



# Language Assistance for San Mateo County Voters

*Everything you need to know to vote \*in the language of your choice\**

San Mateo County voters who prefer to vote in a language other than English can now get more assistance than ever before! Everything available in English when voting is also available in Spanish and Chinese. If you speak Filipino/Tagalog or Korean, you may be able to access a translated reference ballot (also called a “facsimile ballot”) in your language. This depends on where you live.

## Language Requirements in San Mateo County at a Glance

<p><b>Everything Translated:</b> <b>SPANISH, CHINESE</b></p> <p><i>Everything available in English, including ballots, should be available in Spanish and in Chinese.</i></p>	<p><b>Translated Reference Ballots Available:</b> <b>FILIPINO/TAGALOG, KOREAN</b></p> <p><i>Translated reference ballots (also known as a “facsimile ballots”) may be available in Filipino/Tagalog and in Korean. Call the elections office to have one mailed to you or look for it at the Vote Center.</i></p>
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## Contact information for the San Mateo County elections office

- Call or text: (650) 312-5222
- Website: [smcvote.org](http://smcvote.org)

## Big changes to San Mateo County elections!

San Mateo County is implementing a new election system under the Voter’s Choice Act this year. *All registered voters* will now receive a vote-by-mail ballot automatically in the mail. It can be returned by mail, at a drop box, or at a “vote center.” The traditional neighborhood polling place is now eliminated. Vote centers offer early voting and same-day voter registration.

You can vote at *any* vote center in the county, not just the one closest to your house! You can get your ballot in Spanish or Chinese at any vote center. If you live in a dense Filipino or Korean part of the county, you should be able to get a Filipino/Tagalog or Korean reference version of your ballot at any vote center in the county. You can also call and ask to have it mailed to you before Election Day.

### Quick tip for voters who vote in person

**Always ask the staff at the vote center what materials they have available in the language you prefer. And ask if any staff present at the vote center speak your language.**

### Quick tip for voters who vote by mail

**If you vote by mail, call the San Mateo County elections office and ask what translated materials they can send you. Everything should be provided free of cost.**