

**I-866-OUR-VOTE
(1-866-687-8683)****Disclaimer:**

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VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS**1) Where can voter registration forms be obtained?**

Voter Registration forms are supplied by the county recorder and are made available to the public by the Secretary of State.

The form can be downloaded from the website of the Arizona Secretary of State at <http://www.azsos.gov/election/VoterRegistration.htm>. The website also provides for online voter registration. In order to register online, a person must have an Arizona Driver License or Identification card issued by the Motor Vehicle Division on or after October 1st 1996.

Application forms also are available at the County Recorder in the county of the person's legal residence. A list of County Recorder and Election Offices can be found at <http://www.azsos.gov/election/county.htm>.

2) Are there restrictions on registering to vote using a photocopied registration form?

There are no restrictions on copying blank or completed voter registration forms. Photocopied or printed out forms may be submitted for registration.

3) Are there restrictions on the use of the National Voter Registration Form?

The National Voter Registration Form can be used in Arizona.

There is one restriction – applicants must attach sufficient proof of citizenship. Satisfactory evidence of citizenship includes:

- a) driver's license or nonoperating identification license
- b) photocopy of a birth certificate
- c) photocopy of US passport
- d) presentation of naturalization documents to the county recorder
- e) other documents or methods that are established pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986
- f) the applicant's bureau of Indian affairs card number, tribal treaty card number, or tribal enrollment number

4) Are there restrictions regarding the use of registration form information?

Yes. According to the Arizona Election Code, there are no restrictions on copying registration forms before submission. Precinct registers and other lists and information derived from registration forms may be used only for purposes relating to a political or political party activity, a political campaign or an election, for revising election district boundaries or for any other purpose specifically authorized by law and may not be used for a commercial purpose. The sale of registers, lists and information derived from

registration forms to a candidate or a registered political committee for a use specifically authorized by this subsection does not constitute use for a commercial purpose.

5) Are there restrictions regarding pre-filling information on registration forms?

No. There are no restrictions regarding pre-filling information on registration forms.

COMPLETING VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

6) How long must you live in a county before you are eligible to register to vote?

A person must have been a resident of the Arizona county or city in which the person intends to register for a minimum of twenty-nine (29) days prior to a primary or general election.

A registered elector who moves from one county to another county during the twenty-nine day period preceding either a primary, general or runoff election is deemed to be a resident and registered elector of the county from which the elector moved until the day after the primary, general or runoff election, whichever applies.

7) Are there any restrictions on registering to vote using a P.O. Box, college campus, or dorm address?

For purposes of the Arizona Election Code, "residence" means an actual physical presence in the state combined with an intent to remain. A temporary absence will not result in a loss of residence if the individual has an intent to return following his absence.

A P.O. Box may be used. The Arizona Election Code provides:

A person who does not reside at a fixed, permanent or private structure shall be properly registered to vote if that person is qualified under Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-121 and that person's registration address is located within Arizona at a "general delivery address for a post office covering the location where the registrant is a resident." Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-121(B)(4).

A college campus or dorm address can also be used, although residence is determined by the intention of the person. If the person intends to move back to Arizona or intends to make Arizona his home, then he has established residence. A person will not lose their Arizona residence by reason of absence from the state "while a student at an institution of learning." Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-593(A)(2).

A person does not lose residence by leaving to go to another county, state, or foreign country for merely temporary purposes, with the intention of returning. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 16-593(A)(3). On the other hand, a person will not gain Arizona residence by virtue of their status as a student in Arizona. Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-593(A)(2). A person will not gain residence in any county into which he comes for merely temporary purposes, without the intention of making that county his home. Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-593(A)(4).

8) If I am in the state because of work or school, can I register to vote?

Use of a college address is permissible provided that you consider your college address to be your legal residence. However, if you are claimed as a dependent on your parents' income tax return, their address is probably your legal residence. A qualified person temporarily absent from the state may register by filling out an affidavit of registration which shall be furnished upon request of the registrant by the county recorder of the county in which the registrant has residence pursuant to section 16-593. The registrant shall execute the affidavit of registration and administer the oath himself and shall return the affidavit to the county recorder.

9) Are there any identification requirements to register to vote?

A completed registration form must contain one of the following:

- a) the person's Arizona driver's license number
- b) the person's Arizona nonoperating identification license number
- c) the last four digits of the person's social security number
- d) the person's affirmation that if an Arizona driver license number, nonoperating identification license number, or the last four digits of the persons' social security number is not provided, the person does not possess a valid Arizona driver or nonoperating identification license or a social security number and that the person is hereby requesting that a unique identifying number be assigned by the secretary of state.

