

# EARLY VOTING Q & A – Tioga County

## WHAT IS EARLY VOTING?

For the first time in New York State, voters can vote in-person during a nine-day period before Election Day at an Early Voting site in their county.

## DO I NEED TO BE REGISTERED TO VOTE EARLY OR CAN I REGISTER AT ANY EARLY VOTING POLL SITE?

In NYS, you must be registered to vote in advance of Early Voting not later than 25 days before the next Election Day. In NYS, we do not have same day registration; you cannot register to vote and vote the same day during Early Voting or at the polls on Election Day.

Voter registration forms are available on the [NYS BOE website](#) or you can register online through the [NYS Department of Motor Vehicles](#) if you have a NYS DMV license, permit or ID.

## WHERE CAN I VOTE EARLY?

The poll site for early voting will not be your usual poll site location. Tioga County will have one poll site open for Early Voting, which will be in the same building as the Board of Elections offices: the A-frame Building at **1062 State Route 38, Owego, NY 13827**.

## WHEN CAN I VOTE EARLY?

Early Voting in New York State will begin ten days prior to an upcoming election (a Saturday) and run for a period of nine days.

In Tioga County, Early Voting will occur during the following times:

<b>DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
<u>1: Saturday (10<sup>th</sup> day prior to election)</u>	<u>9:00 AM – 2 PM</u>
<u>2: Sunday</u>	<u>Noon – 5:00 PM</u>
<u>3: Monday</u>	<u>Noon – 8:00 PM</u>
<u>4: Tuesday</u>	<u>10:00 AM – 6:00 PM</u>
<u>5: Wednesday</u>	<u>Noon – 8:00 PM</u>
<u>6: Thursday</u>	<u>10:00 AM – 6:00 PM</u>
<u>7: Friday</u>	<u>10:00 AM – 6:00 PM</u>
<u>8: Saturday</u>	<u>9:00 AM – 2:00 PM</u>
<u>9: Sunday</u>	<u>9:00 AM – 2:00 PM</u>

## **WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT THE EARLY VOTING POLL SITE?**

Voting at an Early Voting poll site will be just like voting at your regular poll site. The early voting site has electronic poll books instead of paper signature books, and you will still be expected to sign in on the electronic poll book. You will then be given your ballot for your town and district, you will mark your choices, and then scan the ballot into the voting machine to be counted.

There will be instructions available at the Early Voting Center to familiarize yourself with the ballot. There will also be a Notice to Voter and Bill of Rights. You may ask an election inspector to explain how to vote, or if you need any assistance.

If you vote during the early voting period, you are not eligible to vote on Election Day.

## **WILL THE EARLY VOTING SITE HAVE A LIST OF ALL REGISTERED VOTER IN THE COUNTY?**

There will be Electronic and back-up paper poll books, which will have all voters in Tioga County listed.

## **WILL THE BALLOT LOOK THE SAME AT THE EARLY VOTING POLL SITE AND ELECTION DAY POLL SITES?**

Yes, the ballot at the Early Voting poll site will be identical to the ballot provided on Election Day.

## **WHEN WILL EARLY VOTING RESULTS BE POSTED?**

Early Voting votes will be canvassed and reported after 9pm on Election Night.

## **CAN I CHANGE MY VOTE IF I VOTE EARLY?**

Once you submit your ballot, you have completed voting and cannot change your vote. You cannot vote again at the Early Voting poll site or at your usual poll site on Election Day.

## **WHAT IF MY NAME IS NOT IN THE ELECTRONIC OR PAPER POLL BOOK?**

If you go to vote either during Early Voting or on Election Day, and your name is not in the poll book, you will be given an Affidavit ballot. You will fill out the Affidavit Envelope making sure you enter your current address. You will vote your ballot and seal it inside the affidavit envelope, then return it to a poll inspector.

Election staff will want to make sure you are at the correct poll site to vote on Election Day, and this is determined by your current address.

After Election Day, the county Board of Elections (BOE) office will research your registration and count your affidavit ballot, if you are a qualified voter. Tioga County BOE will send you a letter informing you whether your vote was counted. If your vote did not count we will inform you as to why it did not count.

## **WHAT IF I MOVED OR I AM MOVING DURING THE EARLY VOTING PERIOD?**

One of the other reforms passed by the Legislature in 2019 was a statewide voter registration transfer, also known as “Registration Portability.” This law requires the Board of Elections to transfer registration and enrollment of a voter appearing on a statewide voter list to wherever the voter moves within NYS. So if you move, even to a different county in NYS, and your new county has not been notified of your change of address, you can vote an affidavit ballot either at the Early Voting site or at the poll site for your new address if voting on Election Day, and your affidavit ballot will be counted once your new address is verified.

As this is a new law, we strongly recommend that if you have moved within NYS, you submit a voter registration form with your new information to your new Board of Elections or visit MyDMV to change your registration online, if you have a NYS driver’s license. If you need to file a change of address form with the Department of Motor Vehicles, you can notify the Board of Elections of your address change at the same time by checking “yes” for that option on DMV’s Form MV-232.

## **CAN I STILL VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT?**

Yes, If you are out of your home county, or if you are permanently or temporarily disabled, ill or are the primary care giver for one or more people who are ill or physically disabled, or a resident of a Veterans Hospital, or detained in jail awaiting Grand Jury action or incarcerated for an offense other than a felony you may apply for an absentee ballot.

## **HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT EARLY VOTING?**

You can contact your local Board of Elections at 607-687-8261 or [VoteTioga@co.tioga.ny.us](mailto:VoteTioga@co.tioga.ny.us)

Or contact the State Board of Elections at 518-474-1953 or [www.elections.ny.gov](http://www.elections.ny.gov)