



2020 Arapahoe County General Election **Guide for News Media**

Arapahoe County Elections Facility, 5251 S. Federal Blvd, Littleton, CO 80123

- This facility is our hub for ballot processing, tabulation and storage. It also features a 24-hour ballot drop-off box out front. There is no in-person voting at this facility for this election.

Voter Service and Polling Centers (VSPCs)

- Arapahoe County has 29 VSPCs open in two phases from Oct. 19 through Election Day on Nov. 3. VSPCs are open from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday–Friday & Saturday Oct. 31. On Nov. 3, all VSPCs are open from 7 a.m.–7 p.m.
- Locations and dates open are listed: <https://www.arapahoevotes.com/voter-service-polling-centers>

Public Health Precautions under State Election Rule 27.5 and County Procedures

- To protect the health of election judges, staff, voters, and the public, media observers must wear a mask or cloth face covering while at the Elections Facility or any VSPC and must have their temperature taken and answer health screening questions prior to entering the facility.
- Media observers must also comply with strict social distancing guidelines as indicated and stay in properly marked areas unless escorted by elections staff.
- Anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms while at a voter service and polling center or this facility must immediately report that to an appropriate county official and leave the location.

Unofficial Election Results Schedule

- Unofficial election results in Arapahoe County will be posted online shortly after 7 p.m. and approximately every 90 minutes: 8:30 p.m., 10 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. at www.arapahoevotes.com. Click on the icon titled “Election Night Results.”
- Additional unofficial results will be posted at the same link on Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 12 p.m., 2 p.m., and 5 p.m.

Election Day Support for Media

- Due to public health orders, including social distancing requirements, limited Arapahoe County Communication Services staff will be on-site at the Elections Facility on Nov. 3.
- If you need any information or assistance, wish to schedule a visit to a VSPC, or would like to arrange an interview with Clerk and Recorder Joan Lopez or Elections Director Peg Perl, please:

- Call our Communications Team: Luc Hatlestad, Public Information Officer, 720-635-9560, or Tom Skelley, communications business partner, 303-356-6926
- Visit us at our communications center at the back of the warehouse, or
- Send an email to communicationservices@arapahoegov.com.

Guidelines for Film/Photography

If filming/photographing the Election Facility or at a VSPC, please keep in mind that news media may NOT:

- Take images that show identifying voter information;
- Review, photograph or film poll books;
- Interview a voter as they are casting their vote on paper or machine; or
- Interview election judges or workers.

Online Election Information

Visit www.arapahoevotes.com to find:

- Number of active registered voters and other voter stats
- Unofficial turnout data, including counts of votes cast by date, by type and by party
- Unofficial election results after 7 p.m.

Guest Wireless at Election Warehouse:

Network Name: Guests

Incoming fax number, if needed: 303-795-5425

Arapahoe County social media accounts:

- Facebook:
 - Clerk and Recorder: [Facebook.com/ArapahoeVotes](https://www.facebook.com/ArapahoeVotes)
 - Arapahoe County Government: [Facebook.com/arapahoecounty](https://www.facebook.com/arapahoecounty)
- Twitter:
 - Clerk and Recorder: [@arapahoeclerk](https://twitter.com/arapahoeclerk)
 - Arapahoe County Government: [@arapahoecounty](https://twitter.com/arapahoecounty)

Colorado Election Rule 8.18:

Media Observers may witness all election activities. A county clerk may, in his or her discretion, require a media observer to appoint a pool reporter and a pool photographer to represent all media observers. All media observers are subject to the Guidelines established by the Colorado Press Association in conjunction with the Colorado County Clerks' Association and the Secretary of State as outlined below:

Guidelines for Member of the Media Who Observe Election Counts and Recounts (to be distributed to members of the Colorado Press Association):

The Colorado State Association of County Clerks and Recorders, Colorado Broadcasters' Association and Colorado Press Association have collaborated to develop the following guidelines and protocols for use when members of the media observe the counting or recounting of ballots. You are strongly encouraged to follow these guidelines to allow meaningful media access while not disrupting the work of county clerks to count ballots or doing anything to compromise the integrity of the election process.

1. If practical, please contact the county clerk's office prior to coming to observe the counting of ballots. If the county clerk knows you are coming, it will be easier to accommodate your request for a place to observe the count or to interview an election official.
2. At the discretion of the county clerk, a specific viewing area for members of the media and other observers may be available. To the extent practicable, the area will have been designated with sight lines to allow you to observe and take pictures or video of the counting process. If there are insufficient sight lines for you to take the photos or video you need, the county clerk may be able to make arrangements to accommodate your needs.
3. Please observe counting procedures without disrupting the count. Please take pictures or video without the use of supplemental lighting. Do not talk to people participating in counting ballots. There may be workers who ask you not to include their images in your pictures or video. We encourage you to honor those requests if you can reasonably do so.
4. The Secretary of State's Election Rules state that if observers leave the area during a recount, they may not reenter without the consent of the county clerk. If you have occasion to leave the area, you may be denied re-admittance.
5. Please do not use the information you see when observing vote counts to report on partial election results. Please do not report anything that could be used to identify the person who casts a particular ballot.

The Colorado State Association of County Clerks and Recorders, Colorado Broadcasters' Association and Colorado Press Association are all committed to working together to ensure the media has access to election counts and recounts, but that access is afforded in manners that do not disrupt the counts and do nothing to compromise the integrity of the process. Your cooperation in following these standards will help us to meet all these goals.