

Ohio

Registration Deadline

Forms must be received or postmarked 30 days before an election.¹

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Database Implementation Status

Ohio is building, in-house, a bottom-up voter registration system, in which each county database will be periodically uploaded to and compiled in a central statewide database.² Ohio’s HAVA Election Reform Progress web site reports that all of Ohio’s 88 counties are currently operational on the system.³

Entering Voter Registration Information

Who inputs voter registration information? Ohio has not responded to this survey.

What happens to voter registration forms submitted at state registration agencies? Forms received by the DMV or another voter registration agency are sent within five days to the appropriate county board of elections for review and entry into the system.⁴ Forms received by a county board of elections through third parties are sent within ten days to the appropriate county board of elections for review and entry into the system.⁵

How are most forms submitted? Ohio reported that in 2004, 37% of forms were submitted by mail, 35% were submitted in person to election officials, 20% were submitted at the DMV, and 9% 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.⁷

Processing of Forms Without Identifying Numbers

Ohio has not responded to this survey and has no stated policy reflected in state law.

Matching Against Motor Vehicle and Social Security Records

Ohio has not responded to this survey. State law provides that the Secretary of State must establish a “search program capable of verifying registered voters and their registration information by name, driver’s license number, birth date, social security number, or current address.”⁸

Notice and Opportunity to Resolve Errors

Description of notice and correction process: Ohio has not responded to this survey. State law provides that “[t]he board [of elections] may correct all errors occurring in the

registration process when it finds that the errors subject to correction were not of fraudulent intent.”⁹

Identification Requirements at the Polls

Who must provide identification at the polls? As of June 1, 2006, every voter must provide identification at the polls.¹⁰

What forms of identification are accepted? A valid driver’s license or state ID card, other valid photo ID with current address, military ID with name and address, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document with name and address.¹¹ If the voter provides valid photo ID other than a driver’s license or state ID card without her current address, she may provide her SSN-4 to vote a provisional ballot.¹²

Forms of ID:

every voter:	valid driver’s license or state ID card other valid photo ID w/ current address other valid photo ID + SSN-4 military ID w/ name, address 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 are the consequences of failing to show identification? The voter may cast a provisional ballot.¹³ A voter who does not show the identification above, who does not provide her SSN-4, and who does not provide a sworn affirmation that she has no SSN must appear in person at the local board of elections within 10 days after the election to present identification. Such identification includes current and valid photo ID; military ID with name and address; a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document with name and address; oral recitation of her SSN-4; or a sworn affirmation that she has none of the above identification and no SSN.¹⁴ The ballot will then be counted if the appropriate local election official determines that the individual is eligible to vote in the appropriate precinct.¹⁵

Statutes and Regulations

OHIO REV. CODE ANN. tit. 35, ch. 3503 generally concerns registration. OHIO REV. CODE ANN. §§ 3501.05(V) and 3503.15, *as amended by 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3)*, direct the Secretary of State to establish and maintain a single statewide voter registration system. OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 3503.27 directs the Secretary of State to create and maintain a master file of all registered voters. OHIO ADMIN. CODE ch. 111-10 comprises the applicable regulations.

End Notes

¹ OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 3503.19, *as amended by 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3)*.

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 21;

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

³ Ohio Sec’y of State, Help America Vote Act 2002 (HAVA) Election Reform: Centralized Voter Registration, at <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/HAVA/hava.aspx?Section=1006> (last visited Oct. 31, 2005).

⁴ OHIO REV. CODE ANN. §§ 3503.10, 3503.11, 3503.19, *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3); OHIO ADMIN. CODE §§ 111-10-05, 111-10-07.

⁵ OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 3503.19(B)(2)(d), *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3).

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 Ohio’s voter registration form is not available online. The form presented for purposes of this summary is the federal voter registration form.

⁸ OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 3503.15(C)(4), *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3).

⁹ *Id.* § 3503.30.

¹⁰ *Id.* § 3505.18, *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3).

¹¹ *Id.* §§ 3501.19(C), 3503.19(C)(2), 3505.18, *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3).

¹² *Id.* §§ 3501.19(C), 3505.18, *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3).

¹³ *Id.* §§ 3505.18, 3505.181, *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3).

¹⁴ *Id.* § 3505.181(B)(7)-(8), *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3).

¹⁵ *Id.* § 3505.181(B)(4), (E)(1), *as amended by* 2006 Ohio Laws ___ (H.B. 3).

General Instructions

Who Can Use this Application

If you are a U.S. citizen who lives or has an address within the United States, you can use the application in this booklet to:

- Register to vote in your State,
- Report a change of name to your voter registration office,
- Report a change of address to your voter registration office, or
- Register with a political party.

Exceptions

Please do not use this application if you live outside the United States and its territories and have no home (legal) address in this country, or if you are in the military stationed away from home. Use the Federal Postcard Application available to you from military bases, American embassies, or consular offices.

New Hampshire town and city clerks will accept this application only as a request for their own absentee voter mail-in registration form.

North Dakota does not have voter registration.

Wyoming law does not permit mail registration.

