HEALTH CARE FACILITY VOTING  
(Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Rehabilitation Centers)  
10 ILCS 5/19-3, 5/19-13

Any qualified voter that has been admitted to a health care facility (hospital, nursing home, or 
rehabilitation center) **not more than** 14 days before the election or, if released, is expected to be 
homebound on the day of the election and unable to travel to the polling place, shall be entitled 
to personal delivery of a ballot. The following conditions must be met:

1. Voter must obtain an “Application for Ballot for Qualified Voter Admitted to Hospital, Nursing 
   Home or Rehabilitation Center.” The application can be obtained from the election authority 
   (county clerk or board of election commissioners, depending on where the voter is registered 
to vote).

2. Voter must complete his/her application and his/her physician must complete and sign the 
   “Certificate of Attending Physician” section of the application.

3. After the form is completed and signed by the voter and his/her physician, a registered voter 
   from the voter’s precinct or any legal relative can then hand deliver the application to the 
election authority’s office.

4. After signing an affidavit, the precinct voter or legal relative may personally hand deliver the 
   ballot to the voter at the health care facility he/she has been admitted to.

5. Once the voter receives the ballot, he/she will vote the ballot in secret and complete the 
certification on the ballot return envelope.

6. After depositing his/her voted ballot in the return envelope, the voter will securely seal the 
envelope, and give the envelope to the precinct voter or to the legal relative. The ballot must 
be delivered back to the election authority before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Any qualified voter admitted to a health care facility **more than** 14 days before the election may 
request a “vote by mail” ballot.

**VOTER ASSISTANCE**

Assistance is the actual casting of votes for a voter in accordance with the voter’s wishes. 
Assistance can be given by a friend or relative, but cannot be given by an officer or agent of the 
voter’s employer or the voter’s union. A candidate whose name appears on the ballot is also 
prohibited from assisting a physically incapacitated voter unless the candidate is the spouse, 
parent, child, brother, or sister of the incapacitated voter. This would prohibit precinct 
commiteemen from giving assistance in a primary election. If assistance is given, the name and 
address of the person giving assistance must be provided on the certification envelope.

For additional information about health care facility voting contact your local county clerk or board 
of election commissioner’s office. For more information on voting by mail, please refer to the 
Illinois State Board of Elections brochure “Voting by Mail in Illinois”. For information on nursing 
home voting please contact your local county clerk or board of election commissioner’s office.

Illinois State Board of Elections website: [www.elections.il.gov](http://www.elections.il.gov)
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