

## Presidential Election 2008

Office of the Durham Town Clerk

### Can I vote in this year's election even if I am not registered to vote?

Actually - Yes! Because of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and Connecticut implementing legislation, you will be eligible to vote for electors of President and Vice-President only in this year's Presidential election. You are not eligible to vote on the questions. You must complete an ED-30 Application in order to receive the Presidential ballot. You may only vote by "**Presidential Ballot**" if you fall into one of the following classes:

- a. **RESIDENT**: You are not registered to vote in the town in which you reside (Durham), but are otherwise qualified to become a voter, or
- b. **FORMER RESIDENT**: 1) You were formerly a resident of the town to which you are directing this application and 2) you have moved to your present residence in another town of this or another state within thirty days prior to the date of the presidential election and for that reason are prevented from registering to vote in the town of your present residence.

### Can I vote by Absentee Ballot?

There are many different forms of absentee ballots available during Presidential Election years, and different dates of availability:

- a. **Blank Ballot with Contingencies** (available August 8<sup>th</sup>): for registered electors in the military service, their spouses and dependents with special military contingencies.
- b. **Blank Ballot** (available Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>): for registered electors "temporarily" residing outside the U.S. and all military.
- c. **Overseas Ballot (FEDERAL OFFICES ONLY - President, Vice-President and Congressman - available Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>)**: for citizens, 18 years old, residing "indefinitely" outside the U.S. Must be former resident of Connecticut town immediately prior to moving outside the U.S.
- d. **Presidential Ballot (President and Vice-President only - available Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> for DURHAM RESIDENT; available Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> for FORMER RESIDENT)**:
- e. **Absentee Ballot (REGULAR FULL BALLOT -available Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>)**: for registered electors unable to vote in person because (1) military service, (2) out-of-town during all voting hours between 6:00 am through 8:00 pm, (3) illness (hospitalized within the week before the election), (4) physical disability, (5) religious beliefs, (6) service as an election official in a polling place other than his own.
- f. **Emergency Ballot (within the week before election)**: registered voter who has an unforeseen illness or physical disability occurring within 6 days before the close of the polls of an election, or because they are patients in a hospital within such 6 day period.

### When is the cut off date for registering to vote?

<u>October 21<sup>st</sup>.</u>	Registration by mail
<u>October 28<sup>th</sup>.</u>	In-person registration
<u>November 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon:</u>	Those citizens qualifying to vote as to age, citizenship or residence that has been attained since October 28 <sup>th</sup> .
<u>November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 pm:</u>	upon written request, registrars may admit as electors members of armed forces and former members of armed forces discharged within the calendar year immediately preceding such request, if found qualified.

### What is the cut off date to obtain an Absentee Ballot or Presidential Ballot?

<u>November 3<sup>rd</sup> (Absentee Ballot)</u>	4:30 p.m. Town Clerk's office
<u>November 4<sup>th</sup> (Presidential Ballot)</u>	8:00 p.m. Town Clerk's office