

LIFE OF A BALLOT



1

WE MAIL YOUR BALLOT

All registered voters in Colorado receive a ballot by mail about three weeks prior to Election Day, earlier if you are an overseas voter or active military voter.



2

YOU VOTE AND RETURN YOUR BALLOT

You can return your ballot without a stamp to a drop box location by 7 p.m. on Election Day.

You can return your ballot through the U.S. Postal Service. Mail ballots must be received by the County Clerk and Recorder no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day. Postmarks do not count.

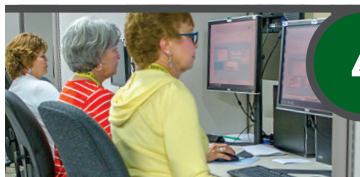
You can return your ballot or vote in person at a Voter Service and Polling Center by 7 p.m. on Election Day.



3

WE RECEIVE YOUR BALLOT

Once we receive your ballot, our state-of-the-art sorting machine verifies that each voter has returned only one ballot.



4

WE VERIFY YOUR SIGNATURE

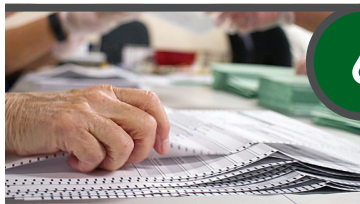
The signature on your return envelope is compared to your signature on file with the Colorado Secretary of State, and verified by a bipartisan team of Election Judges before we process your ballot.



5

WE OPEN YOUR BALLOT

Ballots are removed from envelopes, taken to a secure room, scanned into a closed computer network that is not Internet accessible, and stored until the polls close on Election Day.



6

WE CHECK YOUR BALLOT

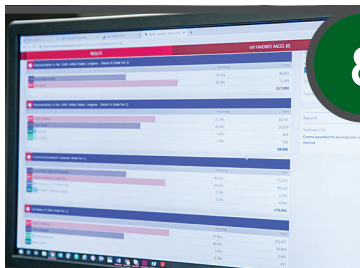
If a ballot is damaged, has stray marks, corrections, or if the wrong type of pen was used, a team of Election Judges uses our high-resolution ClearCount ballot imaging software and the Voter Intent Guide produced by the Office of the Secretary of State to resolve the ballot.



7

WE COUNT YOUR BALLOT

After the polls close at 7 p.m. on Election Day, the images of the scanned ballots are counted by a tabulation machine.



8

WE REPORT RESULTS

Results are tabulated and reported to the public beginning after 7 p.m. on Election Day. Counties must produce preliminary, unofficial election results a minimum of three times on election night: after the polls close but no later than 8 p.m., at or around 9 p.m., and at least one additional time on election night. Counties must report complete results to the Secretary of State on the 10th day after Election Day. The final certification of votes cast is due to the Secretary of State no later than the 22nd day after the election.