




Your Ballot's Journey

Here's a quick overview of your ballot's journey when you vote in person early or on Election Day in Georgia.

- 1** You go to your assigned polling place and check in with a poll worker, who gives you a voter form to complete and verifies your ID.
 - 2** Once your ID is verified, you receive a voter access card that is securely programmed with your ballot based on where you live.
 - 3** You enter a private booth and insert your voter access card into the secure voting machine, which is also called a ballot marking device.
 - 4** Following the instructions on the voting machine screen, you complete your ballot.
 - 5** After reviewing your ballot to make sure it is correct, you follow the instructions on the voting machine to print your paper ballot, which is now auditable. Having an "auditable" paper ballot ensures that, if election officials need to conduct an audit or recount, they can confirm that your ballot is valid.
 - 6** You exit the private voting booth, being sure to take your paper ballot and your voter access card with you, and go to the ballot scanning station.
 - 7** Before inserting your paper ballot into the scanner, you verify that it reflects the choices you made at the voting machine.
 - 8** You insert your paper ballot into the polling place scanner. Once the scan is complete, your ballot drops into a secure storage box, where it will remain until it is counted. Your vote is now cast.
 - 9** Upon exiting the polling location, you return your voter access card to a poll worker and get your "I'm a Georgia Voter" sticker.
-  If you vote early, your vote remains in the sealed and secure ballot box until it is counted on Election Day. Whether you vote early or on Election Day, your paper ballot will be securely stored for an extended amount of time in case it is needed for legal reviews or other election-related processes.
- For more questions** about your ballot's journey, reach out to the [elections division](#) of the Georgia secretary of state's office or contact your [county elections office](#).