

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kern County Begins Mailing Vote by Mail Ballots for 2026 General Election

Bakersfield, CA – Starting Today, October 5th, 2026 and the few days following, Kern County voters will begin receiving their Vote by Mail ballots for the 2026 General Election. We encourage voters to allow several days for their ballots to arrive before contacting the Kern County Elections Office to request a replacement ballot.

The vote by mail ballot packet will include the following items:

- The voter's official ballot
- Instructions for voting and returning the ballot
- A pre-addressed, postage paid, return envelope with a unique barcode that allows us to identify the voter and verify the voter's signature with the signature on the voter's registration record
- The voter's "I Voted" sticker

If a voter receives a ballot for a person who is no longer living at the address, please write "No longer at this address" on the outside of the envelope and return it to the post office.

Voter Resources

The County's Voter Information Guide will be mailed to voters this week. The County Voter Information Guide provides key details about the election including their assigned polling site. Voters can view their sample ballot and find their polling site under [My Election Information](#) online 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 view Candidate Statements and find General Information on our website KernVote.com under Elections/November 3, 2026 General Election.

Polling Site Changes

Due to facility availability, some voters may be assigned to a different polling site. Voters can find their polling site by using the [My Poll Site Lookup](#) tool available on KernVote.com or can find it on the back of their Local Voter Information Guide.

Ballot Return

Voters are encouraged to vote early and return their ballots early to ensure it is delivered to the elections office by the deadline. Voters may return their completed Vote by Mail ballots in their signed envelope at any of our 20 Official Kern



1115 Truxtun Ave, 1st Floor. Bakersfield, CA. 93301 | 661.868.3590 | elections@kerncounty.com |

661.868.3588 | www.kerncountyclerk.com

County Drop Boxes, at any designated poll site on election day, at the Elections Office, or by mail. To be counted, ballots must be postmarked no later than Election Day, November 3, 2026.

Voters can track the status of their ballot by signing up for Ballottrax, a free service that provides automatic updates. To sign up, visit WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov.

Voter Registration

Eligible voters who have not yet registered to vote have until October 19, 2026 to register to vote and be mailed a ballot. Voters who miss the registration deadline may still register to vote beginning October 20, 2026 in the Elections Office and on Election Day at any polling site.

Voters can register to vote, check their registration status, along with other available resources by visiting the California Secretary of State's website, My Voter Status page at: [My Voter Status - California Secretary of State](https://MyVoterStatus.ca.gov).

Accessible Voting Equipment and Language Access

Election materials are provided in English and Spanish. Translation Services and Guides are available in additional languages. Accessible Ballot Marking Devices are available in the elections office and every poll site on Election day. Please contact the elections office for more information.

Poll Workers Needed

The elections office is still recruiting poll workers for the November 3, 2026 General Election. Poll workers play a key role in assisting voters at the polling sites on election day. Opportunities to work as a poll worker are available throughout Kern County which include outlying areas such as Arvin, California City, Delano, McFarland, Shafter, Taft, Ridgecrest, Frazier Park, Lake Isabella, Lamont, Tehachapi, Mojave, and Rosamond. Applicants who are bilingual in Spanish, Bengali, Chinese, Khmer, Korean, Punjabi, Tagalog, and Vietnamese are encouraged to apply. To apply as a poll worker, please visit KernVote.com to fill out a Poll Worker Application.

Office Location and Hours

The Elections Office is located at 1115 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield CA 93304. Office hours are Mon-Fri, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

The Elections Office will be open on Saturday, October 31st, 2026 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm to assist voters.

The Elections office may be reached:

- By phone at 661 868-3590 or toll free at 1-800-452-VOTE, or
- By e-mail at elections@kerncounty.com

Voters may also visit our website: KernVote.com.

The mission of Kern County Elections is to facilitate a transparent voting process with access for all that is aligned with the freedoms of an open and just electoral process that is the fabric of our Democracy in the United States of America.

We are proud to be of assistance to the Voters in Kern County.

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