



VSAP Frequently Asked Questions



Modern Tally System



Interactive Sample Ballot



Ballot Marking Device



Voting Period



Vote Centers



Electronic Pollbooks



New Vote by Mail Experience

Electronic Pollbook (ePollbook or Poll Pad):

- Replaces the paper roster
- Used by election workers to verify voter registration eligibility
- Voters provide name and address, then sign
- Allows for Conditional Voter Registration (CVR), see page 5

Modern Tally System:

- Counts votes from paper ballot
- More open and transparent process
- Uses image processing technology

Interactive Sample Ballot (ISB):

- Optional service that speeds up the voting experience
- Utilize on mobile device or computer to generate Poll Pass (QR code)
- Voters view their sample ballot and pre-mark their choices
- Scan Poll Pass to transfer selections
- Voters must still review, confirm, print and cast ballot

Ballot Marking Device (BMD):

- Paper-based voting to ensure election integrity
- No internet connection, Wi-Fi or Bluetooth to ensure security
- Make selections on touchscreen, then prints onto paper for review
- Translated ballots available in 12 languages
- ADA accessible allowing accessibility devices to be connected
- Features an audio ballot in all available languages

Voting Period and Vote Centers:

- 11 days to vote in-person, begins February 22, 2020 (voting period includes two full weekends)
- Approximately 250 vote centers will open February 22, 2020
- Approximately 1,000 open for the last four days, including Election Day
- Voters can go to any vote center in LA County to cast a ballot
- Open 8 AM to 5 PM for first ten days of voting period—still 7 AM to 8 PM for Election Day

Vote by Mail (VBM):

- Voters still have the VBM option
- Permanent VBM voters automatically receive a ballot, as in past elections
- Postage is not required to return a VBM ballot by mail
- Voters may also drop-off at any vote center or one of the ~250 VBM drop-off locations

Supported languages:

Armenian
Chinese
Farsi
Hindi
Japanese
Khmer
Korean
Russian
Spanish
Tagalog
Thai
Vietnamese

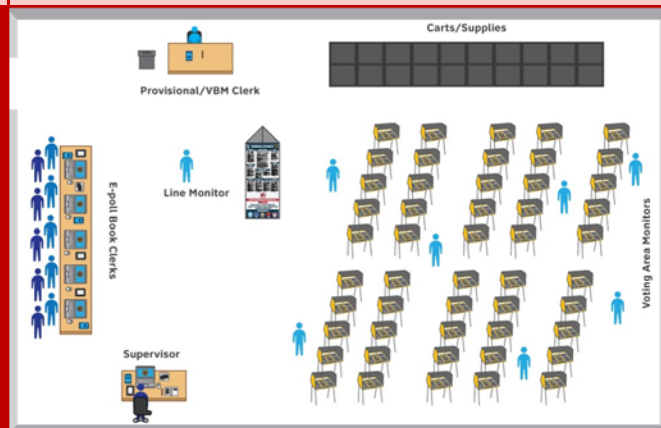
VSAP Overview

Why change from polling places to vote centers?	Per the California Voters Choice Act, the County adopted the vote center model. This replaces polling places with a more convenient, flexible model (11 days of voting, voters can go anywhere in LA County).
Why change from InkaVote to a Ballot Marking Device (BMD)?	Two primary reasons: (a) InkaVote is no longer certified for use in California as it does not meet the voting system requirements. (b) To successfully implement the vote center model, it was necessary to upgrade the County's voting system.
Is this only happening in LA County?	No, a total of 15 counties in California have opted in to the California Voter's Choice Act (Orange, Fresno, Santa Clara, Madera, Mariposa, San Mateo, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Sacramento, Napa, Amador, El Dorado, Nevada, and Butte Counties).
Is this online, electronic or computerized voting?	No. It is a paper-based voting system. The Ballot Marking Device (BMD) is not connected to the internet or any network.
Is this new system more susceptible to voter fraud?	No. It is actually more secure. Using the ePollbook, once a voter has voted, the system updates the voter database in real time. This prevents voters from trying to vote at multiple vote centers.
Is this Ballot Marking Device (BMD) vulnerable to hacking?	No. There is no internet connection, Wi-Fi or Bluetooth in the devices. No data is stored within the BMD and results are not downloaded. The tallying occurs separately by counting the paper ballots.
How can someone work at a vote center?	<p>Go to www.lavote.net or call 800-815-2666 to apply. The requirements for becoming an election worker are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 years of age or older (unless participating in the student election worker program) • California resident • United States citizen or legal permanent resident
What did the County do to let voters know about the changes?	Full use of media and community outreach was implemented. This included: paid media partnerships, TV ads, radio promotions, streaming-based ads, social media marketing, partnerships with cities and community-based organizations, community events, town halls, emails to voters, robocalls, mailing notices, partnerships with elected officials and more.
Will results be released prior to the close of polls?	No results will be released prior to 8:00 PM on Election Night.
Where do people go for more VSAP information?	Go to www.lavote.net or call 800-815-2666.

