# Dates to Remember 2019-2020

Candidate
Filing Began
February 28,
2019

Deadline to Register or Change Party Affiliation April 7, 2020

Early Voting April 16 – 23, 2020

Primary
Election Day
April 28, 2020

Deadline to Register or Change Party Affiliation

October 13, 2020

Early Voting October 22 -29, 2020

General Election Day November 3, 2020



Happy Summer!! Schools almost out and temperatures are rising. We hope you are having a happy and safe summer.

### What's going on at the Board of Elections?

We're in the planning stage for the 2020 elections. Working closely with the State Board of Elections, we are updating procedures and making improvements to ensure voting in Montgomery County, is the best possible experience.

We know that we can't achieve that goal without your help, so we hope to work with you next year. We'll keep you posted on what's ahead.

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### **Swearing-in of Board Members**

On Monday, June 3, 2019 a swearing in ceremony was held for Montgomery County Board of Elections Board Members. The ceremony for new and returning Board Members was held during our open house.



#### **Board Members:**

James Shalleck, President
Nahid Khozeimeh, Vice President
David Naimon, Secretary
Diane Nash Dillon, Board Member (New)
Elisse Wright Barnes, Board Member (New)
Jacqueline Phillips, Substitute Board Member
Alan Banov, Substitute Board Member

#### **Election Worker Service for 2020**

Official launch of 2020 Recruitment campaign - January 3, 2020

Under Maryland law a new application is required for each election cycle. We will contact you by email to ask you to renew your application, confirm your availability and update your contact information.

Please keep your voter registration and contact information current. If you have changes to your name, address or party, use **Maryland's Online Voter Registration System (OLVR)** at any time to update your information.

Update your personal information online in the **EJ Connection** portal. Click on **Update Personal Data** to enter your information. Note that telephone numbers and email addresses will <u>only</u> be used for election related use.

The deadline to register to vote and update your information is 21 days before an election.

- For the 2020 Primary Election, the deadline is April 7, 2020.
- For the 2020 General Election, the deadline is October 13, 2020.

Election Worker Training – January 2020 to April 2020 (specific dates will be provided later)

### Why are you an election judge?

- To be involved in the election process
- To help voters exercise their right to vote
- To learn more about the election process
- To support my community
- To earn extra money or SSL credits
- To meet new people

Whatever your reason, we appreciate your service!

#### Our next election...

### **Presidential Primary election on April 28, 2020**

Offices appearing on the Ballot

#### **Statewide Offices**

President of the United States

Representative in Congress, Congressional Districts 1 - 8

Judge of the Circuit Court, Judicial Circuits 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8

Congressional Districts 1 – 8

Delegates to the Republic National Convention

Alternate Delegates to the Republican National Convention

Female Delegates to the Democratic National Convention

Male Delegates to the Democratic National Convention

#### **Local Offices**

Board of Education At Large and Board of Education Districts 2 and 4

For information on 2019 Federal, State and County Elected Officials use this link to our website:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/Information/electedofficials.html#County

### **Maryland Districts**

**Congressional districts** are administrative divisions of the State of Maryland determined by the Maryland General Assembly to define an area of representation for each of Maryland's Representative in Congress.

**Legislative districts** are administrative divisions of the State of Maryland determined by the Maryland General Assembly to define an area of representation for the members of the General Assembly (State Senators and Delegates).

### Keeping voter registration lists "clean" in Maryland

Maryland follows federal law. The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 defines the process of removing a voter from the voter registration list.

Sometimes we can remove a voter's name without the voter confirming the action, but other times, the voter must confirm by signature the removal. Under this law, we can't remove a voter just because he or she doesn't vote.

#### When can we remove a voter's name from the voter registration list?

We can remove a voter from the list without further confirmation if:

- The voter asks by signature to have his or her registration cancelled or
- We learn from Maryland's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene that the voter has died.

We can also remove a voter after notifying the voter if:

- The voter has been convicted of a felony and is in prison
- The voter is under a mental disability and a court has specifically found that the voter can't communicate a desire to participate in the voting process
- The voter has been convicted of buying or selling votes
- A jury commission notifies us that a voter has moved, died, or is a non-citizen
- The Social Security Administration reports that the voter has died.

When we receive this information, we send a letter asking the voter to explain why his or her registration should not be cancelled. If the voter doesn't respond to the letter within 2 weeks, the voter's registration is cancelled.

Continued next page

### What happens if a voter moves to another state?

If the voter tells us by signature that he or she has moved, we remove the voter's name.

Most of time, we learn from other sources that a voter has moved. For example, the United States Postal Service returns a voter's sample ballot and provides the voter's new address. When we receive this information, we send a letter asking the voter to confirm where he or she lives. The letter is sent by forwardable mail and includes a return card for the voter to use to tell us his or her new address. This is the called "confirmation mail" process and is required by federal law.

