

# Missouri

## Registration Deadline

Forms must be received or postmarked by the fourth Wednesday before an election (27 days for a federal general election).<sup>1</sup>

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## Database Implementation Status

Missouri currently deploys discrete local databases which periodically upload to a single state file, but the state is building a top-down voter registration system, in which county officials have direct access to a centralized statewide database. As of March 2004, first MAXIMUS, Inc., and now Saber Consulting have been retained to help construct the new statewide system.<sup>2</sup>

## 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.

*What happens to voter registration forms submitted at state registration agencies?* Forms received by the Secretary of State, DMV, or another voter registration agency are sent within five business days to the appropriate county official for review and entry.<sup>3</sup>

*How are most forms submitted?* Missouri reported that in 2004, 22% of forms were submitted by mail, 20% were submitted in person to election officials, 28% were submitted at the DMV, 3% were submitted at another voter registration agency, and 27% were submitted by other means.<sup>4</sup>

## Voter Registration Form

The relevant portions of the voter registration form are included at the end of this section.<sup>5</sup>

## 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?* Missouri'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?* The application will be labeled "pending." If the number is uncorrected (see below), the applicant will not be registered.

*How will the state treat an application listing an identifying number that is either incomplete or illegible?* The application will be labeled “pending”; if uncorrected (see below), the applicant will not be registered.<sup>6</sup>

## **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?* Missouri will first seek to match the driver’s license number; if that match fails, the system will attempt to match the SSN-4, last name, and date of birth.

*How precise is the match standard?* Missouri intends to use an exact match standard, but has not yet finalized the criteria by which a match will be sought.

*How much human intervention is involved in determining whether information is matched?* Missouri intends to use a fully automated system, 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:* Missouri has not fully designed its matching process. For matching information on forms with a driver’s license number, it plans to attempt to match the number itself to records maintained by the DMV; if a matching number is found, the verification is considered successful. If that match fails, the state will attempt to match the SSN-4, last name, and date of birth. For matching information on forms with SSN digits only, Missouri will use the standard AAMVA criteria: exact match of the SSN-4, first name, last name, month of birth, and year of birth.

*What are the consequences if the state cannot find a match?* If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered, but will have to show identification at the polls.

Missouri will also mail a verification notice to each prospective registrant who does not appear in person. If the card is returned as undeliverable, the registration will be rejected.<sup>7</sup>

## **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. An applicant may correct missing or incomplete information at any point before the voter registration deadline.

*Does the applicant have the opportunity to resolve a failed match, without submitting a new form?* Yes. An applicant may submit information to resolve a failed match at any point before the voter registration deadline.

*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:* An applicant whose identifying number is missing, incomplete, or illegible will be notified by mail and asked to provide a valid identifying number over the phone, via mail, or in person before the voter registration deadline. If the applicant does not do so, the applicant will not be registered. An applicant whose identifying number is not verified will be considered registered, but will have to show identification – the same identification as every other voter – at the polls.

## Identification Requirements at the Polls

*Who must provide identification at the polls?* Every voter must provide identification at the polls.<sup>8</sup> Missouri law also requires that an applicant must submit, at the time of registration, a copy of a birth certificate, a tribal identification card, other proof of U.S. citizenship, a valid Missouri driver’s license, or “other form of personal identification.”<sup>9</sup>

### Forms of ID:

Every voter:	ID issued by Missouri ID issued by the federal government ID issued by Missouri school other state’s driver’s license or state 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 other ID approved by the Sec. of State affidavit (if known personally)
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*What forms of identification are accepted?* ID issued by Missouri, the federal government, or a Missouri postsecondary educational institution; a driver’s license or state identification card issued by another state; a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the voter’s name and address; or other identification approved by the Secretary of State.<sup>10</sup> If known personally by two supervising election judges, one from each major political party, the voter may instead vote by signing an affidavit.<sup>11</sup>

*What are the consequences of failing to show identification?* The voter will not be able to cast a ballot that will be counted. A first-time voter who registered by mail but who has not presented sufficient identification and whose identifying number has not been verified must be given a provisional ballot, but this ballot will not be counted.<sup>12</sup>

## Statutes and Regulations

MO. REV. STAT. ch. 115 generally concerns registration. MO. REV. STAT. § 115.158(1) directs the Secretary of State to establish and maintain a single statewide voter registration database. MO. CODE REGS. ANN. tit. 15, §§ 30-3.010 *et seq.* comprise the applicable regulations.

## End Notes

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<sup>1</sup> MO. REV. STAT. §§ 115.135(1), 115.151.

<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 19.

<sup>3</sup> MO. REV. STAT. §§ 115.151(3), 115.160(5)-(6), 115.162(2)-(3).

<sup>4</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>5</sup> Missouri does not make its voter registration form available online. The form presented for purposes of this summary is the federal voter registration form.

<sup>6</sup> See MO. REV. STAT. § 115.158(5).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* § 115.155(3).

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* § 115.427.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* § 115.135(2).

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* § 115.427(1).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* § 115.427(1)(6); MO. CODE REGS. ANN. tit. 15, § 30-3.010.

<sup>12</sup> MO. REV. STAT. §§ 115.159(2), (4).

# General Instructions

## Who Can Use this Application

If you are a U.S. citizen who lives or has an address within the United States, you can use the application in this booklet to:

- Register to vote in your State,
- Report a change of name to your voter registration office,
- Report a change of address to your voter registration office, or
- Register with a political party.

## Exceptions

Please do not use this application if you live outside the United States and its territories and have no home (legal) address in this country, or if you are in the military stationed away from home. Use the Federal Postcard Application available to you from military bases, American embassies, or consular offices.

**New Hampshire** town and city clerks will accept this application only as a request for their own absentee voter mail-in registration form.

**North Dakota** does not have voter registration.

**Wyoming** law does not permit mail registration.

## How to Find Out If You Are Eligible to Register to Vote in Your State

Each State has its own laws about who may register and vote. Check the information under your State in the State Instructions.

*Note:* All States require that you be a United States citizen by birth or naturalization to register to vote in federal and State elections. Federal law makes it illegal to falsely claim U.S. citizenship to register to vote in any federal, State, or local election.

*Also Note:* You **cannot** be registered to vote in more than one place at a time.

## How to Fill Out this Application

Use both the Application Instructions and State Instructions to guide you in filling out the application.

First, read the Application Instructions. These instructions will give you important information that applies to everyone using this application.

Next, find your State under the State Instructions. Use these instructions to fill out Boxes 6, 7, and 8. Also refer to these instructions for information about voter eligibility and any oath required for Box 9.

## When to Register to Vote

Each State has its own deadline for registering to vote. Check the deadline for your State on the last page of this booklet.

## How to Submit Your Application

Mail your application to the address listed under your State in the State Instructions. Or, deliver the application in person to your local voter registration office.

The remaining States that accept the national form will accept copies of the application printed from the computer image on regular paper stock, signed by the applicant, and mailed in an envelope with the correct postage.

## First Time Voters Who Register by Mail

If you are registering to vote for the first time in your jurisdiction and are mailing this registration application, you may be required to provide proof of identification the first time you vote.

Depending on the specific requirements of your State, you may avoid providing identification at the polls when you vote for the first time by mailing a copy of an identification document together with this application. The list of acceptable documents is included in the State Instructions.

**Do not include original documents with this application.**

**Please read the accompanying State Instructions to determine the voter identification requirements for your State.**

## If You Were Given this Application in a State Agency or Public Office

If you have been given this application in a State agency or public office, it is your choice to use the application or not.

If you decide to use this application to register to vote, you can fill it out and leave it with the State agency or public office. The application will be submitted for you. Or, you can take it with you to mail to the address listed under your State in the State Instructions. You also may take it with you to deliver in person to your local voter registration office.

*Note:* The name and location of the State agency or public office where you received the application will remain confidential. It will not appear on your application. Also, if you decide not to use this application to register to vote, that decision will remain confidential. It will not affect the service you receive from the agency or office.

# Application Instructions

Before filling out the body of the form, please answer the questions on the top of the form as to whether you are a United States citizen and whether you will be 18 years old on or before election day. If you answer no to either of these questions, you may not use this form to register to vote. However, state specific instructions may provide additional information on eligibility to register to vote prior to age 18.

## Box 1 — Name

Put in this box your full name in this order — Last, First, Middle. Do not use nicknames or initials.

*Note:* If this application is for a change of name, please tell us in **Box A** (on the bottom half of the form) your full name before you changed it.

## Box 2 — Home Address

Put in this box your home address (legal address). Do **not** put your mailing address here if it is different from your home address. Do **not** use a post office box or rural route without a box number. Refer to state-specific instructions for rules regarding use of route numbers.

*Note:* If you were registered before *but* this is the first time you are registering from the address in Box 2, please tell us in **Box B** (on the bottom half of the form) the address where you were registered before. Please give us as much of the address as you can remember.

*Also Note:* If you live in a rural area but do not have a street address, or if you have no address, please show where you live using the map in **Box C** (at the bottom of the form).

## Box 3 — Mailing Address

If you get your mail at an address that is different from the address in Box 2, put your mailing address in this box.

*Note:* If you have no address in Box 2, you **must** write in Box 3 an address where you can be reached by mail.

## Box 4 — Date of Birth

Put in this box your date of birth in this order — Month, Day, Year. *Be careful not to use today's date!*

## Box 5 — Telephone Number

Most States ask for your telephone number in case there are questions about your application. However, you do **not** have to fill in this box.

## Box 6 — ID Number

Federal law requires that states collect from each registrant an identification number. You must refer to your state's specific instructions for item 6 regarding information on what number is acceptable for your state. If you have neither a drivers license nor a social security number, please indicate this on the form and a number will be assigned to you by your state.

## Box 7 — Choice of Party

In some States, you must register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election, caucus, or convention. To find out if your State requires this, see item 7 in the instructions under your State.

If you want to register with a party, print in the box the full name of the party of your choice.

If you do **not** want to register with a party, write "no party" or leave the box blank. Do **not** write in the word "independent" if you mean "no party," because this might be confused with the name of a political party in your State.

*Note:* If you do not register with a party, you can still vote in general elections and nonpartisan (nonparty) primary elections.

## Box 8 — Race or Ethnic Group

A few States ask for your race or ethnic group, in order to administer the Federal Voting Rights Act. To find out if your State asks for this information, see item 8 in the instructions under your State. If so, put in Box 8 the choice that best describes you from the list below:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Black, *not of* Hispanic Origin
- Hispanic
- Multi-racial
- White, *not of* Hispanic Origin
- Other

## Box 9 — Signature

Review the information in item 9 in the instructions under your State. Before you sign or make your mark, make sure that:

- (1) You meet your State's requirements, and
- (2) You understand **all** of Box 9.

Finally, sign your **full** name or make your mark, and print today's date in this order — Month, Day, Year.

If the applicant is unable to sign, put in **Box D** the name, address, and telephone number (optional) of the person who helped the applicant.

# Voter Registration Application

Before completing this form, review the General, Application, and State specific instructions.

Are you a citizen of the United States of America? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Will you be 18 years old on or before election day? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <b>If you checked "No" in response to either of these questions, do not complete form.</b> (Please see state-specific instructions for rules regarding eligibility to register prior to age 18.)		This space for office use only.				
<b>1</b>	(Circle one) Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name(s)	(Circle one) Jr Sr II III IV	
<b>2</b>	Home Address		Apt. or Lot #	City/Town	State	Zip Code
<b>3</b>	Address Where You Get Your Mail If Different From Above			City/Town	State	Zip Code
<b>4</b>	Date of Birth ____/____/____ Month Day Year		<b>5</b>	Telephone Number (optional)		<b>6</b> ID Number - (See Item 6 in the instructions for your state)
<b>7</b>	Choice of Party <small>(see item 7 in the instructions for your State)</small>		<b>8</b>	Race or Ethnic Group <small>(see item 8 in the instructions for your State)</small>		
<b>9</b>	I have reviewed my state's instructions and I swear/affirm that: <input type="checkbox"/> I am a United States citizen <input type="checkbox"/> I meet the eligibility requirements of my state and subscribe to any oath required. <input type="checkbox"/> The information I have provided is true to the best of my knowledge under penalty of perjury. If I have provided false information, I may be fined, imprisoned, or (if not a U.S. citizen) deported from or refused entry to the United States.			Please sign full name (or put mark) Date: _____ Month Day Year		

If you are registering to vote for the first time: please refer to the application instructions for information on submitting copies of valid identification documents with this form.

## Please fill out the sections below if they apply to you.

If this application is for a **change of name**, what was your name before you changed it?

<b>A</b>	Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name(s)	(Circle one) Jr Sr II III IV
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If you were **registered before but this is the first time you are registering from the address in Box 2**, what was your address where you were registered before?

<b>B</b>	Street (or route and box number)	Apt. or Lot #	City/Town/County	State	Zip Code
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If you live in a rural area but do not have a street number, or if you have no address, please show on the map where you live.

**C**

- Write in the names of the crossroads (or streets) nearest to where you live.
- Draw an **X** to show where you live.
- Use a dot to show any schools, churches, stores, or other landmarks near where you live, and write the name of the landmark.

Example	Route #2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <span style="font-size: 2em;">●</span> Grocery Store Woodchuck Road                             </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <span style="font-size: 2em;">●</span> Public School                             <span style="float: right; font-size: 2em; margin-left: 20px;">X</span> </div>
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**NORTH**

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If the applicant is unable to sign, who helped the applicant fill out this application? Give name, address and phone number (phone number optional).

<b>D</b>	
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Mail this application to the address provided for your State.

# State Instructions

- not be found legally incompetent by a court.

## Mailing address:

Secretary of State  
60 Empire Drive, Suite 100  
St. Paul, MN 55103-1855

## Mississippi

Updated: 03-01-06

**Registration Deadline** — 30 days before the election.

**6. ID Number.** You are required to provide your current and valid driver's license number or, if you don't have one, the last four digits of your social security number.

**7. Choice of Party** Mississippi does not have party registration. Therefore, you do not have to register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election, caucus, or convention.

**8. Race or Ethnic Group.** Leave blank.

**9. Signature.** To register in Mississippi you must:

- be a citizen of the United States
- have lived in Mississippi and in your county (and city, if applicable) 30 days before the election in which you want to vote
- be 18 years old by the time of the general election in which you want to vote
- have not been convicted of murder, rape, bribery, theft, arson, obtaining money or goods under false pretense, perjury, forgery, embezzlement, armed robbery, extortion, felony bad check, felony shoplifting, larceny, receiving stolen property, robbery, timber larceny, unlawful taking of a motor

vehicle, statutory rape, carjacking, or bigamy, or have had your rights restored as required by law

- not have been declared mentally incompetent by a court

*Note:* State law changed by federal court order in 1998 and by state legislation in 2000. We now accept the form as registration for voting for all state and federal offices.

## Mailing address:

Secretary of State  
P.O. Box 136  
Jackson, MS 39205-0136

## Missouri

Updated: 10-29-2003

**Registration Deadline** — 28 days before the election.

**6. ID Number.** The last four digits of your social security number are required unless no social security number exists. ( 115.155, RSMO) Any electronic media, printouts or mailing labels provided under this section shall not include telephone numbers and social security numbers of voters (115.157 RSMO).

**7. Choice of Party.** You do not have to register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election, caucus, or convention.

**8. Race or Ethnic Group.** Leave blank.

**9. Signature.** To vote in Missouri you must:

- be a citizen of the United States
- be a resident of Missouri
- be at least 17-1/2 years of age (you must be 18 to vote)

- not be on probation or parole after conviction of a felony, until finally discharged from such probation or parole

- not be convicted of a felony or misdemeanor connected with the right of suffrage
- not be adjudged incapacitated by any court of law
- not be confined under a sentence of imprisonment

## Mailing address:

Secretary of State  
P.O. Box 1767  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-1767

## Montana

Updated: 03-01-06

**Registration Deadline** — 30 days before the election.

**6. ID Number.** You must provide your Montana driver's license number. If you do not have a Montana driver's license number then you must list the LAST FOUR DIGITS OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER. If you have neither a driver's license, nor a social security number, please write "NONE" on the form. The state of Montana will assign to you a unique identifying number.

**7. Choice of Party.** Montana does not require party registration to participate in any election.

**8. Race or Ethnic Group.** Leave blank.

**9. Signature.** To register in Montana you must:

- be a citizen of the United States
- be at least 18 years old on or before the election