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**PRESS RELEASE**

January 26, 2023

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Voters who want to have absentee ballots mailed to them for the February 14, 2023, elections should apply now. Although the County Election Board can accept applications for absentee ballots until 5 p.m. on Monday, January 30, 2023 voters who want to vote by absentee ballot are urged to apply early. Absentee ballot application forms are available at the County Election Board office located at 4201N. Lincoln Boulevard in Oklahoma City or online at [www.elections.ok.gov](http://www.elections.ok.gov)

Any registered voter may vote by absentee ballot in any election in which he or she is eligible to vote.

It is not necessary to give a reason--or excuse--for voting absentee. While anyone can vote absentee without giving a reason, the law still provides several excuses and it is to the advantage of some voters to use one of them.

By stating one of the following reasons on their applications, these voters can

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activate some special conditions that make it easier for them to use absentee ballots. The reasons are:

--Voters who are physically incapacitated and voters who care for physically incapacitated persons who cannot be left unattended may vote absentee. They may apply only by mail, by fax, by email, online or via an agent who is at least 16 years of age and who is not employed by or related within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity to any person whose name appears on the ballot.

--Voters who are confined to nursing homes in the county may vote absentee. An Absentee Voting Board actually goes to the nursing home a few days before the election, sets up a small polling place and allows these persons to vote under circumstances similar to those at a regular precinct polling place.

--Military personnel and residents of the county living overseas and the dependents of each group are eligible to vote absentee without being registered. These voters may apply only by mail, by e-mail, or by fax. Military personnel should contact the Voting Service Officers in their units for application forms and additional information. Residents of Oklahoma living overseas can obtain the same materials from any United States military installation and from United States Embassies and Consulates.