

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, first name, last name, and date of birth.⁹

How precise is the match standard? Washington has not yet set precise criteria for matching information on applications with a driver's license or state ID number, but generally plans to use an exact match standard; this standard may allow for variations on the applicant's first name. Washington will use the standard AAMVA criteria to match information on forms with Social Security digits: exact match of the SSN-4, first name, last name, month of birth, and year of birth.

How much human intervention is involved in determining whether information is matched? The matching process will be fully automated.

Description of matching process: Upon entry of a new registration, application information is sent electronically to the state. For forms listing a driver's license or state ID number, the system will automatically return records from the DOL with an exact match of the identifying number, last name, and date of birth; the standard may allow for variations on the applicant's first name.¹⁰ State officials will send unmatched application information back to the county for follow-up.¹¹ Each county has the option to conduct a second match attempt through a direct connection to the DOL by looking up the identifying number directly in the DOL database, but no statewide rule mandates such a second attempt.

Forms listing SSN digits will be automatically checked against the SSA database through the standard AAMVA process: the county elections official will submit an entered record to the DOL database, which will automatically submit the appropriate fields to the SSA and return a code indicating whether the record was successfully matched or not.

Matches for forms with driver's license or state ID numbers are completed within minutes. The SSN match is completed within 24 hours, and often much more quickly.

What are the consequences of the state's failure to find a match for a voter registration application? An application with unverified information will be rejected.¹²

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 missing or incomplete information at any point within 45 days of the day the application was submitted.¹³

Does the applicant have the opportunity to resolve a failed match, without submitting a new form? Yes. The applicant may submit information to resolve a failed match at any point within 45 days of the day the application was submitted.¹⁴

If information on an otherwise timely application is corrected after the voter registration deadline, is the correction timely? Yes, if the information is corrected within 45 days of the day the application was submitted.¹⁵

Description of notice and correction process: The county election official will attempt to notify by mail an applicant whose identifying number is missing, incomplete, illegible, or unverified; county officials may also attempt to contact the applicant by phone. The applicant will be sent a new postage-prepaid application form¹⁶ to submit, by mail or in person, with a verifiable identifying number or a copy of acceptable identification; the applicant may also resolve the problem by submitting a verifiable identifying number by phone. If the applicant does not correct the problem within 45 days,¹⁷ the application will be rejected.

Identification Requirements at the Polls

Who must provide identification at the polls? Every voter must show identification at the polls,¹⁸ and voters registering by mail without an identifying number must show identification when they next vote, whether at the polls or otherwise.¹⁹

Forms of ID:

Every voter:	current and valid photo ID county-issued voter ID current utility bill bank statement government check paycheck other gov't document
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What forms of identification are accepted? Valid photo ID, a voter's ID issued by the county, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government document.²⁰

What are the consequences of failing to show identification? The voter may cast a provisional ballot. The ballot will be counted if the name, signature, and date of birth on the provisional ballot envelope match a valid voter registration record; such records must include a verified identifying number or an assessment that the voter has no such number, unless the voter registered before 2006.²¹

Statutes and Regulations

WASH. REV. CODE ch. 29A.08, as amended by Chapter 243, Laws of 2005, and Chapter 246, Laws of 2005, generally concerns registration. WASH. REV. CODE § 29A.08.105 establishes that the centralized statewide voter registration list maintained by the Secretary of State will be the official list. WASH. ADMIN. CODE tit. 434, ch. 253 comprises the applicable regulations.

End Notes

¹ WASH. REV. CODE § 29A.08.140.

² *Id.* § 29A.08.145.

³ *Id.* § 29A.08.125; electionline.org, *Assorted Rolls: Statewide Voter Registration Databases Under HAVA*, June 2005, available at <http://www.electionline.org/Portals/1/EB11.FINAL1.pdf>, at 24.

⁴ WASH. ADMIN. CODE §§ 434-324-010, 434-324-055; Voter Registration Database Voter Registration Identity Verification Procedures -- DRAFT.

⁵ 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%.

⁶ WASH. REV. CODE §§ 29A.08.010, 29A.08.113.

⁷ *Id.* § 29A.08.107(3), 29A.08.210(16), 29A.08.775, 29A.08.140.

⁸ *Id.* § 29A.08.107(3), 29A.08.210(16), 29A.08.775, 29A.08.140.

⁹ Wash. Voter Registration Database Voter Registration Identity Verification Procedures -- DRAFT.

¹⁰ *Id.* The system apparently contains some flexibility for matches of the first name, but it is unclear exactly how such matches will be found.

