

# National Voter Registration Day

Save the Date: Tuesday, September 17



# **Law(s) of the Land: Voter Registration & State Guides**

**Featuring Fair Elections Center**

**August 28th, 2pm EST**

# Agenda

- **Welcome and Introduction**
- **About NVRD & Nonprofit Vote**
- **Overview of FEC & Partnership**
  - Michelle Kanter Cohen
  - Allegra Chapman
- **About the State Guides**
- **Q&A Session**



**Housekeeping:**  
This webinar is being recorded and the recording and deck will be shared following the call.



# National Voter Registration Day 2024

## National Voter Registration Day Overview

# Upcoming Calendar

- **Office Hours** - [Every Friday](#) from 2-3pm on Zoom
- **September 11th** - Six Days to #VoteReady: Last Minute NVRD Planning
  - [Register here](#)
- Previous Webinars
  - Talking to Voters
  - Voter Engagement Using Paper Forms
  - Working with the Media on NVRD
  - Democracy Goes Digital: Online Tools
  - ...And [many more](#)
- **September 17th** - National Voter Registration Day!





## Key Resources

[Communication Strategy Guide](#)

[Sample Press Releases](#)

[Talking Points](#)

[Best Practices for Mass Email Outreach](#)

[Messaging Tips, Tricks, & Tactics](#)

[Tips for Talking to Reporters](#)

[Social Media Toolkit](#)

[Sample Social Media Text](#)

# National Voter Registration Day 2024

## Nonprofit Vote Overview

# Who is Nonprofit VOTE?

**Mission:** Nonprofit VOTE equips our nation's nonprofits with nonpartisan tools and resources to help the communities they serve participate in voting and democracy.

**Vision:** We envision a diverse network of nonprofits across the United States with the skills, resources, and commitment needed to foster a **more inclusive democracy** where all voices are heard, particularly those currently underrepresented in the voting process.

# Nonprofit VOTE's Work

Equipping our nation's nonprofits with nonpartisan tools and resources to help the communities they serve participate and vote so that we build a more inclusive democracy.

- Free national webinar series
- Resource Library of free tools, templates, and printables
- Tailored support for partner organizations
- Multi-state field program
- Philanthropy for Voter Engagement initiative
- Lead National Voter Registration Day



# Take the Nonprofit VOTE Pledge



[bit.ly/nonprofitpledge](https://bit.ly/nonprofitpledge)

# National Voter Registration Day 2024

## Overview of Fair Election Center & Partnership

Michelle Kanter Cohen, Policy Director and Senior Counsel

# About Fair Elections Center



Fair Elections Center is a national, nonpartisan voting rights and election reform 501(c)(3) organization. We are dedicated to safeguarding the future of our democracy through innovative efforts focused on voting rights and civic engagement.

For nearly two decades, we have been using advocacy, litigation, organizing, education, and technology to protect and expand the right to vote, understanding the particular impact on disenfranchised, underrepresented, and marginalized communities.

We bring a national breadth of knowledge and activities down to our state level programs- while committing to the communities we serve every year, every semester, every vote.



# Why Help Others Register to Vote



- People trust leaders and community members within their own communities
- Local organizations are trusted sources of information
- Reach people who have never been asked to register
- Help people with logistics of getting forms turned in



# Legal Disclaimer

- We provide information and best practices
- We cannot provide legal advice as part of this presentation or in the guides
- If you need legal advice, please contact an attorney admitted to the bar in your state



# National Voter Registration Day 2024

## About the State Guides

Allegra Chapman, Attorney and State Guide Expert

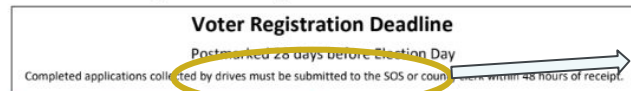
# About the State Guides

Available [here](#)

Here you'll find a library of guides for holding voter registration drives in every state. Compiled as a joint effort with the Fair Elections Center, and our managing partner, Nonprofit Vote, these guides detail the state-by-state rules and regulations for organizations planning to host voter registration events.