How to Find Out If You Are Eligible to Register to Vote in Your State

Each State has its own laws about who may register and vote. Check the information under your State in the State Instructions.

Note: All States require that you be a United States citizen by birth or naturalization to register to vote in federal and State elections. Federal law makes it illegal to falsely claim U.S. citizenship to register to vote in any federal, State, or local election.

Also Note: You **cannot** be registered to vote in more than one place at a time.

How to Fill Out this Application

Use both the Application Instructions and State Instructions to guide you in filling out the application.

First, read the Application Instructions. These instructions will give you important information that applies to everyone using this application.

Next, find your State under the State Instructions. Use these instructions to fill out Boxes 6, 7, and 8. Also refer to these instructions for information about voter eligibility and any oath required for Box 9.

When to Register to Vote

Each State has its own deadline for registering to vote. Check the deadline for your State on the last page of this booklet.

How to Submit Your Application

Mail your application to the address listed under your State in the State Instructions. Or, deliver the application in person to your local voter registration office.

The remaining States that accept the national form will accept copies of the application printed from the computer image on regular paper stock, signed by the applicant, and mailed in an envelope with the correct postage.

First Time Voters Who Register by Mail

If you are registering to vote for the first time in your jurisdiction and are mailing this registration application, you may be required to provide proof of identification the first time you vote.

Depending on the specific requirements of your State, you may avoid providing identification at the polls when you vote for the first time by mailing a copy of an identification document together with this application. The list of acceptable documents is included in the State Instructions.

Do not include original documents with this application.

Please read the accompanying State Instructions to determine the voter identification requirements for your State.

If You Were Given this Application in a State Agency or Public Office

If you have been given this application in a State agency or public office, it is your choice to use the application or not.

If you decide to use this application to register to vote, you can fill it out and leave it with the State agency or public office. The application will be submitted for you. Or, you can take it with you to mail to the address listed under your State in the State Instructions. You also may take it with you to deliver in person to your local voter registration office.

Note: The name and location of the State agency or public office where you received the application will remain confidential. It will not appear on your application. Also, if you decide not to use this application to register to vote, that decision will remain confidential. It will not affect the service you receive from the agency or office.

Application Instructions

Before filling out the body of the form, please answer the questions on the top of the form as to whether you are a United States citizen and whether you will be 18 years old on or before election day. If you answer no to either of these questions, you may not use this form to register to vote. However, state specific instructions may provide additional information on eligibility to register to vote prior to age 18.

Box 1 — Name

Put in this box your full name in this order — Last, First, Middle. Do not use nicknames or initials.

Note: If this application is for a change of name, please tell us in **Box A** (on the bottom half of the form) your full name before you changed it.

Box 2 — Home Address

Put in this box your home address (legal address). Do **not** put your mailing address here if it is different from your home address. Do **not** use a post office box or rural route without a box number. Refer to state-specific instructions for rules regarding use of route numbers.

Note: If you were registered before *but* this is the first time you are registering from the address in Box 2, please tell us in **Box B** (on the bottom half of the form) the address where you were registered before. Please give us as much of the address as you can remember.

Also Note: If you live in a rural area but do not have a street address, or if you have no address, please show where you live using the map in **Box C** (at the bottom of the form).

Box 3 — Mailing Address

If you get your mail at an address that is different from the address in Box 2, put your mailing address in this box.

Note: If you have no address in Box 2, you **must** write in Box 3 an address where you can be reached by mail.

Box 4 — Date of Birth

Put in this box your date of birth in this order — Month, Day, Year. *Be careful not to use today's date!*

Box 5 — Telephone Number

Most States ask for your telephone number in case there are questions about your application. However, you do **not** have to fill in this box.

Box 6 — ID Number

Federal law requires that states collect from each registrant an identification number. You must refer to your state's specific instructions for item 6 regarding information on what number is acceptable for your state. If you have neither a drivers license nor a social security number, please indicate this on the form and a number will be assigned to you by your state.

Box 7 — Choice of Party

In some States, you must register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election, caucus, or convention. To find out if your State requires this, see item 7 in the instructions under your State.

If you want to register with a party, print in the box the full name of the party of your choice.

If you do **not** want to register with a party, write "no party" or leave the box blank. Do **not** write in the word "independent" if you mean "no party," because this might be confused with the name of a political party in your State.

Note: If you do not register with a party, you can still vote in general elections and nonpartisan (nonparty) primary elections.

Box 8 — Race or Ethnic Group

A few States ask for your race or ethnic group, in order to administer the Federal Voting Rights Act. To find out if your State asks for this information, see item 8 in the instructions under your State. If so, put in Box 8 the choice that best describes you from the list below:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Black, *not of* Hispanic Origin
- Hispanic
- Multi-racial
- White, *not of* Hispanic Origin
- Other

Box 9 — Signature

Review the information in item 9 in the instructions under your State. Before you sign or make your mark, make sure that:

- (1) You meet your State's requirements, and
- (2) You understand **all** of Box 9.

Finally, sign your **full** name or make your mark, and print today's date in this order — Month, Day, Year.

If the applicant is unable to sign, put in **Box D** the name, address, and telephone number (optional) of the person who helped the applicant.

