

Maine

Registration Deadline

None. If mailed or transmitted by a third party, forms must be received 21 business days before an election, but applicants may register in person any business day of the year, including on Election Day.¹

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Database Implementation Status

Maine is in the process of constructing a top-down voter registration system: municipal officials will be able to access directly a centralized state database.² The state retained Covansys Corporation, PCC Technology Group, and Aradyme Corporation in February 2005 to assist in building the statewide voter registration system.³

Entering Voter Registration Information

Who inputs voter registration information? Municipal registrars generally review and enter information from voter registration forms in their jurisdictions into the statewide system.⁴

What happens to voter registration forms submitted at state registration agencies? Forms received by a voter registration agency are transferred to the Secretary of State, who forwards the application to the appropriate municipal registrar for review and entry.⁵

How are most forms submitted? Maine reported that in 2004, 8% of forms were submitted by mail, 61% were submitted in person to election officials, 27% were submitted at the DMV, and 5% were submitted at another voter registration agency.⁶

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? The applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number. If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered.

How will the state treat an application without an identifying number and without an affirmative indication that the applicant has no such number? If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected.

How will the state treat an application listing an identifying number that is either incomplete or illegible? If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected.

Matching Against Motor Vehicle and Social Security Records

Description of matching process: Maine has not yet determined the process by which a match will be sought, but generally expects to require an exact match of the identifying number, full name, and date of birth.

Note: Maine also mails a verification notice to every voter submitting an application. If the notice is returned undeliverable within 15 days after it is sent, the application will be rejected.⁷

What are the consequences if the state cannot find a match? If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected.

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. The applicant may correct the missing or incomplete information within 20 days.⁸ The applicant may also submit a new form at any point, up through Election Day.

Does the applicant have the opportunity to resolve a failed match without submitting a new form? No. The applicant may submit a new form at any point, up through Election Day.

If information on an otherwise timely application is corrected after the voter registration deadline, is the correction timely? No, but the applicant may re-register in person at any point.

Description of notice and correction process: An applicant whose identifying number is missing, incomplete, illegible, or unverified will be automatically notified by mail, and the application will be rejected. The applicant can submit a new registration form at any point, through Election Day.

Identification Requirements at the Polls

Who must provide identification at the polls? A voter seeking to register fewer than 21 days before an election or on Election Day must show identification, either to the municipal registrar or at the polls.⁹

Forms of ID:

voters registering fewer than 21 days before Election Day:	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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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.

What are the consequences of failing to show identification? The voter may vote a “challenged ballot,” which is counted in the initial tally, but may be investigated in the event of a recount or challenge.¹⁰

Statutes and Regulations

ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, ch. 3 generally concerns registration. ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, § 191, *as amended by* 2005 Me. Legis. Serv. ch. 453 (S.P. 583) (L.D. 1602), directs the Secretary of State to establish and maintain a single statewide voter registration database. CODE ME. R. 29-250, ch. 505-06 comprise the applicable regulations.

End Notes

¹ ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, §§ 121(1-A), 122(4)-(6), *as amended by* 2005 Me. Legis. Serv. ch. 453 (S.P. 583) (L.D. 1602).

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 18.

³ electionline.org, *Statewide Voter Registration Database Status*, at <http://www.electionline.org/Default.aspx?tabid=288>

⁴ ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, §§ 122(1), 152(2), *as amended by* 2005 Me. Legis. Serv. ch. 453 (S.P. 583) (L.D. 1602).

⁵ *Id.* § 121(1-A), *as amended by* 2005 Me. Legis. Serv. ch. 453 (S.P. 583) (L.D. 1602).


⁶ 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%.

⁷ ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, § 122(2), *as amended by* 2005 Me. Legis. Serv. ch. 453 (S.P. 583) (L.D. 1602). CODE ME. R. 29-250, ch. 506, § 2(2)(B) provides for rejecting an application due to an undelivered verification notice after 20 days.

⁸ CODE ME. R. 29-250, ch. 506, § 2(6).