Please note that while every effort was made to ensure these guides reflect the most accurate and up-to-date information available for each state, election laws can be subject to change on sudden notice. We strongly encourage you to consider your local elections office and/or Secretary of State's website as your primary source of timely guidelines.

## Conducting a Voter Registration Drive in New Mexico



Key deadlines

### Getting Started

**Training Requirement:** A Third-Party Voter Registration Agent training course must be completed before conducting a registration drive. Training is offered by the county clerks and the Secretary of State. The state's manual for third party registration agents is here: [bit.ly/nmvoterregagents](http://bit.ly/nmvoterregagents)

The Secretary of State's video for Voter Registration Agents is here: [sos.nm.gov/voting-and-elections/](http://sos.nm.gov/voting-and-elections/)

**Notification and Registration Requirements:** Civic organizations, employees, or volunteers conducting voter registration drives must register with the New Mexico Secretary of State (SOS) and submit a Voter Registration Agent Identification Form, which includes all of the following:

- The names of officers of the organization and the name, telephone number, and permanent address of the organization;
- The names, permanent addresses, temporary addresses, if any, social security number, and dates of birth of each person registering persons to vote in New Mexico on behalf of the organization;
- A sworn statement from each registration agent employed by or volunteering for the organization stating that the agent will obey all state laws and rules regarding the registration of voters on a form that gives notice of the criminal penalties for false registration.

The form may be delivered by mail or fax to the Secretary of State or the county clerk.

All Voter Registration Agents (VRAs) will be issued a personal VRA number by the Secretary of State's office. The third party agent must carry and display a copy of the VRA Identification Form as proof of their credentials when assisting applicants with registering to vote.

**Compensation Restrictions:** Do not pay registration drive participants based on how many registrations they collect. Do not offer an applicant any incentive of monetary value to register to vote.

**State Form:** A registered agent will receive a packet of 20 forms and may request, in person, another packet from the Secretary of State or county clerk. State forms include a receipt which must be given to voters upon their completion of the form.

If the Voter Registration Agent (VRA) provided substantial assistance to the registration applicant, then the VRA should put their name and VRA number in item 10. VRAs must also record their VRA number in the receipt at the bottom of the registration form.

**Logging Requirements:** Finally, talk to the county clerk's office about their requirements for tracking and logging state voter registration forms. A link to a blank log page is available here:

[sos.nm.gov/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal-nmvote-org/third-party-voter-registration-agent](http://sos.nm.gov/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal-nmvote-org/third-party-voter-registration-agent)

It includes the unique identification number associated with each form, whether the registration is by a third party voter registration agent took possession of the form upon completion by the registrant, and, if the third party voter registration agent took possession of the form upon completion by the registrant, the date the form was completed by the registrant. Completed logs must be produced when requesting additional blank voter registration forms from election officials.

**Federal Form:** Voter registration organizations may use the federal voter registration form: [www.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form](http://www.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form)

**Photocopying Blank Forms:** Blank state forms may not be copied, but rather must be obtained as originals from election officials.

Link to county board of registrars / board of elections office

Link to voter registration form



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# Why are state-by-state guides important?

- Wide variation in state laws
- Some states have few or no restrictions
- Some have modest sets of rules
- Others, like Texas and Florida, have elaborate sets of rules and restrictions



# What do the guides cover?

## Examples:

- Registering the drive or the person collecting a form with election officials
- Training rules
- Canvasser payment rules
- Which forms can be used
- Deadlines to turn in forms
- Links to state resources



# Types of State rules

## Levels of restriction

States that have a lot of rules and restrictions.

States that have moderate sets of rules around receiving forms, compensation, turnaround time, etc.

States with few or no rules on the books specific to community voter registration, e.g. compensation or prefilled forms only.

States that have documentary proof requirements to vote in some or all elections.

## State examples

Florida, Texas, Georgia, New Mexico

Virginia, Maryland, California

Michigan, Pennsylvania, Minnesota

Wisconsin, Arizona

# States with significant changes - Arizona

### Conducting a Voter Registration Drive in Arizona

#### Voter Registration Deadline

On or before the 29th day before Election Day

If returned by mail, the registration must be: (1) postmarked by the deadline and received by the County Recorder by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day; or (2) dated on or before the deadline and received by the County Recorder no later than 5 days after the deadline.

