

The Voter Information Guide is intended to provide the voters of Forsyth County with information about the upcoming election. We encourage voters to research candidates and issues prior to going to the polls. The guide does not provide specific information on candidates or issues; therefore, the guide does not answer every possible election question. If you have additional questions, more information can be found on our website and we are available to answer your questions by phone during office hours (see below).

General information

Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections

1201 Sawnee Drive, Cumming, GA 30040
Phone: (770) 781-2118 Fax: (770) 886-2825
voter@forsythco.com
www.forsythco.com/vote
Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Georgia Secretary of State

www.sos.ga.gov

To register to vote, confirm your voter information and review sample ballots:

www.mvp.sos.ga.gov

Quick facts about this election

Voter registration deadline: November 7, 2022

Type of election: General Election Runoff

Total active and inactive registered voters currently eligible to vote in this election: 177,353 (as of November 18, 2022)

Number of Election Day precincts open for the election: 28 Election Day polling places (map included)

NO VOTING on the Saturday, Sunday or Monday prior to Election Day.

Election results: Available online, by telephone and in person after 7 p.m. on Election Night.

Three options for voting

Absentee Vote By Mail: Accepting applications now through November 28, 2022 and mailing ballots through November 28, 2022

Early/Saturday/Sunday/Advance Voting In Person:

Monday through Friday
November 28 through December 2, 2022
Voting hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Four locations; see location details on page 8

Vote In Person on Election Day:

Tuesday, December 6, 2022
Voting hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Election Definitions

An explanation of terms as used in this guide.

Absentee Voter: Per Georgia Election Code 21-2-380 (a) the term "absentee elector" means an elector of this state who casts a ballot in a primary, election or runoff other than in person at the polls on Election Day. Any voter who votes in person during Advance Voting or who requests their ballot be mailed to them is classified as an 'Absentee Voter.' They are 'absent' from their polling place on Election Day.

Ballot: A ballot is an "official ballot" or "paper ballot" and includes the instrument, whether paper, mechanical or electronic, by which an elector casts his or her vote.

Elector: An elector is a person who possesses all the qualifications for voting now or hereafter prescribed by the laws of this state, including applicable charter provisions, and is a registered voter.

General Election: A general election is usually held at regular intervals in which candidates are elected in all or most constituencies of a nation, state or municipality.

Oath: An oath shall include affirmation.

Photo ID: All voters voting in person will be asked to provide one of the six acceptable forms of photo identification:

- Georgia driver's license (valid or expired)
- Valid ID card by any state or U.S. with photo
- Valid U.S. passport
- Valid government employee photo ID
- Valid U.S. military ID card with photo
- Valid tribal ID card with photo

First-time voters who registered by mail without providing a photo ID may also provide a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that contains the name and address of the voter.

Photo ID Card for Voting Purposes: If a voter does not have one of the forms of photo identification listed above, they are eligible to receive a free Georgia ID card for voting purposes ONLY. These cards are issued in the Voter Registrations & Elections Office. Contact the Elections Office at (770) 781-2118 for more information or to schedule an appointment to have a free Georgia ID card for voting purposes issued.

Polling Place: A polling place is the room provided in each precinct for voting at a primary or election.

Precinct: A precinct is synonymous with the term "voting precinct" and means a geographical area from which all electors vote at a designated polling place.

Primary: A primary is any election held for the purpose of electing party officers or nominating candidates for public offices to be voted for at an election.

Provisional Ballot: A provisional ballot is a paper ballot used by a voter when their eligibility to vote cannot be determined at the polling place. There are several reasons when a provisional ballot may be an option for the voter, including, but not limited to: the voter has a good faith belief their name should appear on the voter rolls, but it does not appear; the voter does not have one of the acceptable forms of photo identification; and the voter goes to the incorrect polling place on Election Day. The voter is provided additional instruction for curing their provisional ballot, if applicable. The Elections Office staff is allowed three additional days to conduct research. The Forsyth County Board of Voter Registrations & Elections (BRE) will ultimately determine whether to count or to reject the provisional ballots cast.

Special Election: A special election is an election scheduled at other than the usual date for a specific purpose, often to fill an office that has become vacant before the incumbent has completed the term or to pose a question to the voters.