Voter Registration Application

Before completing this form, review the General, Application, and State specific instructions.

Are you a citizen of the United States of America? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Will you be 18 years old on or before election day? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If you checked "No" in response to either of these questions, do not complete form. (Please see state-specific instructions for rules regarding eligibility to register prior to age 18.)		This space for office use only.									
1	(Circle one) Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name(s)	(Circle one) Jr Sr II III IV						
2	Home Address		Apt. or Lot #	City/Town	State	Zip Code					
3	Address Where You Get Your Mail If Different From Above			City/Town	State	Zip Code					
4	Date of Birth ____/____/____ Month Day Year		5	Telephone Number (optional)		6 ID Number - (See Item 6 in the instructions for your state)					
7	Choice of Party (see item 7 in the instructions for your State)		8	Race or Ethnic Group (see item 8 in the instructions for your State)							
9 I have reviewed my state's instructions and I swear/affirm that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ I am a United States citizen ■ I meet the eligibility requirements of my state and subscribe to any oath required. ■ The information I have provided is true to the best of my knowledge under penalty of perjury. If I have provided false information, I may be fined, imprisoned, or (if not a U.S. citizen) deported from or refused entry to the United States. 											
Please sign full name (or put mark)											
Date: <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Month</td> <td style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Day</td> <td style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Year</td> </tr> </table>									Month	Day	Year
Month	Day	Year									

If you are registering to vote for the first time: please refer to the application instructions for information on submitting copies of valid identification documents with this form.

Please fill out the sections below if they apply to you.

If this application is for a **change of name**, what was your name before you changed it?

A	Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name(s)	(Circle one) Jr Sr II III IV
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If you were **registered before but this is the first time you are registering from the address in Box 2**, what was your address where you were registered before?

B	Street (or route and box number)	Apt. or Lot #	City/Town/County	State	Zip Code
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If you live in a rural area but do not have a street number, or if you have no address, please show on the map where you live.

Write in the names of the crossroads (or streets) nearest to where you live.
 Draw an **X** to show where you live.
 Use a dot to show any schools, churches, stores, or other landmarks near where you live, and write the name of the landmark.

C

Example	Route #2	
		● Grocery Store
		Woodchuck Road
Public School ●		X

NORTH

If the applicant is unable to sign, who helped the applicant fill out this application? Give name, address and phone number (phone number optional).

D	
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Mail this application to the address provided for your State.

State Instructions

New York

Updated: 03-01-06

Registration Deadline — 25 days before the election.

6. ID Number. Federal law requires that you provide your driver's license number to register to vote. If you do not have a driver's license then you will have to provide at least the last four digits of your social security number. If you have neither, please write "NONE" on the form. A unique identifying number will be assigned to you by your State.

7. Choice of Party. You must enroll with a party if you want to vote in that party's primary election or caucus.

8. Race or Ethnic Group. Leave blank.

9. Signature. To register in New York you must:

- be a citizen of the United States
- be a resident of the county, or of the City of New York, at least 30 days before an election
- be 18 years old by December 31 of the year in which you file this form (*Note:* You must be 18 years old by the date of the general, primary, or other election in which you want to vote)
- not be in jail or on parole for a felony conviction
- not currently be judged incompetent by order of a court of competent judicial authority
- not claim the right to vote elsewhere

Mailing address:

NYS Board of Elections
40 Steuben Street
Albany, NY 12207-2108

North Carolina

Updated: 03-01-06

Registration Deadline — Postmarked 25 days before the election or received in the elections office or designated voter registration agency site by 5:00 p.m. 25 days before the election.

6. ID Number. Provide your North Carolina driver's license number, or North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles ID number. If you do not have a driver's license, then list the last four digits of your social security number.

7. Choice of Party. You must register with a party to vote in that party's primary unless that party allows unaffiliated voters to vote in its primary. If you indicate a political party that is not a qualified party, or indicate no party, you will be listed as "Unaffiliated".

8. Race or Ethnic Group. You are required to fill in this box. However, your application will not be rejected if you fail to do so. See the list of choices under the Application Instructions for Box 8 (on page 2).

9. Signature. To register in North Carolina you must:

- be a citizen of the United States
- be a resident of North Carolina and the county in which you live for at least 30 days prior to the election
- be 18 years of age by the day of the next general election
- have your rights of citizenship restored if you have been convicted of a felony

- not be registered or vote in any other county or state

Mailing address:

State Board of Elections
P.O. Box 27255
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

North Dakota

Updated: 03-01-06

North Dakota does not have voter registration.

Ohio

Updated: 03-01-06

Registration Deadline — 30 days before the election.

6. ID Number. Your social security number is requested. Providing this number is voluntary. This information allows the Board of Elections to verify your registration if necessary (O.R.C. 3503.14). [Federal law requires that you provide your driver's license number to register to vote. If you do not have a driver's license then you will have to provide at least the last four digits of your social security number. If you don't have either number you will have to write "NONE" on the form and the State will assign you a number.]

7. Choice of Party. You do not register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election. Party affiliation is established by voting at a primary election.

8. Race or Ethnic Group. Leave blank.