

Same Day Registration | Terms

Updated—June 7, 2019

Term	Description
<p>Accepted Only one ballot may be accepted per voter each election.</p>	<p>An “accepted ballot” has been entered into the system <i>and</i> signature verified. It’s ready for opening and manual inspection.</p> <p>For example, in some counties with sorters, ballots may enter the system (received) but are not yet signature verified (accepted/challenged). In other counties, ballots are both received and accepted/challenged during signature verification.</p>
<p>Received Many ballots may be received per voter each election.</p>	<p>A “received ballot” has been returned to the county and enters the system, <i>but</i> has not yet been signature verified. A received ballot has not yet been accepted/challenged. It’s not ready for opening until accepted.</p> <p>For example, a ballot received by the system could be on a sorter or awaiting further research before signature verification.</p>
<p>Current The most recently issued ballot is the voter’s current ballot.</p>	<p>A “current ballot” matches the precinct in which the voter is registered to vote.</p> <p>The current ballot may be either a replacement or reissued ballot. The current ballot may not necessarily be the first ballot in/received. It’s not a suspended ballot.</p>
<p>Suspended All ballots previously issued to the voter within an election are suspended ballots.</p>	<p>A “suspended ballot” is a previously issued ballot that is not the voter’s current ballot. In some cases, the suspended ballot may be accepted and duplicated to the current precinct ballot.</p> <p>The system suspends a ballot because the voter either updated their VR record or requested a replacement. If received by the county, the suspended ballot is either held (in county) or immediately forwarded and held (new county) to allow time for the current ballot to be received.</p>
<p>Reissued A reissued ballot becomes the current ballot and all others are suspended.</p>	<p>A “reissued ballot” becomes the current ballot issued to a voter due to an address update within the state that changes the voter’s ballot type or style. The voter registration record has been updated or changed prior to 8 p.m. on Election Day and the ballot packet is impacted. Messaging is required with the reissued ballot packet (i.e. an insert).</p>
<p>Replacement Typically requested by the voter, a replacement ballot becomes the current ballot.</p>	<p>A “replacement ballot” is the same type or style as the most recently issued (now suspended) ballot. The voter registration record is not updated or changed in a way that impacts the ballot packet. If the voter</p>

	returns a suspended ballot that matches the current voter registration record, we can restore, receive, and accept the suspended ballot without having to hold or duplicate because it already matches the current ballot.
<p>Hold/Held Holding pattern.</p>	<p>A ballot is received and “held” when time is needed to allow the voter time to return their current ballot, or further research is needed.</p> <p>FWABs and suspended ballots are examples of held ballots that may eventually be accepted. A suspended ballot belonging to another county must be forwarded within 2 business days and cannot be held in your county.</p>
<p>Restored Suspended ballots may be restored and accepted.</p>	<p>When the current ballot is either not received or remains challenged during the certification period, the voter’s suspended (and held) ballot may be restored at the appropriate time. If the signature on the restored ballot validates, the ballot is accepted and duplicated to the current ballot.</p>
<p>Challenged Research needed.</p>	<p>A “challenged ballot” has reached signature verification but is not accepted. It often requires a notice. Challenged ballots are handled by the county where it’s been received (in county) or when a voter updates, the ballot is forwarded and held (new county). Two categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signature issues. Anything that can be cured by the voter such as no signature, no match, etc. 2. Administrative issues. Late ballots. May or may not be cured.
<p>Conditional Registration COOP mode...when the system is down.</p>	<p>A “conditional registration” is an in-person application submitted when the voter registration system is unable to process applications.</p> <p>Conditionally registered voters are issued a current ballot for their precinct whenever possible; they are not issued a provisional ballot. This provides the voter an opportunity to vote in the jurisdiction in which they reside, and allows the county time for research when the system is down.</p>
<p>Informational/Invalid When a voter has been credited, other ballots received from that voter are not rejected.</p>	<p>When a voter’s ballot has been accepted, do not categorize other ballots received from that voter (suspended, held) as rejected. These ballots are categorized as “informational” or “invalid” by the County Canvassing Board. Voted suspended ballots cannot be rejected unless another type of challenge is the reason for rejection. Also see Rejected.</p>
<p>Rejected When a voted ballot cannot be counted.</p>	<p>A voted suspended ballot is “rejected” <i>only if</i> another type of challenge is the reason for rejection and the voter has not been credited with voting another ballot (i.e. signature no match <i>and</i> current ballot not received; too late <i>and</i> current ballot not received). Also see Informational/Invalid.</p>

