

2020 Voting Guide

Putnam County, FL



Charles L. Overturf III, Supervisor of Elections
(386) 329-0224 Phone Putnam-fl.com/soe

Upcoming Elections

Presidential Preference Primary - March 17, 2020

Registration books close: February 18, 2020 *Early Voting:* March 4 - 14, 2020

Primary Election - August 18, 2020

Registration books close: July 20, 2020 *Early Voting:* August 4 - 15, 2020

General Election - November 3, 2020 -

Registration books close: October 5, 2020 *Early Voting:* October 19 - 31, 2020

Early Voting Hours for ALL elections: 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Who Can Register to Vote

To Register in Florida, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States
- Be a legal resident in the State of Florida, and of the county in which that person seeks to register.
- Be at least 18 years of age (you may pre-register at age 16 but must be 18 to vote)
- Not have been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting.
- Not have been convicted of a felony without having your civil rights restored.

(Section 97.041, Florida Statutes)

How to Register

- Online at RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov
- You may download an application from our website or you may retrieve an application and apply through any of these agencies:
 - Supervisor of Elections office
 - Driver's License/Tax Collector's Office
 - State public assistance offices
 - Libraries
 - Hunting/Fishing Licensing Agents
 - County Government Offices
 - The ARC of Putnam County

Mail or hand deliver your completed application to the Supervisor of Elections office for processing.

Putnam County Supervisor of Elections Office

2509 Crill Ave., Suite 900
Palatka, FL 32177
386-329-0224 www.putnam-fl.com/soe
Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Compliance with Spanish Language Assistance

In compliance with a recent United States District Court ruling and Directives issued by the Florida Secretary of State, the Putnam County Elections office will begin providing Spanish language assistance as well as publishing all election related materials in English and Spanish.

Update Your Voter Information

Once you have registered to vote in Florida, you do not have to register again. But you do need to keep your information up to date. You can change or update your information at any time, but a political party change for a Primary Election must be made by the registration deadline for that election. **Our voter registration application can be used to update your address, name, political party or signature.** You may also use the following methods:

Address Change

- Phone: 386-329-0224
- Email: electionsoffice@putnam-fl.com
- Letter or Registration Application either mailed or dropped off at our office. *(Include date of birth)*

Name or Party Change

- Letter or Registration Application either mailed or dropped off at our office. *(Include date of birth or voter registration number, and signature)*

Your Signature is Important

Your handwriting may change over time, so it's important to update your signature periodically. We use the signatures on file to verify your identity on petitions, provisional ballots and Vote-by-Mail ballot Certificates.

Voter Information Cards

After registering to vote you will receive your Voter Information Card in the mail. This card is only to provide voter information and cannot be used as a form of identification at the polls. The card will list your address, date of birth, registration date and number, party affiliation, precinct number, location and address, as well as the districts for your representation. If your precinct location or polling place should change, you will be notified and issued a new Voter Information Card in the mail.

Putnam County Voter Information Card							
NAME AND ADDRESS							
Jane Doe 123 Easy Street Anytown, USA 33322							
						REGISTRATION NUMBER	
						100022333	
PARTY	CONGRESS	SENATE	HOUSE	RCC	SCB	CITY	ASST
NPA	3	8	19	2	2		
DATE OF BIRTH				POLLING LOCATION			
7/7/1977				Putnam County Agricultural Center 111 Yelvington Road East Palatka, FL			
DATE REGISTERED				PRECINCT NO.			
9/9/1999				11			

Closed Primary State

What does it mean?

- In a closed primary election, voters are limited to choosing candidates of their own party.
- If you chose the Republican Party you are allowed to vote only for Republican candidates.
- If you chose the Democratic Party you are allowed to vote only for Democratic candidates.
- If you chose a minor party or no party affiliation, you are allowed to vote in non-partisan contests and referendums.

Note: A party change can be made on a voter registration application or by signed written notice including the voter's name, date of birth or voter registration number. A party change must be made prior to the end of the 29th day before an election.

Note: An applicant who fails to designate a political party affiliation will be registered without any party affiliation.

