

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Election Law
Section 9-304, 9-305, and 10-102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2003 Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Election Law

9-304.

[(a) A registered voter may vote by absentee ballot at an election if the voter:

- (1) may be absent on election day from the county in which the voter is registered;
- (2) because of accident, illness, or physical disability, will be unable to go to the polling place on election day;
- (3) because of confinement in or restriction to an institution, will be prevented from going to the polling place on election day;
- (4) because of a death or serious illness in the voter's immediate family, will be unable to go to the polling place on election day;
- (5) is a full-time student at an institution of higher education located outside the voter's precinct but within the county of registration, and academic requirements prevent the voter from going to the polling place on election day; or
- (6) because of employment by or service as an official of the State Board or a local board, is required to be absent from the precinct in which the voter is registered to vote on election day.

(b)] An individual may vote by absentee ballot [if authorized] EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT PREEMPTED under an applicable federal law.

9-305.

(a) An application for an absentee ballot, signed by the voter, may be made:

- (1) on a form produced by the local board and supplied to the voter [on request];
- (2) on a form provided under federal law; or
- (3) in a written request that includes:
 - (i) the voter's name and residence address; AND
 - (ii) the address to which the ballot is to be mailed, if different from the residence address[]; and