

Connecticut

Registration Deadline

Forms must be postmarked or delivered by a third party 14 days before, or received in person 7 days before, a general election.¹

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Database Implementation Status

Connecticut currently uses a top-down voter registration database, in which municipal officials have direct access to a centralized statewide database, built by PCC Technology Group.²

Entering Voter Registration Information

Who inputs voter registration information? Connecticut has no statewide policy reflected in statutes or regulations.³

What happens to voter registration forms submitted at state registration agencies? Connecticut has no statewide policy reflected in statutes or regulations.

How are most forms submitted? Connecticut reported that in 2004, 52% of forms were submitted by mail, 37% were submitted in person to election officials, 6% were submitted at the DMV, 3% were submitted at another voter registration agency, and 1% were submitted by other means.⁴

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? Connecticut'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? If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered, but will have to show identification at the polls.⁵

How will the state treat an application listing an identifying number that is either incomplete or illegible? Connecticut has no statewide policy reflected in statutes or regulations.

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, name, and date of birth.*⁶

Description of matching process: Connecticut's matching process is not reflected in statutes or regulations.

*What are the consequences if the state cannot find a match? If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will apparently be considered registered, but will have to show identification at the polls.*⁷

Notice and Opportunity to Resolve Errors

Description of notice and correction process: Connecticut's notice and correction process is not reflected in statutes or regulations.

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 will be required to show identification at the polls.*⁸

What forms of identification are accepted?

A current and valid photo ID, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the voter's name and address.⁹

*What are the consequences of failing to show identification? The voter may cast a provisional ballot.*¹⁰ The ballot will be counted if the municipal registrar determines that the applicant is eligible to vote.¹¹

Forms of ID:

1st-time voters registering by mail without verified identifying number:	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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Statutes and Regulations

CONN. GEN. STAT. ch. 143 generally concerns registration. CONN. GEN. STAT. § 9-50b directs the Secretary of State to develop and administer a statewide voter registration database. Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 9-32-1 *et seq.* comprise the applicable regulations.

End Notes

¹ CONN. GEN. STAT. § 9-17, *amended by* 2005 Conn. Legis. Serv. P.A. 05-235; *id.* §§ 9-19b(a), 9-23g(d)(2).

² electionline.org, *Assorted Rolls: Statewide Voter Registration Databases Under HAVA*, June 2005, *available at* <http://www.electionline.org/Portals/1/EB11.FINAL1.pdf>, at 16.

³ Because of litigation in Connecticut pending at the time the survey was conducted, Connecticut materials in this report reflect only the practices codified in state statutes and regulations.

⁴ 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%.

⁵ *See* CONN. GEN. STAT. § 9-23g(e) (“No registration application [submitted by mail] shall be rejected if the application fails to provide the applicant’s SSN . . .”).

⁶ *Id.* § 9-23r(b).

⁷ *See id.* § 9-23r, *amended by* 2005 Conn. Legis. Serv. P.A. 05-188.

⁸ *Id.* § 9-23r(b), (d). Any applicant appearing *in person* to register to vote must present a birth certificate, driver’s license, or Social Security card to the municipal registrar at the time of the application – or the applicant will be required to prove identity, birthplace, and residence by evidence that the official considers satisfactory. *Id.* § 9-20(a)-(b), *amended by* 2005 Conn. Legis. Serv. P.A. 05-235.

⁹ *Id.* § 9-23r(d).

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.* § 9-232n.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT MAIL-IN VOTER REGISTRATION

(Disponible en Español)
ED-671 S
REV. 9/05
(CGS §9-23g)

■ YOU MAY USE THIS EASY FORM TO:

- register to vote in Connecticut
- change your name and/or address on current registration
- enroll in a political party or change party enrollment (Changing parties may result in losing rights in all parties for 3 months)

IMPORTANT! Keep your voter record up to date

■ TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN CONNECTICUT

YOU MUST:

- be a United States citizen;
- be a resident of a Connecticut town;
- be at least 17 years old (**must turn 18 before primary/election day**); see section 1b below
- have completed confinement and parole if previously convicted of a felony and have had your voting rights restored by Registrar.