If the voter returns the card and confirms that he or she has moved to another state, we cancel the voter's registration. If the voter doesn't respond to the mailing within 2 weeks, the voter becomes an "inactive voter." If the "inactive voter" doesn't vote or try to vote in the next two election cycles (four years), the voter's registration will be cancelled. Again, this process is required by federal law.



- 1. Name the six presidential candidates for 1984?
- 2. Maryland is comprised of how many county jurisdictions.
- 3. Which voters can vote in the Democratic or Republican Party primary elections?
- 4. Does the Board of Elections have biographical or background information on candidates?
- 5. What document is issued to a voter who needs proof that they voted.

Answers are on page 10.

### **Security of Election Systems in Maryland**

Rumor: Election systems are not secure.

**Fact:** We've read the recent news articles about the security of election systems and want to share how we secure Maryland's election systems. Simply put, Maryland's election systems are secure, have built-in redundancies, and have been subject to security testing.

We are now using a paper-based voting system. This means that there is a paper record of every vote cast, and these ballots can be re-tabulated if needed. The voting equipment is **never** connected to the Internet. The network used to generate official election results is **never** connected to the Internet. Physical access to the network is restricted and limited to election officials - all of whom have had a security background check - and all network transactions are logged.

We use other systems to administer the election process, but these systems are not part of the voting casting or counting process. Two frequently discussed systems are voter registration databases and online voter registration systems. The voter registration database is the system where voter registration information, voting history, absentee voting requests, and other data is stored. An online voter registration system is a web-based system, voters use to submit a new voter registration application, submit updated voter registration information, or request an absentee ballot. While these systems are connected to the Internet, access is via a secure network, all data is encrypted, and the systems are continuously monitored and audited.

For more information visit the Maryland State Board of Elections website: https://elections.maryland.gov/press\_room/rumor\_control.html



### Did you know?

#### Getting time off work to vote

Employers must give certain employees time off to vote and pay them for their absence. If an employee is a registered voter and does not have two continuous hours off-duty between 7 am and 8 pm on election day, the voter's employer must give the employee two hours to vote and pay the employee for the two-hour absence.

#### Absentee and Provisional Ballots

 Absentee ballot and provisional ballots are always counted, even if they do not change the outcome of an election.

### Political parties recognized in Maryland

- o Democratic Party, Republican Party and the Bread and Roses Party
- The Green and Libertarian parties are no longer political parties according to Maryland's Election Law.
  - After reviewing the results of the 2018 General Election and the voter registration statistics in December 2018, it was determined by the State Board of Elections that the Green and Libertarian parties did not meet either criteria to continue to be recognized party in Maryland.

Pursuant to Section 4-103 of the Election Law Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, a new political party shall retain its status as a political party until December 31st in the year of the second statewide general election following the party's qualification, unless the status is extended under one of the following conditions:

- If the political party has nominated a candidate for the highest office on the ballot in a statewide general election, and the candidate receives at least 1% of the total vote for that office; or
- If the State voter registration totals, as of December 31st, show that at least 1% of the State's registered voters are affiliated with the political party.

#### **Outreach**

### **Voter Registration & Election Worker Recruitment**

Montgomery County Board of Elections will conduct voter registration and election worker recruitment drives in the coming months. Check us out at community events and festivals. Get your friends and family to sign up to work the election.

### **Future Vote Opportunities**

Do you still need to earn SSL credits? During the year we have intermittent opportunities for school-age students, grades 6-12, to earn SSL credits for working at the Board's office. Assignments are typically in the afternoon or weekend mornings. Tasks include prepare mailings, working in the warehouse to assemble/disassemble items or clerical tasks. To be added to our contact list, email your contact information to

future.vote@montgomerycountymd.gov.

### **Contacting Us**

• **General Questions:** Call 240-777-8533

Recruiters

Deborah Hamer
 Jessica Jones
 240-777-8571
 240-777-8577

• Email: <u>election.judge@montgomerycountymd.gov</u>.

• **Fax:** 240-777-8578; **Website:** <u>www.777vote.org</u>.

Mailing Address

Montgomery County Board of Elections Election Worker Program P.O. Box 4710 Rockville, MD 20849-4710

### **Trivia Answers**

- 1. Walter Mondale, Ronald Reagan, David Bergland, Gus Hall, Larry Holmes, and Dennis Serrette.
- 2. There are twenty-four counties in Maryland.
- 3. Although it is up to the parties to decide who may vote in their primaries, generally only registered voters affiliated with the Democratic or Republican Parties may vote in that party's primary election.
- 4. No. To find out more about the candidates on the ballot voters may review voter's guides provided by the League of Women Voters, major newspapers and other organizations.
- 5. The Certificate of Participation is completed by Chief Judges for voters requesting proof that they voted.

