

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY - SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

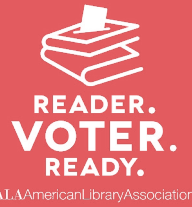
LIBRARIES FACT SHEET

National Voter Registration Day & American Library Association



*"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



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

Libraries are instrumental in fostering a culture of democratic participation and civic connection.

As trusted community institutions, libraries serve important functions in the civic infrastructure of their communities. Beyond providing accurate, up-to-date information about upcoming elections, they also can serve their communities as civic convenors, providers of educational programming, and in some states, polling places themselves!

According to a [2017 Pew Research study](#), nearly 4 in 5 Americans agree that public libraries help them find trustworthy and reliable information. This trust, combined with their deep community connections, uniquely positions libraries to support civic engagement and collaborate with election officials, nonprofits, and local leaders to get communities #ReaderVoterReady.

Every year, libraries across the country find innovative ways to support their patrons' civic engagement, from conducting educational outreach and hosting events ranging from voter registration drives to candidate forums. With [more than 125,000 libraries estimated nationwide](#), the collective impact of these efforts is significant.

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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SOME IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED

BECOME A NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY COMMUNITY PARTNER AND:

- ◆ Register voters
- ◆ Provide a computer station for voters to confirm their registration
- ◆ Provide information about voter registration requirements
- ◆ Share registration dates, times, & locations
- ◆ Publicize election dates & deadlines
- ◆ Host a voter ID clinic
- ◆ Partner with a local civic organization
- ◆ Invite your local election administrator to hold office hours at the library

Once you sign up, you'll receive free National Voter Registration Day posters and stickers! Additional resources for planning programming and events can be found in ALA's [#ReaderVoterReady Guide](#) and National Voter Registration Day's [Field Organizer Toolkit](#).

Note: be sure to check your [local and state laws](#) about which activities relating to voter engagement are permissible for libraries



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. Include information about your state registration deadline in and polling locations in outgoing communications and direct patrons to resources to help them make a plan to vote. Promote registration up to your state's deadline—including Election Day if available—if able to by law.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Nonprofit VOTE State-by-state Voting Guide](#)

[#ReaderVoterReady Guide](#)

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



**READ THE
READER VOTER
READY GUIDE**



**SIGN UP AS A
COMMUNITY
PARTNER HERE**