

# Kentucky

## Registration Deadline

Forms must be received or postmarked 29 days before an election.<sup>1</sup>

M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su

## Database Implementation Status

Kentucky has had a statewide voter registration database since 1973. This database was one of the models for database provisions of the Help America Vote Act. The database is a top-down system, in which county officials have direct access to a centralized statewide database.<sup>2</sup>

## Entering Voter Registration Information

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

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

*How are most forms submitted?* Kentucky reported that in 2004, 2% of forms were submitted by mail, 37% were submitted in person to election officials, 52% were submitted at the DMV, 3% were submitted at another voter registration agency, and 7% were submitted by other means.<sup>3</sup>

## 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?* Kentucky’s form does not clearly state how an applicant should indicate that she has no valid identifying number.

*How will the state treat voter registration forms without identifying numbers and where the applicant did not affirmatively indicate that she has not been issued those numbers?* The applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number. If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered.<sup>4</sup>

*How will the state treat voter registration forms listing an identifying number that is either incomplete or illegible?* The applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number. If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered.

## Matching Against Motor Vehicle and Social Security Records

Kentucky does not attempt to match information on voter registration forms with information in the motor vehicles or Social Security databases for voter registration purposes.

## 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 up until the voter registration deadline.

*Does the applicant have the opportunity to resolve a failed match, without submitting a new form?* Not applicable.

*If information on an otherwise timely application is corrected after the voter registration deadline, is the correction timely?* No.

*Description of notice and correction process:* The county clerk will attempt to contact, by telephone and mail, any applicant with an missing, incomplete, or illegible SSN. An applicant may correct this identifying number by telephone, mail, or in person, at any point up until the voter registration deadline. If the number is still uncorrected at the deadline, the applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number.

## Identification Requirements at the Polls

*Who must provide identification at the polls?* Every voter must either be confirmed by “personal acquaintance” – if an election officer at the precinct vouches for her identity – or by providing an identification document at the polls.

*What forms of identification are accepted?* A current and valid driver’s license, Social Security card, credit card, ID card bearing the picture and signature of the voter, ID card issued by the county and approved by the state Board of Elections, other photo ID card, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document showing the voter’s name and address.<sup>5</sup>

### Forms of ID:

every voter:	personal acquaintance current and valid driver’s license Social Security card credit card ID card with picture and signature approved county ID card 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
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*What are the consequences of failing to show identification?* The voter may cast a provisional ballot.<sup>6</sup> The ballot will count if the county board of elections determines that the voter was registered in the appropriate precinct by the voter registration deadline.<sup>7</sup>

## Statutes and Regulations

KY. REV. STAT. ANN. ch. 116 generally concerns registration. 31 KY. ADMIN. REGS. ch. 3-4 comprise the applicable regulations.

## End Notes

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<sup>1</sup> KY. REV. STAT. ANN. §§ 116.045(2), 116.0452(1).

<sup>2</sup> electionline.org, *Assorted Rolls: Statewide Voter Registration Databases Under HAVA*, June 2005, available at <http://www.electionline.org/Portals/1/EB11.FINAL1.pdf>, at 18.

<sup>3</sup> 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](http://www.eac.gov/NVR_Spreadsheets/NVRA_table_2.html). Due to rounding, the percentages listed may exceed 100%.

<sup>4</sup> KY. REV. STAT. ANN. § 116.155.

<sup>5</sup> *See id.* § 117.227; 31 KY. ADMIN. REGS. 4:010(1). The statutes and regulations specifically list only some of the identification above, but the list is not exclusive, and the state confirmed in interviews that any identification listed under section 303 of HAVA would be accepted.

<sup>6</sup> 31 KY. ADMIN. REGS. 6:020(3)(c).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* 6:020(12), (13).

A. Are you a citizen of the United States of America?  YES  NO

If you checked "no" in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form.

B. Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day?  YES  NO

Check one:		FOR CLERK USE ONLY			
<input type="checkbox"/> New Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Address Change	PRECINCT CODE	PRECINCT NAME	TOWN	OTHER CODE
<input type="checkbox"/> Party Change	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change				

Social Security Number	Date of Birth (M-D-Y)	County (where you live)	Work Phone	Home Phone
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<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Suffix (circle one) Jr. Sr. II III IV
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Address where you live (do not give PO Box address): Apt # City Zip Code

Address where you get your mail (if different from above): Apt # City Zip Code

Party Registration – check one box

Democratic Party

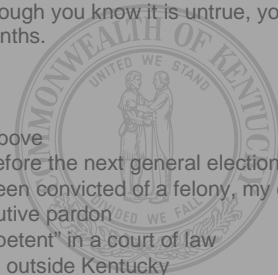
Republican Party

Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(write name above)

WARNING: If you sign this statement even though you know it is untrue, you can be convicted and fined up to \$500 and/or jailed up to 12 months.

Voter Declaration – read and sign below  
I swear or affirm that:

- I am a U.S. citizen
- I live in Kentucky at the address listed above
- I will be at least 18 years of age on or before the next general election
- I am not a convicted felon, or if I have been convicted of a felony, my civil rights must have been restored by executive pardon
- I have not been judged "mentally incompetent" in a court of law
- I do not claim the right to vote anywhere outside Kentucky



If you select "Other" as your party affiliation, you are eligible to vote for only nonpartisan offices in any primary election. You may vote for any candidate in all general or special elections. Only persons timely registered shall have the right to vote.

NOTE:  
You may change your political party affiliation at any time on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> to remain eligible to vote in the following primary election.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

TWO WITNESSES REQUIRED IF "MARK" IS USED

Witnessed By: \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE