

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY - SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

NEW CITIZENS FACT SHEET

National Voter Registration Day & Welcoming America



*"In 2012, a group of democracy-dedicated organizations and election officials put their heads together to answer a seemingly simple question: how can we ensure more eligible voters are registered to vote and ready to participate in our nation's democracy actively? The proposed solution: **National Voter Registration Day**.*

*— Secretaries of State Michael Adams (R-Kentucky) and Steve Simon (D-Minnesota)
National Voter Registration Day Steering Committee Honorary Co-chairs*



**WELCOMING
AMERICA**

WHAT IS NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY?

Each year in the United States, millions of eligible voters can't vote because of easily preventable issues—a missed deadline, a name change never updated, a move not reflected in the system.

In response, National Voter Registration Day was created to help address such issues by serving as a nationwide nonpartisan rallying point to promote voter registration and help eligible voters across the country get #VoteReady to participate in our shared democracy. Since 2012, close to 6.5 million citizens have registered to vote on the annual holiday, including a record-breaking 1.5 million in 2020 alone.



HELPING NEW CITIZENS BECOME NEW VOTERS

National Voter Registration Day and Welcoming America share a fundamental vision: that communities are stronger when everyone—including newly naturalized immigrants—has a real path to civic participation.

According to a 2022 American Community Survey from Pew Research, roughly 10% of the eligible voting electorate are naturalized citizens. Yet early evidence suggests naturalized citizens vote at lower rates than the general electorate, in part because the voter registration process can be hard to navigate. These newly naturalized citizens often require specific information and targeted support to get them #VoteReady and participating in our democracy.

Every year, many newly naturalized Americans and longtime voters alike find themselves facing a new landscape of voting laws that have been passed by their home states since the last election. While these changes vary from state to state, at the end of the day, ensuring that your community is #VoteReady to hit the polls **begins with registering to vote OR updating your voter registration** with any new information.

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A FEW IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF BECOMING A COMMUNITY PARTNER

[Sign up as a partner](#) and get free posters and stickers for your National Voter Registration Day event. Make a plan for your event using our Field Organizer Toolkit—identify event location(s), recruit volunteers, and promote it!

PROMOTE ELECTION EDUCATION IN YOUR COMMUNITIES

Include voter education and registration into cultural events and work to make translated materials available in community spaces. Distribute nonpartisan candidate and ballot measure guides to educate your community about the issues at stake in the upcoming election. Host candidate forums at local community centers and public forums to engage new voters and give them an opportunity to be heard by the candidates. Don't be afraid to make it creative!

GET YOUR LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIALS INVOLVED

Join forces with local election officials in your municipality and state to make sure National Voter Registration Day's presence is felt in your community. Share information about in-language or bilingual assistance options, including translated sample ballots and language assistance hotlines (where applicable). Then work together to share and promote in-state National Voter Registration Day events, voter registration resources, bilingual poll worker recruitment, and #TrustedInfo on all things elections.

COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

Work with local organizations, schools, media, businesses, chambers of commerce, and other municipal offices to spread the word and increase registration efforts. Supply these locations with voter registration forms and informational brochures—bonus points if they're available in as many of the languages spoken in your community as possible!

BEYOND NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

Registration deadlines vary by state, from 30 days before the election in some states to Election Day registration in others. Know your state registration deadline and promote registration up to your state's deadline, including Election Day if available.

You can also help newly naturalized citizens get #VoteReady by raising awareness of early voting opportunities and providing info about sample ballots, interpretation support, translated materials, and polling locations. Organize transportation and accessibility support for newly naturalized citizens to vote before or on Election Day at polling places.

For questions or more information on how you can support the holiday, email us at info@nationalvoterregistrationday.org

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Join the Welcoming Network](#)

[Build Trust With Community-Focused Comms: A How-To Guide for Organizations & Local Governments](#)

[Nonprofit VOTE: Unlocking the Power of Immigrant Communities](#)

[National Voter Registration Day State-by-State Voter Guides](#)



**SIGN UP AS A
COMMUNITY
PARTNER HERE**