California
Secretary of State

Displaced Voters Fact Sheet

for Persons Displaced as a Result of Fires or Other Emergencies

Displaced voters have options to safely vote in the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election.

Ballots will begin being mailed to all active registered voters by October 6, 2025.

Here's what you can do to ensure you can exercise your right to vote if you have been, or are likely to be, displaced due to recent fires or other emergencies:

Change Your Mailing Address

Ballots cannot be forwarded. If you have a forwarding address on file with the USPS, but you have not updated your mailing address with your county elections official, your ballot will be returned to your local elections office.

You can have your vote-by-mail ballot sent to the home of a family member or friend, a post office box, or your work. Complete a replacement ballot request, listing a mailing address where you can receive your ballot for this election.

To change your voter registration mailing address, please contact your local county elections office. You can also change your voter registration address or make any updates to your voter registration at registertovote.ca.gov by October 20, 2025.

If you did not receive your ballot in the mail, contact your local county elections office.

Vote in Person

Every voter has the option to vote in-person. Every county in California will offer early in-person voting in the county elections offices starting no later than 29 days before an election. Other locations, times, and days of early voting vary by county. Find a location near you at vote.ca.gov.

All voting locations will be open on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. To find the location nearest you, visit vote.ca.gov.

All voting locations will offer Same Day Voter Registration allowing you to register to vote at your new or temporary address. Even if you have been displaced outside of your home county, you may use Same Day Voter Registration to register at your new or temporary address.

It's Election Day and I didn't receive my ballot in the mail. How can I vote?

Don't worry! You can still vote in person at a voting location in your county or at your local county elections office. Call your local county elections office to see what options are available for you.

County or State Voter Information Guide

If you lost your county voter information guide, most counties have an online version on their website. Voting locations will also have copies of the county information guide. For statewide elections, the Secretary of State's online voter information guide, which includes information on statewide contests, can be found at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

For city administered elections, please contact your city elections official for more information.

For more information, visit vote.ca.gov or call our Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683).

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