

Senate Bill 202 changes many facets of how to vote in Georgia.

This handout identifies some of these changes and compares them to how elections operated prior to SB202's passage.

Mail in Voting

	SB202 - Current Law	Law in 2020
Compressed Application Timetable	You can apply for your ballot 78 days before an election. Revises §21-2-381, S.B. 202 §25(a)(1)(A).	You could apply for your ballot 180 days before an election
	Deadline to <u>apply</u> is 11 days before the election. <i>Id.</i>	Deadline to apply was 3 days before the election
Compressed Ballot Return Timeline	Counties cannot mail ballots to voters earlier than 4 weeks before the election. Revises §21-2-384, S.B. 202 §27(a)(2).	Counties could begin mailing ballots up to 7 weeks before the election.
ID Requirements to Apply	<p>Voters will need to provide...</p> <p>Option 1: Your number from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Georgia Drivers License; ● Georgia ID Card pursuant to §40-5; or ● DDS issued free voter ID. <p>Option 2: Photo copy of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Other photo ID valid for in person voting; ● Current utility bill; ● Bank statement; ● Government check; paycheck; or ● Other government document that shows the name and address of such elector <p>And <u>also</u> provide: name, DOB, address as registered, address where voter wants ballot sent, identity of election, and signed oath. Possibly required: name of person requesting</p>	<p>Voter signature on application was subject to "signature match." Signature determined whether your application was accepted or rejected. Your DL and DOB were not required.</p>
ID Requirements to Vote	<p>Voters will need to provide...</p> <p>Option 1: Your number from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Georgia Drivers License; ● Georgia ID Card pursuant to §40-5; or ● DDS issued free voter ID. <p>Option 2: Last 4 digits of Social Security Number; or</p> <p>Option 3: Photocopy of certain identification document</p> <p>And <u>also</u> provide: printed name, signature, and DOB.</p>	<p>Voter signature on outer envelope was subject to "signature match." Signature determined whether your ballot was accepted or rejected. Your DL and DOB were not required.</p>

Online Portal	Likely no online portal. The application requires "usual signature with pen and ink." Revises §21-2-381, S.B. 202 §25(a)(1)(C).	The SOS created an absentee ballot application portal from which you could request your absentee ballot using your GA DL.
Who can provide applications?	No government entity can send voters an application to vote by mail.	Election officials at the state and county levels, as well as third party groups, mailed pre-filled applications to voters.
	Third party groups still can, but cannot pre-fill the applications. Disclaimer required. Revises §21-2-381, S.B. 202 §25(a)(1)(C)(ii).	
Drop Boxes	Drop boxes must be located in early vote sites and are accessible only during site hours. Revises §21-2-382, S.B. 202 §26. Drop boxes are not accessible the Saturday, Sunday, and Monday before an election.	Drop boxes could be located outdoors and accessible 24/7.
	Drop boxes are capped at one per 100,000 active voters or one per EV site (whichever is fewer). <i>Id.</i>	No cap on the number of drop boxes.
	Each county must have one. <i>Id.</i>	No requirement that counties offer a drop box.
What has not changed?	Absentee voting is still "No Excuse"	
	Eligible voters can still opt in to the Roll Over List	
	Timeline for counties to send ballots to UOCAVA voters (primaries and general)	

Early In Person Voting

	SB202 - Current Law	Law in 2020
Early Voting Hours (changes apply to Primary and General Elections ONLY)	EV sites must be open on weekdays from 9am - 5pm. Can extend to 7am - 7 pm. Revises §21-2-385, S.B. 202 §28.	EV sites were open "during normal business hours" on weekdays, and authorized to expand beyond those hours.
	Requires two mandatory Saturdays. <i>Id.</i>	Required one mandatory Saturday
	Sundays remain optional. <i>Id.</i>	Sundays were optional
Mobile Voting Units	Prohibits mobile voting units (unless during an emergency, which has strict limitations on placement) Revises §21-2-266, S.B. 202 §20(b).	Did not prohibit mobile voting units

Election Day Voting

	SB202 - Current Law	Law in 2020
Election Day Provisional Ballots	Out of precinct provisional ballots will not count unless cast after 5 pm and voters sign a statement saying they cannot make it to the correct precinct in time. Revises §21-2-418, S.B. 202 §34.	Most out of precinct provisional ballots count.

