

**LWW**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF HOWARD COUNTY

This is training for Voter  
Outreach volunteers as of  
Jan 15, 2026



# 2026 Gubernatorial Elections Howard County MD

# IMPORTANT GUIDANCE for Volunteers

The League of Women Voters is NON- PARTISAN.

The League of Howard County is a 501 (c)3 tax-exempt organization that exists to provide Voter Education.

As such, we CANNOT endorse either candidates or political parties.  
(Partnerships with organizations that do endorse are limited in scope).

This is especially true in the public schools. Violating that rule will get us disinvented.

Students often do not understand political parties or primaries and ask questions.

You may state facts to help them understand the differences between the parties.

In Howard County we have 22 elected officials (not counting the Board of Education), of whom only 1 is a Republican.

Donald Trump is a Republican. Larry Hogan is a Republican.

Joe Biden and Barack Obama are Democrats. Wes Moore is a Democrat.

# Agenda

- Welcome
- General Information
- Voter Registration
- Voting
- Additional Information
- Resources



# Did You Know?

## September 2025 Monthly Statistics Report

COUNTY	CHANGES		PARTY AFFILIATION FROM							TOTAL ACTIVE REGISTRATION							ACTIVITY	
	ADDRESS	NAME	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTH	TOTAL	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTH	TOTAL	CONF MAILING	INACTIVE
ALLEGANY	211	114	52	17	0	0	26	13	108	10829	23762	57	64	9326	763	44,801	6	2389
ANNE ARUNDEL	2372	1429	431	193	2	4	321	80	1,031	173167	130362	505	314	109566	6782	420,696	287	27520
BALTIMORE CITY	3104	2057	378	63	3	6	145	62	657	300088	30188	825	548	69420	6800	407,869	26	16542
BALTIMORE CO.	3966	2270	570	202	3	3	281	118	1,177	308070	141386	792	541	125953	10139	586,881	403	20071
CALVERT	274	212	63	30	0	0	38	15	146	23394	29016	69	46	17280	1139	70,944	64	3462
CAROLINE	138	56	21	6	0	0	13	10	50	5966	11307	33	29	5174	371	22,880	1	999
CARROLL	664	377	91	82	2	1	78	27	281	33120	64614	148	78	31687	2067	131,714	75	5749
CECIL	305	213	72	40	0	0	43	14	169	18880	36065	82	94	17908	1311	74,340	52	4262
CHARLES	618	400	113	37	1	1	41	22	215	77052	23711	135	120	26861	1660	129,539	15	6771
DORCHESTER	161	75	25	8	0	0	11	4	48	9474	9721	20	30	4543	384	24,172	55	815
FREDERICK	1500	699	219	96	0	3	124	41	483	78897	69356	268	154	56684	2870	208,229	1321	12973
GARRETT	106	69	15	13	0	0	12	2	42	3419	14112	18	14	3276	295	21,134	94	891
HARFORD	1301	622	198	77	2	0	122	41	440	64559	82635	187	174	47357	3392	198,304	1180	9564
HOWARD	1418	729	247	91	1	0	131	45	515	123193	48551	330	105	66530	3448	242,157	275	10846
KENT	64	37	12	5	0	0	10	2	29	5658	5567	15	14	2942	211	14,407	24	574
MONTGOMERY	3587	3295	853	264	4	2	383	149	1,655	406497	101619	1023	358	184871	9679	704,047	1054	50488
PR. GEORGE'S	3684	2651	671	131	6	1	258	109	1,176	459965	42480	789	513	109903	14222	627,872	7627	48930
QUEEN ANNES	224	124	26	22	1	0	26	5	80	11373	21115	18	24	21120	240	113,541	5	1174

The Maryland State Board of Elections provides monthly statistics on voter registration.

This data is publicly available on their website:

[https://elections.maryland.gov/voter\\_registration/stats.html](https://elections.maryland.gov/voter_registration/stats.html)

# 2026 Gubernatorial Election

## **Maryland – 2026 Gubernatorial Election**

*These elections are often referred to as midterm elections as they are halfway through the President's term.*

