"It is the policy of the state of Washington to encourage every eligible person to register to vote and to participate fully in all elections and to protect the integrity of the electoral process by providing equal access to the process while guarding against discrimination and fraud." (RCW 29A.04.205)

Voter Registration Guidelines

Tips For A Successful Drive

- Plan your drive well in advance of voter registration deadlines.
- Consider coordinating with other groups to maximize your efforts.
- Obtain permission from the owner or manager before conducting drives on private property.
- Obtain forms from your local elections office or the Secretary of State's Office.
- Treat everyone the same.
- Know how to complete the form so you can assist individuals.
- Allow people to take a registration form and submit it themselves.
- Let people know they may fill out a form to update their existing registration (name change, address change, etc).
- Assist people with disabilities only when they ask for help.
- Have contact information for the local elections office available to aid in referring people.
- Submit completed forms *within five business days* (RCW 29A.08.115), by mail or in person, to the local elections office or Secretary of State's Office.
- Return unused forms to the local elections office or Secretary of State's Office.

The "don'ts" for conducting a voter registration drive

- Don't refuse to give anyone a registration form.
- Don't offer gifts or promotional items for registering someone to vote unless you offer the same items to someone who does not register to vote.
- Don't accept registrations you know to be fraudulent (see Voter Concern Form information on back).

Who can register to vote

To be eligible to vote in Washington State, a person:

- Must be a United States citizen;
- Must be at least 18 years old on or before election day;
- Must have lived in Washington State for 30 days prior to the election (exceptions apply to military and overseas voters);
- Must not maintain a registration in two or more counties or states or with two or more names;
- Must not be denied voting rights for being subject to guardianship; and
- Must not be a convicted felon without restored civil rights.

Required information for completing the voter registration form

- Must mark citizenship checkbox.
- Must include Washington driver's license or state ID card number. If registrant does not have a driver's license or state ID card, he/she may use the last four digits of his/her Social Security number.
- Must include date of birth (check for proper year).
- Must include full name (i.e. last, first, middle initial, jr., sr.).
- Must include a Washington State residential address.
- Must include both mailing and residential addresses if mail is not delivered to residential address.
- Must sign the oath (signature used to verify ballots).

Voter registration deadlines

New voter registrations and changes to voter registration records received after the deadlines will be effective only for upcoming elections.

BY MAIL OR ONLINE:

- The Monday four weeks before Election Day.
- Changes to residential address, mailing address, name, or other voter registration record information must be made before this deadline. (If the deadline is not met, voters may still vote using their previous voter registration record information.)
- The registration must be postmarked no later than the deadline.

IN-PERSON AT THE LOCAL ELECTIONS OFFICE:

- The Monday one week before Election Day.
- Only voter registrations new to Washington State are accepted at this time.
- Voter registration record changes are not allowed during this time.

Voter concern form

If you believe you have witnessed irregularities, discrimination, or fraud, please report the incident by accessing the Voter Concern Form on the Secretary of State's website at:

www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/concernform.aspx

Clearly and specifically state your concern(s) and include events, dates, times, addresses and names pertaining to your concern(s).

Register to vote online!

You can register to vote online at www.vote.wa.gov .

MyVote

Get your personalized voter information, like your Voters' Pamphlet, contact information for your elected officials, your ballot drop box locations, and much, much more at www.vote.wa.gov .

General information

If you have any questions or concerns, contact your local elections office or the Secretary of State:

TOLL FREE:

(800) 448-4881

TDD/TTY:

(800) 422-8683

EMAIL:

elections@secstate.wa.gov

WEBSITE:

www.vote.wa.gov

ADDRESS:

Secretary of State
Voter Services Office
PO Box 40230
Olympia, WA 98504-0237

Voter Registration Guidelines

Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED