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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MARYLAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official Volunteer System:</th>
<th>Optional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training:</td>
<td>Official Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration &amp; Reporting:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return Deadline &amp; Penalties:</td>
<td>5 Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**For More Information:**
State Board of Elections
151 West Street, Suite 200
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 269-2840
http://www.elections.state.md.us/
Maryland maintains an optional official volunteer system by which an individual can become an officially recognized “voter registration volunteer” authorized by the State or a local board of elections.1 The voter registration volunteer system is optional, but encouraged, for groups using both state and federal voter registration forms.2

To qualify as a voter registration volunteer, an individual must be of voting age, receive specified training, sign an affidavit, and receive a certificate of instruction.3 Training is conducted by the State Board of Elections and each local board of elections4 and must be provided upon request as well as available on a fixed schedule of publicized sessions.5 Groups must be treated equitably and given equal access to training.6 Official voter registration volunteers must return registration forms to the appropriate local board within five days of receipt, or by the next registration deadline, whichever occurs first.7

Whether a drive is operating within, or outside of, the official voter registration volunteer system, state officials prefer the use of state forms but will accept the federal form.8 Volunteers who present their state certificate of instruction are entitled to receive a sufficient number of state registration forms for drives. If a volunteer does not present the certificate, the state or local board may provide only a maximum of 25 forms per day. State or local boards can limit the number of forms provided if accommodating the request would leave the agency with an insufficient number of forms to conduct their own business, or if they determine that the voter registration volunteer has violated any of the eligibility or training requirements.9

Any individual, whether an authorized voter registration volunteer or not, who assists in voter registration may not copy or otherwise collect information from a registration form that is protected from public disclosure, including a driver’s license number, Maryland identification number or Social Security number.10 Compensation or bonuses based on the number of voter registration applications collected is prohibited.11

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

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1 MD. CODE ANN. ELEC. LAW. § 3-201(a)(7) (Lexis Nexis 2011).
2 Telephone Interview with Janet Smith, Voter Registration Manager of Data & Reports, Maryland Bd. of Elections (Mar. 15, 2012).
3 MD. CODE REGS. 33.05.03.06(2012).
4 MD. CODE REGS. 33.05.03.06(C) (2012).
5 MD. CODE REGS. 33.05.03.06(D) (2012).
6 MD. CODE REGS. 33.05.03.06(D)(1) (2012).
7 MD. CODE REGS. 33.05.03.06(F)(2) (2012).
8 Telephone Interview with Janet Smith, Voter Registration Manager of Data and Reports Md. Bd. of Elections (Mar. 15 2012).
9 MD. CODE REGS. 033.05.03.06(G) (2012).
10 MD. CODE ANN. ELEC. LAW § 3-205(1) (Lexis Nexis 2011).
11 MD. CODE ANN. ELEC. LAW § 3-205(3) (Lexis Nexis 2011); MD. CODE REGS. 33.05.03.06(H) (2012).