

## By-Laws

**SUBJECT: ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

The Board authorizes the District Clerk or a Board designee to provide absentee ballots to qualified District voters. Absentee ballots will be used for the election of Board members, and the adoption of the annual budget.

A District voter must request in advance an application for an absentee ballot. The voter must complete the application and state the reason he or she will not be able to appear in person on the day of the District election/vote for which the absentee ballot is requested. The application must be received by the District Clerk or Board designee at least seven days before the election/vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election/vote if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter.

An absentee ballot will also be mailed to every qualified District voter otherwise eligible for an absentee ballot who sends a signed letter requesting an absentee ballot which states the address of the voter to the District Clerk or Board designee. The signed letter must be received by the District Clerk or Board designee at least seven days before the election/vote. Enclosed with the absentee ballot will be an application form for the absentee ballot. The absentee ballot will not be counted unless a valid application form is enclosed with the ballot.

A qualified District voter is eligible to vote by absentee ballot if he or she is unable to appear to vote in person on the day of the District election/vote because: He or She

- a) Is or will be a patient in a hospital, or is unable to appear personally at the polling place on the day of the election/vote because of illness or physical disability;
- b) Has duties, occupation or business responsibilities, or studies which require being outside of the county or city of residence on the day of the District election/vote;
- c) Will be on vacation outside of the county or city of residence on the day of the District election/vote;
- d) Will be absent from the voting residence due to detention in jail awaiting action by a grand jury or awaiting trial, or is confined in prison after conviction for an offense other than a felony; or

Statements on the application for absentee ballot must be signed and dated by the voter.

A voter's absentee ballot must reach the Office of the District Clerk or Board designee not later than 5 p.m. on the day of the election/vote in order that his or her vote may be canvassed.

Qualified District voters who are unable to personally appear at the polling place because of a permanent illness or physical disability and whose registration record has been marked "permanently disabled" pursuant to law are entitled to receive an absentee ballot without application if they have previously applied for an absentee ballot.

(Continued)

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By-Laws

**SUBJECT:**

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS (Cont'd.)**

A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued will be maintained in the Office of the District Clerk or Board designee and made available for public inspection during regular office hours until the day of the election/vote. Prior to the election/vote, any qualified voter may, upon examination of this list, file a written challenge of the qualifications as a voter of any person whose name appears on this list, stating the reason for the challenge. The written challenge will be transmitted by the District Clerk or Board designee to the election inspectors on the day of the District election/vote. In addition, any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of the absentee voter's ballot of any person on this list by making his or her reasons known to the election inspector before the close of the polls.

Education Law §§ 1501-c, 2014, 2018-a, 2018-b and 2613

Adoption Date: December 14, 2022