Vote Centers

<p>How do voters find a vote center?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Go to www.lavote.net to utilize the look-up tool. 2. Call 800-815-2666. 3. All households in LA County have been mailed a booklet listing all vote centers. 4. All voters will be mailed a flyer listing their nearest vote centers (both 11 day and 4 day).
<p>What is the difference between a vote center and a polling place?</p>	<p>Vote centers are taking the place of polling places. Voters were assigned one polling place but now voters may go to any vote center in LA County. Approximately 250 vote centers will be open for 11 days (starting February 22) and approximately 1,000 will be open the last four days, including Election Day.</p>
<p>What are the hours of vote centers?</p>	<p>Vote centers will be open from 8 AM to 5 PM, but on Election Day. Vote centers will be open from 7 AM to 8 PM. There will be a few vote centers open extended hours beginning Monday, March 2. Mobile and Flex Vote Centers will also have different hours.</p>
<p>Will assistance be available to help voters at vote centers and to use the Ballot Marking Device (BMD)?</p>	<p>Yes. Vote centers will be fully staffed, including staff to assist voters with the BMD.</p>
<p>What happens in the event of a power failure?</p>	<p>The County has developed a contingency plan and will implement that plan.</p>
<p>Will parking be available at vote centers?</p>	<p>Yes. All vote centers will have a designated parking area.</p>
<p>Where should someone submit information for a potential vote center location?</p>	<p>Please email vsap@rcc.lacounty.gov to provide recommended vote center locations.</p>
<p>How can someone work at a vote center?</p>	<p>Go to www.lavote.net or call 800-815-2666 to apply. The requirements for becoming an election worker are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 years of age or older (unless participating in the student election worker program) • California resident • United States citizen or legal permanent resident

Illustration of a typical layout for a large vote center. Layouts of vote centers vary depending on space and room configuration



Voting Procedures

Why the switch from paper roster to ePollbook?	In moving to the vote center model, the ePollbook has the capability of looking up voters in real-time regardless of where they vote. Additionally, the ePollbook allows for conditional voter registration (CVR).
Do voters now need ID with ePollbook lookup?	No. ID is not required to vote in California. For easy check-in, voters will be asked for their Sample Ballot, but it is not required for check-in.
When does in-person voting begin in LA County?	Voting starts Saturday, February 22, 2020.
What is conditional voter registration (CVR)	CVR allows a voter who missed the voter registration deadline (15 days before Election Day) the opportunity to register and vote a conditional ballot. Voters may also utilize the CVR process to change address and political party. See next page for more information.
Can a voter get a regular ballot if he or she lost their VBM ballot?	Yes. At a vote center, an election worker can suspend the voter's VBM ballot and issue a regular ballot for voting on the ballot marking device.
Does provisional voting still exist?	Yes. However it will occur less frequently. Two primary reasons voters require provisional ballots is (1) they show up at the wrong voting location, but now voters can go anywhere, and (2) they show up without a VBM ballot, but we will now be able to suspend a VBM ballot and issue an in-person ballot.
Will voters still receive a sample ballot booklet?	Yes. Sample ballot booklets are in the process of being mailed to all registered voters.
Why isn't President listed first on a ballot?	The State Legislature approved a law creating a different ballot order layout for LA County. Local offices, such as City Council and Mayor, appear first and the Presidential contest will appear last.
For No Party Preference (NPP) voters, what are the Presidential Primary options (crossover voting)?	NPP voters have the option to "crossover" and vote for a candidate from either the American Independent, Democratic or Libertarian primary.
Do voters need to be skilled with tablets or computers to now vote?	No. The Ballot Marking Devices (BMDs) are designed to be extremely intuitive. All voting equipment has been tested and designed with thousands of voters of various demographics. However, should a voter need assistance, an Election Worker is available to help.
Is curbside voting still available?	Yes. Curbside voting will still be available to voters arriving at vote centers.

Vote by Mail (VBM)

Is VBM still available?	Voters still have the option to request a VBM ballot. Permanent VBM voters will automatically receive a ballot just as in past elections.
When were Permanent VBM (PVBM) ballots sent?	PVBM ballots are mailed 29 days before the election.
What are the options for returning a VBM ballot?	Voters may return a VBM ballot by mail (postage paid), drop it off at a vote center or deposit at any of the approximately 200 VBM drop-off locations.
Who can return a VBM ballot?	Voters may give their VBM ballot to anyone they trust. A person other than the voter will need to sign the third party authorization box. Voters also need to be sure to sign their VBM envelope, as well.
Can a voter get a regular ballot if he or she lost their VBM ballot or prefers not to use it?	Yes. At a vote center, an election worker can suspend the voter's VBM ballot and issue a regular ballot for voting on the ballot marking device.

Conditional Voter Registration (CVR)

What is Conditional Voter Registration (CVR)	CVR allows a voter who missed the voter registration deadline (15 days before Election Day) the opportunity to register and vote a conditional ballot. Voters may also utilize the CVR process to change address and political party.
Will a ballot count if a voter uses CVR?	Yes. If unable to validate a voter's registration at the vote center, his or her ballot will be placed in a CVR envelope and validated after Election Day canvass period. Once validated, the ballot will be counted.
Besides registering, what else is the CVR process used for?	Voters may update voter information, such as address and political party.

Interactive Sample Ballot (ISB) - Optional Service

What is the Interactive Sample Ballot (ISB)?	The ISB is a new and optional service that is a convenient way to speed up the voting experience. Voters can view their sample ballot and pre-mark their choices on a mobile device or home computer to generate a Poll Pass. After check-in at the vote center, voters scan the Poll Pass on the BMD to transfer their selections. Voters are still required to confirm, print and cast their ballot.
Does the ISB allow voting via mobile device?	No. Generating a Poll Pass is not a vote. To cast a vote, voters need to go to a vote center, receive a ballot and use the Ballot Marking Device (BMD).
What info is found on the QR code (Poll Pass) created by the ISB?	The Poll Pass only lists the choices a voter has selected based on the ballot for that precinct. There is no personal information or anything to connect a voter to his or her Poll Pass.