IV. STATE-BY-STATE SURVEY

When states regulate voter registration drives, it directly affects who participates in the electoral process, and who is permitted to assist them. This survey provides a state-by-state snapshot of the following four categories of restrictions.

1) **Official Volunteer Systems**
   - Laws requiring official certification or authorization to conduct voter registration drives.

2) **Training Programs**
   - Laws offering or requiring a specified course of training before conducting voter registration drives.

3) **Registration & Reporting Requirements**
   - Laws requiring groups to first register with the State and maintain or submit various records and reports related to drives.

4) **Return Deadlines & Penalties**
   - Laws requiring the submission of collected voter registration applications prior to the general book closing deadline, and imposing penalties for violations of the return deadline or violations of other rules.

For almost every state, the Brennan Center provided the chief election official with an opportunity to edit the summary. Revised drafts were returned to the official for final review.

These summaries are not intended as, and do not constitute, legal advice. They are provided for informational and educational use only. For more information, including specific voter registration requirements, or any revisions to the laws described, contact the elections office listed for each state.

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**GEORGIA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official Volunteer System:</th>
<th>Optional</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training:</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration &amp; Reporting:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return Deadline &amp; Penalties:</td>
<td>10 Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**For More Information:**

Elections Office  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.  
Suite 802 Floyd West Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
(404) 656-2871  
http://www.sos.ga.gov/elections/
Georgia maintains an optional official volunteer system ("deputy registrar"). To become a deputy registrar, a person must be a registered voter in Georgia, proficient in the English language, have legible handwriting unless the voter registration applications are to be typed, and must have satisfactorily completed a training specified by the board of registrars. Persons convicted of a felony or "any crime involving fraud or moral turpitude" are prohibited from becoming deputy registrars. While registering voters, deputy registrars must wear a nametag identifying them as a deputy registrar of the county. Deputy registrars may register voters at designated registration places but are required to transmit completed voter registrations to the main office of the board of registrars no later than the end of the next business day.

Anyone who does not become a deputy registrar can still participate in a private "voter registration program." The board of registrars is required to provide voter registration training to groups that request it. Voter registration programs are required to provide applicants with various specified information about requirements and rights related to registration. Voter registration programs are required to comply with various restrictions including, for example, that private drives cannot be conducted in places where alcohol is sold and consumed or where it is known that illegal activity is being conducted; cannot refuse to transmit a properly completed registration form collected from any qualified voter or make statements that would discourage a qualified applicant from registering; and cannot make archival copies of registration forms without the applicant’s express written consent. Non-deputized registration drives must transmit forms within 10 days of receipt. If it is within 14 days of the close of registration, forms must be transmitted within 72 hours of completion by the applicant, or by the close of registration, whichever is earlier.

Additionally, voter registration drives may not compensate individuals based on the number of people registered.

After notice and an administrative hearing, the State Election Board may assess a civil penalty of up to $5,000 per violation against any person for violation of any provisions of the election chapter or any rule or regulation promulgated under the chapter. Additionally, the State Election Board may also refer violations to the Attorney General to seek temporary injunctive relief or civil penalties.

View the full report at:
http://www.brennancenter.org/content/resource/state_restrictions_on_voter_registration_drives/

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1 GA. COMP. R. & REGS. 183-1-6.03 (2009).
5 GA. COMP. R. & REGS. 183-1-6-.02 (2009).
7 GA. COMP. R. & REGS. 183-1-6 (2009).
8 GA. COMP. R. & REGS. 183-1-6.02(7)(e), (h) (2009).
9 GA. COMP. R. & REGS. 183-1-6.02(7)(b), (c) (2009).
10 GA. COMP. R. & REGS. 183-1-6.02(7)(g) (2009).