Regular statewide elections are held every two years, in even-numbered years

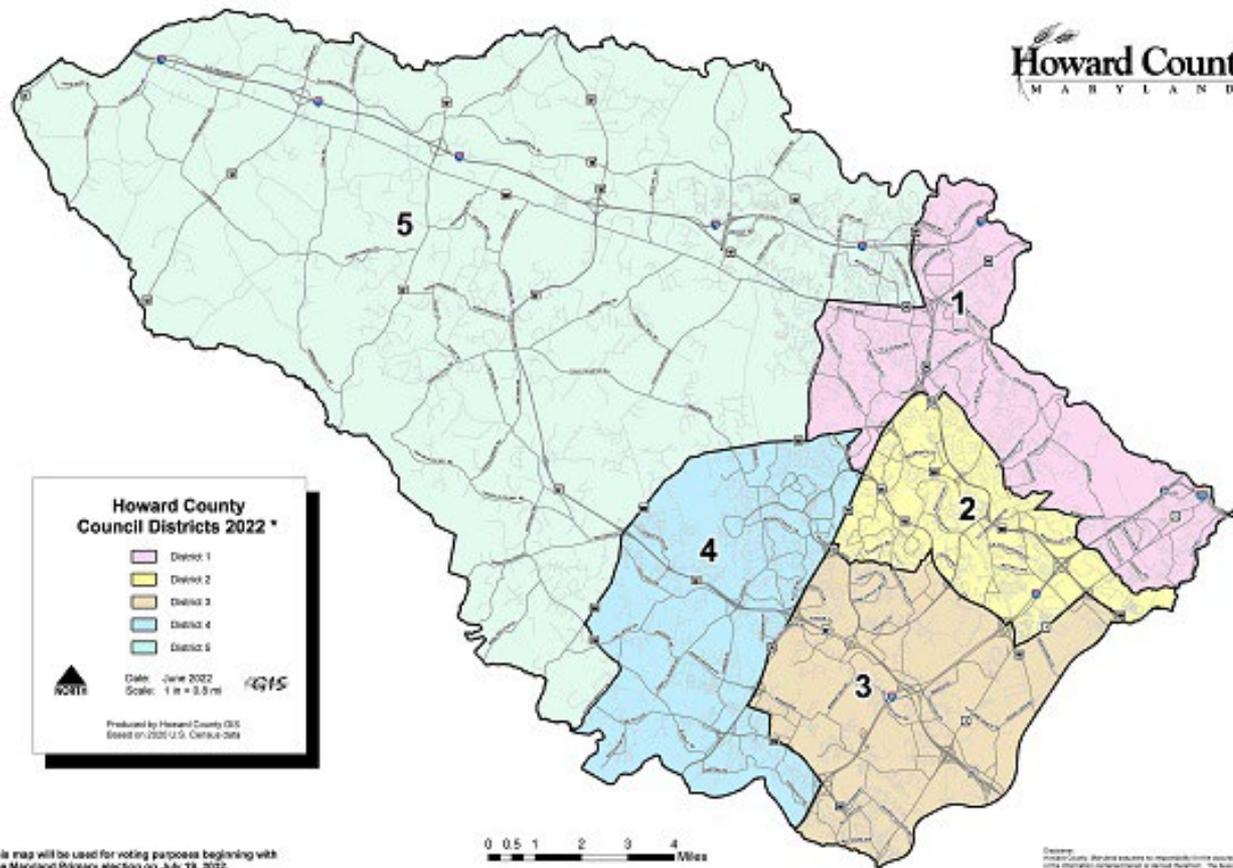
Elections alternate between presidential elections - when the U.S. President is elected and gubernatorial elections when the Maryland Governor is elected

*February 23, 2026 is the candidate filing deadline. We won't know who is running for office until the lists are posted after that date.*