#### Getting Started

**Training Requirement:** Arizona does not require training for registration drives.

**Notification and Registration Requirements:** Arizona does not require notification of a registration drive.

**Compensation Restrictions:** Do not pay registration drive participants based on how many registration forms they collect. Do not offer an applicant any incentive of monetary value to register to vote.

#### Obtaining Applications

**Online Registration:** Individuals with an Arizona driver license or ID card may register online using Service Arizona VMD: [servicearizona.com/VoterRegistration/selectLanguage](https://servicearizona.com/VoterRegistration/selectLanguage)

**State Form:**

- Available on the Secretary of State's website: [sos.az.gov/sites/default/files/voter\\_registration\\_form\\_09/22/23-standard.pdf](https://sos.az.gov/sites/default/files/voter_registration_form_09/22/23-standard.pdf)
- Request an Arizona voter registration form from the county recorder in the county in which the applicant is a legal resident. Recorder information can be found here: [sos.az.gov/elections/about-elections/county-election-officials-contact-information](https://sos.az.gov/elections/about-elections/county-election-officials-contact-information)

**Federal Form:** The federal mail-in registration application may also be used in voter registration drives: [eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form/](https://eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form/)

**Photocopying Blank Forms:** You may photocopy blank forms for use in voter registration drives.

#### Handling Applications


**Incomplete Applications:** No changes should be made or information added to a completed, signed registration application.

**Photocopying Completed Applications:** Arizona law does not expressly prohibit photocopying completed registration applications. As a best practice, a voter's full or partial Social Security number and/or driver's license number should not be retained.


**Proof of Citizenship:** Arizona also has a proof of citizenship requirement for registration to vote in state and local elections and to use the state voter registration form. Applicants who do not provide documentary proof of citizenship with their Arizona state-specific voter registration form will be rejected. Providing an Arizona driver's license or state ID number issued after October 1, 1996, on either the state or federal voter registration form, fulfills the proof of citizenship requirement as long as the state finds the applicant's record. There is no need to provide anything more, unless the applicant's license or state ID was issued before the applicant became a U.S. citizen.

Applicants who don't have an Arizona driver's license or state ID issued after October 1, 1996 reflecting their current status as a U.S. citizen must provide documentary proof of citizenship to register to vote in state and local elections.

If the applicant does not have documentary proof of citizenship, they can still register to vote using the federal voter registration form to vote for president, vice president, and Congress.



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# States with significant changes - Florida

## Conducting a Voter Registration Drive in Florida

### Voter Registration Deadline

Applications must be received or postmarked 29 days before Election Day. Drives must submit completed applications to the division or supervisor of the applicant's residence so they are received within 10 days of receiving them from the applicant or by the registration deadline, whichever is first.

#### Getting Started

**Preregistration Filings:** Before engaging in voter registration activities, third-party voter registration organizations must submit form DS-DE119 electronically to the Division of Elections at [3PVRD@dos.myflorida.com](mailto:3PVRD@dos.myflorida.com) or if email is not available, by fax at 850-245-6291. Updates to staff canvassers (but not volunteers) are required within 10 days of the change.

- The form and other information is available online: [dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voter-registration/third-party-voter-registration-organizations/](https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voter-registration/third-party-voter-registration-organizations/)

**Organization ID:** Third-party voter registration organizations may not begin collecting applications until the Division of Elections approves the application and assigns an ID number to the organization.

The organization ID, the date the application is collected from the applicant (MM/DD/YYYY), and the registration agent's initials must also be on each application collected during the registration on the bottom front portion of each voter registration application in a manner that does not obscure any other entry.

**Compensation Restrictions:** Do not pay registration drive participants based on how many registrations they collect. It is a felony offense in Florida to solicit or pay another person to solicit voter registration for compensation that is based on the number of registrations obtained.

**Canvasser Restrictions:** To collect or handle voter registration applications a person must not have been convicted of certain felonies under Florida law. 3PVRDs must affirm that their registration agents meet this requirement. State law sets fines of \$50,000 per such agent collecting or handling applications who does not meet this requirement. Additional canvasser restrictions in Florida statute are currently not in effect due to a court order.

