

VOTER REGISTRATION 101

With the exception of North Dakota, states require a person to 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 at your local election office or on our [website](#). All National Voter Registration Day partners commit to remaining nonpartisan and abiding by state and local laws while registering voters.

VOTING ELIGIBILITY

Everyone who registers to vote must attest (be able to prove) that they are:

- ◆ **A citizen of the United States (for federal elections and most state and local elections);**
- ◆ **At least 18 years of age by Election Day (unless the state offers pre-registration); and**
- ◆ **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

- ◆ **Low-tech and readily accessible**
- ◆ **No WiFi or device necessary**
- ◆ **Accepted in every state***

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

- ◆ Checkbox: 18 or older
- ◆ Checkbox: U.S. 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 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.

Registering Online

- ◆ **No paper forms to handle**
- ◆ **Fewer mistakes**
- ◆ **Available in 42 states & DC**



Using the NVRD portal: Our registration page utilizes Vote.gov and official state online registration portals where available. **Click or scan the QR code to connect to the portal.**

Use your state or a third-party portal: Connect voters directly to your state's website where available for registering online. Third party tools add extra steps, but also provide automatic voting reminders.

ID requirements In most states, voters will need to have a state-issued ID # in order to register. Voters without the necessary ID can usually still register with paper forms.

**Review state laws prior to offering voter registration. Contact your local elections office or see our 50 state legal guides for more. Do not offer to retain and submit paper voter registration forms in Florida, New Hampshire, or Texas without proper authorization.*