⁹ ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, § 121(1-A), *as amended by* 2005 Me. Legis. Serv. ch. 453 (S.P. 583) (L.D. 1602).

¹⁰ *Id.* §§ 121(1-A), *as amended by* 2005 Me. Legis. Serv. ch. 453 (S.P. 583) (L.D. 1602), 696(1).

MAINE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION			PARTY AFFILIATION	
 <p>Federally required questions: 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you a citizen of the United States of America? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <p>(If you checked "no" in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form.)</p>			<p>This portion must be completed. 2</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Green Independent <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to enroll in a political party at this time.	
LAST NAME 3	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	DATE OF BIRTH 4	
STREET OR LOCATION ADDRESS (Where you live)				
(STREET NAME AND NUMBER, NOT A P.O. BOX) 5A			CITY, TOWN, PLANTATION OR TOWNSHIP	
CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS (If different from address above)				
NUMBER AND STREET OR P.O. BOX, etc. 5B		CITY/TOWN	ZIP CODE	
PREVIOUS REGISTRATION ADDRESS (Complete or write "none" below)				TELEPHONE (Optional) 6
CITY/TOWN 5C	COUNTY	STATE	ZIP CODE	
COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THIS CARD - PLEASE PRINT				

MAINE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION	
- COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THIS CARD -	
<p>CHANGE OF NAME (Prior legal name, if applicable) 7</p> <p>LAST _____ FIRST _____ MIDDLE _____</p>	<p>VOTER ID: By federal law, you must provide the applicable ID number, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Your Maine Driver's License number; or If you don't have a Maine Driver's License, the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number; or Write "none" if you don't have either ID. 9 <p>_____</p>
<p>SIGN AND DATE THIS CARD. Under penalty of law, I certify that the information on this card is true. 8</p> <p>Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to complete this entire application may prevent registration. Deliver or mail this completed card to your local registrar or to the Maine Division of Elections: #101 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0101. 10A If you mail this card, you must include a photocopy of your Maine driver's license, or utility bill or a government document that shows your name and address. This properly completed application must be received by the municipal registrar 10 business days or more before an election. <u>If less than 10 business days before an election, you must register in person.</u> For election information, call 207-624-7850 or visit www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elect/. 	
<p>FOR REGISTRAR'S USE ONLY</p> <p>Date Received: ____/____/____</p> <p>Ward: _____ Precinct: _____</p> <p>(7/03) 10B</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Address/Name Change <input type="checkbox"/> Enrollment Change <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate Application <input type="checkbox"/> New Registration <input type="checkbox"/> Received in mail from voter <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Identification provided or matched <input type="checkbox"/> Received in person <input type="checkbox"/> Received from the Secretary of State, a voter registration drive or another third party	

7.	Change of name. (If applicable) This information is only required of voters who have changed their legal name since registering to vote in Maine.
8.	Voter's Signature. (Required) Voters must sign their legal name below the statement certifying that all the information is true.
9.	Voter ID (or Unique ID Number). (Required information AFTER 1/1/06) The purpose of the voter ID number is to designate each voter in the computerized statewide voter registration list, once the list has been developed. The ID number can be accepted now, but it is not required until January 1, 2006.
A.	Driver's License Number. Voters who have a valid Maine Driver's License must list that number.
B.	Social Security Number. Voters who don't have a valid Maine Driver's License must list the last four digits of their Social Security Number.
C.	NONE. Voters who don't have either of these forms of ID must write "NONE" in this space.
10. A.	Instructions. The instructions for identification requirements for mail-in registrations remind voters who <u>mail their registration applications to the municipal registrar</u> that they must also provide a copy of certain identity documents with the registration form. Mail-in registrants must submit a copy of a Maine driver's license or other valid photo ID, a current utility bill, or bank statement, or paycheck, or other government document that shows the voter's name and address.
B.	For Registrar's Use Only. This space should only be completed by the municipal registrar or voters.

NOTE: If required information is omitted, the municipal registrar of voters must notify the applicant that the form is incomplete, and must later reject the application if the information is not provided. If optional information is omitted, the registrar must still process the application and may not reject it for that reason.