**Canvasser Restrictions (cont):** "Collecting or handling" means physically exercising custody over filled out voter registration applications but does not include passing out blank applications, supervising the collecting or handling of applications, assisting a voter who requests assistance to fill out their registration application, or facilitating the online registration through [register.tovote.florida.gov](https://register.tovote.florida.gov). A 3PVRD may require each person collecting or handling voter registration applications on its behalf to sign written declarations affirming under penalty of perjury that the person has not been convicted of a listed felony, if the 3PVRD has a declaration signed by the person with the conviction prior to collecting or handling voter registration applications on behalf of the 3PVRD, the 3PVRD is not subject to this fine. Declaration forms are located here:

English: [files.floridados.gov/media/706999/form-ds-de-127-declarations-adopted-fillable.pdf](https://files.floridados.gov/media/706999/form-ds-de-127-declarations-adopted-fillable.pdf)

Spanish: [files.floridados.gov/media/707864/ds-de-127-declarations-technical-change-spanish-rev.pdf](https://files.floridados.gov/media/707864/ds-de-127-declarations-technical-change-spanish-rev.pdf)


#### Obtaining Applications

**State Forms:** The state mail-in voter registration application can be downloaded at the Florida DOS website: [dos.fl.gov/elections/for-voters/voter-registration/register-to-vote-or-update-your-information/](https://dos.fl.gov/elections/for-voters/voter-registration/register-to-vote-or-update-your-information/)


State forms can also be requested in writing from the Divisions of Elections. The first 9,999 applications are provided at no cost, but a 1 cent charge is assessed for each application over 10,000.

**Federal Forms:** The federal mail-in registration application also may be used in voter registration drives: [eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form](https://eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form)

**Photocopying Blank Forms:** The state mail-in form may be photocopied and used in voter registration drives.



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# States with significant changes -

# Louisiana

### Conducting a Voter Registration Drive in Louisiana

#### Voter Registration Deadline

Paper applications must be received or postmarked by 30 days before Election Day.  
Online voter registration must be completed by 20 days before Election Day. If the deadline falls on a legal holiday, registration closes on the next day which is not a weekend day.  
Drives must turn in completed applications to the parish registrar within 30 days of their completion or by the registration deadline, whatever comes sooner.

Getting Started	Handling Applications
<p><b>Training Requirement:</b> Louisiana does not require training for registration drives.</p> <p><b>Notification and Registration Requirements:</b> Louisiana does have a registration requirement for voter registration drives. Please contact the Secretary of State's office to inform them of your drive, complete a drive application, and obtain materials. Contact the SOS here: <a href="https://sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/GetInvolved/OrganizeARegistrationDrive/Pages/default.aspx">sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/GetInvolved/OrganizeARegistrationDrive/Pages/default.aspx</a></p> <p>The Secretary of State's guide to best practices and laws for voter registration drives is located here: <a href="https://sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/VoterRegistrationDriver.pdf">sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/VoterRegistrationDriver.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Compensation Restrictions:</b> Do not pay registration drive participants based on how many registrations they collect. Do not offer an applicant any incentive of monetary value to register to vote.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete Applications:</b> Do not make any changes to applications or fill in missing information without the express consent of the applicant.</p> <p><b>Photocopying Completed Applications:</b> It is illegal to copy voter registration applications.</p> <p><b>Submitting Completed Applications:</b> Completed registration applications collected during a drive must be submitted to the parish registrar of voters where the voter resides within 30 days of when the forms were completed or by the registration deadline, whichever is earlier. Fair Elections Center recommends that drive volunteers submit forms so they are received by the parish registrar within 30 days after the forms were completed or by the voter registration deadline, whichever is earlier. Failure to submit applications by this deadline is a punishable offense.</p> <p>Federal voter registration applications can be delivered or mailed to Secretary of State, Attention: Elections Division, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125.</p> <p>However, it is preferable to submit them to the parish registrar of voters where the voter resides to avoid a delay in acceptance and processing.</p> <p><i>Fair Elections Center, Campus Vote Project, and Nonprofit VOTE intend the information contained herein to be used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed Louisiana legal professional.</i></p> <p>Last updated April 2024</p> <p>For more information, visit <a href="http://www.fairelectionscenter.org">www.fairelectionscenter.org</a></p>

