

Voter Registration 101



In 49 states and Washington D.C. a person must be registered in order to cast a vote in elections. When you help people register, you make democracy work!

This is a general guide for conducting voter registration drives on National Voter Registration Day. Find state-specific information and additional resources on our website. All partners of National Voter Registration Day commit to remaining nonpartisan while registering voters and abiding by state and local rules.

Voting eligibility: Everyone who registers to vote must attest (be able to prove):

- ★ They will be at least 18 years of age by election day (unless the state offers pre-registration)
- ★ They are a citizen of the United States (for federal elections and most state and local elections)
- ★ They are a legal resident of the state they register in (students may register in their school OR home state, but may only register and vote in one)

There are two options for registering to vote:

Using Paper Registration Forms

- ★ No WiFi or device necessary
- ★ Accepted in every state*
- ★ No state ID# needed to complete

Assisting voters: Make sure a voter has filled out all required fields

- ★ Checkbox: 18 or older
- ★ Checkbox: US Citizen
- ★ Date of birth (make sure they didn't put today's date here)
- ★ Residential address (can't be a P.O. Box)
- ★ State ID # or last 4 digits of SSN (social security number)
- ★ Signature

Accessing paper forms: Call your state or local election office to request forms, or print your own where allowed. The federal form may also be used.

*Review state laws prior to offering voter registration. Do not offer to retain and submit paper voter registration forms in FL, NH, or TX without proper authorization.

Registering Online

- ★ No paperwork to handle
- ★ Available in 40 states & DC
- ★ Automatic voting reminders

Using the NVRD portal: Our registration page is powered by tools that connect to state voter registration portals to complete registrations. Use this QR code to connect to the portal.



Use your state portal: Connect voters directly to your state's website for registering. Voters who use the state website may not be enrolled in automatic voting reminders.

Assisting voters: In most states, voters will need to have a state-issued ID # in order to register. Voters without the necessary ID can register on paper.

