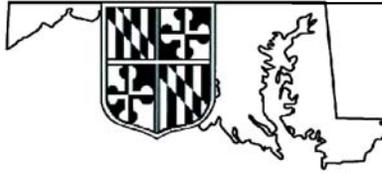


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Important 2012 Presidential Primary Election Deadlines

March 13th is the Deadline to Register to Vote, Change Party Affiliation, and Request a Polling Place Change

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Mary Cramer Wagner
 410-269-2850

Annapolis, Maryland (February 27, 2012): Important deadlines for the upcoming 2012 Presidential Primary Election are approaching. The deadline to register to vote or change party affiliation and the deadline for certain voters to request a polling place change for this election is 9:00 pm on **Tuesday, March 13, 2012**.

To vote in the upcoming primary election, Maryland residents who are eligible to vote but are not yet registered – including 17 year olds who will be 18 years old or older on or before the November 6, 2012, General Election – must complete a voter registration application and hand-deliver or mail the application to a local board of elections. A hand-delivered application must be received by a local board of elections by 9:00 pm on March 13, 2012, and a mailed application must be postmarked by March 13, 2012. This is also the deadline for registered voters who have moved since the last election to provide updated address information to the local board of elections and for registered voters who wish to change their party affiliation.

Voter registration applications are available at the following locations:

Local boards of elections	Public institutions of higher education
Motor Vehicle Administration offices	Marriage license bureaus
State Department of Health offices	Post offices
Local Department of Social Services offices	Public libraries
Offices on Aging	State Board of Elections
Division of Rehabilitation Services	1-800-222-8683 to request an application by mail
www.elections.state.md.us (click “Voter Registration Information” under Quick Links)	

Most of Maryland’s polling places are accessible to voters with disabilities. An elderly voter or a voter with a disability who is assigned to an inaccessible polling place may request reassignment to an accessible polling place. This request must be submitted in writing by 9:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, March 13, 2012**. The form to request reassignment is available at www.elections.state.md.us (type “polling place reassignment” in the Search field). On receipt of a timely request, the local board of elections will review the request and determine whether there is an accessible polling place with the same ballot as the voter’s home precinct and notify the voter of the status of his or her request.

On the State Board of Elections’ website, a voter can verify his or her voter registration status and find out if the polling place to which he or she has been assigned is accessible. To find this information, a voter can visit www.elections.state.md.us and click on the “Find Out Here” link.

The 2012 Presidential Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, and the General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. Starting the 2nd Saturday before the election through the Thursday before the election, voters can vote in person at the designated early voting center(s) in their county of residence. Early voting locations and hours and additional election-related dates and information are available at www.elections.state.md.us (click “Early Voting” under Quick Links).

For more information, voters may contact the State Board of Elections at 1-800-222-VOTE (8683) or visit www.elections.state.md.us.