

Nebraska

Registration Deadline

If submitted via a third party or at a voter registration agency or sent by mail, forms must be received or postmarked by the third Friday before an election (18 days for a federal general election).¹ Forms may be delivered in person to the county clerk by the second Friday before an election (11 days for a federal general election).²

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Database Implementation Status

Nebraska engaged Elections Systems & Software to help design and construct a new top-down, statewide database system that was operational by January 1, 2006.³

Entering Voter Registration Information

Who inputs voter registration information? County clerks or election commissioners 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 DMV, or another voter registration agency are sent within ten days to the appropriate county for review and entry into the system.⁴

How are most forms submitted? Nebraska reported that in 2004, 19% of forms were submitted by mail, 40% were submitted in person to election officials, 38% were submitted at the DMV, and 3% were submitted at another voter registration agency.⁵

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? Nebraska'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 applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number. If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered, but will have to provide identification to the county registrar before the election, or at the polls. State law specifically provides that forms are not to be rejected for failure to provide a driver's license or SSN.⁶

How will the state treat an application 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, but will have to provide identification to the county registrar before the election, or at the polls.⁷

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, date of birth, last name, and address.

How precise is the match standard? Nebraska plans to use a hybrid match standard to match information on forms with a driver's license number: the number must match exactly, but discretion is then left to the county auditor to determine whether any of the returned records match. Nebraska plans to use the standard AAMVA criteria to match information on forms with SSN digits: exact match of the SSN-4, first name, last name, month of birth, and year of birth.

How much human intervention is involved in determining whether information is matched? For matching information on forms with a driver's license number, the system will automatically return a list of possible matches. Election officials have the discretion to determine whether a likely match exists among the possible matches returned. The process for matching information on forms with SSN digits is fully automated.

Description of matching process: Nebraska has not yet finalized its verification policies. For now, when an application with a driver's license number is entered, the system will automatically attempt to check DMV records for an exact match of the number. It will then return a list of records matching the entered driver's license number, for the election official to review. Information on forms listing SSN digits will be automatically checked against the SSA database through the standard AAMVA process: the county elections official will submit an entered record to the DMV database, which will automatically submit the appropriate fields to the SSA and return a code indicating whether the record was successfully matched or not.

What are the consequences if the state cannot find a match? The applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number; if the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered, but if she is a first-time registrant by mail, she will have to show identification at the polls.⁸

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 time before Election Day.

Does the applicant have the opportunity to resolve a failed match without submitting a new form? Yes. An applicant may supply information to resolve a failed match at any time before Election Day.

If information on an otherwise timely application is corrected after the voter registration deadline, is the correction timely? Yes. The applicant may correct information at any point before Election Day.

Description of notice and correction process: An applicant whose identifying number is missing, incomplete, illegible, or unverified will be notified by mail that they may have to present identification at the polls. The applicant may correct information at any point before Election Day.

Identification Requirements at the Polls

Who must provide identification at the polls? A first-time voter registering by mail whose identifying number has not been verified and who has not submitted identification by the second Friday before Election Day must show identification at the polls.⁹

Forms of ID:

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

What forms of identification are accepted? Current and valid photo ID, or a copy of a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document dated less than 60 days prior with the applicant's name and address as on the registration application.¹⁰

What are the consequences of failing to show identification? The voter may cast a provisional ballot if she completes a new registration application before voting.¹¹ The ballot will be counted if the voter is determined to have been properly registered (before Election Day) in the county, if she has resided continuously in the county, if she has not voted anywhere else in the county, and if she voted at the correct precinct.¹²

Statutes and Regulations

NEB. REV. STAT. ch. 32, art. 3 generally concerns registration. NEB. REV. STAT. § 32-301 directs the Secretary of State to establish and maintain a single statewide voter registration system. There are no applicable regulations.

End Notes

¹ NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 32-302, -308, -311.01(d), -321.

² *Id.* §§ 32-302, -311.01(d).

³ Electionline.org, *Assorted Rolls: Statewide Voter Registration Databases Under HAVA*, June 2005, available at <http://www.electionline.org/Portals/1/EB11.FINAL1.pdf>, at 20; *Gale: All 93 Nebraska Counties Now on Statewide Voter System*, SW. NEB. NEWS., Nov. 30, 2005, at <http://www.swnebr.net/newspaper/cgi-bin/articles/printversion.pl?158000>.

⁴ NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 32-309, -310.

⁵ 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%.

⁶ NEB. REV. STAT. § 32-312.03(1), (4).

⁷ *Id.* § 32-312.03(4).

