

The Record · Voter Guide

How Ballot Collection Works

Anyone you trust can turn in your ballot. Here is how to do it right.

Burbank Republican Party · October 29, 2026 ·

California lets any voter hand a sealed, signed ballot to a person they choose, such as a family member, a neighbor or a church volunteer, to turn in for them. It takes three signatures on the back of the envelope, it has to be turned in within three days, and nobody may be paid by the ballot.

Is there a neighbor whose ballot is still sitting on the kitchen counter?

Every registered voter in Los Angeles County was mailed a ballot. Many of them will never be turned in, not because people do not care, but because life gets busy. Ballot collection is how a friend, a relative or a volunteer makes sure those ballots count, and California law allows it.

The back of the envelope, step by step



Voter's Declaration

- I am a resident of and a voter in the precinct, and I am the person whose name appears on this envelope.
- I have not voted nor intend to vote a ballot from any other jurisdiction for the same election.
- I declare under penalty of perjury that this is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I understand my signature will be compared to the signatures in my registration record, which may include the signature on my driver's license or state identification card.

Voter, sign here in your own handwriting
Your signature must match voter registration record.
Power of attorney is not acceptable.

IMA VOTER
1234 N MAIN ST
BURBANK CA 91501

1 **SIGN** 

Date Signed 1 0 2 8 2 0 2 6

If you are unable to sign, make a mark in the signature area above and have a witness sign here.

Signature of witness _____

If you are unable to return your ballot, print the name of the person you authorize to return it on your behalf and have them sign.

2 WILL DELIVER
Name (Printed)

3 Will Deliver
Signature of person returning ballot

! Mailed ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received no later than 7 days after Election Day.

EN 11/3/2026
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Illustration based on the back of the Los Angeles County November 3, 2026 return envelope. Names, address and codes are made up.

Illustration based on the back of the Los Angeles County November 3, 2026 return envelope. The names, address and codes are made up.

1. **The voter signs and dates the envelope.** It must be the voter's own signature, because the County compares it with the one on file. Nobody can sign for the voter, and a power of attorney is not accepted.
2. **The voter prints the name of the person returning the ballot** in the space under "If you are unable to return your ballot."
3. **That person signs** on the line for the signature of the person returning the ballot.

A voter who cannot sign may make a mark in the signature box and have a witness sign on the line beneath it.

Where and when it has to be turned in

- **Within three days.** The person returning the ballot must turn it in within three days of receiving it, and no later than 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3.
- **Any drop box or vote center in Los Angeles County.** In Burbank, the drop boxes are at the Buena Vista Branch Library, Burbank City Hall, the Joslyn Adult Center and Ralph Foy Park. The vote centers are listed in our voter guide.
- **Or by mail,** postmarked by November 3. No stamp is needed.

The rules

- **The voter chooses.** Only the person the voter names may return the ballot.
- **No pay by the ballot.** Nobody may be paid based on how many ballots they return.
- **Keep it sealed.** The envelope is never opened, and the ballot inside is never marked or changed by anyone but the voter.
- **The voter's choices are private.** Offer to carry the envelope, never to help fill in the ballot unless the voter asks.

Make sure it counted

- Every voter can sign up for text, email or voice alerts at Where's My Ballot and see when the County receives and counts the ballot.
- If the County finds a signature problem, it will notify the voter, who can fix it by 5 p.m. on November 25.

Help a neighbor's ballot count.

Three signatures, three days, and a trip to the drop box.

Sources

1. **California Elections Code section 3017:** who may return a ballot, the deadline, and the ban on pay by the ballot.

2. Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, November 3, 2026 ballot return envelope, and **how to vote by mail.**
 3. **California Secretary of State: vote by mail.**
 4. **County drop box list for this election.**
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The Burbank Republican Party