



Healthcare Facility Voting

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

10 ILCS 5/19-3, 19-13

Are Voters Eligible to Vote in Healthcare Facilities?

Any qualified voter that has been admitted to a healthcare facility (hospital, nursing home or rehabilitation center) not more than 14 days before the election or, if released, is expected to be homebound on the day of the election and unable to travel to the polling place, shall be entitled to personal delivery of a ballot.

For additional information about healthcare facility voting, contact your local county clerk or board of election commissioner's office. For more information on voting by mail, please refer to the Illinois State Board of Election's brochure "Voting by Mail in Illinois." For information on nursing home voting, please contact your local county clerk or board of election commissioner's office.

Any qualified voter admitted to a healthcare facility more than 14 days before the election may request a "vote by mail" ballot.

Voter Assistance

Assistance is the actual casting of votes for a voter in accordance with the voter's wishes. Assistance can be given by a friend or relative, but cannot be given by an officer or agent of the voter's employer or an officer or agent of the voter's union.

A candidate whose name appears on the ballot is also prohibited from assisting a physically incapacitated voter unless the candidate is the spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister of the incapacitated voter. This would prohibit precinct committeepersons from giving assistance in a primary election.

If assistance is given, the name and address of the person giving assistance must be provided on the certification envelope.

The Following Procedures Must be Followed:

1. Voter must obtain an *Application for Ballot for Qualified Voter Admitted to Hospital, Nursing Home, or Rehabilitation Center* (SBE Form A-12). The application can be obtained from the election authority (county clerk or board of election commissioners, depending on where the voter is registered to vote).
2. Voter must complete their application and their physician must complete and sign the *Certificate of Attending Physician* section of the application.
3. After the form is completed and signed by the voter and their physician, a registered voter from the voter's precinct or any legal relative can then hand deliver the application to the election authority's office.
4. After signing an affidavit, the precinct voter or legal relative may personally hand deliver the ballot to the voter at the healthcare facility they have been admitted to.
5. Once the voter receives the ballot, they will vote the ballot in secret and complete the certification on the ballot return envelope.
6. After depositing their voted ballot in the return envelope, the voter will securely seal the envelope and give the envelope to the precinct voter or to the legal relative. The ballot must be delivered back to the election authority before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