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² WASH. REV. CODE § 29A.08.107(3), 29A.08.210(16), 29A.08.775, 29A.08.140; WASH. ADMIN. CODE 434-324-040, 434-324-005(10).

¹³ WASH. REV. CODE § 29A.08.110(1).

¹⁴ *Id.* § 29A.08.110(1).

¹⁵ *Id.* § 29A.08.110(1).

¹⁶ *Id.* § 29A.08.030(1).

¹⁷ *Id.* §§ 29A.08.107(2), 29A.08.110(1). Note: Washington officials indicated that corrections would be accepted only until the voter registration deadline; state law, however, provides for a 45-day correction period without mention of the registration deadline. *See id.* § 29A.08.110.

¹⁸ *Id.* § 29A.44.205.

¹⁹ *Id.* § 29A.08.113.

²⁰ *Id.* §§ 29A.08.113, 29A.44.205. The section pertaining to all voters, and not merely those who have registered by mail without an identifying number, does not specify that the voter must submit a government document with an address. *Id.* § 29A.44.205.

²¹ WASH. ADMIN. CODE § 434-253-047.

Mail-In Voter Registration Form



Washington
Secretary of State

You may use this form to:

- Register to vote in Washington state;
- Update your registration if you move;
- Change your name;
- Request ongoing absentee ballots.

Please complete all the information in boxes 1 through 10 on the voter registration form below. **Be sure to include your signature in box 10.** Once you have filled out this form, fold on the dotted lines, seal the flap, and mail.

If you are physically unable to sign this form, please mark an X in box 10 and have the person who assisted you in completing this form complete box 11.

If submitting this form by mail and you are registering to vote for the first time in this state, and did not enter any information in box 1 A, or B you must provide a copy of one of the following:

- Current photo ID
- Current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck
- Or other government document that shows your name and address.

Use Black Pen - Please Print Clearly

NAME CHANGE

ADDRESS CHANGE IN WASHINGTON

NEW REGISTRATION IN WASHINGTON

NOTE: Do not complete this form if you are not a U.S. Citizen

For office use only

Will you be at least 18 years of age or older on or before election day? YES NO
Are you a Citizen of the United States? YES NO

Federal & State Law require you to provide your WA Driver's License or WA ID Card#. If you do not have a WA Driver's License or ID Card, provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

1 A WA Driver's License #	B Last 4 Digits / SSN	C <input type="radio"/> Check here if you do not have a WA Drivers License, ID card, or SSN.	3 Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year)
2 Last Name	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	Daytime Phone Number ()	
4 First Name	M.I. <input type="radio"/> Jr. <input type="radio"/> II <input type="radio"/> Sr. <input type="radio"/> III	E-Mail Address (Optional)	
5 Washington Residential Address (Required)	City or Town	ZIP Code	
6 Mailing Address Where You Get Your Mail (If different from above)	City or Town	State	ZIP Code
7 Check any that apply! <input type="radio"/> Military Domestic <input type="radio"/> Military Foreign <input type="radio"/> National Guard / Reserves <input type="radio"/> U.S. Citizen Overseas	8 ONGOING ABSENTEE REQUEST I would like to receive absentee ballots for all future elections <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO		
9 I was previously registered under this name and/or address:		Sign as Previously Registered	
NAME _____	X		
STREET _____ COUNTY _____			
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____			

WARNING: If you knowingly provide false information on this voter registration form or knowingly make a false declaration about your qualifications for voter registration you will have committed a class C felony that is punishable by imprisonment for up to five years, or by a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both imprisonment and fine. (RCW 29A.08.210)

10 VOTER DECLARATION

"By signing this document, I hereby assert, under penalty of perjury, that I am legally eligible to vote. If I am found to have voted illegally, I may be prosecuted and/or fined for this illegal act. In addition, I hereby acknowledge that my name and last known address will be forwarded to the appropriate state and/or Federal authorities if I am found to have voted illegally." (RCW 29A.08.210)

"I declare that the facts on this voter registration form are true:

- I am a citizen of the United States;
- I am not presently denied my civil rights as a result of being convicted of a felony;
- I will have lived in Washington at this address for thirty days immediately before the next election at which I vote;
- I will be at least eighteen years old when I vote."

(RCW 29A.08.230)

SIGN OR MARK IN THE BOX

X

11 If you are physically unable to sign your name, please have the person who assisted you in completing this form provide the following.	NAME _____
	ADDRESS _____

DATE SIGNED: _____
Month/Day/Year