



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kern County Begins Mailing Vote by Mail Ballots for 2025 Special Election

Bakersfield, CA – Starting today, Kern County voters will begin receiving their Vote by Mail ballots for the 2025 Special Election. Ballots will be arriving over the next few days. We encourage voters to allow several days for their ballots to arrive before contacting the Kern County Elections Division to request a reissue.

The County's Voter Information Guide has been mailed to voters and provides key details about the election. The Guide is available at KernVote.com.

Our website also provides a comprehensive list of ballot drop box locations as well as opportunities for the public to observe the Elections Division's processes in person.

Voters may return their completed Vote by Mail ballots in their signed envelope at any Kern County drop box location, at any designated poll site on election day, at the Elections Division office, or by mail. To be counted, ballots must be postmarked no later than Election Day, November 4, 2025, and received by November 12th.

FAQS

Poll Sites:

Q. Will there be poll sites on November 4th?

A. Yes. Kern County will have as many poll sites in November as in the 2024 November General. A list of poll sites is posted on our website, KernVote.com.

Q. Do I need to notify the election office if I want to vote at my poll site?

A. No. Poll sites will be staffed and equipped for in-person voters.

Q. Why are there poll sites if all registered voters are being mailed a ballot?

A. The State of California mandates poll sites be available for voters who need assistance (lost or spoiled ballot, missed the voter registration deadline of October 20, or who need language, audio, visual or other assistance to mark their ballot) as well as for voters who simply prefer to vote in person.

Vote by Mail:

Q. Do I need to submit an application to vote-by-mail?

A. No. Vote-by-Mail ballots are mailed to all active, registered voters.

Q. How will I know if my mail ballot is counted?

A. You can track the status of your ballot by using Ballot Trax. For more information go to vote.ca.gov.



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Q. What are the reasons a ballot may not be counted?

A. A ballot may not be counted if:

- 1) It is postmarked after election day or received after November 12th.
- 2) The return envelope is missing the voter's signature or the signature does not compare to the signature on file at the election office. In this case, the voter is notified and given an opportunity to correct the deficiency so the ballot can be counted.

Early Voting:

Q. Will early voting be available in Kern County?

A. What voters call "early voting" in Kern County consists of requesting a vote-by-mail ballot in person rather than having it mailed to them. All active, registered voters will be mailed a ballot. However, the election office will be available to provide assistance to voters in the weeks prior to election day, such as reissuing a mail ballot to a voter if it is lost or spoiled. Conditional voter registration will also be available for voters who miss the voter registration deadline (October 20).

Preparing for the Election:

Q. What can I do now to get ready for the November election?

A. 1) Voters can check their voter registration information to make sure it is up-to-date by going to voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.

2) If you are eligible to vote but not yet registered, you can register at registertovote.ca.gov or you can call the election office at (661) 868-3590 or 1-800-452-VOTE to request a registration form.

3) To apply to be a poll worker or learn more about it, go to KernVote.com.

4) For further election information, visit vote.ca.gov.

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For media inquiries only, please contact Laura Cantu, Assistant Registrar of Voters at (661) 868-3706.