



*Office of the Town Clerk
Elections Division*

Kim D. Hopewell, Town Clerk
Elaine S. Novia, Asst. Town Clerk

Early Voting Press Release

For the first time in Massachusetts, the first choice all voters will make is which day to vote. Early voting will make the most fundamental right of our citizens more convenient than ever to exercise. We encourage all of our citizens to exercise that right and take advantage of the opportunity to vote on their schedules.

We are excited to announce that all registered voters will be able vote before Election Day for the first time ever in Massachusetts. Early voting will begin on October 24th and continue through November 4th, 2016. Prior to the enactment of this new law, the only way a registered voter was allowed to vote prior to Election Day was through absentee voting. Absentee voting will still be available for registered voters who qualify.

Overview of Absentee Voting v. Early Voting

| | Absentee Voting | Early Voting |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Who is eligible | Voters who are absent from their city/town on Election Day or have a physical disability or religious belief that prevents them from voting at their polling place. | All Registered Voters |
| Where to vote | By mail or at Town Hall | By mail or at Town Hall |
| Applications | Application required for voters casting ballots by mail or in person | Application required for mailed early ballots; no application required for voters casting an early ballot in person |
| Casting ballots | Ballots are sealed in envelopes and cast by poll workers at the polling place on Election Day | Ballots are sealed in envelopes and cast by poll workers at the polling place on Election Day |

Unlike absentee voting, early voting is for every registered voter. Registered voters do not need an excuse or reason to vote early. Regardless of whether a voter wants to take advantage of early voting, vote

absentee or vote on Election Day, the first step is making sure you are registered. To check to see if you are registered to vote, and to find information on how to register to vote, you may visit the Secretary of the Commonwealth's website: [Elections Division webpage](#) Also, if you haven't visited there recently, check it out, they have added lots of additional information, including an [Early Voting link](#) and a PDF of the [Information for Voters](#) booklet. This booklet contains the questions to be included on the Presidential Election Ballot.

If you need to register to vote, you may do it online by visiting: www.RegisterToVoteMA.com. All you need is a license or an I.D. issued by the Registry of Motor Vehicles to apply online. To be eligible to vote in the November 8th State Election, you must register to vote or make any necessary changes to your voter registration by October 19th, 2016.

The Town of West Boylston Election Officials have designated that Early Voting will be conducted at that The Town Hall, 140 Worcester Street at the following times;

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 10-24 | 10-25 | 10-26 | 10-27 | 10-28 |
| 9-4 pm | 9-4 pm | 9-6 pm | 7-4 pm | 7-4-pm |
| 10-31 | 11-1 | 11-2 | 11-3 | 11-4 |
| 9-4 pm | 9-4 pm | 9-8 pm | 8-4 pm | 9-2 pm |

Also, registered voters have the option to request an early voting ballot through the mail. Simply fill out an application and mail it to:

The Office of the Town Clerk
Elections Division
 140 Worcester Street,
 West Boylston, MA 01583

You can find the application on the Secretary of the Commonwealth's website: [Early Voting Application](#)

Please note, however, once a voter has cast an early voting ballot, the voter may no longer vote at the polls on Election Day.