Additionally, registration requires a statement that the applicant is a United States citizen. Evidence of citizenship must be attached to the application. Acceptable proof of citizenship includes the following:

- a) the registrant's driver's license or identification card number, if issued in Arizona after October 1, 1996 or if issued by an equivalent governmental agency of another state if the agency indicates on the license or identification card that the person has provided proof of U.S. citizenship;
- b) a legible photocopy of the registrant's birth certificate that verifies citizenship and supporting legal documentation (e.g. marriage certificate) if the name on the birth certificate is not the same as the registrant's current legal name;
- c) a legible photocopy of the relevant pages of the registrant's U.S. passport;
- d) U.S. naturalization documents or the number of the certificate of naturalization;
- e) the registrant's Bureau of Indian Affairs card number, tribal treaty card number, or tribal enrollment number; or
- f) a legible photocopy of a tribal certificate of Indian blood or tribal or Bureau of Indian Affairs affidavit of birth.

10) Are there any identification requirements in order to vote?

Every qualified elector, before receiving his ballot, shall announce his name and place of residence in a clear, audible tone of voice to the election official in charge of the signature roster or present his name and residence in writing and shall present one form of identification that bears the name, address and photograph of the elector or two different forms of identification that bear the name and address of the elector. Acceptable forms of identification with the voter's name, address and photograph include a valid Arizona driver's license or identification card; a tribal enrollment card or other form of tribal identification, or a valid U.S. federal, state or local government issued identification. Acceptable forms of identification with the voter's name and address without a photograph include a utility (electricity, gas, water, solid waste, sewer, telephone, cellular phone or cable television) bill of the voter that is dated within ninety days of the date of the election; a bank or credit union statement that is dated within ninety days of the date of the election; valid Arizona vehicle registration; Indian census card; property tax statement of the voter's residence; tribal enrollment card or other form of tribal identification; vehicle insurance card; recorder's certificate; or a valid U.S. federal, state or local government issued identification, including a voter registration card issued by the county recorder. If the name is found upon the precinct register by the election officer having charge thereof, or the qualified elector presents a certificate from the county recorder showing that he is entitled by law to vote in the precinct, the election official in charge of the signature roster shall repeat the name and the qualified elector shall be allowed within the voting area.

11) What are the rules regarding missing or illegible information on registration forms?

According to the Arizona Election Code:

If the information on the registration form is incomplete or illegible and the county recorder is not able to process the registration form, the county recorder shall notify the applicant within ten business days

of receipt of the registration form, shall specify the missing or illegible information and, if the registration lacks the registrant's name, address, date of birth, signature, affirmation of citizenship, or identification information (i.e. driver's license or identification card number, the last four digits of the registrant's social security number or an attestation that the registrant has none of these forms of identification), the recorder must also specify that the registrant will not be registered until he supplies the required information. If the missing or illegible information is supplied before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, that person is deemed to have been registered on the date the registration was first received.

12) Can a person whose name has changed since registering vote on Election Day?

Yes. An elector desiring to register under a new name, resulting either from a court order or marriage, shall reregister and state on the new affidavit of registration the elector's former legal name. An elector may also correct the voter registration record by providing the new name at the polls and voting a provisional ballot.

REGISTERING OTHERS TO VOTE

13) What are the laws regarding third-party registration?

Organizations and individuals, both on a volunteer and compensation basis, wishing to conduct third party voter registrations efforts must be "authorized" by the county recorder in the county in which they seek to register voters prior to conducting their respective registration efforts. Currently, there is no uniform process for becoming "authorized" by a county recorder, with such process is determined by each individual county recorder. Accordingly, officials with the Elections Division of the Arizona Secretary of State highly recommend that any organization and/or individual wishing to conduct a third-party registration effort communicate directly with the county recorder in each county they wish to conduct a registration effort, well in advance of that effort, in order to clarify the "authorization" process for that county. A list of current County Recorders is available here: www.azsos.gov/election/county.htm.

14) Are there any laws regarding submission of voter registration forms by individuals receiving compensation?

No. There are no express provisions of the Arizona Elections and Electors Code prohibiting the submission of voter registration forms by individuals receiving compensation. However, individuals receiving compensation are still subject to the provisions set forth in Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-134 (see Question 13 above).

15) Is training required for voter registration drives?

No. There is no express training requirement under the Arizona Elections and Electors Code. The Secretary of State, however, does promise that "the voter outreach office [of the Secretary of State] will assist, train and when possible conduct non-partisan voter registration drives throughout the state." The voter outreach coordinator can be contacted at: (602) 364-4700 or by email at the following link: http://www.azsos.gov/info/contact_us.htm?topic=Voter%20Outreach.

