS § 11-182).

Idaho (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.



Illinois (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Indiana (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (IC 3-11-4-20).

Iowa (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (I.C.A. § 53.8).

Kansas (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Kentucky (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Louisiana (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Maine (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Maryland (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (MD Code, Election Law, § 9-310).

Massachusetts (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Michigan (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (Michigan Proposal 2 (2022)).

Minnesota (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (M.S.A. § 203B.07).

Mississippi (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Missouri (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (V.A.M.S. 115.285).



Montana (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Nebraska (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Nevada (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (Nev. Rev. Stat. 293.323).

New Hampshire (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

New Jersey (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

New Mexico (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (N. M. Stat. Ann. § 1-6-8).

New York (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (NY SB 8005 (2022)).

North Carolina (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

North Dakota (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Ohio (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Oklahoma (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Oregon (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (Or. Rev. Stat. 254.470).

Pennsylvania (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.



Rhode Island (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

South Carolina (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

South Dakota (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Tennessee (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Texas (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Utah (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.

Vermont (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots ([SB 15](#) (2021)).

Virginia (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (Va. Code § 24.2-706).

Washington (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (West's RCWA 29A.40.091).

West Virginia (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (W. Va. Code, § 3-3-5).

Wisconsin (1/2)

- State requires pre-paid return postage for mail ballots (W.S.A. 6.87).

Wyoming (0)

- State does not require pre-paid return postage for mail ballots.