Voter Registration Information

In Georgia, voters must be registered to vote 30 days prior to the election in order to be eligible to vote in the election and any subsequent runoff. A Voter Registration Application must be completely filled out and signed. A voter must provide a valid residence address. A voter's Election Day polling place is assigned specific to where their residence lies within the designated precinct lines. Forsyth County has only a federal contest on the December 6 ballot. The federal voter registration deadline to register to vote or make updates to your registration record and to have those changes be in effect for the December 6 General Election Runoff is **November 7, 2022**.

All voters are encouraged to confirm they are registered to vote and their name and address appear correctly in the statewide voter registration system. Go to www.mvp.sos.ga.gov to verify your information, call the Elections Office or scan here.



Voter Registration Requirements

In order to be eligible to register to vote, a person must be a citizen of the United States and the state of Georgia, at least 17 ½ years of age, a resident of the county or municipality in which he/she seeks to vote, not currently serving a felony conviction AND not judicially determined to be mentally incompetent to vote.

Georgia Voters Do Not Register by Party/Ballot Type

In Georgia, voters do not register by party. When voting in a Primary, each registered voter chooses a Democratic, Republican or NonPartisan General/Special Election (if applicable) ballot. The General Primary (and General Primary Runoff) were held in May and June, respectively.

Three Ways to Register to Vote

Online: Go to registertovote.sos.ga.gov/GAOLVR/ or www.mvp.sos.ga.gov.

The Online Voter Registration System can be used with or without a valid Georgia driver's license or identification number. If you have a valid driver's license or identification card issued by the Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) with your signature on file with DDS, your application can be completed and submitted online. The application must be dated and time-stamped no later than 11:59 p.m. on the Voter Registration Deadline date. If you do not have a valid Georgia driver's license or identification card, you will be able to complete the form and then you will be prompted to print, sign and manually submit a paper registration application. The Application must be USPS postmarked by the Voter Registration Deadline date or delivered in person to our office no later than the close of business on the Voter Registration Deadline date in order to be eligible to vote in the upcoming election.

In person: You can register to vote at the Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections Office, located at 1201 Sawnee Drive, Cumming, GA 30040 or at any of the four public libraries in the County. The Elections Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The application must be delivered to our office no later than the close of business on the Voter Registration Deadline date in order to be eligible to vote in the upcoming election. The public libraries are open every day with varying hours. For library registrations, the application must be completed by the close of business on the Voter Registration Deadline date in order to be eligible to vote in the upcoming election.

By mail: The application must be USPS postmarked by the Voter Registration Deadline date. Applications can be downloaded at www.forsythco.com/vote and are also available at the Elections Office and at any public library.

All properly completed applications received by the Voter Registrations & Elections Office that do not meet the above deadline will be processed after the certification of the December 6, 2022 election results.

The Ballot

The Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections Office understands and appreciates voters have questions about candidates and questions that appear on the ballot. It is our duty to prepare and hold the election and to facilitate voting for all voters. Office staff and poll workers are not able to provide partisan/nonpartisan information about candidates, parties or questions that appear on the ballot. Office staff and poll workers must always remain completely apolitical and nonpartisan. Voters are encouraged to research candidates and issues on the ballot prior to coming to the polls to vote.

Ballot Details

The December 6, 2022 General Election Runoff includes the federal contest for United States Senate. All Forsyth County voters registered by the voter registration deadline are eligible to vote in this election.

Consolidated Sample Ballot

This guide includes a Consolidated Sample Ballot for voters to review. A Consolidated Sample Ballot contains all contests and questions within the County for the specified election. This means the Consolidated Sample Ballot will include all district contests in the County, which may or may not appear on the voter's ballot. A voter is only eligible to vote on the district contests applicable to them based on their address as registered. Copies of the Consolidated Sample Ballot will be available for review at the polling place. Voters are encouraged to review their sample ballot prior to going to the polls to vote. A voter can view their sample ballot, which only includes the district contests specific to the voter, by going to www.mvp.sos.ga.gov.

Updated District Lines

Every ten years following completion of the census, the U.S. Constitution requires all voting districts be evaluated to ensure equal representation. As law establishes that representatives are to be based on population, district lines are re-drawn as needed based upon changes in population. **In Forsyth County, analysis of the census data determined that changes were necessary to all voting districts: congressional, state senate, state house, county commission and county school board.**

- The current district lines remain in effect through December 31, 2022.
- The recently-approved district lines based on the 2020 census data will go into effect January 1, 2023. The district representing a voter today could be different from the district representing the voter on January 1, 2023.
- All contests on the ballot for the 2022 election cycle will become effective on January 1, 2023 and represent the newly approved district lines.
- Two of the Forsyth County Board of Education districts interchanged their district numbers after the district lines were re-drawn. The Board of Education, District 5 (formerly an area referred to as District 2), now appears on the ballot for the 2022 election cycle.
- All 159 Georgia counties make up the district for United States Senate.