■ IF YOU MOVE:

You must fill out a new voter registration card if you have moved to a new town. Also, use this form to change address within town. (See section 1a and section 10 below)

■ QUESTIONS?

Call your local Registrar of Voters or the Secretary of the State at (800) 540-3764 or (860) 509-6100 (TDD, 800-303-3161)

■ REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Fill in *all* boxes that apply to you on this application.
2. Place a first-class stamp on the application card, fold, and mail it to the town hall where you live (or deliver it to your town hall or voter registration agency).
3. **You are not a voter until your application is approved by the Registrar of Voters.**
4. You should receive a confirmation within 3 weeks. If you do not, contact the Registrar in your town hall.
5. **If (1) you submit this form by mail and (2) you are registering for the first time in town, you may wish to submit with this application your driver's license number or if none, the last four digits of your social security number; or (a) a copy of a current and valid photo I.D. or (b) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document that shows your name and address, in order to avoid additional I.D. requirements the first time you vote.**

■ REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR NEW VOTERS:

PRIMARY: Your application must be postmarked by the **5th day before a primary** (OR received by your Registrar of Voters or a voter registration agency by the **5th day before a primary**). You may apply in person to your town clerk or registrar until 12:00 noon on the last business day before a primary.

ELECTION: Your application must be postmarked or received by a voter registration agency by the **14th day before an election** (OR you may register in person with your Registrar of Voters by the **7th day before an election**).

FOLD ----- PLEASE USE PEN - PRINT CLEARLY ----- FOLD

1a **Check Boxes that Apply:** New Voter Registration (Includes move to a new town) Address Change (within the same town) Name Change Party Enrollment Change

1b Are you a U.S. citizen? YES NO Will you be 18 on or before election day? YES NO If you checked "NO" to either of these questions, do not complete this form.

2 Name of Applicant Last Name First Name Middle Name or Initial Jr. Sr. II III IV
Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.

3 Date of Birth (Month Day Year) 4 CT Driver's License Number (If none, last 4 digits of Soc. Sec. No.) 5 Address Where You Live No., Street, Apt. # Town Zip State Connecticut

6 If Different, Address Where You Get Your Mail (P.O. Box, etc.) 7 Telephone Number (optional) () 8 Gender Male Female

9 Do you wish to enroll in a political party? YES. Name of party: __Republican __Democratic Other: _____ NO. I do not wish to enroll in a party at this time. Note: Declaring a party enables you to vote in that party's primary election, which is open only to party members. You may later choose to switch enrollment to or from a political party.

10 NAME or ADDRESS CHANGE. Previous Voting Address (If none, write "NONE") No, Street, Apt # Town County State Name Under Which Registered (if different from above)

11 I swear or affirm that:
• I am a U.S. Citizen
• I live at the address shown in box 5 above
• I am at least 17 years old
• I have not been convicted of a disfranchising felony, or if so, my voting rights have been restored
• The information provided here is true
Signature _____ Today's Date: ____/____/____

12 Would you like to work at the Polls on Election Day?
 YES
 NO

NOTE: The particular office at which you register to vote, or whether you decline to register, remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes.

S WARNING: If you sign this statement even though you know it is untrue, you can be convicted and imprisoned for up to five years and fined up to \$5,000.

THIS SECTION COMPLETED ONLY BY AGENCY (OR SPECIAL ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OR TOWN CLERK) (Date Received by Agency)		THIS SECTION COMPLETED ONLY BY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS			
DATE RECEIVED BY REGISTRAR	REGISTRAR INITIAL	APPLICATION IS HERE BY:		DATE NOTICE MAILED	
		<input type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED	<input type="checkbox"/> REJECTED	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTICE RETURNED UNDELIVERABLE	
DATE ENROLLMENT EFFECTIVE IF CHANGING PARTY			REASON FOR REJECTION		