16) Are volunteers or staff of voter registration drives required to be county or state residents?

No. The Arizona Elections and Electors Code does not address whether volunteers or staff of voter registration drives are required to be county or state residents.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

17) What is the deadline to register to vote?

For the 2008 general election, registration closes at midnight on Monday, October 6. Arizona requires voters to be registered 29 days before an election. This means that the county recorder must have received the voter's registration by midnight, October 6, 2008.

The only exception to this rule is for servicemen or overseas voters who qualify under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-410; 42 U.S.C. 1973). These voters may validly register if their registration materials are received by 7:00 p.m. on election day.

18) Must organizations or individuals engaged in voter registration drives submit their forms within a certain period of time?

Arizona has no time limits for those conducting voter registration drives. Applications gathered by third parties are considered received on the date they actually arrive at the county recorder's office. Mail-in registrations post-marked at least 29 days prior to the election are valid if the county recorder receives them by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. Mail-in registrations are also valid if dated at least 29 days prior to the election and received by the county recorder within five days after the registration deadline. The date of registration entered for registration forms that are received by the county recorder from persons, groups or agencies that are not authorized to accept registrations pursuant to and that do not bear a legible postmark date or an otherwise reliable date shall be the date that those forms are received by the county recorder.

19) Is Election Day registration allowed?

No. Individuals who register to vote on Election Day will not be permitted to vote in that election. For the registration deadline see **Question 17**.

20) Does state election law allow for early or absentee voting?

Yes, the Arizona Elections and Electors Code provides for early and absentee voting, which also includes home delivery of ballots.

Any eligible voter may take advantage of early voting. Within 90 days preceding the Saturday before election, voters may submit verbal or written requests to the county recorder or other election official for an official early ballot. The election official is then required to send the voter the early ballot, an affidavit, and a pre-paid return envelope within 5 days. If the voter requests the ballot within 23 days preceding the Saturday before the election, the election official must respond within 48 hours. For the early vote to be valid, the envelope with the ballot and affidavit must be received by the election official by 7:00 pm on Election Day.

Generally, otherwise qualifying voters who are temporarily absent from the state may participate in early voting, but they must comply with the same deadlines as regular voters.

However, there is an exception for servicemen and overseas voters who qualify under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-410; 42 U.S.C. 1973). These voters are eligible for absentee voting if they register to vote by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

For more information on absentee voting for military and overseas citizens see the Arizona Absentee Voting Guide at: <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/vag/pdfvag/az.pdf>.

Voters who are unable to go to the polls on election day due to a continuing illness or physical disability and do not wish to vote by the mailed early ballot procedure, may make a verbal or written request to election officials for personal delivery of the ballot. Such requests must be made by 5:00 p.m. on the second Friday before the election. Voters who become ill or disabled after the second Friday, may also request personal delivery, but the law only requires election officials to honor such requests "when possible."

VOTER REGISTRATION LEGISLATION

21) Is there any pending legislation that affects voter registration? If so, where is it in the legislative process?

We are unaware of any pending legislation affecting voter registration.

There is, however, one recently adopted law which affects absentee voters:

Arizona House Bill 2213 – Amending Section 16-543, Arizona Revised Statutes; Relating to Early Voting. This bill amends the election law to allow absentee voters to submit their ballots by email as well as by fax. It was signed by the governor on April 22, 2008.

22) What applicable statutes are possibly affected?

If you would like to read the statutes that generally apply to voter registration, they are under Title 16 of Arizona Revised Statutes Annotated. The most relevant Chapters are:

- § 16, Chapter 1 covering registration; and
- § 16, Chapter 4 covering the conduct of elections, including ballot submissions procedures.

23) Are there any helpful elections official contacts?

For general information, contact the Elections Office of the Arizona Secretary of State:

Arizona Secretary of State
Elections
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2888
1-602-542-8683

For the Voter Outreach Office, which helps conduct non-partisan voter registration drives:

Arizona Secretary of State
Voter Outreach
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2888
1-602-364-4700

(submit questions via internet at: http://www.azsos.gov/info/contact_us.htm?topic=Voter%20Outreach)

24) What web resources are available?

The Arizona Secretary of State has a website providing information on elections, including the voter registration process: <http://www.azsos.gov/election/>. This site includes information on elections generally, deadlines for registration and voting, and absentee voting.

The National Campaign for Fair Elections' Arizona page is another resource:

<http://www.nationalcampaignforfairelections.org/pages/arizona>.