View details including maps at www.forsythco.com/vote.

Write-in Candidates

In a General Election, a candidate must qualify to become a write-in candidate. In order to become a certified write-in candidate for an office, an individual must have posted their intention in the appropriate legal organ and completed required paperwork by specific deadlines. Write-in candidate names do not appear on the General Election ballot and they did not appear on the General Primary ballot as they did not qualify with a Party. Any votes cast for the certified candidates using the write-in option will be counted. On the electronic voting machine, when a voter touches the box next to the write-in option, a keyboard appears allowing them to type in a name. On a paper absentee ballot, a voter must choose the write-in option and then physically write in a name. There is no option for a write-in candidate on a runoff ballot.

Withdrawn Candidates

A candidate may withdraw after qualifying but prior to the date of the general election by filing a notarized affidavit. If the candidate withdraws after the ballots have been printed, the candidate's name will remain on the ballot. All votes cast for the withdrawn candidate will be void and shall not be counted. Notices will be posted in all polling places where the name of the withdrawn candidate appears on the ballot stating the candidate has withdrawn and all votes cast for such withdrawn candidate will be void and will not be counted. (reference O.C.G.A. 21-2-134)

Check your My Voter Page to:

- Verify your name and address appear accurately on the voter rolls
- Verify your Election Day polling place
- Review your voting history
- View the Advance Voting locations open for this election
- Request an Absentee Ballot be mailed to you
- Confirm your voting districts
- Review your sample ballot



Visit www.mvp.sos.ga.gov or scan here with your phone.

Voting an Absentee Ballot by Mail

A registered voter may request a ballot be mailed to them for any election. Georgia does not require the voter to provide a reason for the request.

Request a Ballot be Mailed to You

To request an absentee ballot by mail, a voter is required to complete an "Application for Georgia Official Absentee Ballot." Voters may access and print an application online. The application can be found on our website at www.forsythco.com/vote. Voters may also contact our office to have an absentee ballot application sent to them for completion. The application can also be downloaded from the Georgia Secretary of State's website (www.sos.ga.gov).

Deadlines

By law, voters may request an absentee ballot by mail beginning 78 days prior to an election and ending 11 days prior to an election. Our office will accept applications for the December 6, 2022 General Election & Special Election Runoff through November 28, 2022. Requests for absentee ballots are usually processed within three business days after receipt in our office once the ballots are available for the specified election. The last day an absentee ballot application can be accepted in our office for the December 6 General Election Runoff is Monday, November 28, 2022. Applications can be dropped off in person at our office and can be submitted electronically until 11:59 p.m.

Submit a Completed and Signed Absentee Ballot Application

Please follow the directions and complete the application accordingly. Incomplete applications may not be accepted if required information is missing or incorrect. For example, you must include your date of birth; it is not optional. Call the office if you have any questions. It is highly recommended you include contact information.

You may submit your completed and signed "Application for Georgia Official Absentee Ballot" by using one of the following methods:

To submit by email – email the scanned application or picture of the application to:

Voter@forsythco.com

When sending a picture of the completed application, please ensure the photo is a sufficient size so that the Elections Office can read the required information.

To submit using the online Absentee Ballot Application portal:

Go to ballotrequest.sos.ga.gov

The voter must have a Georgia driver's license or Georgia ID number in their voter record in order to use this application. The signature on the application will come from the signature on the voter's Georgia driver's license/ID.

To submit by fax – fax the application to:

(770) 886-2825

To submit the application by mail or by personal delivery to our office:

Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections, 1201 Sawnee Drive, Cumming, GA 30040

What happens next after submitting my application?

- If the application meets all requirements, a ballot will be mailed to the voter.
- If the application *does not* meet all requirements, the voter will be contacted by the Elections Office by letter or, possibly, by phone or email if the voter's contact information was included on the application.








When will my ballot be mailed to me?

