

From the Desk of

Kingsbury County Auditor

Kingsbury County . . . De Smet, South Dakota

202 2nd St. S.E.
P.O. Box 196
De Smet, SD 57231

Phone: 605-854-3832
Fax: 605-854-3833



Absentee Ballots Not Available at Start of Voting Period June 2 Primary

The Kingsbury County Auditor is notifying voters that absentee ballots for the upcoming June 2nd Primary Election will not be available on the first day of the absentee voting period.

Under South Dakota law, absentee voting is scheduled to begin **46 days prior to an election** pursuant to **SDCL 12-19-1.2**. However, the **candidate petition filing deadline was March 31**, as established in **SDCL 12-6-4**, which determines the final list of candidates to appear on the ballot.

Because ballots cannot be finalized until after the petition filing deadline has passed and candidate eligibility is confirmed, additional time is required for ballot preparation, including certification, layout, programming, proofing, and printing.

This statutory timing results in a brief delay between the start of the absentee voting period and the availability of ballots.

The Auditor's Office is working diligently to complete this process and is committed to ensuring ballots are accurate and available as soon as possible.

Once ballots are available:

- Absentee ballots will be **mailed immediately** to voters who have submitted applications
- In-person absentee voting will begin at the Auditor's Office
- Updates will be shared through the county website and Kingsbury County Sheriff's Facebook page.

Voters are encouraged to:

- Submit absentee ballot applications early
- Verify voter registration information
- Monitor official county communications for updates

The deadline to request an absentee ballot remains **5:00 p.m. the day before the election**,