Note: If all candidates for a race are affiliated with one party and the decision will be made in the Primary Election, everyone who is registered to vote for that election will be allowed to cast a ballot. This is called a Universal Primary Contest. A write-in candidate would close the primary to only party affiliated voters.

Sample Ballots

Watch for your sample ballot. We mail or email personalized sample ballots before each election. We also post sample ballots to our website and in the local newspapers. Use that to make your voting decisions in advance, and bring it for reference when you're ready to vote.

Polling Information

Polls are open 7 AM until 7 PM

You must have picture and signature identification

The following are acceptable forms of picture identification. All forms of ID must be current and valid [F.S. 101.043(1)(a)]:

- Florida Driver's License
- Florida ID Card
- U.S. Passport
- Military ID
- Student ID
- Debit or Credit Card
- Neighborhood Association ID
- Public Assistance ID
- Retirement Center ID
- Veteran's Health ID
- Concealed Weapon License
- Government Employee ID

Note: If you do not have proper ID, you must vote a provisional ballot. (*Section 97.0535, Florida Statutes*)

Voting a Provisional Ballot

What is a provisional ballot?

Provisional ballots provide a safeguard to voters whose identity or eligibility is in question. Provisional ballots may be issued at polling places on Election Day or at Early Voting Sites.

Some reasons for being issued a provisional ballot:

- Voter does not show photo and signature ID
- Voter status displays ballot has been cast by mail or early voting
- Voter's eligibility status is in question

A provisional ballot is the same as a regular ballot that a voter would normally get, but instead of inserting the ballot into the tabulator it is inserted into a provisional ballot envelope and is sealed. The voter completes the certificate on the outside of the envelope and signs. The ballot is delivered to the elections office for consideration by the canvassing board.

A provisional ballot voter must be given notice of rights including the right to show evidence of eligibility to vote. Evidence must be presented no later than 5 p.m. the second day following the election. Once eligibility has been determined, the Provisional Ballot will be counted.

Voting in Person

1. Bring current, valid identification with your picture and signature, may be one form of ID with both picture and signature, or two separate ID's. Your picture ID must be one of the forms listed under "Polling Information".
2. Bring your sample ballot for reference.
3. Sign in with an election worker.
4. Receive your paper ballot and privacy folder.
5. Go to voting booth and make your choices by marking your ballot.
6. Review your ballot. If you made a mistake, ask for a new ballot. Otherwise, put your ballot in the privacy folder and walk over to the tabulator.
7. Insert your ballot into the tabulator, one page at a time. An election worker will be standing nearby to assist you if needed.
8. Once your ballot has been accepted, your votes have been cast and no changes can be made.

Did you know??? After you vote, your voter record is updated to show that you voted in the election, but there is no way for anyone to see how you voted. Every ballot is anonymous, with no name or number attached.

Know Your Polling Place

Finding your assigned polling place is simple, and it's important to get it right:

Check www.putnam-fl.com/soe. The website always has the most current information.

OR

Look at your Voter Information Card. We send a new card out whenever your precinct or polling place change.

OR

Call 386-329-0224 and ask us.

Three Ways to Vote

Vote-by-Mail

Any registered voter on file in Putnam County is eligible to request a mail ballot in person, by phone, email or mail. However, if the requested ballot is to be mailed to an address other than the voter's address on file, the request must be made in writing and signed by the voter. Military members, military dependents, and overseas citizens are exempt from this requirement. If you already enjoy voting by mail, it is a good idea to check to be sure your request is still current. We send out our first batch of Vote-by-Mail ballots about a month before each election. After that we fulfill requests within 2 business days of receiving them. The deadline to request that a ballot be mailed to you is 5 p.m. on the 10th day prior to the election.

Requesting to Vote by Mail

Requesting your ballot:

Stop by our office, call our office, submit an online request, or send us a written request with the following information:

- ~ Voter's name
- ~ Voter's residential and mailing address
- ~ Voter's date of birth
- ~ Voter's signature (written requests only)

Requesting a ballot for someone else:

An immediate family member or guardian may request a ballot for someone else. The requestor must provide:

- ~ Voter's name
- ~ Voter's date of birth
- ~ Voter's residential and mailing address
- ~ Requestor's name and address
- ~ Requestor's relationship to the voter
- ~ Requestor's driver's license number
- ~ Requestor's signature (for written requests)

Important to Know:

- Requests expire after two General Elections
- You may cancel your requests at any time
- It is important to make sure that your signature is current when voting by mail.

