

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

This guide is designed for informational purposes only. It is not legal advice and is not intended to create an attorney-client relationship. The Election Protection Coalition does not warrant any information contained in this guide, nor does the Coalition suggest that the information in this guide should be used as a basis to pursue legal advice or decision making.

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

There are several ways to get a voter registration form. Residents of Nevada can register to vote at any Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles office, at their County Clerk/Registrar of Voters' office, various social service agencies and on college campuses. A list of County Clerk/Registrar of Voters' offices is available online at: <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/voter/clerks.asp>.

Although Nevada law does not provide for online voter registration, one may obtain a copy of the federal voter registration application online at: <http://www.eac.gov/files/voter/nvra-update-09-12-06.pdf>.

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

Yes. The State of Nevada does not accept photocopied voter registration forms.

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

No. The official Nevada Voter Registration Application and federally authorized voter registration applications will be accepted in the State of Nevada. Federally authorized forms include the National Voter Registration Form (prescribed by the Federal Election Assistance Commission) and military/overseas citizen voter registration applications (prescribed by the Federal Voting Assistance Program).

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

Any person can obtain a copy of any list of the persons who are registered to vote in any precinct, district or county by applying at the office of the county clerk and paying a sum equal to 1 cent per name on the list. One copy of each original and supplemental list for each precinct, district or county must be provided both to the state central committee of any major political party and the county central committee of any major political party, and to the executive committee of any minor political party upon request, without charge.

The list should contain the address, date of birth, telephone number and the serial number on each application to register to vote unless the voter had requested that his address and telephone number be withheld from public or the voter is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking who

registered using a fictitious address. It will not contain the voter's driver's license number or social security number.

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

Yes. An application must not be marked, stamped, or partially or fully completed by anyone other than the applicant who is attempting to register to vote or another person who is assisting the applicant after being requested by the applicant to do so.

COMPLETING VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

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

You must be a resident of your county and the State of Nevada for at least 30 days, and a resident of your current precinct for at least 10 days before the election date.

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

A person may register to vote using any address she considers to be her residence. A residence is any place where a person actually resides with the intent of staying. A post office box is not a residence.

A student does not automatically lose his residence while absent attending a university. However, if a student considers his dorm or his address at school his residence, he can register to vote there. Please note that no one can register and vote in two places.

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

A person may register to vote using any address she considers to be her residence. A residence is any place where a person lives with the intent of staying. A student does not automatically lose his residence while absent attending a university.

There is also an identification requirement for first time voters who vote by mail. To fulfill this requirement the first time voter must provide a copy of an acceptable form of identification with either his registration application or absent ballot request form pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act. Forms of ID may include:

- (a) Current Nevada Driver's License;
- (b) Current Nevada State Identification Card;
- (c) Rent receipt with pre-printed address;
- (d) Current bank statement or pre-printed check;
- (e) Credit card statement;
- (f) Car registration or proof of insurance;
- (g) Government document (tax bill, income information); and
- (h) Current utility bill.

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

Yes. The applicant must submit official identification as proof of residence and identity, such as a driver's license or other official document, before registering him. If the applicant fails to provide

proof of his residence and identity, the applicant must provide proof of his residence and identity before casting a ballot in person or by mail or after casting a provisional ballot.

In addition, the registration form requires an applicant's Nevada driver's license number or the last four digits of the applicant's social security number. If this information is not available, the applicant must sign an affidavit stating that he does not have a current and valid Nevada driver's license or a social security number. Upon receipt of the affidavit, the county clerk will issue an identification number to the applicant which must be the same number as the unique identifier assigned to the applicant for purposes of the statewide voter registration list.

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

Generally, if a person's name appears in the election board register and the registration has not been otherwise cancelled by the county clerk, he may vote. He must sign his name in the election board register when he applies to vote. His signature will be compared by an election board officer with the signature on his registration form or one of the following forms of identification:

- (a) The card issued to the voter at the time he registered to vote;
- (b) A driver's license;
- (c) An identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles;
- (d) A military identification card; or
- (e) Any other form of identification issued by a governmental agency which contains the voter's signature and physical description or picture.

Additionally, if a voter's name is not on the election board register, and he or she alleges that the records incorrectly indicate that he or she has changed residence, he or she may orally inform the election board officer, and once this occurs must be allowed to vote.

Please be aware of the identification requirement for first time voters who vote by mail. Please see **Question 8** above for more information.

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

If the county clerk determines that the registration form is incomplete, he shall, as soon as possible, mail a notice to the applicant informing him that additional information is required to complete the application. If the applicant provides the information requested by the county clerk within 15 days after the county clerk mails the notice, the county clerk shall, within 10 days after he receives the information, mail to the applicant:

- (a) A notice informing him that he is registered to vote and a voter registration card; or
- (b) A notice informing him that the registrar of voters' register has been corrected to reflect any changes indicated on the application.