⁸ *Id.* § 32-312.03(4).

⁹ *Id.* §§ 32-311.01(2)(b), -318.01, -914(2)(c).

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.* § 32-915.

¹² *Id.* § 32-1002.

Nebraska Voter Registration Application

Please Print		Election Office Use Only: 0905								
1. Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		System ID Number: _____		Precinct: _____		Split: _____				
2. Are you at least 18 years of age, or will you be 18 years of age on or before the 1st Tuesday following the 1st Monday in November of this year? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Congressional _____		Commissioner/Supervisor District: _____		Legislative _____		NRD _____ Fire _____		
		Other Districts _____								
IF YOU CHECKED "NO" IN RESPONSE TO EITHER OF THE QUESTIONS ABOVE; DO NOT COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION										
3. Personal Information:										
Last Name			First Name			M Name/MI	Suffix	Maiden Name (if applicable)		
Nebraska Drivers Lic. # ; if none last 4 digits SS #			Date of Birth		Place of Birth		Phone Number			Home <input type="checkbox"/> Unlisted <input type="checkbox"/>
										Work <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Current Residence Address: Address example: 1612 N Michigan Avenue SW Apt. 322 Oakdale, NE 68104										
House Number	Direction	Street/Road Name		Street Type	Direction	Unit Type	Unit #	City/Town	State	Zip
If no numeric street or road address, provide directions from nearest town:										
Postal address, if different than residence address:										
School Dist:		County:		Inside city limits Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		If no, provide Section/Township/Range ____ / ____ / ____				
If previously registered, provide - Name:					Address:					
5. Party Affiliation: Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/> Non- Partisan (No party affiliation) <input type="checkbox"/>										
Other <input type="checkbox"/> (If checking other, print the name of the party) _____										
<p>Note: If you wish to vote in both partisan and non-partisan primary elections for state and local offices, you must indicate a political party affiliation on the registration application. If you register without a political party affiliation (non-partisan) you will receive only non-partisan ballots for state and local offices at the primary elections. If you register without a political party affiliation, you may vote in partisan primary elections for congressional offices.</p>										
<p>Applicant's Oath: To the best of my knowledge and belief, I declare under penalty of election falsification that: I live in the State of Nebraska at the address provided in this application. I have not been convicted of a felony or, if convicted it has been at least two years since I completed my sentence for the felony including any parole term; I have not been officially found to be non compos mentis (mentally incompetent); and I am a citizen of the United States.</p> <p>IMPORTANT: Any registrant who signs this application knowing that any of the information on the application is false shall be guilty of a Class IV felony under section 32-1502 of the statutes of Nebraska. The penalty for such is up to 5 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$10,000.00 or both.</p>										
6. Applicant's Signature _____					Date Applicant Signed _____					
(Full name or mark. If unable to sign, include name & address of person providing assistance)										
7. Registration taken by: _____					Date Election Office Received _____					

I. General Instructions

- This application may be used to:
 - * Register to vote in Nebraska for the first time; and/or
 - * Update or change your name, address, or party affiliation on your current Nebraska voter registration
- Upon completing the application, submit it to your local Election Office
 - * By personal delivery
 - * By mail, personal messenger or personal agent
- To be eligible to vote in an election, your completed application must be:
 - * Delivered in person prior to 6 p.m. on the second Friday preceding the election in which you wish to vote
 - * Delivered by personal messenger or personal agent on or before the 3rd Friday preceding the election in which you wish to vote
 - * Must be mailed and postmarked on or before the 3rd Friday preceding the election in which you wish to vote
- Upon receipt of this application, the County Election Office will send an acknowledgement to you indicating whether your voter registration is complete.

II. Completing the Voter Registration Application

- Answer questions 1 and 2; continue to complete the application only if you answered yes to both questions
- Complete sections 3, 4, and 5. Incomplete applications will result in your voter registration application being rejected or delayed.
- Read the oath and confirm the information you provided by signing and dating the application in section 6.
- Failure to accurately complete, sign and date the application delays determining your eligibility to vote until such time as the application is complete.

III. Special Instructions for Registering by Mail

- If you are submitting this form by mail, and you are registering in Nebraska for the first time, please provide a copy of:
 - * Your current and valid photo identification, or
 - * A current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that verifies your name and residence address as shown on this application.
- Providing the above identification documentation along with your mail-in registration at the time you register will enable you to avoid identification requirements when voting for the first time in Nebraska.

When submitting this form by mail, (and if necessary, an envelope for the copy of valid identification) please use the appropriate address found on the back.