After you request your ballot, track it at putnam-fl.com/soe. You'll see when we send it out and when we receive it back from you.

Returning your Mail Ballot

Your Vote-by-Mail ballot arrives with instructions, a ballot, a secrecy sleeve, and a return envelope.

After you've filled out your ballot, follow these simple steps:

1. Put your marked ballot in the secrecy sleeve.
2. Put the secrecy sleeve in the return envelope.
3. Seal the envelope and complete the certificate on the back, then sign and date.
4. Mail your ballot back or drop it in our secure drop box at our office or any other drop box location.

Your ballot **MUST** be in our office (not postmarked) no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted. You **MAY NOT** drop off your mail ballot at a polling place on **Election Day**. If you prefer to vote in person, election workers can cancel your mail ballot and give you an Election Day ballot.

What Happens Next?

- We verify your signature and update your voter record to show you have voted.
- We securely store your ballot until the canvassing board begins tabulating ballots.
- We separate the envelope from the secrecy sleeve that contains your ballot, and then separate your ballot from the secrecy sleeve, so that your ballot remains secret.
- We scan your ballot.
- We tabulate and report **UNOFFICIAL** results on Election Night. (Mail ballots and Early Voting ballots are the first reported)
- We securely store ballots for audit and recounts.

Early Voting

For the 2020 elections, we have scheduled 11-13 days of early voting. There are 3 early voting sites throughout the county that are open to all Putnam County voters. The Early Voting locations are:

- **Elections Office**
2509 Crill Ave., Suite 900 Palatka
- **South Putnam Government Center**
115 N Summit St. Crescent City
- **Interlachen Community Center**
135 S. County Rd 315, Interlachen

Vote in Person on Election Day

Election Day is your last chance to vote. During countywide elections, we set up 21 polling places for Election Day. You can **ONLY** vote in the **ONE** polling place that is assigned to your precinct.

Putnam County Voting Equipment

Putnam County is proud to use Dominion Voting's Democracy Suite products to design and count the ballots for all of our elections. The system is used countywide and was first used in Putnam County for the 2016 Primary Election.

The heart of the voting experience, the ImageCast Evolution (ICE) is an exciting Optical Scan system and the first voting system that combines the counting of ballots with the ballot marking functions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant voting system.

This means that all voters in Putnam County are able to vote using the same ballot, cast their vote on the same equipment, and store their selection as one set of results. No voter has to compromise their privacy.

ImageCast Evolution (ICE) - Optical Scan Voting

Our state-of-the-art voting equipment was purchased in July 2016.



Accessible Voting

Our ADA-compliant Imagecast Evolution ballot marking devices allow voters with disabilities to vote independently, thanks to:

- ~ Audio with headset
- ~ Audio Tactile Interface (ATI)
- ~ Zoom-in large print
- ~ Ability for voter to use their own sip and puff device or paddle buttons



Assistance in Voting

A person who is unable to read or write, or who needs language assistance, or who, because of a disability, needs assistance in voting may designate someone of his or her own choice, other than an employer or an officer or agent of the person's union, to provide such assistance. Persons providing assistance must complete a Declaration to Provide Assistance form.

The voter must complete a Declaration to Secure Assistance form in order to receive assistance. If the voter chooses, they may also complete a Florida Voter Registration Application and check the "Assistance Required" box. This will reflect that assistance is needed on their voter record and the voter will no longer have to complete any paperwork in order to receive assistance.

All polling places are accessible to voters with disabilities and election workers are trained to assist you.

Voters who require assistance should not hesitate to ask.

Become an Election Worker

You can make a difference in our community by joining our team of election workers. It takes about 200 election workers to staff our polling places on Election Day. Our election workers are engaged citizens from all walks of life who are committed to making Putnam County the best place in America to vote. Election workers receive state required training for each election and are paid for their work on Election Day.

