

Indiana

Registration Deadline

Forms must be received or postmarked 29 days before an election.¹

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Database Implementation Status

Indiana is currently transitioning from a bottom-up statewide voter registration database to a top-down system, in which county officials will have direct access to a centralized statewide database. The state signed a contract with Quest Information Services in September 2004, and data from the old system was scheduled to be transferred to the new system by early fall 2005.²

Entering Voter Registration Information

Who inputs voter registration information? County elections officials generally review and enter information from voter registration forms in their jurisdictions into the statewide system.³

What happens to voter registration forms submitted at state registration agencies? Forms received by the Secretary of State, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (“BMV”), or another voter registration agency are sent weekly to the appropriate county election official for review and entry.

How are most forms submitted? Indiana reported that in 2004, 18% of forms were submitted by mail, 17% were submitted in person to election officials, 40% were submitted at the BMV, 13% were submitted at another voter registration agency, and 12% were submitted by other means.⁴

Voter Registration Form

The relevant portions of the voter registration form are included at the end of this section.

Processing of Forms Without Identifying Numbers

How will the state treat an application with an affirmative indication that the applicant has no valid identifying number? Indiana’s form does not clearly state how an applicant should indicate that she has no valid identifying number.

How will the state treat an application without an identifying number and without an affirmative indication that the applicant has no such number? If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected. Indiana statute provides that the election division will assign an applicant a unique voter registration number if she has neither an Indiana driver’s license nor a SSN, but there is no place on the registration form for an applicant to indicate that she has neither number.⁵

How will the state treat an application listing an identifying number that is either incomplete or illegible? If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected.

Matching Against Motor Vehicle and Social Security Records

What fields from the voter registration form will the state seek to match to motor vehicle or Social Security records? Identifying number, name, date of birth.⁶

How precise is the match standard? Indiana intends to use a “substantial match” standard, but has not yet finalized the criteria by which a match will be sought.⁷

How much human intervention is involved in determining whether information is matched? Indiana expects that the system will automatically seek possible matches, and that human discretion will be used to select from the possible matches, but has not yet completed system design and has not yet fully determined the extent of human discretion that will be involved.

Description of matching process: Indiana has not yet determined the process by which a match for information on voter registration forms will be sought. Officials anticipate that possible matches will be identified, and that an election official will manually scan the possible matches to determine whether a likely match exists among the possible matches returned.

If a match is found, the county will mail a notice of acknowledgement to the voter. If the notice is returned as undeliverable, the application will be rejected.⁸

What are the consequences if the state cannot find a match? Indiana has not determined the consequences for failure to find a match, which may vary from county to county. It is anticipated that an applicant will be considered registered, but will have to show identification at the polls if she has not done so previously.⁹

Notice and Opportunity to Resolve Errors

Does the applicant have the opportunity to correct a missing or incomplete identifying number, without submitting a new form? Yes. The applicant may correct missing or incomplete information at any point before ten days before an election.¹⁰

Does the applicant have the opportunity to resolve a failed match, without submitting a new form? Indiana has no stated statewide policy; each county may be responsible for determining how such applications will be treated.

If information on an otherwise timely application is corrected after the voter registration deadline, is the correction timely? Yes. The applicant may correct information up to ten days before an election.¹¹

Description of notice and correction process: Indiana will attempt to contact any applicant with incomplete, illegible, or unmatched identifying information once by phone and, if necessary, once by mail.¹² The notice will explain that the application was rejected because the applicant failed to provide an adequate identifying number. The applicant may then provide the appropriate information, by phone, in person, or by mail, as long as the information is provided at least ten days before an election.¹³

Identification Requirements at the Polls

Who must provide identification at the polls? All voters except those living and voting in a state licensed care facility must show identification at the polls.¹⁴

What forms of identification are accepted? A first-time voter registering by mail whose identifying number has not been verified and who has not

provided a copy of identification before Election Day must present current and valid photo ID, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the voter's name and address.¹⁵ Each other voter must present federal- or state-government-issued photo identification that is current or has expired not before the last general election.¹⁶ This provision is the subject of pending litigation.¹⁷

What are the consequences of failing to show identification? The voter may cast a provisional ballot.¹⁸ The ballot will count if the county elections board determines that the individual registered before the voter registration deadline, and if the voter provides identification to the county elections board by the close of the polls on Election Day, or if she provides identification or a statement of indigency or religious objection to identification to the circuit court clerk or county elections board within 13 days of the election.¹⁹

Forms of ID:

1st-time voters registering by mail without verified identifying number:	current and valid photo ID current utility bill w/ name, address bank statement w/ name, address government check w/ name, address paycheck w/ name, address other gov't document w/ name, address
every other voter:	current federal- or state-issued photo ID

Statutes and Regulations

IND. CODE art. 7 generally concerns voter registration; IND. CODE art. 7, ch. 26.3 and 26.4 generally concern the statewide database. IND. CODE § 3-7-26.3-3 directs the Secretary of State, with the consent of the co-directors of the election division, to develop and administer a statewide voter registration database. There are no applicable regulations.

