

**Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
Elections Division**

November 22, 2019

Dear County Election Administrators:

Please share this announcement wide and far!

As of today, the March 3, 2020, Minnesota Presidential Nomination Primary (PNP) online absentee application is available at MNVotes.org!

As discussed at the PNP training sessions, once the online AB applications are available today, you are free to distribute the paper applications because the statement at the top that refers voters to the website for online applications will be available to them; eliminating confusion and phone calls to our offices.

Ballot Development

Please inform voters that only Minnesota major political parties will participate in the March 3, 2020, Minnesota Presidential Nomination Primary. The Minnesota major political parties have until December 31st to provide their list of candidate names and finalize the candidate choice of "uncommitted" and/or the presence of a "write-in" choice on their ballot.

What is placed or not placed on each major party's ballot is the decision of each party's chair. If anyone has questions as to what a party has placed or not placed on their ballot, **they will have to speak to the party**. We cannot provide any information as to that decision. We cannot influence or change that decision.

Will all 4 Minnesota Major Parties Participate?

A Minnesota major party may decide not to hold a national convention; therefore, may ultimately not participate in the PNP? The only *indication* we have had of this possibility is from one of the two "new" major parties. Nothing formal has been received as of this date.

The current Minnesota major political parties are (in alphabetical order):

- Democratic-Farmer-Labor
- Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis
- Legalize Marijuana Now
- Republican

AB Ballot Distribution

Please remind voters that Minnesota Presidential Nomination Primary absentee will not be ready (most likely) for distribution until Friday, January 17, 2020. Inform voters that they may track their absentee ballot's progress at the Minnesota Secretary of State's [Absentee Ballot Status](#) webpage.

Processing PNP AB Applications in SVRS

Processing PNP AB applications is not much different than processing other AB applications. Adam has developed a user document noting the minor differences. You will find that user document under PNP category in the user documents section of SVRS.

Tech Issues/Problems Reports

This is a new election for all of us. We are all depending on all of you, the experts, to let us know if you notice anything that needs attention, right away. Please send us an e-mail (elections.dept@state.mn.us) with details: the server in use, the user id, approx. time, county/muni user, ers/svrs/epollbook, etc. This format will help us provide a more timely, coordinated response.

Finally, as always, you may contact our office by e-mail at elections.dept@state.mn.us or by phone at 651/201-1338 during business hours and we are happy to assist. We have two new staff members on board and they are awesome! So, full steam ahead!

Side Note: Online AB applications for the August State Primary and the November State General election will be available after the May uniform election date.