

## Question & Answer: 2024 Primary Election Voting Security & Integrity

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<p><b>I live here part of the year and somewhere else part of the year. Can I vote in both places?</b></p>	<p>I live here part of the year and somewhere else part of the year. Can I vote in both places?</p>	<p><i>Source: Office of Champaign County Clerk</i></p> <p><i>Website:</i> <a href="https://champaigncountyclerkil.gov/elections/many-ways-vote/frequently-asked-questions">https://champaigncountyclerkil.gov/elections/many-ways-vote/frequently-asked-questions</a></p>
<p><b>How does verification by signature work if people's signatures change over time so that a voter's signature on record doesn't match up well with a signature on the mail ballot return envelope?</b></p>	<p>In Champaign County, signature verification software presents election judges with images of the voter's signature from the mail ballot return envelope and the current signature from the voter registration database. A strict reading of the Election Code requires one judge for signature verification on mail ballots. The Clerk's office is committed to using two judges, one from each party, for all mail ballot signature verification.</p> <p>If a mail ballot is set aside because of signature concerns, the County Clerk's office contacts the voter, giving the voter 14 days from election day to resolve the issue.</p>	<p><i>Source: Office of Champaign County Clerk</i></p>
<p><b>How secure are permanent drop boxes?</b></p>	<p>Permanent drop boxes in Champaign County are secured to the ground and anchored in concrete. The boxes are quarter-inch-thick steel with a narrow slit that allows for the insertion of ballots but nothing larger. The boxes are opened once mail ballots are mailed to voters and closed at 7 pm on election night as at a regular polling place. Drop boxes are intentionally placed in high-traffic, visible locations for security.</p>	<p><i>Source: Office of Champaign County Clerk</i></p>
<p><b>How secure is the processing of mail ballots at the County Clerk's office?</b></p>	<p>Processing of mail ballots has the same requirements as ballots cast in person. Vote by mail uses the same machines for ballot printing, tabulation, voter verification, and checking in as in-person voting. All machines are developed and governed by strict federal rules. The entire process requires judges from both parties. There is extensive documentation as the ballot moves through the intake, verification, and casting process. The voter is immediately alerted by the Clerk's office if there are any issues with their ballot.</p> <p>In the last four elections, over 40,000 mail ballots have been processed by the County Clerk's office. In a recent survey, 94% of respondents said they would use vote by mail in Champaign County again</p>	<p><i>Source: Office of Champaign County Clerk</i></p>
<p><b>How secure is the transfer of mail ballots from drop boxes to the County Clerk's office?</b></p>	<p>The process is thoroughly documented and requires judges from both parties at all times. One Republican and one Democratic election judge are designated to retrieve ballots and must follow predetermined routes. For transport, ballots are weighed, secured, and sealed in tamper-proof drop box bags. Upon arrival at the Clerk's office, the ballots are again</p>	<p><i>Source: Office of Champaign County Clerk</i></p>

	<p>weighed and seal numbers are verified.</p> <p>Similar security measures are used by the US Postal Service. Election mail is a priority and sorted accordingly by the USPS; it is never left unattended and is locked and secured during transit.</p>	
<p><b>How are voter rolls kept current in Illinois?</b></p>	<p>Voter rolls are reviewed regularly for accuracy. Names are removed if a person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• doesn't respond to a confirmation of address notice from the County Clerk,</li> <li>• is convicted and is currently serving the sentence,</li> <li>• requests in writing to be removed from the rolls, or</li> <li>• dies and their death certificate is filed with the state.</li> </ul> <p>The Champaign County Clerk receives address changes, conviction status, and death information. Voter information is regularly reconciled with data from other Illinois counties and multiple states.</p>	<p><i>Source: Office of Champaign County Clerk</i></p>
<p><b>What prevents you from submitting a mail ballot and then voting in person, so voting twice?</b></p>	<p>Champaign County's voter registration system instantly records when a voter has voted, in person or by mail. This data is immediately synced across all voter polling locations for all election judges in Champaign County to see.</p> <p>As soon as a voter requests a mail ballot, the request is added to their record. If they attempted to vote in person, the election judge would not be able to check them in. If they completed multiple ballots and mailed them in, the software program would reject all ballots after the first one is accepted.</p> <p>During early voting, the number of ballots received versus number of voters who voted is audited daily. Any issues are addressed immediately. Mail ballots travel through a highly controlled chain of custody and must constantly be accounted for as one ballot per voter.</p> <p>After the election, there is a complete audit of all ballots and how many people voted. This is reconciled with the state voter system and with data from multiple states.</p>	<p><i>Source: Office of Champaign County Clerk</i></p>
<p><b>How do we know that votes aren't being cast on behalf of dead people?</b></p>	<p>State and federal law prohibits voter impersonation or casting a ballot on behalf of a deceased person. Election officials regularly remove deceased voters' names from the rolls based on records from state agencies. Another safeguard is that election judges from both parties verify each voter's signature and address on the application to vote</p>	<p><i>Source: Office of Champaign County Clerk</i></p>