

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

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VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS**1) How can I register to vote?**

You can register in person at your local county election office or at the Secretary of State's office. You can also register through the mail by downloading the Kansas voter registration form from the State Board of Elections website, filling it out, and sending it to your local county election office. The form is available at: <http://www.kssos.org/forms/elections/voterregistration.pdf>. Additionally, the county election officer may make registration forms available at other sites, including many banks, grocery stores, libraries, public events such as county fairs, and other county offices. Your voter registration form must contain your original signature or your computerized, electronic, or digitized transmitted signature.

In addition, you should be aware that each driver's license application and non-driver identification card application, including renewal applications, can serve as a voter registration application.

2) Can I register using the National Voter Registration Form?

Yes. It can be downloaded at: <http://www.eac.gov/voter/Register%20to%20Vote>. Remember that the same signature rule applies if you use the National Voter Registration Form as if you use the Kansas registration form; it must contain your original signature or your computerized, electronic, or digitized transmitted signature.

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

No. According to election officials, voters may download and reproduce the application as needed. The only registration requirement is that the form contains an original or computerized, electronic, or digitized transmitted signature.

4) Is all of my voter registration information publicly available?

No. Though voter registration forms are made publicly available, Kansas requires the removal of the last four digits of your social security number and/or your full driver's license or non-driver's identification card number. You may also ask that your address be removed by submitting a request to the county election officer. In the request, you must state why public availability of your address would be an invasion of privacy or a threat to your safety.

Kansas law also prevents the use of your voter registration information for commercial purposes. Note, however, that political purposes are not considered commercial.

COMPLETING VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

5) Who is qualified to vote in Kansas?

You must be (1) 18 or older, (2) a U.S. citizen, and (3) a resident of Kansas.

6) Do I have to be 18 before I can register to vote?

No. You may register to vote before you turn 18 if you will turn 18 before the next statewide general election.

7) How long must I have lived in Kansas before I am considered a resident?

There is no length-of-residency requirement in Kansas. In order to vote in an election, however, you must have submitted a voter registration application not later than 15 days prior to the election, and you must be a resident in order to do so.

8) Does it matter that I have been convicted of a felony?

Yes. If you have been convicted of a federal or state felony you must complete your sentence before you are eligible to vote. You must also re-register to vote even if you were registered before your conviction.

9) What information am I required to include on a voter registration form?

You must include the following information:

- Full name,
- Place of present residence and when established,
- Date of birth and whether you will be 18 years of age on or before Election Day,
- Sex,
- The last four digits of your social security number or full driver's license or non-driver's identification card number,
- Telephone number, if available,
- Naturalization data, if applicable,
- If you have previously registered or voted elsewhere, residence at time of last registration or voting,
- Name under which you were last registered to vote or voted, if different from present,
- U.S. citizenship status, and
- Party affiliation, if any. Note that if you leave party affiliation blank, you will be registered as an unaffiliated voter.

In addition to the above information, you will also be asked to provide a statement affirming that you:

- Meet each eligibility requirement to vote,
- Understand the penalty for submission of a false voter registration application is a maximum presumptive sentence of 17 months in prison,
- Understand that the decision not to register to vote will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes,
- Understand that if you do register to vote, the office to which your voter registration application is submitted will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes, and
- May be required to provide identification when voting.

If you register through a state agency other than the Division of Motor Vehicles, you must also fill out a form that includes:

- The question “If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today,”
- A statement that the decision not to register to vote will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes, and
- A statement that if you do register to vote, information regarding the office to which your application was submitted will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes .

If you register through a state agency that provides public assistance, you will also see the following on your voter registration form:

- The statement “Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency,”
- Boxes to check to indicate whether you would like to register to vote or if you decline to register to vote, together with the statement: “IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME,”
- The statement “If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private,” and
- The statement “If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the Kansas Secretary of State.”

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

It depends on the type of information that is missing or illegible. Only if you fail to confirm your status as a U.S. citizen will your application be returned to you with a notice of incompleteness. This notice will also specify the period of time in which you must complete the application in order to vote in the next election.

11) I have changed my name since I originally registered. Can I still vote using my old registration?

Yes. You may vote by provisional ballot, or apply for an advance voting ballot, on the condition that you first complete an application for registration. A person registered to vote under a name that has been legally changed since originally registering must re-register to vote under his or her new name to vote by normal ballot.

12) I have moved since I registered to vote. Can I still vote using my old registration?

It depends. If you moved to another address within the same county, you may vote by provisional ballot, or apply for an advance voting ballot, on the condition that you first complete an application for registration. A person registered to vote under a different address not within the same county must re-register in order to vote.

13) Can I vote in Kansas if I am here as a student?

Yes. A person may register to vote using any address he or she considers to be his or her legal residence. Residence means the place adopted by a person as the person’s place of habitation, to which, whenever the person is absent, he or she intends to return. If you consider your college address to be your legal residence, you can vote in Kansas.