If the applicant fails to provide the additional information within the prescribed period, the application is void.

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

Yes. An applicant who already registered to vote under a name that has been legally changed since originally registering must complete a new application to register to vote. If the voter has not done this, he or she may attempt to vote, but is subject to challenge and may be required to furnish proof of identity and subsequent change of name.

REGISTERING OTHERS TO VOTE

13) What are the laws regarding third party registration?

Generally, any individual or organization may conduct a voter registration drive in Nevada. However, requests of 50 or more voter registration applications require the completion of a Mail Distribution Plan. A copy of the Mail Distribution Plan can be obtained at the offices of the Nevada Secretary of State or local County Clerks/Registrars and is also available online at: <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/voter/pdf/MailDistributionPlan0001.pdf>.

A person who registers to vote by mail may be assisted in completing the application to register to vote by any other person. The application must include the mailing address and signature of the person who assisted the applicant. The willful failure to provide this information is a felony. If the person who assisted in the application to register retains the completed form to be submitted on behalf of the applicant, he must enter his name on the duplicate copy or receipt retained by the voter upon completion of the form.

Applications left in custody of the person or organization conducting the drive must be returned to the County Clerk/Registrar within 10 days after completion.

A person assisting an applicant in completing the registration form shall not refuse to register a person on account of that person's party affiliation, and shall not solicit a vote for or against a particular question or candidate, speak to an applicant on the subject of marking his ballot for or against a particular question or candidate, or distribute any petition or other material concerning a candidate or question which will be on the ballot for the ensuing election, while he is registering an applicant.

For more information, please see the Guide to Conducting Voter Registration Drives in Nevada available at: <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/voter/pdf/VoterRegistrationDrives.pdf>.

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

Yes. It is unlawful for a person to provide compensation for registering voters that is based upon the total number of voters a person registers or the total number of voters a person registers in a particular political party. A violation of this provision is a category E felony.

15) Is training or registration with state required for registration drives?

Training is not required with the state in order to participate in a voter registration drive. However, please note that requests of 50 or more voter registration applications require the completion of a Mail Distribution Plan. Please see **Question 13** for more information.

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

No such restrictions were found in the Nevada statutes or administrative codes.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

17) What is the deadline to register to vote?

Primary Election:

July 12, 2008, if you register to vote by mail.

July 22, 2008, if you register to vote in person.

General Election:

October 4, 2008, if you register to vote by mail.

October 14, 2008, if you register to vote in person.

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

Yes. Applications left in custody of the person or organization conducting the drive must be returned to the County Clerk/Registrar within 10 days after completion.

19) Is Election Day registration allowed?

No. Election Day registration is not currently available in Nevada. For the registration deadline, see **Question 17**.

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

Yes. Any registered voter may vote early in person between July 26 and August 8 for the Primary and between October 18 and October 31 for the General Election at his County Clerk's Office or at temporary polling places to be established by the County Clerk. Contact information for County Clerk Offices is available at <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/voter/clerks.asp>.

Any registered voter may also vote early by mail by applying for an absentee ballot no later than August 5 for the Primary or October 28 for the General Election. An application for an absentee ballot must be submitted to the voter's local County Clerk's Office, contact information for which is available at <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/voter/clerks.asp>. Please note that all absent ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day in order to be counted.

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 in Nevada. However, on the federal level, on March 6, 2008, Nevada Congressman Dean Heller introduced the American Elections Act (HR 5971) to require English only ballots for federal elections. The American Elections Act would modify the Voting Rights Act and the Help America Vote Act to require ballots and other official federal election materials to be printed in English. Ballot materials will still be made available in Native American and Alaska Native dialects.

22) What applicable statutes are possibly affected?

Various Nevada Revised Statutes govern voter registration, including:

- § 293.270-293.307 Voting at Polls;

- § 293.3081-293.3086 Voting by Provisional Ballot;
- § 293.309-293.340 Absent Ballot Voting;
- § 293.356-293.361 Early Voting by Personal Appearance; and
- § 293.485-293.567 Registration of Voters; Registrars.

Various Nevada Administrative Codes govern voter registration, including:

- §293.220-293.255 Voting at Polls;
- §293.270-293.270 Voting by Provisional Ballot;
- §293.291-293.311 Absent Ballot Voting; and
- §293.395-293.450 Registration of Voters.

23) Are there any helpful elections official contacts?

Nevada Secretary of State, Elections Division:
Lindy Johnson, (775) 684-7126
Raji Rai-Nielsen, (775) 684-5650

24) What web resources are available?

Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles:
<http://www.dmvnv.com/dlvote.htm>.

Nevada Secretary of State:
<http://secretaryofstate.biz/elections/voter/registration.asp>.

National Campaign for Fair Elections:
<http://www.nationalcampaignforfairelections.org/pages/nevada>