If you submit a properly completed application, then your ballot is expected to be mailed to you within three business days of our office receiving your completed application once ballots can be mailed. For the December 6 General Election Runoff, absentee ballots will be issued beginning November 21 to all voters with a properly completed absentee ballot application on file.

Where/how can I return my voted absentee ballot and what is the deadline?

Voted absentee ballots may be returned to our office by mail, by personal delivery or deposited into the Official Absentee Ballot Drop Box available in the lobby of the Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections Office located at 1201 Sawnee Drive, Cumming, GA 30040. The drop box will be open during the same dates and hours set for Advance Voting at the Elections Office (see chart below for details). Additionally, the Elections Office staff will accept voted absentee ballots at the front desk window during the days and times shown in the chart below.

The latest day and time a voter can return their voted ballot in order to be accepted is Election Day in our office before the polls close at 7 p.m. The postmark date does **NOT** count. There are special provisions for voters in the military and/or living overseas; contact our office for details.

DECEMBER 6, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION RUNOFF				
Absentee Ballot Drop Box and Elections Office Location and Hours				
Location	Nov. 21-23 Mon. – Wed. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Nov. 28-Dec. 2 Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.	Dec. 5 Monday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 6 Tuesday Election Day 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Voter Registrations & Elections Office: 1201 Sawnee Drive, 30040: Staff at the front desk window				
Voter Registrations & Elections Office: 1201 Sawnee Drive, 30040: Drop box located inside the lobby area				
<p>NOTE: Voted absentee ballots can be personally delivered to the Elections Office. The Elections Office will be open and staff will be able to accept your voted absentee ballot at the front desk window during the days and times listed above as denoted by the . The absentee ballot drop box will be located in the lobby of the Elections Office and may also be used for returning your voted absentee ballot during Advance Voting on the days and times listed above as denoted by the .</p>				

Check the Status of your Ballot:

- Go to your My Voter Page and click on the Absentee Ballot Portal tab to:
 - Request an Absentee Ballot be mailed to you
 - Confirm the date your request was received by our office
 - Confirm the date your ballot is issued by our office
 - Confirm the date your voted ballot is received by our office



Visit www.mvp.sos.ga.gov or scan here with your phone.

Voting In Person Early – Before Election Day – During One Week of Advance Voting

Advance Voting in person for the December 6, 2022 General Election Runoff is available for five days prior to Election Day.

Advance Voting is scheduled to take place Monday, November 28 through Friday, December 2, 2022 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily at four locations; please see the chart below for location details. All Forsyth County registered voters may take advantage of Advance Voting in person during the hours and dates posted, regardless of where they are assigned to vote on Election Day.

Voters are encouraged to review their Sample Ballot prior to going to the polls to vote and may do so by going to www.mvp.sos.ga.gov.

DECEMBER 6, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION RUNOFF Advance Voting Locations and Hours		
Location	Address	November 28 - December 2 Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Voter Registrations & Elections Office	1201 Sawnee Dr, 30040	✓
Hampton Park Library	5345 Settingdown Rd, 30041	✓
Midway Park Community Building	5100 Post Rd, 30040	✓
Sharon Springs Park Community Building	1950 Sharon Rd, 30041	✓
<div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 2px;"> A checkmark (✓) denotes when the facility will be open for Advance Voting. </div>		NOTE: There is NO IN-PERSON VOTING the Saturday, Sunday or Monday prior to Election Day. NOTE: On Election Day voters go to their assigned polling place.

Photo Identification Required

Georgia Election Code requires all voters voting in person at the polls to present one of the acceptable forms of photo identification prior to voting. See page 2 for a list. Voters not having one of the acceptable forms of photo I.D. will be offered an opportunity to cast a provisional ballot.

Absentee Voting Turnout Statistics

The Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections Office posts the Absentee Voting Turnout Statistics Report, which includes how many absentee ballots have been mailed, how many voted ballots have been returned to the Elections Office and how many voters have cast their ballot by Absentee Voting In Person (Advance Voting), to our website at www.forsythco.com/vote daily. The turnout statistics posted are through the day before and are posted by approximately 10 a.m.

