WILL COVID-19 AFFECT MY RIGHT TO VOTE?

Will the COVID-19 crisis affect my being able to vote in November?

COVID-19 should not prevent anyone from being able to vote in November. If you experience barriers to voting, call Disability Rights Ohio (DRO) at 614-466-7264. At this time, people have the right to vote in 3 different ways:

- In-person at the polls on Election Day
- Early in-person
- By absentee ballot

You have the right to ask for accommodations that you need to help you vote.

Are there any changes due to COVID-19 that I should expect when voting in person?

Yes. It is likely that boards of election will take steps to add some safety precautions for in-person voters in the November election. This could include things like:

- Taking temperatures to make sure people who come to vote do not have a fever
- Requiring people who to vote to wear face masks (people with disabilities can ask for an accommodation if they cannot wear a mask because of their disability) and to stay 6 feet apart.
- Require election staff to protect voters by wiping down voting machines between voters and cleaning the voting areas more often.
- Only allow people to come in one door and stand in line outside until their time to vote so that only a certain number of people are in the voting area at one time.
I have a disability that makes me more vulnerable to COVID-19. Do I have to go in-person to vote?

No. You can request an absentee ballot and vote from your home. If you are at a higher risk for getting the virus, you could also request a reasonable accommodation to be able to vote from the safety of your car using curbside voting.

If you have other questions about how COVID-19 affects your right to vote, or your rights to vote as a person with a disability, please call DRO at 1-800-282-9181 for more information. We are working remotely, so leave us a voicemail and we will call you back.