

ABSENTEE VOTING

161A. (Who may vote; applications for ballots). (1) A qualified voter, who, on the occurrence of any primary or general or special election, may be unavoidably absent from the State of Maryland for whatever reason on the day of election, may vote as an absentee voter under this sub-title.

(2) A qualified voter desiring to vote at such election as an absentee voter must apply in writing to the Board of Supervisors of Elections of the city or the county, as the case may be, for an application for an absentee ballot, not later than the twentieth (20) day before such election and such application shall contain an affidavit, which shall set forth (a) his name and residence address, including the street and number, if any, or rural route, if any; (b) that he is a qualified voter of the ward or election district in which he resides; (c) in case he voted at the preceding election, the ward or election district where he so voted; (d) that he expects in good faith to be unavoidably absent from the State of Maryland on the day of the next primary or general or special election for whatever reason, specifying it.

(3) Only the members of the Supervisors of Elections and employees designated by it in writing for such purpose and any notary public or other officer authorized to administer oaths shall have authority to administer the oath to any voter making the affidavit required in said application for an absentee ballot.

(4) Printed forms of applications for absentee ballots in accordance with the requirements of this section shall be provided by the Board of Supervisors of Elections. They shall be distributed only in the following manner:

(a) Each Board of Supervisors of Elections shall retain an appropriate number for the purpose of furnishing an application form to each qualified voter who desires to apply in person to the Board, and

(b) Each Board shall mail an application form to each qualified voter who makes application by mail, pursuant to the provisions of this sub-title.

Such application forms shall not be furnished to any person except as hereinbefore in this section authorized.

161B. (Voting by disabled, ill persons). Any qualified voter whose physical disability prevents or will prevent him from being present in the ward or election district in which he is entitled to vote and personally voting at the polls on any election day shall be considered an absentee voter of this State. Such person shall make application in accordance with Section 161A (2)(a), (b) and (c), and shall obtain a certificate from a duly licensed physician of this State as evidence of his qualification for an absentee ballot hereunder. The certificate shall state that the voter is mentally competent to vote in elections in this State, and that because of illness or injury the voter is now, or will be absent from the said ward or election district and prevented from personally voting at said election. Such certificate shall be filed with the Board of Supervisors of Elections of the City of Baltimore or the County of residence of the voter not later than