#### Obtaining Applications



**State Form:** State mail-in voter registration applications may be obtained online or from the parish registrar.

- Online Applications: [sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/ApplicationToRegisterToVote.pdf](https://sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/ApplicationToRegisterToVote.pdf)
- Find your parish registrar: [voterportal.sos.la.gov/Registrar](https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/Registrar)

There are no limits on the number of forms that can be obtained.

**Federal Form:** The federal mail-in voter registration application may be used in voter registration drives: [esc.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form/](https://esc.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form/)

**Photocopying Blank Forms:** Blank applications may be photocopied and used in voter registration drives.



# States with significant changes - Missouri

## Conducting a Voter Registration Drive in Missouri

### Voter Registration Deadlines

Applications must be received or postmarked by the 4th Wednesday prior to Election Day. Voter registration drives turning in applications they collect must submit completed application forms within seven days of receipt.


### Getting Started

**Training Requirement:** Missouri does not require training for registration drives. Local election authorities do provide optional training.

**Notification and Registration Requirements:** Any person who is paid or is otherwise compensated for collecting more than 10 voter registration applications in a general election cycle must complete the Voter Registration Solicitor Form and submit it to the Secretary of State's office. Any paid registration solicitor must be at least 18 years of age and registered to vote in Missouri each election cycle. Volunteers who are not compensated are not required to provide any information or notification to the Missouri Secretary of State (SOS) or other election officials about their voter registration drive activities. Failure to complete the solicitor form, for those to whom it applies, is a punishable offense.

**Compensation Ban:** It is illegal in Missouri to compensate any person based on number of persons registered or number of voter registration applications collected. Do not offer an applicant any incentive of monetary value to register to vote. Additional requirements exist in Missouri statute but are preliminarily enjoined and are currently the subject of ongoing litigation. Fair Elections Center cannot provide legal advice.

Obtaining Applications	Handling Applications
<p><b>State Form:</b> You may download a state mail-in voter registration application from the SOS website, but the form is county-specific so it's not recommended for voter registration drives. Pre-printed state applications can be requested from any election authority. Requests for a large number of applications should be made to the Secretary of State's office, 600 West Main Street, Jefferson City, Missouri, 65101, (731) 751-4936, <a href="mailto:info@sos.mo.gov">info@sos.mo.gov</a>.</p> <p><b>Federal Form:</b> The federal mail-in voter registration application may also be used in voter registration drives: <a href="https://eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form">eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form</a></p> <p>The federal form should be mailed to the Secretary of State's office as listed on the federal form or the voter's local election authority. Find your local election authority here: <a href="https://sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/local-election-authority">sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/local-election-authority</a></p> <p><b>Photocopying Blank Forms:</b> Blank applications may be photocopyied and used in voter registration drives.</p>	<p><b>Incomplete Applications:</b> Do not fill in any missing information on a registration form unless you have express permission from the applicant.</p> <p><b>Photocopying Completed Applications:</b> There is no law or rule prohibiting photocopying or retaining information from completed registration applications. As a best practice, a voter's full or partial Social Security number and/or the driver's license number should not be retained.</p> <p><b>Submitting Applications:</b> Anyone who offers to submit a completed voter registration application on another's behalf must deliver it within seven days of accepting or receiving the application. State regulations indicate state forms must be delivered to the appropriate election authority representing the area in which the applicant resides. Failure to deliver them within seven days is a punishable misdemeanor, regardless of intent.</p> <p><i>Fair Elections Center, Campus Vote Project, and Nonprofit VOTE intend the information contained herein to be used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed Missouri legal professional.</i></p> <p>Last updated April 2024</p> <p>For more information, visit <a href="https://www.fairelectionscenter.org">www.fairelectionscenter.org</a></p>

**NonprofitVOTE**

# Q & A

# Thank you

See you on September 17th for  
National Voter Registration Day!

