

# UMATILLA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL VOTER GUIDE

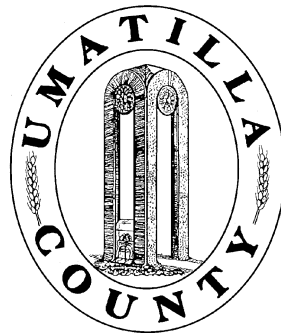
*This information was prepared and printed  
by Umatilla County Elections Division for  
the electors of Umatilla County.*

## **Inside**

- ✓ Frequently asked questions about voting
- ✓ Example of voting method used in Umatilla County.

## **Includes;**

- Voting instructions
  - Sample of optical scan ballot voted correctly and incorrectly
- ✓ Frequently asked questions about registering to vote



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## **REGISTERING TO VOTE**

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### **WHO MAY REGISTER TO VOTE?**

**Anyone who is:**

- ◆ A resident of Oregon
- ◆ A United States citizen; and
- ◆ 18 years of age

### **HOW MAY I REGISTER?**

- ◆ By mail-in registration form. **Note:** New voters must provide ID when registering by mail
- ◆ In person at Umatilla County elections office or at a designated state agency, including the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- ◆ Registration forms are also available at your local post office and government pages of your phone book
- ◆ Download Forms on line from Oregon Secretary of State at [www.sos.state.or.us](http://www.sos.state.or.us)

### **HOW WILL I KNOW THAT MY REGISTRATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED?**

Upon receipt your county election office will process your registration and send you a precinct memorandum card as confirmation of registration.

### **AFTER REGISTERING TO VOTE WHEN WILL I BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?**

Your voter registration card must be postmarked no later than the 21<sup>st</sup> day before the election at which you intend to vote.

### **DO I HAVE TO RE-REGISTER FOR EACH ELECTION?**

**No. You only need to update your registration when:**

- ◆ Your residence or mailing address changes;
- ◆ Your name changes; or
- ◆ You wish to change your party affiliation.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTING**

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### **WHERE DO I GO TO VOTE?**

**Your ballot will be automatically mailed.**

*In 1998 Oregon voters overwhelming passed a ballot measure directing elections be conducted by mail. This replaces traditional polling place elections.*

### **WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY BALLOT?**

Your ballot packet will be mailed to you 18 to 14 days prior to the election. Each packet will contain an official ballot with candidates/or measures, secrecy and ballot return envelopes. **Voting and return instructions are printed on the front of your secrecy envelope.**

### **WHAT IF MY BALLOT DOESN'T COME?**

If you have not received your ballot within a week after they are mailed, call the elections office. We will check and see if your voter registration is current. If it is, we will mail you a replacement ballot.

### **WHAT IF I HAVE MOVED AND HAVE NOT UPDATED MY REGISTRATION?**

If you are registered to vote by the 21<sup>st</sup> day before the election but now have a different address and:

- ◆ You have moved within Umatilla county; or
- ◆ You moved from another county to Umatilla county. Contact the election office for instructions on the process to qualify for a ballot.

### **WILL MY BALLOT BE COUNTED IF I FORGOT TO PLACE MY BALLOT IN THE SECRECY ENVELOPE?**

Yes. Provided you signed and sealed the return envelope.

### **I WILL BE OUT OF TOWN BEFORE BALLOT ARE MAILED. HOW DO I GET A BALLOT?**

Absentee ballots will be available 45 days prior to any election. You may receive one by written request, fax, or in person at the election office.

### **WHAT IF I MAKE A MISTAKE VOTING?**

If you make a mistake you may call the election office and request a replacement ballot. One will be mailed to you provided the request is made with sufficient time for mailing. Otherwise, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person at the county election office.

### **IF I VOTED FOR A PARTICULAR CANDIDATE OR MEASURE BUT DIDN'T VOTE ON EVERY ISSUE WILL MY BALLOT STILL COUNT?**

Yes. Whichever issues/offices you choose to vote on will count.

### **IF MY BALLOT IS POSTMARKED ON ELECTION DAY WILL IT BE COUNTED?**

No. Your ballot must be received at a designated Drop Site or by mail no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day at any county election office in order to be counted.

### **WHAT IS AN UNDERVOTE?**

An undervote occurs when the elector does not mark any choice for or against a measure or candidate.

### **WHAT IS AN OVERVOTE?**

An overvote occurs when an elector marks more than the allowable choices of candidates for a particular office or measure.

### **COMMON MISTAKES MADE**

◆ Voting for more candidates than allowed.

**Note:** Below each office title listed on the ballot page - It will specify how many candidates you can vote for, such as (Vote for one) or (Vote for two) etc.

◆ Returning the ballot without signing the return envelope by mail or at an official drop site.

◆ Signing another persons ballot return envelope, such as by (POA) Power of Attorney. One family member signing another family members ballot return envelope. The envelope must be signed by the elector to whom the ballot is issued; and the signature is verified with the signature on the elector's registration card.

### **NEED ASSISTANCE IN VOTING?**

For assistance voting or other information please call;

◆ Umatilla County Elections at **278-6254**.

### **OFFICIAL DROP SITE LOCATIONS ARE:**

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- \* CTUIR Mission Market.  
46493 Mission Rd, Pendleton
- \* County Courthouse  
216 SE 4<sup>th</sup>, Pendleton,
- \* Hermiston Library  
235 E Gladys Ave, Hermiston
- \* Milton-Freewater City Police Department  
722 S Main, Milton-Freewater