

FAQ'S

ELECTION INFORMATION

"How can I register to vote??"

The last day to register to vote before the State Primary is Saturday August 29, from 11:00 to Noon at the Town Offices. Please bring proof of residency (a lease, utility bills in your name, forwarded mail with a USPS sticker on it, a paystub with your current home address or governmental mail) and either a birth certificate or passport. If you cannot make it for August 29, NH allows registering at the polls on election day.

"Can I change my party affiliation?"

It is too late to change your party before the Sept. 8, Primary. After the Primary you can come to the Town Clerk's office to request a change.

"How can I get an absentee ballot?"

If you scroll down on this page you will find a link to the Secretary of State's website (sos.nh.gov) where you can print out a copy of the application form. Mail this to us (Town Clerk, PO Box 64, Chesterfield 03443) or you can sign, scan and email the request to townclerk@nhchesterfield.com. A request can also be deposited in the "lock box" to the left of the main door of the Town Offices.

How long will it take to receive my absentee ballot?

We put the highest priority on mailing absentee ballots but—everything depends on when you mail the request and how much the mail is backed up by changes to the postal service. DO NOT WAIT FOR THE LAST MINUTE TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT!

"I requested an absentee ballot for the General Election but I haven't received it yet. Why?"

Ballots for the General Election on November 3, will not be available or mailed until October. Remember, winners in the Sept. 8, Primary from both parties will be on the November 3, ballot.

"Will the elections be at the Town Hall?"

No. Due to the Covid pandemic we have opted to use the Chesterfield School gym for the upcoming elections. That space will allow for greater distancing and a safer environment for all.

"What time does voting begin/end?"

The polls will be open from 8 am to 7 pm for both upcoming elections.

"Can I return my absentee ballot to the Town Clerk?"

VEHICLE TITLING AND REGISTRATION

"What days can I renew my registration?"

Until further notice, the Town Clerk's office is open only for new car titling and registrations, change of address, problem registrations, marriage licenses, registering to vote and certain other problems that require in-person contact. You can renew car or dog registrations online, through the mail or by leaving

your request in the drop box on the right side of the main entrance. The online service can be found on the Town Clerk page of the town website (chesterfield.nh.gov); mail or drop box renewals require your license plate number or name of dog, a check made out to the town of Chesterfield, and a stamped, self-addressed envelope. We will fill in the amount on your check and send you a receipt [t.

“How long does it take to get a registration done by mail or online?”

This depends on when you sent it in and the volume of requests that we get. To be absolutely safe, you should allow for a week to 10-day turnaround.

“I’m looking at a new car. How much will it cost to register?”

The state fees for a new or new-to-you vehicle are based on the weight, with most sedans being \$43.20/year and most SUVs at \$55.20/ year. Town fees are based on the MSRP for the vehicle when it was new and depreciate for the first 6 years, after which they remain the same. In the year 2020, the following is how cars of various years are calculated:

CAR YEAR	CHARGE PER THOUSAND OF SUGGESTED RETAIL
2020	\$18.00/\$1000
2019	\$15.00/\$1000
2018	\$12.00/\$1000
2017	\$9.00/\$1000
2016	\$6.00/\$1000
2015 & older	\$3.00/\$1000

Additionally, you may be charged for the title (27.00) and license plates (\$8.00) There are also small additional fees, usually amounting to about \$5.00.

“Can I get a refund for the registration amount left on a car that I sold?”

The only way to recoup money on a registration is if you transfer it to a new-to-you car. To do this you must bring the old registration with you at the time you register your new car. We cannot accept a copy and we cannot supply you with a copy from our records. If you have lost the old registration or left it with the person who bought your car, your only alternative is to buy a copy from the state for \$17.50

“When does a car no longer need to be titled?”

A few years ago the state changed the rules on this. Currently, all cars 2000 or newer need to be titled.

“I just bought a 1998 car. What do I need to bring in to register it?”

All cars 1999 and older require a bill of sale and either a title, the registration from the prior New Hampshire owner or a VIN verification. Those forms are available from our office or you can find them online at dos.nh.gov under vehicle registration / forms.

“Does a trailer need a title?”

Trailers over 3001 GVW must be titled—which means you must bring in either a prior owner’s title signed over to you or, for a new trailer, the certificate of origin. Trailers under that weight only require a bill of sale.

“Do I pay a fine if I’m late registering my car?”

There is no fine at the Town Clerk’s office.