Interested in applying to be an election worker?
Visit www.putnam-fl.com/soe

An Election Worker must:

- ~ Be a registered voter in Putnam County
- ~ Read, write, and speak English fluently
- ~ Have reliable transportation (not public transportation)
- ~ Have access to email
- ~ Attend scheduled trainings and review all training materials prior to each election
- ~ Remain nonpartisan while at the polls
- ~ Refrain from any comments or discussion concerning a voter, voter's party preference, candidate, or an issue while working at the polls
- ~ Abide by a "no smoking/vaping" policy while working for the Elections Office
- ~ Be able to work a 14-hour day
- ~ Be able to lift up to 40 pounds

Military and Overseas Citizens

Registration and Vote by Mail

The Federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) and conforming state legislation cover active duty members of the U.S. uniformed services, the merchant marine, spouses and dependents of all, and U.S. citizens residing overseas. They may apply for voter registration and for mail ballots with a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) which may be obtained from a Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) or at www.fvap.gov, the website of the Federal Voting Assistance Program. Mail ballot requests from these voters will be effective for all elections through the next two regularly scheduled general elections. If the FPCA is not available, phone or send a written request by mail, fax, or email to the Supervisor of Elections and a voter registration application or mail ballot will be sent to you however you want it sent (i.e., by mail, fax or email).

UOCAVA voters using the Florida Voter Registration Application form who indicate their overseas/military status will have the same privileges extended to them. Military voters residing within the county in which they wish to register should use the Florida Voter Registration Application and indicate their military status, so the Supervisor may flag the record and ensure their UOCAVA status when they move out of the county but wish to maintain voting residency.

UOCAVA voters may have mail ballots faxed or emailed. Only overseas ballots (those with an APO, FPO or foreign address only, not Guam, American Samoa, etc.) can be returned by fax, but not by email, if the voter waives secrecy. Access to faxed ballots in the elections office is extremely restricted, and ballots are immediately placed in secrecy envelopes. Only the Voter's Certificate, which must be signed and dated, is examined. You can track the status of your mail ballot request and the ballot through the online Voter Lookup Tool at www.putnam-fl.com/soe.

Additional information for UOCAVA voters is available online from the Overseas Vote Foundation. Visit www.overseasvotefoundation.org for a very helpful and informative site for overseas voters. Or contact the Federal Voting Assistance Program: toll-free 1-800-438-8683, fax 1-703-588-0108, or email vote@fvap.gov.

As a result of the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, voters can now check Voter Registration and Ballot status or submit registration changes, and mail ballot requests through our website at putnam-fl.com/soe or through the state website <http://registration.elections.myflorida.com>.

Federal Write-in Ballots

If it is getting close to Election Day and you still have not received your mail ballot, you can use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as an emergency back-up Vote by Mail ballot. In order to use it, you have to be a registered voter and have previously requested a regular mail ballot. The FWAB can be used to vote for federal office races and for state and local races with two or more candidates. You cannot use it to vote for referendum issues or for judicial retention candidates. For more information or to complete a FWAB, visit www.fvap.gov.

State Write-in Ballot

State write-in mail ballots shall be made available to voters 90 to 180 days prior to a general election. In the request, the voter must indicate that due to military or other contingencies that preclude normal mail delivery, the voter cannot vote a regular mail ballot during the normal voting period. The ballot will contain only the races, and the voter must fill in the names of candidates OR write in the name of a political party, in which case all candidates of that party will be counted if they are in fact on the ballot.

Late Registration

An individual or accompanying family member who has been discharged or separated from the uniformed services or the United States Merchant Marine, has returned from a military deployment or activation, or has separated from employment outside the territorial limits of the United States, after the book closing date for an election and who is otherwise qualified may register to vote in such election at the Supervisor of Elections Office until 5 PM on the Friday before that election. Such persons must produce sufficient documentation showing evidence of qualifying for the late registration pursuant to Section 97.0555 Florida Statutes.

Voter's Bill of Rights:

Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

1. Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted.
2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
4. Receive up to two replacements ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
5. An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question.
6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a provisional ballot.
7. Written instructions to use when voting, and, upon request, oral instructions in voting from election officers.
8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by election officers or any other person.
9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.