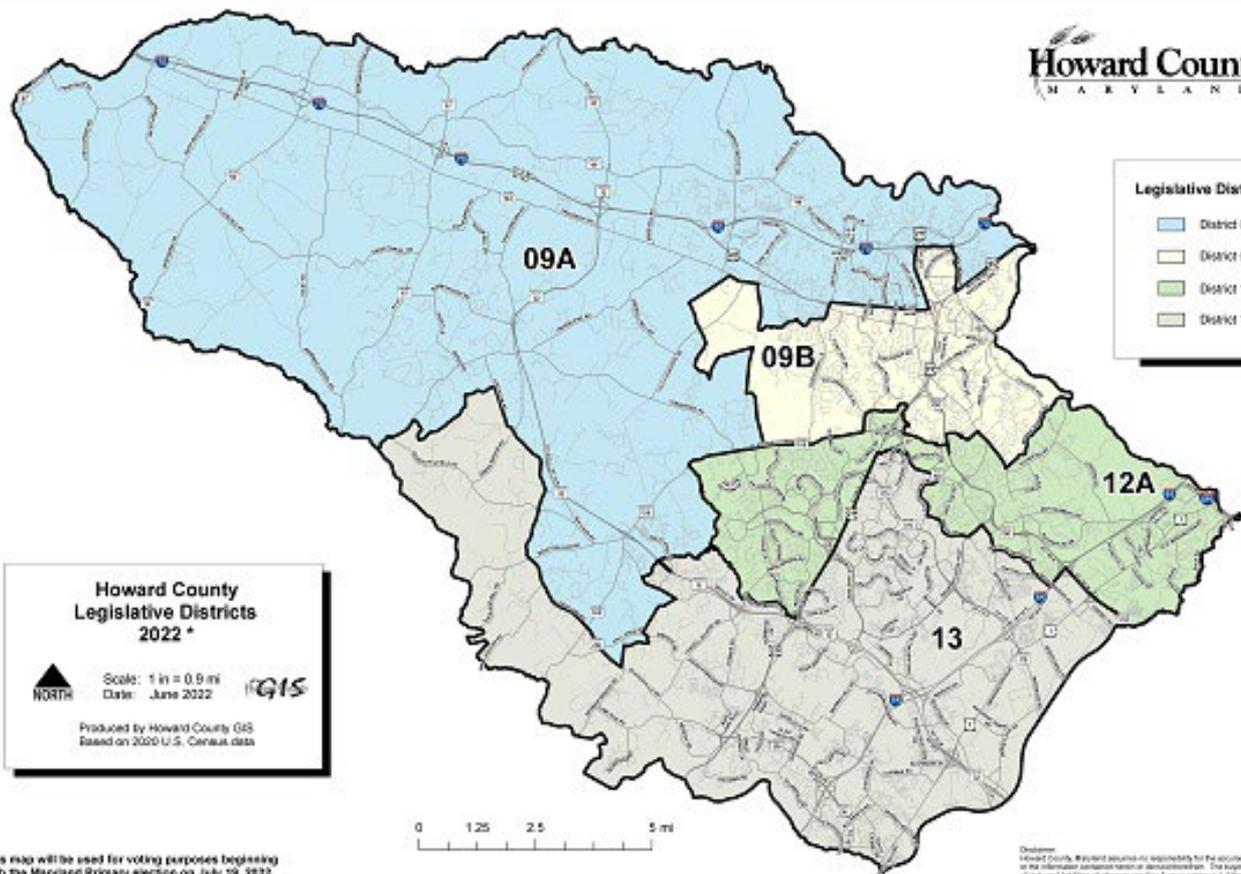
# 2026 Gubernatorial Election

## The Races on your, Howard County, Ballot

- Federal: U.S. House of Representatives
- State: Governor/LT Governor, Comptroller, Attorney General,
- Maryland General Assembly - Delegates and State Senators
- Judge of the Circuit Court and Judicial retention elections
- County Executive
- County Council - by district
- Board of Education - at large
- Sheriff
- State's Attorney
- Clerk of the Court
- Register of Wills
- Party offices - Democratic and Republican Central Committees



★ This map will be used for voting purposes beginning with the Maryland Primary election on July 19, 2022.



\* This map will be used for voting purposes beginning with the Maryland Primary election on July 19, 2022.

Disclaimer:  
Howard County, Maryland assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of this map or the information contained herein or disseminated thereon. The user shall make assumptions, inquiries and conduct independent research before relying on the use of this map. There are no oral agreements or warranties relating to this map and/or use of this map.

# 2026 Gubernatorial Election

## Primary (June 23, 2026)

The primary elections serve as the method by which the Democratic and Republican parties nominate candidates for public office for the general election and elect party officials. Voting occurs if there are at least 2 candidates for the nomination of the party for a given office.

Only voters registered with the Democratic or Republican parties are eligible to vote in most contests on the ballot in primary elections. The ballots are different: one for Democrats, one for Republicans, and one for Unaffiliated Voters/Voters from a party not holding a primary. You may change your party affiliation before June 2, 2026.

If you will be 18 by November 3, 2026 (thus eligible to vote in the General Election), you may vote in the Primary election.

# 2026 Gubernatorial Election

## More about the Primary Election - The Board of Education

Only the Board of Education is non-partisan. Unaffiliated (Independent) voters may vote to select general election candidates for the Board of Education.

There will be a primary for BOE if at least 5 candidates are running. They will appear on the primary ballot for ALL voters regardless of party affiliation.

If there are 4 or fewer than the contest 'collapses' and the candidate will only appear on the ballot during the general election.

