MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

Q: Who is eligible to register to vote?

To register to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, meet your state’s residency requirements, and be at least 18 years old by Election Day. Some states also allow 16- or 17-year-olds to pre-register.*

Q: How do I register to vote?

You can register online (in states that offer it), by mail, or in person at your local election office, DMV, or other designated locations. Forms can be found on your state’s election website or at Vote.gov.

Q: What information do I need to provide to register?

Typically, you’ll need to provide your name, address, date of birth, and a form of identification such as a driver’s license number or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

Q: When is the deadline to register to vote?

Deadlines vary by state. It’s important to check your state’s specific deadline, which can range from 30 days before the election to Election Day registration in some states.

Q: Can I register to vote if I don’t have a permanent address?

Yes, you can still register to vote. You can use a shelter address, a description of where you live, or even a public place where you spend a lot of time.

Q: How do I check if I am already registered to vote?

You can check your registration status online through your state’s election website or at Vote.gov.

Q: Can I register to vote if I have moved recently?

Yes, but you must also meet your new state’s residency requirement in order to vote. If you can’t meet your new state’s residency requirements, which can be up to 30 days prior to the election, you can still vote at your former address using an absentee ballot.

*PRE-REGISTRATION FOR 16 & 17-YEAR OLDS:
If you expect young people at your event, learn your state’s rules for pre-registration. Every state allows 17 year olds to register if they will turn 18 by Election Day. Some states allow all 16 and/or 17 year olds to “pre-register.” They will get a notice as the registration becomes active.
Q: What should I do if my name has changed?

If your name has changed, you should update your voter registration with your new name. This can typically be done online, by mail, or in person.

Q: Can I register to vote with a P.O. Box as my address?

No, you must provide a physical address so election officials can determine your voting precinct. However, you can provide a P.O. Box as your mailing address.

Q: What happens after I register to vote?

After you register, you should receive a confirmation from your local election office, either by mail or email. This will confirm your registration and provide information about your polling place.

Q: Can I vote if I am a student and live away from home?

Yes, you can choose to register and vote either at your home address or your school address, but not both.

Q: Can I register to vote if I have been convicted of a felony?

Voter eligibility for felons varies by state. Most states restore voting rights automatically after release, while others have specific processes. Check your state's laws for details. (See voting as an ex-offender for more.)

Q: What if I need assistance with registration due to a disability?

States must offer accommodations for voters with disabilities, including accessible registration forms and assistance at registration sites. Contact your local election office for help.

Q: Can I register to vote if I am overseas or in the military?

Yes, U.S. citizens living abroad and military members can register using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) through the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP).

Q: Is voter registration information public?

Basic voter registration information is often public record, but the details available vary by state. Personal identifying information like your Social Security number is typically kept private. Additionally, special provisions allow victims of domestic violence to keep their address private and off of public voter rolls.
Q: Can I register to vote online?

Most states now offer online voter registration. Check your state’s election website to see if this option is available.

Q: Do I need to show ID to register to vote?

ID requirements for voter registration vary by state. Some require a driver’s license or state ID number, while others may ask for the last four digits of your Social Security number.

Q: What should I do if I haven’t received confirmation of my registration?

If you haven’t received confirmation within a few weeks, check your registration status online or contact your local election office.

Q: Can I cancel my voter registration?

Yes, you can cancel your voter registration by contacting your local election office and requesting to be removed from the voter rolls.

Q: What if I need to register to vote in a language other than English?

Many states and localities offer voter registration materials in multiple languages. Check with your local election office for available options.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Here are a few verified resources that local partners can share with voters for verified election-related information. These resources provide reliable guidance on voter registration, polling locations, election security, and more, helping to ensure that voters have access to accurate and up-to-date information during the election process.

- **Nonprofit VOTE** - [www.nonprofitvote.org](http://www.nonprofitvote.org)
- **State by State guides to elections** - [www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org/state-voter-guides/](http://www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org/state-voter-guides/)
- **Vote.gov** - [www.vote.gov](http://www.vote.gov)
- **Can I Vote** - [www.canivote.org](http://www.canivote.org)
- **National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS)** - [www.nass.org](http://www.nass.org)
- **U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC)** - [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov)
- **Federal Election Commission (FEC)** - [www.fec.gov](http://www.fec.gov)
- **League of Women Voters** - [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org)
- **Election Protection (866-OUR-VOTE)** - [www.866ourvote.org](http://www.866ourvote.org)
- **Ballotpedia** - [www.ballotpedia.org](http://www.ballotpedia.org)