End Notes

¹ IND. CODE §§ 3-7-13-10(b), 3-7-33-3, 3-7-33-4.

² electionline.org, *Assorted Rolls: Statewide Voter Registration Databases Under HAVA*, June 2005, available at <http://www.electionline.org/Portals/1/EB11.FINAL1.pdf>, at 17; electionline.org, *Statewide Voter Registration Database Status*, at <http://www.electionline.org/Default.aspx?tabid=288>.

³ See IND. CODE § 3-7-26.3-8.

⁴ Election Assistance Commission, *The Impact of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 on the Administration of Elections for Federal Office 2003-2004*, June 30, 2005, tbl. 2, available at http://www.eac.gov/NVR_Spreadsheets/NVRA_table_2.html. Due to rounding, the percentages listed may exceed 100%.

⁵ IND. CODE § 3-7-13-13(c).

⁶ *Id.* §§ 3-7-26.3-19(b), 3-7-33-4.5(b).

⁷ In related areas, Indiana law is voter-protective: in determining whether a registered voter has signed certified election documents, minor variations in signatures or names or addresses are permitted, and reasonable doubt is resolved in favor of the voter. See *id.* §§ 3-5-6-2, 3-5-6-3, 3-5-6-4.

⁸ *Id.* § 3-7-33-5(e), amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 81-2005.

⁹ *Id.* § 3-11-8-25.2(b)-(c), amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 109-2005.

¹⁰ *Id.* § 3-7-34-3(b), amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 81-2005.

¹¹ *Id.* § 3-7-34-4, amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 81-2005. Although Indiana officials indicated that applications must be corrected by the voter registration deadline, Indiana law seems to provide that information may be corrected until the appropriate county is required to prepare its certified list of voters, not later than ten days before the election. *Id.* §§ 3-7-29-1, 3-7-34-4, amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 81-2005.

¹² *Id.* § 3-7-34-2(b), amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 81-2005.

¹³ *Id.* §§ 3-7-34-3(b), 3-7-34-4, amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 81-2005.

¹⁴ *Id.* § 3-11-8-25.1(b), amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 109-2005.

¹⁵ *Id.* § 3-11-8-25.2(b)-(c), amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 109-2005.

¹⁶ *Id.* §§ 3-5-2-40.5, 3-11-8-25.1(b), amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 109-2005.

¹⁷ See *Ind. Democratic Party v. Rokita*, No. 1:05-CV-00634 (S.D. Ind. May 2, 2005) (complaint); *Crawford v. Marion County Election Bd.*, No. 49D12-0504-PL-016207 (Ind. Super. Ct. Apr. 28, 2005) (complaint). On June 23, 2005, these cases were consolidated.

¹⁸ IND. CODE §§ 3-11-8-25.1(d)-(e), 3-11-8-25.2(e), amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 109-2005.

¹⁹ *Id.* §§ 3-11.7-5-1, 3-11.7-5-2, 3-11.7-5-2.5, amended by 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 103-2005, 2005 Ind. Legis. Serv. P.L. 109-2005.



INDIANA VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

State Form 50504 (R4/2-04)

Indiana Election Commission

(VRG-7i)

You can use this application to:

- Apply to register to vote in Indiana or
- Change your name and address on your voter registration record.

To register you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States;
- Be at least 18 years old on the day of the next general or municipal election;
- Have lived in your precinct for at least 30 days before the next election (*except for certain military voters*); and
- Not currently be imprisoned after being convicted of a crime.

If you move:

- You must transfer your registration whenever you move out of your precinct.
- You may use this application to transfer your registration. You may mail or hand deliver the completed application to your county registration office.

To complete this form:

FILL IN ALL THE BOXES THAT APPLY TO YOU IN BLUE OR BLACK INK

Box 4: Residence Address Type or print the address where you live (number, street, apartment number, city/town, and ZIP code). If your address is a rural route or star route, be sure to include the box number. If this address does not have a street number, draw a map in Box 15.

Box 5: Mailing Address If this address is the same as Box 4, just print "SAME" in this box.