# 2026 Gubernatorial Election

## General Election (November 3, 2026)

In the general elections, in which any registered voter is eligible to vote, candidates are elected to public office from among those nominated in the primary as well as those nominated by third parties or by petition. Independent candidates unaffiliated with any party may also file for candidacy.

Ballot questions are approved or rejected by the voters.

All ballots are the same within an election district. You may only vote for candidates who are “at large” or who will represent the area where you live.

# 2026 Gubernatorial Election Dates – Primary

**June 2, 2026:** Deadline for New Voter Registration and Changes to Party Affiliation for existing Voters \*

**June 11 - June 18, 2026:** Early Voting (In Person)

**June 16, 2026:** Board of Elections must receive mail-in ballot requests by this date, in order to mail you a **paper** ballot.

**June 23, 2026:** Primary Election Day (In Person)

*All mail-in ballots must be placed in a Ballot Dropbox by 8pm or postmarked by 8pm on June 23.*

\* Maryland offers same day voter registration at the polls during early voting and on election day, but you may not change your political party.



# 2026 Gubernatorial Election Dates – General

**October 13, 2026:** Deadline for New Voter Registration and Changes to existing Voter Registration\*

**October 22 - October 29, 2026:** Early Voting (In Person)

**October 27, 2026:** Board of Elections must receive mail-in ballot **requests** by this date, in order to mail you a **paper** ballot.

**November 3, 2026:** General Election Day (In Person)

*All mail-in ballots must be placed in a Ballot Dropbox by 8pm or postmarked by 8pm on November 3.*

\* Maryland offers same day voter registration at the polls during early voting and on election day.



# Voter Registration

# Voter Lookup (Search)

Voter Registration Deadline is October 13th

Check your voter registration record using the state website.

<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch>

Your Voter record is filled with meaningful information including your party affiliation, polling locations, and more

## Hands-On Activity



**Lookup Your Voter Information**

# Voter Registration Updates

## Online

Use the Online Voter Registration System (OLVR) to update your name, address, or party affiliation. *You'll need your driver's license and social security number to verify your identity*

<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>

## Paper

You may download a paper form (pdf) from the website. There is a single form that can be used to register a new voter OR change an existing voter registration.

## Hands-On Activity



[Update Your Voter Information](#)

# Voter Registration Updates



The screenshot shows the Maryland State Board of Elections website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Maryland logo and the text "THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS". Below this are four main navigation buttons: "FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE", "LOOKUP YOUR VOTER INFO", "REGISTER TO VOTE", and "REQUEST A BALLOT". The main content area is titled "Voter Information" and includes a language selector set to "English" and a "Change language" button. A message reads: "Please check the information below." Below this, there is a link to "Cancel My Voter Registration" and a list of update options: "Update Name", "Update Gender", "Update Residential Address", "Update Mailing Address", "Update Phone Number", "Update Email Address", "Update Political Party", "Update Need Assistance Option", "Update Election Judge Option", and "Update Mail-in Ballot Option". A large grey rectangular area is highlighted with a dashed border, covering the "Residential Address" and "Mailing Address" fields. At the bottom, there are two buttons: "Next" and "Make no change and exit".

## Hands-On Activity



[Update Your Voter Information](#)

# New Voter Registration Eligibility Criteria

## To register to vote, you must be:

- A U.S. citizen;
- A Maryland resident; and
- At least 16 years old. \*\*You may register to vote if you are at least 16 years old but cannot vote unless you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election.\*\*

## Hands-On Activity



[Register to Vote](#)

## You cannot register to vote if you:

- Have been convicted of buying or selling votes;
- Are under guardianship for mental disability and found by a court to be unable to communicate a desire to vote; or
- Are currently serving a sentence of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

# Voting

# How Can I Vote?

You may vote in one of three ways:

- Vote By Mail
- In Person Early Voting
- In Person on Election Day



# Voting by Mail

## 3 ways to request a 'mail-in' ballot:

- Filling out a form online
- Printing the online form and mailing it to the Board of Elections
- Going to the Board of Elections

## 2 ways to receive your 'mail-in' ballot

- Paper ballot received in the mail *\*\*The LWV advises that you request a paper mail-in ballot\*\**
- PDF ballot received in an email

(You must **request** a ballot by June 16 for the primary or October 27 for the general to **receive** a paper ballot)

## Vote and return your ballot

- Place it in a drop box
- Mail it using the US Postal Service
- *Because of delays in processing mail, present your ballot in person for postmark or mail your ballot the week before the election.*

# Voting by Mail: Return your Ballot

## Ballot Drop Boxes

- The Board of Elections will place official ballot drop boxes around Howard County.
- You can only use boxes located in Howard County.