Voting on Election Day – Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Voting Hours – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Preparing for Election Day:

- All 28 Forsyth County Election Day polling places are open for voting from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. A map of the Election Day voting precincts and polling places is attached to this guide.
- On Election Day, Tuesday, December 6, 2022, voters go to their designated polling place to vote.
- Only the voters registered by November 7, 2022 are eligible to vote in the December 6, 2022 runoff.
- All Forsyth County voters are affected by the newly approved district lines (see information on page 4 and also at www.forsythco.com/vote).
- Voters are encouraged to review their Sample Ballot prior to going to the polls to vote and may do so by going to www.mvp.sos.ga.gov.
- **PLEASE NOTE: Many Forsyth County voters have been assigned to a new Election Day polling place.** Learn more about the changes at www.forsythco.com/vote.

To answer the question: Where Do I Vote on Election Day?

- Go to your My Voter Page and click on the My Voting Location tab or
- Contact Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections:
www.forsythco.com/vote • (770) 781-2118 ext. 9



Visit www.mvp.sos.ga.gov or scan here with your phone.

- An Advance Voting Location MAY NOT be your designated Election Day polling place. Three of the four Advance Voting locations (Hampton Park Library, Midway Park Community Building and Sharon Springs Park Community Building) are also Election Day polling places. On Election Day **ONLY** those voters who are assigned to those designated polling places should go there to vote.
- The Forsyth County Elections Office is open all day on Election Day to answer any questions a voter may have and to accept voted absentee ballots. However, our office **IS NOT** open for voting on Election Day; it is not an Election Day polling place. A voter's polling place on Election Day is specific to where their residence (as registered) falls within designated precinct lines.
- If a voter goes to an Election Day polling place that is not their designated polling place, the poll worker will direct the voter to their assigned polling place. Between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day, if a voter is unable to arrive to their assigned polling place by the close of the polls, they will be offered the opportunity to cast a provisional ballot at the incorrect polling place. Provisional ballots cast are precinct specific. This means some of the candidates and contests for which the voter is eligible to vote may not be represented on the provisional ballot they cast; conversely, it is also possible that the voter is not eligible to vote for some of the candidates and contests listed on the provisional ballot they cast. Only those votes cast for contests the voter is eligible to vote for will be tabulated.

Photo Identification Required

Georgia Election Code requires all voters voting in person at the polls to present one of the acceptable forms of photo identification prior to voting. See page 2 for a list. Voters not having one of the acceptable forms of photo I.D. will be offered an opportunity to cast a provisional ballot.

Election Day Voting Turnout Statistics

On Election Day, approximated Election Day voting turnout statistics by polling place will be posted to our website periodically as available.

Election Results

In-Person Observation of Tabulation

Advance Voting, Absentee By Mail and Election Day totals are not tabulated until after the polls close on Election Night. On Election Night after the polls have closed, the public may observe the tabulation of votes at the Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections Office, 1201 Sawnee Drive, Cumming, Georgia 30040. Election results will not be displayed and announced until all votes are tallied with the exception of provisional votes, which are tabulated at the time the Board of Voter Registrations & Elections (BRE) meets to certify the election.

Reporting Election Results

Election Results are reported by votes cast in person on Election Day, voted absentee ballots that have been returned to the Elections Office and votes cast in person during Advance Voting. On Election Night, election results may be viewed online at www.forsythco.com/vote or may be obtained by telephone at (770) 781-2118, ext. 9. Times when election results are available vary by election. All election results are **unofficial** until certified by the Forsyth County BRE. An **OFFICIAL** summary of the election results will be available online on the Voter Registrations & Elections Department webpage at www.forsythco.com/vote after the election has been certified.

Certification of Election Results

The BRE meets to certify the election results following Election Day, at which time the BRE also reviews all provisional ballots cast. The date and time for certification will be posted to the Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections Department webpage. *All election result totals are unofficial and incomplete until certified by the BRE.*

SAMPLE BALLOT

Forsyth County December 6, 2022 General Election Runoff

For Advance Voting locations, dates and times and Election Day polling place information, visit our website at www.forsythco.com/vote or contact our office at (770) 781-2118, ext. 9. To verify your voter registration information and Election Day polling place go to www.mvp.sos.ga.gov.

For United States Senate (Vote for One)

- Herschel Junior Walker**
Republican
- Raphael Warnock**
(Incumbent) Democrat

**Am I registered to vote?
View my ballot. WWW.MVP.SOS.GA.GOV**

To confirm your voter registration and/or to verify your districts visit:
Forsyth County Voter Registrations & Elections at 1201 Sawnee Drive, 30040
P: (770) 781-2118 www.forsythco.com/vote Email: Voter@forsythco.com

SAMPLE BALLOT