

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Eligibility

You are qualified to register to vote in Ohio if you meet all the following requirements:

1. You are a citizen of the United States.
2. You will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the general election.
3. You will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote.
4. You are not incarcerated (in prison) for a felony conviction under the laws of this state, another state or the United States.
5. You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court.
6. You have not been permanently disfranchised for violations of the election laws.

You are eligible to vote in elections held in your voting precinct more than 30 consecutive days after you are properly registered to vote in this state.

Registration Deadlines

Your properly completed voter registration form must be postmarked or received by the 30th day before the election for which you wish to vote. In accordance with state law, if the statutory voter registration deadline falls on a day when offices of the Secretary of State and county board of elections are closed, the deadline is extended to the next succeeding business day when the appropriate office is open.

Example:

October 10 for the November 7, 2006 general election

Additionally, anyone entrusted to return a completed voter registration form on behalf of another person shall return the completed form to any board of elections or the office of the Secretary of State within 10 days after the registration form is completed, or on or before the 30th day before the election, whichever day is earlier. R.C. 3599.11(B)(2)(a)

Submitting Your Own Voter Registration Application

You may return your own completed voter registration form in person or by U.S. Mail to any of the following public offices:

- Any county board of elections;
- Secretary of State's office;
- Any designated agency that provides public assistance or disability programs;
- County treasurer;
- Any public high school or vocational school; or
- Any public library.

Notice from County Board of Elections

Within 20 business days after receiving your properly completed voter registration form, your county board of elections must register you to vote and promptly notify you by mail of your precinct, polling location and the identification requirements for voting.

NOTICE TO ALL VOTERS

R.C. 3503.28(A)(6)

“Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid photo identification, a military identification that shows the voter’s name and current address, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of an election or a voter registration notification sent by a board of elections, that shows the voter’s name and current address. Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by providing the last four digits of the voter’s social security number and by casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not have any of the above forms of identification, including a social security number, will still be able to vote by signing an affirmation swearing to the voter’s identity under penalty of election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot.”

(The above requirement is effective June 1, 2006)

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.

PENALTIES

Knowingly aid or abet any person to register in violation of law: 5th degree felony; R.C. 3599.11(A).

Knowingly destroy, or help to destroy, any completed voter registration form: 5th degree felony; R.C. 3599.11(B)(1).

Failing to timely return any voter registration form entrusted to you to a board of elections or the Secretary of State: 5th degree felony or 1st degree misdemeanor; R.C. 3599.11(B)(2).

Receiving improper compensation: 5th degree felony; R.C. 3599.111.

For more information about registering and voting in Ohio, you may request a copy of the Voter Information Guide from a county board of elections or the Secretary of State’s office, or access the Guide online at www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/publicAffairs/VoterGuide.aspx.

VOTER REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

(Section 3503.28 of the Revised Code of Ohio)

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