## Mail

- Return address is on your ballot\*
- You must use US Mail if you cannot come to Howard County to deposit your ballot.
- *The US Postal Service has announced that postmarks may be delayed for several days on items deposited in blue mailboxes. Make sure your ballot is mailed several days ahead of the due date and consider having it hand-stamped inside the post office while you watch.*



# In Person - Early Voting Primary

June 11 – June 18, 2026  
Hours 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

Howard County Residents may vote at **any one** of these Early Voting Locations:

- The Board of Elections has not published the list of Early Voting centers.

Note – if you are a registered voter, ID is **not** required for in person voting. You will be asked questions to verify your identity.

*New Voters may register at any one of these locations with ID and proof of residence. Registered voters who have moved may update their address and vote where they live with proof of residence. You cannot change your party affiliation.*

# In Person - Early Voting General

October 22 - October 29, 2026

Hours 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

Howard County Residents may vote at **any one** of these Early Voting Locations:

- The list has not yet been posted.

Note – if you are a registered voter, ID is **not** required for in person voting, You will be asked questions to verify your identity.

*New Voters may register at any one of these locations with ID and proof of residence. Registered voters who have moved may update their address and vote where they live with proof of residence.*

# In Person - Election Day

November 3, 2024

Hours 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

You can only vote at your **assigned** voting location.



Find your polling location using your voter registration 'card' or using the state website.  
<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch>

**Note** – if you are a registered voter, ID is **not** required for in person voting. You will be asked questions to verify your identity.

*New Voters may register at any one of these locations with ID and proof of residence. Registered voters who have moved may update their address and vote where they live with proof of residence.*

# Additional Information

# Military Members and Overseas Voters

Military members and voters who live outside the United States and who are registered to vote in Maryland may vote by mail.

You may **receive** your ballot several ways

- Ballot sent via the mail/fax (the LWV recommends requesting a paper ballot)
- Ballot sent via internet
- Ballot picked up in person\*

*\*You may designate someone to be your agent to pick up your ballot in person at the Board of Elections and mail it to you.*

If you are overseas, it is recommended that you order your ballot ahead of the deadline. Ballots will be mailed out starting 6 weeks before the election.

Your ballot must be postmarked or placed in a drop box by 8pm on **November 3, 2026**

[https://elections.maryland.gov/overseas\\_voters/absentee.html](https://elections.maryland.gov/overseas_voters/absentee.html)

# College Students

Students who will be 18 on or before the November 3, 2026 are eligible to vote in the 2026 Maryland Gubernatorial Election.

Your voting registration and driver's license records are linked.

You should register to vote at the address you have on your driver's license.

You may vote by mail-in ballot, using your campus address as your mailing address.

## **Example 1**

I attend Frostburg State University but my parents live in Fulton, MD. My drivers license has the Fulton, MD address. I should register in Howard County.

## **Example 2**

I attend Georgia Tech but my parents lives in Fulton, MD. My drivers license has the Fulton, MD address. I should register in Howard County.

## **Example 3**

I attend Frostburg State University but my family lives in Nevada. My drivers license has the Nevada address. I am not eligible to vote in Maryland.

# Voting and Criminal Justice

Effective March 10, 2016, if you have been convicted of a felony, you are eligible to register to vote once you have completed the court-ordered sentence of imprisonment.

For the purposes of eligibility to register to vote, convictions include federal, state and out-of-state convictions.

Ask your local Board of Elections about documentation requirements, if any.

Note: You are not eligible to vote if you have been convicted of buying or selling votes.

# Voters with a Disability

Maryland is committed to making voting accessible to all voters

- All early voting locations are accessible
- Assistance can be provided with either mail-in ballots or with in-person voting.

More information can be found on the Maryland state website.

<https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/accessibility.html>

# Resources

# Resources and Websites



Maryland State Board of Elections

<https://elections.maryland.gov/index.html>

Howard County Board of Elections

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/boards-commissions/board-elections>

# Resources and Websites

## League of Women Voters of Howard County

- Website - <https://hoco.lwvhowardmd.org>
- Voters guide – printed and pdf
- Candidate forums
- Social Media – Youtube, facebook

## League of Women Voters of Maryland

- <https://www.lwvmd.org>

## League of Women Voters USA

- <https://www.lwv.org>
- <https://www.vote411.org>



Vote411 is the single source for all election information

Questions?