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Drop Box Policies & Availability

No updates required since April 23, 2025

Background	1
Scoring	1
Summary Table	2
State-by-State Sources and More Detail	3
Democracy Map & Additional Resources	7

Background

In addition to returning absentee or mail ballots through the postal service, many states offer voters the option of returning their ballot to a secure drop box provided by election authorities. States take a variety of policy approaches to ballot drop boxes, with some states requiring or allowing they be broadly available statewide, while other states restrict or even ban the option. MAP defines “broadly available” drop boxes as those available 24 hours per day, not required to be staffed, and not limited in number.

Scoring

- Drop boxes required statewide and broadly available, 1 point
- Drop boxes allowed statewide and broadly available, ½ pt
- State has no applicable law or policy and drop boxes are not used, 0 points
- State allows drop boxes but restricts their availability, -1/2 pt
- State bans drop boxes, -½ point



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Summary Table

Category	Number	List
Drop boxes are required statewide and broadly available	13 states & D.C.	California Colorado D.C. Kentucky Maryland Michigan Nevada New Jersey New Mexico Oregon Rhode Island Utah Virginia Washington
Drop Boxes are allowed statewide and broadly available	16 states	Arizona Connecticut Delaware Hawaii Idaho Illinois Maine Massachusetts Minnesota Nebraska New York North Dakota Pennsylvania Vermont Wisconsin Wyoming
Drop boxes are required or allowed statewide but limited or restricted	5 states	Florida Georgia Indiana Iowa Ohio
State has no applicable law or policy and drop boxes are not used	5 states & D.C.	Alaska Alabama Connecticut D.C. Kansas New Hampshire
State bans drop boxes	11 states	Arkansas Louisiana Mississippi Missouri North Carolina Oklahoma South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas West Virginia



State-by-State Sources and More Detail

Alabama (0)

- State has no applicable law and drop boxes are not used.

Alaska (0)

- State has no applicable law and drop boxes are not used.

Arizona (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Ariz. Rev. Stat. §§ 16-548, 16-550, 16-579, 16-584](#)).

Arkansas (-1)

- State law effectively bans ballot drop boxes by requiring the voter to deliver their absentee ballot to the office of the county clerk ([Ark. Code § 7-5-411](#)).

California (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([California Secretary of State](#)).

Colorado (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Colo. Rev. Stat. § 1-5-102.9](#)).

Connecticut (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available.

Delaware (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([DE SB 320](#) (2022)).

D.C. (1)

- Requires broadly available drop boxes.

Florida (-1/2)

- State allows the use of drop boxes statewide but restricts the availability, location, and hours of drop boxes (FL [SB 90](#) (2021)).



Georgia (-1/2)

- State requires drop boxes statewide, but restricts the availability, location, and hours of drop boxes ([GA SB 202](#) (2021)).

Hawaii (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Haw. Rev. Stat. § 11-109](#)).

Idaho (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available

Illinois (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([10 ILCS 5/19-6](#)).

Indiana (-1/2)

- State allows drop boxes but restricts the availability, location, and hours of drop boxes ([Ind. Code § 3-11-10-24](#)).

Iowa (-1/2)

- State allows drop boxes but restricts the availability, location, and hours of drop boxes ([Iowa Code § 53.17](#)).

Kansas (0)

- State allowed the use of drop boxes in the 2020 election but currently has no applicable law in effect.

Kentucky (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 117.086](#)).

Louisiana (-1)

- State law effectively bans drop boxes ([SB 144](#) (2022)).

Maine (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Maine Secretary of State](#)).

Maryland (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([MD SB 683](#) (2021)).



Massachusetts (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 54, § 92](#)).

Michigan (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Michigan Proposal 2 \(2022\)](#)).

Minnesota (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Minn. Stat. § 203B.082](#)).

Mississippi (-1)

- State law effectively bans drop boxes as absentee ballots are required to be returned by mail ([Miss. Code § 23-15-637](#)).

Missouri (-1)

- State bans drop boxes ([MO HB 1878 \(2022\)](#)).

Montana (0)

- State has no applicable law and drop boxes are not used.

Nebraska (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide for all elections and requires drop boxes for mail elections in small counties ([Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-960](#)).

Nevada (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([NV AB 321 \(2021\)](#)).

New Hampshire (0)

- State has no applicable law and drop boxes are not used.

New Jersey (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([N.J. Stat. § 19:63-16.1](#)).

New Mexico (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([NM HB 4 \(2023\)](#)).

New York (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([NY SB 610 \(2024\)](#)).



North Carolina (-1)

- State bans drop boxes (NC [SB 747](#) (2023)).
- Formerly, state had no applicable law and drop boxes were not used.

North Dakota (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([N.D. Cent. Code § 16.1-11.1-04](#)).

Ohio (-1/2)

- State allows drop boxes but restricts to one per county ([OH HB 458](#) (2022)).

Oklahoma (-1)

- State law effectively bans drop boxes as absentee ballots are required to be returned by mail or delivered to an election office ([Okla. Stat. tit. 26, § 1-101](#), et seq).

Oregon (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Or. Rev. Stat. § 254.470](#)).

Pennsylvania (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Pennsylvania Department of State](#)).

Rhode Island (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([SB 2007](#) (2022)).

South Carolina (-1)

- State bans drop boxes ([SC SB 108](#) (2022)).

South Dakota (-1)

- State bans drop boxes ([SD HB 1165](#) (2023)).

Tennessee (-1)

- State law effectively bans drop boxes ([Tenn. Code § 2-6-202\(e\)](#)).

Texas (-1)

- State law effectively bans drop boxes ([Tex. Elec. Code § 86.006](#)).



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Utah (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Utah Code § 20A-5-403.5](#)).

Vermont (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([VT SB 15](#) (2021)).

Virginia (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([VA SB 1245](#) (2021)).

Washington (1)

- State requires drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Wash. Rev. Code § 29A.40.170](#)).

West Virginia (-1)

- State does not allow drop boxes ([West Virginia Secretary of State](#)).

Wisconsin (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Wis. Rev. Stat. 6.85](#)).
- State Supreme Court previously ruled that ballot drop boxes were illegal under state law ([Teigen v. Wisconsin Election Commission](#) (2022)), before the decision was overturned in 2024.

Wyoming (1/2)

- State allows drop boxes statewide and they are broadly available ([Wyo. Stat. § 22-29-116](#)).

Democracy Map & Additional Resources

- See our Democracy Map, [Drop Box Policies](#), which is updated in real time.