

1 08 NCAC 18 .0502 is proposed for adoption as follows:

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3 **08 NCAC 18 .0502 CURABLE DEFICIENCIES**

4 (a) A curable deficiency includes the following:

5 (1) The absentee voter did not sign or make their mark on the application. If county board staff
6 determine the voter's signature on the application appears to be the name of the voter assigned the
7 application number on the ballot envelope that is required under G.S. 163-230.1(c)(2) and not some
8 other person, then that is not a deficiency even if the signature is illegible.

9 (2) The absentee voter signed the application in the wrong place.

10 (3) The photo identification is not an acceptable type of identification under 08 NCAC 17 .0101(a)(1).

11 (4) The photo identification does not meet an applicable expiration date requirement under G.S. 163-
12 166.16(a).

13 (5) The photocopy of the photo identification is not readable under 08 NCAC 17 .0109(a).

14 (6) The name on the photo identification is not the same as or substantially equivalent to the name
15 contained in the voter's voter registration record in accordance with 08 NCAC 17 .0101(a)(3).

16 (7) The absentee voter did not sign the photo identification affidavit. If an absentee voter is unable to
17 sign the affidavit due to a disability, then it is not a deficiency if the person of the voter's choice
18 assisting the voter signed the affidavit on the absentee voter's behalf and completed the assistant
19 certification on the application.

20 (8) The absentee voter did not print their name on the photo identification affidavit. If the absentee voter
21 signed the affidavit and that signature appears to be the name of the voter and not some other person,
22 then the lack of a printed name is not a deficiency.

23 (9) The absentee voter did not indicate their claimed exception or reasonable impediment to the photo
24 identification requirement on the photo identification affidavit.

25 (10) The absentee voter's personal identification number, when required to be provided by G.S. 163-
26 230.1(g)(2) on the photo identification affidavit is deficient under 08 NCAC 17 .0109(b).

27 (11) The absentee voter has failed to include any photo identification documentation with their
28 application.

29 (b) When county board staff identify a curable deficiency under this Rule, staff shall send a cure notice to the voter
30 by mail to the address at which the voter requested their ballot be sent within one business day of identifying the
31 deficiency. The cure notice shall also be provided by telephone or email if the telephone number or email address was
32 provided by the voter on the request form for the absentee ballot or, if one was not provided on the request form, in
33 the voter's record. If the curable deficiency involves photo identification documentation, county board staff shall also
34 proceed in accordance with 08 NCAC 17 .0109. If county board staff identify a likely curable deficiency but are unable
35 to make such a determination, then staff shall present the deficiency to the county board to make the determination at
36 its next absentee meeting held pursuant to G.S. 163-230.1.

1 (c) The voter, the voter's verifiable legal guardian or near relative, a bipartisan assistance team appointed under
2 G.S. 163-226.3, or a person of the voter's choice if the voter needs assistance due to the voter's disability, may transmit
3 the cure documentation or attestation in person, by mail, or by email to the county board of elections. If the cure
4 attestation is submitted electronically, the voter shall not use a typed name as their signature or mark unless they are
5 unable to sign the attestation due to a disability.

6 (d) The cure documentation or attestation shall be timely only if received by the county board by the deadline for
7 curing a deficiency in G.S. 163-230.1(e1). County board staff shall review an absentee voter's cure documentation or
8 attestation within one business day of receipt to determine whether the voter's submission is responsive to what was
9 requested in the cure notice. The county board shall consider the cure documentation together with the application and
10 photo identification documentation when making its decision whether to approve the application. The county board
11 shall not disapprove an application or otherwise refuse to count the absentee ballot solely because it had a curable
12 deficiency if the county board determines that the deficiency has been cured.

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14 History Note: Authority G.S. 163-22; 163-229; 163-230.1; 163-231; 163-234;

15 Eff. September 1, 2026.