

In Person Voting

[Video Description: A Caucasian male with light brown hair and groomed beard, wearing a royal blue polo shirt, standing in front of a black background.]

As I have explained New Mexico offers different ways to vote. One of the most well-known ways to vote is in person voting. Voting locations will still be opened for in person voting during the COVID-19 pandemic. We need to be safe and follow the safety protocols for COVID-19:

1. Wear a face covering
2. Practice 6 feet social distancing (waiting in line or when you are filling out the ballot)
3. Make sure the ballot table and the pen has been wiped down.

Voting locations are working hard to make sure the in person voting process is safe and clean, so you may want to take advantage of the early voting option. Early voting at the county clerk's office begins on October 6, 2020. Some counties will expand to additional early voting locations beginning October 17, 2020. You can find early voting locations and hours of operation at www.nmvote.org. Early voting ends on October 31, 2020.

The other option is to vote on Election Day, which is November 3, 2020.

Regardless of your choice in person voting follows the same procedures which we will explain.

When you decide to do in person voting, there are four things to be aware of:

1. If you have voted in New Mexico before, you do not need to provide an ID to vote. You can just tell the poll worker your name, year of birth, and address.
2. If you are voting for the first time and you registered by mail and did not include a copy of ID, you will need to show a copy of ID (photo, utility bill, bank statement, or any other government documents that shows your name and current address)
3. If you are voting for the first time and you registered by mail and included a copy of ID, you can just tell the poll worker your name, year of birth, and address
4. If you are unable to provide ID, you will be able to vote a provisional ballot which will be counted if you produce the required ID before the end of the day on election day

When you approach the check-in area, please inform the poll worker that you are either Deaf, Hard of Hearing or have a hearing loss. This will help make the process easier. If you have your information written down in advance either on paper or via an app that will help a lot, make sure it is clear and easy to read.

Once you receive the ballot, carefully read, and follow the instructions.

Use a black or blue ballpoint pen to mark your choices. Planning your vote is always a good idea and reduces the amount of time in the voting location. It would be a good idea to print a sample ballot via the New Mexico Secretary of State's website and plan out your votes. Make your choices on the sample ballot then when you get the official ballot form, you can copy your choices on it. This will make for an easier quicker process.

Once you have made your choices inform the poll worker that you are finished, and they will show you the way to the ballot tabulator area.

They will collect the voting permit from you and instruct you to insert your ballot into the tabulation machine. Once the tabulation machine confirms the ballot, you may get an "I Voted" sticker if you want one.

Thank you and I hope that this information helps you when you vote in New Mexico.

[Image Description: Produced in cooperation between Secretary of State's Office N.M. Election Board and N.M. Commission for Deaf & Hard of Hearing. A logo of the Great Seal of New Mexico and a logo of NM Commission for Deaf & Hard of Hearing is shown above their names.]