Box 6: Previous Voter Registration Address If you have been registered previously, please list your most recent registration address.

Boxes 8 and 9: These questions are optional. Your application will be processed even if you do not answer these questions.

Box 10: Identification Documentation If you are registering to vote in the county for the first time, and you are sending this application by mail, you must provide identification documentation. Identification may include a current and valid photo id, current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document that shows the name and address of the voter. You may include a copy of your identification with this application. Do not mail an ORIGINAL copy of your document! If you do not provide identification with this application or to the county voter registration office before election day, you will be asked for it the first time you vote.

Box 11: If you check "no" in response to the question in Box 11, you may not complete this application.

Box 12: The question in Box 12 requires a person to be at least 18 years of age by the next general or municipal election. If you check "no" in response to the question in Box 12, you may not complete this application.

Box 13: Voter Identification Number In Box 13, you are required to provide your Indiana driver's license number as issued by the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles. If you do not have an Indiana driver's license, provide the last four digits of your social security number.

Box 14: If this is an application for a name change, provide your previous name in Box 14. If you have not changed your name, skip this question.

Box 15: Skip this question if the address where you live has a street name and number (such as 100 Maple Street). If you have a rural route or star route address, please draw a simple map that shows the nearest crossroads or street intersection and where your residence is located. If you do not live in a house or other building, please draw a map that shows where you usually sleep and the nearby streets.

Box 16: This application cannot be processed without the voter's original signature in this section. DO NOT FAX THIS FORM AFTER COMPLETING IT.

Registration Deadlines: In order to be processed for the next election, this application must be postmarked or hand delivered to your county voter registration office no later than 29 days before the next election. If your county registration office receives this application after that day, you will be unable to vote in the next election. If you miss this deadline, your registration application will be processed when registration reopens. Some military voters and their family members can register until noon on election day. Contact your county voter registration office for information if you may qualify to do so.

Acknowledgment Notice: You will be sent a notice from your county voter registration office that acknowledges receipt of your voter registration application. The notice informs you whether your registration application was approved by the county voter registration office. The notice may identify where you can vote. If your registration application is incomplete, you may be contacted and asked to provide additional information. If you have not received an acknowledgment notice within 30 days of filing this application you should contact your county voter registration office.

Questions? Call your county voter registration office or the Indiana Election Division for assistance.

Indiana Election Division

302 West Washington Street, Room E204

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2743

Telephone: 317-232-3939 or Toll-free Indiana only: 800-622-4941

www.in.gov/sos/elections

elections@iec.state.in.us

If Not Typed, Please Print in Blue or Black Ink

1	Check boxes that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> New registration <input type="checkbox"/> Address change (See Box 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Name change (See Box 14)	2	Indiana county where you live:	COUNTY USE ONLY	Date processed	Township/Precinct	County Tracking Number
3	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name or Initial	Suffix Jr. Sr. II III IV		
4	Residence Address (No Post Office Boxes)		Apt. No.	City / Town	State IN	Zip Code	
5	Mailing Address, if different from Box 4, if same, print "SAME"		Apt. No.	City / Town	State	Zip Code	
6	Previous Voter Registration Address	County	Apt. No.	City / Town	State	Zip Code	
7	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)	8	Telephone number (If available)	9	E-mail (If available)	10	Are you including identification documentation? (See instructions for Box 10 above.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
11	Are you a citizen of the United States of America? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	12	Will you be at least 18 years of age on or before election day? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	13	Voter Identification Number Provide your 10-digit Indiana issued driver's license number. If you do not possess an Indiana driver's license, then provide the last 4 digits of your social security number here.		
14	If this is an application for a name change, what was your name before you changed it? If you have not changed your name, skip this question.	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name or Initial	Suffix Jr. Sr. II III IV		
15	Map/Diagram: If your residence has no address, street number or name (such as 100 Maple Street), please draw a map showing where your residence is located, include roads and landmarks. Otherwise, skip this question. N W E S	16		I authorize my voter registration at any other address to be cancelled. I swear or affirm that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am a citizen of the United States. I will be at least 18 years of age at the next general or municipal election. I will have lived in my precinct for at least 30 days before the next election. I am not currently in prison after being convicted of a crime. All the above information and all other statements on this form are true. I understand that if I sign this statement knowing that it is not true I am committing perjury and can be fined up to \$10,000, jailed for up to three years or both. 			
		Signature of Applicant		Date			
If applicant is unable to fill out the application due to disability, the person who helped the applicant with this application lists their name, address and telephone number in the box below. (Telephone number is optional.)							
Name		Address		City/Town		Telephone Number (optional)	