14) Do I have to show ID at any point in the voter registration or voting process?

Yes. Kansas state law requires that all first-time voters show identification at one of the following points in the registration process:

- At the time of registration,
- After registration and before Election Day,
- On Election Day, or
- After Election Day and before the county canvass.

15) What forms of identification are acceptable?

Acceptable forms of identification include the following:

- Driver’s license or non-driver’s identification card,
- Bank statement,
- Paycheck,
- Government check,
- Utility bill,
- Other government documents such as Medicare or Medicaid documents,
- Military identification,
- Student identification, or
- Passport.

Voters without valid identification are still permitted to vote via provisional ballot but will be required to sign, under oath, an Affirmation of Identity form affirming their identity.

16) I just moved to Kansas and I have not registered to vote. Is there any way I can vote in the upcoming Presidential election?

Yes. If you moved immediately before a presidential election, you may vote a ballot containing only the Presidential candidates in certain circumstances. They include:

- You are a new resident who moved to Kansas from another state less than 45 days before the Presidential election. If you possess the same qualifications as a normal Kansas voter except the residency requirement you can vote in the Presidential election. It doesn’t matter if you were registered in your prior residence.
- You are a former Kansas resident who is currently registered to vote in Kansas but moved to another state less than 45 days before the Presidential election.
- You are a relocated Kansas resident who moved from one precinct in Kansas where you were registered to vote to another precinct in Kansas within 20 days or less before the Presidential election.

If you are seeking to vote under one of these three categories you must submit an application to your proper Kansas county election officer not later than noon on the Monday preceding Election Day. If the county election officer is satisfied that the application is proper, he or she will deliver a ballot to you not sooner than 25 days before, nor later than the Monday before, Election Day.

REGISTERING OTHERS TO VOTE

17) Can I help people register to vote?

Yes. Any person wishing to conduct a voter registration drive may obtain a supply of application forms and distribute them. Note, however, that voter registration agencies must transmit completed applications to the county election officer not later than five days after receiving them. You must also submit all voter registration applications you collect. The intentional failure to deliver a signed voter registration application as required by law is a felony. All applications sent via mail must be transmitted in envelopes to protect privacy.

18) Can I assist another person in filling out the voter registration application?

Yes.

19) Do I need to obtain special training to conduct a voter registration drive?

No. There is, however, a suggestion in the Kansas Election Standards that persons wanting to conduct a voter registration drive receive training from the county election officer or the Secretary of State's office on issues like how to instruct applicants on completing the voter registration form and the requirements for returning completed forms to the respective county election offices.

20) Do I have to be a county or state resident to work on a voter registration drive there?

No.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

21) What is the deadline to register to vote?

For the 2008 general election, the deadline is Monday, October 20, 2008. Kansas requires voters to be registered not later than 15 days before an election.

If you register by mail, your application must be postmarked no later than the 15th day before Election Day.

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

Yes. Voter registration agencies must submit completed registration applications to the county election officer not later than five days after receiving them.

23) Is Election Day registration allowed?

No.

24) Does Kansas law allow for absentee or early voting?

Yes. Any registered voter is eligible to vote early in any election in which they could vote normally. To vote early you must file an application for an Advance Voting Ballot with your county election office. This application is available at <http://www.kssos.org/forms/elections/AVI.pdf>.

For the 2008 general election, applications for advance voting ballots to be transmitted to the voter by mail may be submitted between August 6, 2008 and October 31, 2008. Kansas law provides that such an application be submitted between 90 days prior to Election Day and the last business day of the week preceding Election Day. After you submit your application, an advance ballot will be mailed to you. You should not expect the ballot until just before the election, as the county election office will not mail it until 20 days before Election Day. Once you receive the ballot, fill it out and return it to the county election office in the return identification envelope provided. All ballots must be received in the county election office by the close of polls on Election Day to be counted.

Unless an earlier date is designated by the county election office, applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person in the office of the county election officer shall be filed on the Tuesday next preceding the election and on each subsequent business day until no later than 12:00 noon on the day preceding such election.

VOTER REGISTRATION LEGISLATION

25) Is there any pending legislation that affects voter registration?

We are unaware of any pending legislation or recent developments in voter registration legislation in Kansas.

26) Who should I contact if I have further questions?

For more information, contact the Kansas Secretary of State at:
Memorial Hall 1st Floor
120 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66612-1594
1-785-296-4561

27) Are there helpful web resources I should know about?

The Kansas Secretary of State has a website dedicated to providing information on the voter registration process: <http://www.voteks.org/guide/voting.html>. This site includes resources such as frequently asked questions, absentee ballots, and special provisions for military personnel.

The National Campaign for Fair Elections is another resource:
<http://www.nationalcampaignforfairelections.com/pages/kansas>.