Voter's Responsibilities:

Each registered voter in this state should:

1. Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues.
2. Maintain with the office of the Supervisor of Elections a current address.
3. Know the location of his or her polling place and its hours of operation.
4. Bring proper identification to the polling station.
5. Familiarize himself or herself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.
6. Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
7. Respect the privacy of other voters.
8. Report any problems or violations of election laws to the Supervisor of Elections.
9. Ask questions, if needed.
10. Make sure that his or her completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling station.

Putnam County Precincts & Polling Locations

- Pcts 1 & 2 - South Putnam Government Center**
115 N. Summit St., Crescent City
- Pct 3 - Beulah Baptist Church**
106 Beulah Church Rd., Crescent City (Fruitland)
- Pcts 4 & 5 - First Baptist Church**
683 Third Avenue, Welaka
- Pcts 6 & 7 - Pomona Park Community Center**
200 E. Main St., Pomona Park
- Pcts 8 & 9 - Satsuma Fire Department**
103 S. First St., Satsuma
- Pct 10 - Dunns Creek Baptist Church**
686 S. Highway 17, San Mateo
- Pct 11 - Putnam County Agricultural Center**
111 Yelvington Rd., East Palatka
- Pct 12 - Bostwick Community Center**
125 Tillman St., Bldg. 2, Palatka (Bostwick)
- Pcts 14 & 15 - Bardin Fire Department**
107 Johns Rd., Palatka (Bardin)
- Pct 16 - Living Hope Family Worship Center**
1109 State Rd. 100, Florahome
- Pct 18 - Trinity Episcopal Church**
204 State Rd. 26, Melrose
- Pcts 19 & 20 - Woodlawn Baptist Church**
818 County Rd. 20A, Hawthorne (Johnson)
- Pcts 21, 22 & 23 - Interlachen Community Center**
135 S. County Rd 315, Interlachen
- Pct 24 - Grandin Lakes Shores Community Center**
418 Holiday Dr., Interlachen
- Pct 25 - Hollister Fire Dept.**
617 State Rd. 20, Palatka (Hollister)
- Pct 26 - Grace Community Baptist Church**
161 Peniel Church Rd., Palatka
- Pcts 27 & 30 - Southwest Fire Department**
3409 Park St., Palatka
- Pcts 28 & 36 - Edgar Johnson Senior Center**
1215 Westover Dr., Palatka
- Pcts 32 & 39 - Price Martin Community Center**
220 N. 11th St., Palatka
- Pcts 33, 34 & 35 - St. Johns River State College**
5001 St. Johns Ave., Palatka
- Pcts 37 & 38 - Palatka Woman's Club**
600 S. 13th St., Palatka

2020 Offices Up For Election

Federal Offices: President and Vice President
US House of Representatives, District 3

State Offices: State House of Representatives, District 19
Florida Supreme Court Justice Carlos Muñoz (Merit Retention)
Florida Supreme Court Justice Robert J. Luck (Merit Retention)
Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Lagoa (Merit Retention)
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judge Kerry I. Evander (Merit Retention)
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judge R. Rand Wallace (Merit Retention)
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judge John M. Harris (Merit Retention)
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judge Richard B. Orfinger (Merit Retention)
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judge Jamie R. Grosshans (Merit Retention)
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judge Meredith L. Sasso (Merit Retention)
Seventh Judicial Circuit, Circuit Judge:
Groups: 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27
State Attorney
Public Defender

County Offices: Seventh Judicial Circuit, County Judge: Group 2
Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller
Property Appraiser
Sheriff
Tax Collector
Supervisor of Elections
Superintendent of Schools
Board of County Commissioners, Districts: 1, 3, 5
School Board, Districts 2, 3
Soil & Water Conservation, Districts: 2, 3, 4

Municipal: City of Palatka, City Commissioner, Groups: 1, 3
City of Crescent City, Mayor/City Commissioner
City of Crescent City, City Commissioner, Groups 3, 4
Town of Interlachen, Mayor
Town of Interlachen, Town Council (2 positions available)
Town of Pomona Park, Mayor
Town of Pomona Park, Town Council, Seats: 4, 5, 6
Town of Welaka, Town Council (2 positions available)