The following health guidance is based on the most current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommendations for prevention of the spread of COVID-19.

- **Consider voting early by absentee ballot.** Voting early reduces the number of people you come in contact with, the time you are in contact with them, and possible lines on Election Day for others. *Absentee ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Nov. 3 and, due to possible postal delays, voters should not mail them this close to Election Day except as a very last resort.*
  - If you have an absentee ballot, sign the back of the envelope and hand-deliver it to your city or township clerk's office or ballot drop box.
  - If you do not have an absentee ballot, visit your local clerk's office to request one, and fill it out, sign the envelope and submit it in the same trip, or take it home to fill it out, sign the envelope and bring it back to your clerk's office or ballot drop box.
  - You can find the locations of your clerk's offices and drop boxes, and track your ballot to ensure it is received, at [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://Michigan.gov/Vote).

- **Don’t expose others.** If you are sick or concerned you have been exposed to COVID-19, seek medical care. If you don't have an absentee ballot, contact your local election clerks to ask for an emergency absentee ballot. You can find your clerk's contact information at [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://Michigan.gov/Vote).

- **If you go to vote in person or to turn in your ballot, practice healthy behaviors to protect yourself and slow the spread of COVID-19.**
  - **Wash hands** before entering and after leaving the polling location.
  - While in the polling location, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol frequently, especially after touching surfaces frequently touched by multiple people, such as door handles or voting machines.
  - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in lined trash cans. **Wash hands** or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
  - Wear a [mask](https://Michigan.gov/Coronavirus) that covers your mouth and nose. This has been shown to effectively block transmission of the virus, and keeps you and others free...
from infection from COVID-19. Children under 2 years of age and anyone who has trouble breathing, or is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance, should not wear a mask. All election workers are required to wear masks.
  - Maintain at least 6 feet (about two arms’ length) of distance from others. It is important to continue social distancing even when you and others are wearing masks.

- Avoid crowds
  - Vote at off-peak times, such as mid-morning.
  - If driving to the polls and your schedule allows, if there is a line, monitor it from your car and join when it’s shorter.

- Be prepared. Find all your voting information at Michigan.gov/Vote.
  - Check your voting location in advance because they may have changed due to COVID-19.
  - Verify your voter registration information is correct in advance of reporting to the polling location.
  - Contact your city or township clerk for additional information for voters with disabilities.
  - While photo identification is not required to vote, bringing yours will help to avoid delays at the polling location.
  - Where possible, review or complete a sample ballot at home to speed the process of casting your ballot at the polling location.
  - Bring your own black-ink pen.