Voter Protection Hotline: 888-730-5816

County Administration

	SB202 - Current Law	Law in 2020
Early Processing of Absentee Ballots	Counties may begin processing absentee ballots as early as two weeks before election day. Revises §21-2-386, S.B. 202 §29(a)(2).	Counties could begin processing absentee ballots as early as two weeks before election day after the passage of the emergency rule.
Ballot Processing Deadline	Counties must count all the ballots non stop as soon as polls close. Revises §21-2-493, S.B. 202 §41.	Counties could take breaks counting ballots.
	Counties must complete count by 5 pm the day after the election or be subject to SEB sanction. Revises §21-2-386, S.B. 202 §29(d).	Counties could count ballots until the certification deadline.
	Certification is Monday after the election. §21-2-493, S.B. 202 §41.	Certification is two Fridays after the election.
Outside Funding	No outside funding permitted directly to election offices.	Counties were permitted to receive grants and in kind donations.
Equipment Allocation	One Ballot Marking Device per 250 active registered voters for statewide general elections. Revises §21-2-367, S.B. 202 §22.	One Ballot Marking Device per 250 active registered voters for any race.
	Precincts with over 2000 voters and wait times over an hour will have to make adjustments. Revises §21-2-263, S.B. 202 §18.	N/A
Poll Watching	Poll watchers must receive training from party. Revises §21-2-408(e), S.B. 202 §32.	Poll watchers were not required to go through training by the state - but DPG always required training.
Poll Working	Poll Workers may serve in adjoining counties. Revises §21-2-92, S.B. 202 §11.	Poll workers were limited to working in the county in which they were registered.

State Election Board

	SB202 - Current Law	Law in 2020
Diminished SOS Role	SOS will no longer chair SEB, and has a non-voting ex-officio role. Revises §21-2-30, S.B. 202 §5.	SOS chaired SEB and was a voting member.
State Takeover of County Elections	Allows the state legislature to take over county elections through control of the SEB and the Secretary of State's office. Limits takeover to no more than four counties at any given time. Revises §21-2-33.1, S.B. 202 §6.	Superintendents could not be removed by the legislature.

Other Changes

	SB202 - Current Law	Law in 2020
Voter Challenges	Challenges must be heard in a timely manner and there is no limit on the number. Revises §21-2-299, S.B. 202 §15.	The law was more ambiguous.
Runoff Elections	Federal runoffs will be held four weeks after the general election. Revises §21-2-501, S.B. 202 §42(a)(1).	Federal runoffs were held nine weeks after the general election.
	Early voting can be as short as 3-5 days. §21-2-385(d)(1).	Early in person voting lasted three weeks.
	No more "jungle primary"	Jungle primaries.
	Likely no new voter registrations between the general and the runoff.	Month-long voter registration window opened up federal runoffs.
Ranked Choice Voting	UOCAVA voters can RCV. Revises §21-2-384, S.B. 202 §27(e)(6).	No RCV.
Restrictions on Nonpartisan Line Warming	Prohibits line warming activity within 150 ft of polling place or 25 ft of a voter in line. Revises §21-2-414, S.B. 202 §33(a).	Permitted line warming activity within 150 ft of polling place or 25 ft of a voter in line.
Attorney General's Hotline	The AG has the authority to set up a hotline for people to file complaints about voter intimidation and illegal election activities.	888-730-5816 is the DPG voter protection hotline. It's still the first number to call!



Voter Protection Hotline: 888-730-5816