

**Maryland***Holding Power Accountable*

*\*This sample script can be used by Maryland HBCU campuses or student organization for outreach to voters. We recommend using this script prior to the Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> mail-in ballot request deadline. If you have questions, please email Joanne Antoine at [jantoine@commoncause.org](mailto:jantoine@commoncause.org)*

**Sample Text Script**

Hello [voter name]! I'm [student name] at [campus]! We're checking in with voters who received a mail-in ballot application. Have you sent in your request?

**1. YES**

- a. Great! We're a [student org/campus] and we're working to ensure young voters in MD make a plan to vote by Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. To learn more and to join our efforts, visit [link]
  - i. Suggested Tags: Registered Voter

**2. NO**

- a. No worries, you still have time! Requests must be received by October 20th. To make a request online, visit <https://bit.ly/2ZX1von>. If using the paper form, you can submit at a nearby secure drop box! Do you want help finding your county's drop box?
  - i. Suggested Tags: Registered Voter, Needs Follow Up

**3. Wrong Number**

- a. Sorry about that. If you're a Maryland voter, early voting begins on Oct. 26th. You can find early voting center locations in your county at <https://bit.ly/32MBIqn>
  - i. Suggested Tags: Wrong Number

**4. Who are you?**

- a. I'm a [student] at [school/campus org], ... [included information about school or organization]. Learn more about us at [link]

**5. How did you get my number?**

- a. When you registered to vote and put your number down on your registration, your number was added to a public voter file which is where we get our voter contact information.

**6. Moved (Opt Out)**

- a. Sorry about that, we'll take you off of our list. Check your voter registration status in your current state at <https://bit.ly/2G142GU>
  - i. Suggested Tags: Moved

**7. I don't know where my drop box is.**

- a. We got you covered! Here's a list of where each county's drop box is located <https://bit.ly/3iPRLUD>
  - i. Suggested Tags: Registered Voter, Needs Follow Up

**8. I've decided that I'm not going to vote in the 2020 Presidential election!**

- a. We respect your choice but keep in mind that your ballot has more candidates than the presidential ones. You still have until October 20th to request a mail-in ballot if you change your mind. In-person voting will also be available start on Oct. 26th at the locations here <https://bit.ly/3mzP1Nn>
  - i. Suggested Tags: Registered Voter, Non-Voter

**9. I lost my absentee ballot.**

- a. Don't worry, you can request a new mail-in ballot until October 20th. To get a replacement, contact your local board of election at <https://bit.ly/2ZXNRBr>
  - i. Suggested Tags: Registered Voter, Needs Follow Up

### **Additional Responses that may be helpful**

**1. Where do I go to vote?**

There are numerous early vote centers available in your county. You can go to any of these locations from Oct. 26th through Nov. 2nd <https://bit.ly/2RNKxnY>

**2. When do polls open/ How late are the polls open?**

Early vote centers are open from 7am - 8pm.

**3. Do I need identification to vote?**

If you've voted in Maryland before, you don't need to provide ID to vote. If you're a first-time voter, we encourage you to bring identification with you.

**4. I registered before the deadline, but my name isn't on the list!**

No worries, Maryland allows same-day registration! You can go to a vote center during early voting and election day to register and vote. Bring a state ID, utility bill or bank statement with you to prove you live in MD

**5. Do I HAVE to vote for the candidates on the ballot?**

No. You have the right to enter any name in the "write-in" space provided for each race on the ballot.

**6. Can I wear a shirt/button/hat/etc that exemplifies the party I'm voting for?**

Maryland allows voters to wear clothing, buttons or stickers with political messages written on them when voting. Voters will just have to leave immediately after casting their votes.

**7. What accommodations are provided for the disabled?**

Maryland is committed to making voting accessible to all voters. All of the early voting centers in Maryland are accessible to voters with disabilities. To learn more, visit <https://bit.ly/2ZVNgAo>

**8. Who's on the ballot?**

Check out who's on your ballot at [wvmd.org/2020\\_voters\\_guides](http://wvmd.org/2020_voters_guides)

