

CONDUCTING A VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE IN WASHINGTON



VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES

- Applications delivered by mail or in person must be received no later than 8 days before Election Day.
- Registration applications collected as part of a voter registration drive must be returned no later than 5 days after receiving them, or before this voter registration deadline, whichever is first.
- Voters can register in-person up to and including on Election Day and receive a ballot that same day.

GETTING STARTED

Training Requirement: Washington does not require training for registration drives, but the Office of the Secretary of State provides training and encourages all organizations, employees or volunteers to participate. See the Secretary of State's guide to registering voters at sos.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2023-09/GuideToRegisteringVoters.pdf

Notification and Registration Requirements: Washington does not have notification requirements for registration drives.

Promo and Informational Materials: Find informational guides, toolkits and outreach materials, as well as printable handouts, buttons, forms and posters at sos.wa.gov/elections/education-outreach/voter-registration-drive-tools/voter-outreach-and-education-materials

Compensation Restrictions: Do not pay or reward registration drive participants based on how many registrations they collect. It is a felony in Washington to pay or accept payment for assisting in registering voters where payment is based on a fixed amount of money per voter registration. Do not offer an applicant any incentive of monetary value to register to vote.

OBTAINING APPLICATIONS

State Form: The state form may be obtained from the county auditor or downloaded from the Secretary of State's website in many languages at sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/voter-registration/print-voter-registration-form. If you need 250 forms or fewer, use this online form to request: sos.wa.gov/elections/register-mail.aspx. For orders of over 250 forms, contact the Secretary of State Elections Division at elections@sos.wa.gov.

Federal Form: The federal mail-in voter registration application may be used in voter registration drives: eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form/

HANDLING APPLICATIONS

Incomplete Applications: Do not fill in any missing information on a registration form unless you have permission from the applicant.

Photocopying Completed Applications: There is no law or rule prohibiting photocopying or retaining information from completed registration applications. As a best practice, a voter's full or partial Social Security number and/or driver's license number should not be retained.

Submitting Completed Applications: Registration applications collected as part of a voter registration drive must be returned no later than 5 days after receiving them, or before the voter registration deadline, whichever is first.

Voter registration applications should be delivered or mailed to the county election office of the county where the voter resides: sos.wa.gov/elections/auditors.aspx. If you have forms from multiple counties, you should deliver or mail them to the Secretary of State Elections Division, and they will forward them to the appropriate counties: Secretary of State's Office, Elections Division, 520 Union Ave. SE; PO Box 40229; Olympia, WA 98504-0229.

A person or organization collecting voter registration forms that intentionally does not transmit the forms to an election office may be prosecuted.

Fair Elections Center and its Campus Vote Project intend the information contained herein to be used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed Washington legal professional.

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Find more information on voting in Washington: bit.ly/fecwavote