

## I-866-OUR-VOTE

### VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

#### 1) Where can voter registration forms be obtained?

Online: <http://www.sos.ca.gov/nvrc/fedform/>

In person: at your local library, post office, or county elections office (see back page for locations).

By phone: I-800-345-VOTE / English I-800-232-VOTA / Español (Spanish)  
I-800-339-2857 / 中文 (Chinese) I-866-575-1558 / 한국어 (Korean)  
I-800-339-2865 / 日本語 (Japanese) I-800-339-2957 / Tagalog  
I-800-339-8163 / Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

#### 2) Are there restrictions on copying voter registration forms?

A photocopied or otherwise duplicated voter registration card may not be used.

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

The National Voter Registration Form can be used in California. Cal. Elec. Code § 2162. Visit <http://www.eac.gov/voter/> and click “Register to Vote.” Voter registration drives using the National Voter Registration Form are subject to the same requirements described in Questions #13–16. If using the National Voter Registration Form in California, the political party affiliation and race/ethnicity fields may be left blank.

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

Commercial use of voter registration information is prohibited by law and is a misdemeanor. Election officials will use voter registration information to send you official information on the voting process, such as the location of your polling place and the issues and candidates that will appear on the ballot.

Voter information may be provided to a candidate for office, a ballot measure committee, or other person for election, scholarly, journalistic, political, or governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State. **Driver’s license numbers, social security numbers, and your signature are confidential and will not be released for these purposes.** Cal. Elec. Code § 2138.5.

If you have any questions about the use of voter information or wish to report suspected misuse of such information, please call the Secretary of State’s Voter Protection and Assistance Hotline at I-800-345-VOTE.

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

Cards with pre-filled blanks may not be used unless specifically authorized by the Secretary of State. Cal. Elec. Code § 2162(b).

## **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 county or city in which the person intends to register for a minimum of 15 days prior to a primary or general election. Cal. Elec. Code § 332.

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

A P.O. Box or business address may not be used as a residence address. A college campus or dorm address may be used if the resident does not intend to return to his or her home state after college. Cal. Elec. Code § 2025.

### **8) Can a person register to vote at a college address that is not a permanent address?**

If you do not intend to return to your home state after college, you may register to vote using your college address. Cal. Elec. Code § 2025.

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

When registering to vote, you must provide your driver's license or state identification card number. If you do not have a current and valid driver's license, you must provide the last four digits of your social security number. If you have none of the above, the state will assign you a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes only. Cal. Elec. Code § 2150(a)(7)(C).

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

Some people who registered by mail for the first time in California and did not fill in their identification number (see Question #9) may have to show identification when they vote at a polling place, or include a photocopy of their ID with their absentee ballot.

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

If the form is missing required information, an elections official will call you to collect it. If he or she cannot collect the missing information by telephone, he or she will inform you by mail of the reason for rejection and will send you a new voter registration card. Cal. Elec. Code § 2153(b).

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

Yes. A person whose name has changed is encouraged, but not required, to re-register under the new name. Cal. Elec. Code § 2115. A person who is already registered but whose name has changed after the registration period closes should contact the local country elections office.

## **REGISTERING OTHERS TO VOTE**

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

California Elections Code Section 2158(b) states:

“The county elections official must . . . [p]rovide voter registration cards in sufficient quantities to any citizens or organizations who wish to distribute the cards other than to persons who have been convicted of violating this section within the last five years. Citizens and organizations shall be permitted to distribute voter registration cards anywhere within the county.

(1) If, after completing his or her voter registration affidavit, an elector entrusts it to another person, the latter shall sign and date the attached, numbered receipt indicating his or her address and telephone number, if any, and give the receipt to the elector. Failure to comply with this paragraph shall not cause the invalidation of the registration of a voter.

(2) Any citizen or organization that distributes voter registration cards shall give a voter registration card to any elector requesting it, provided that the citizen or organization has a sufficient number of cards.

(3) If distribution of voter registration cards pursuant to this subdivision is undertaken by mailing cards to persons who have not requested the cards, the person mailing the cards shall enclose a cover letter or other notice with each card instructing the recipients to disregard the cards if they are currently registered voters.

Additional laws and guidelines can be found on pages 18–23 of the Secretary of State’s *Guide to Voter Registration in California*, available at [http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/guidetovr\\_1006.pdf](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/guidetovr_1006.pdf).

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

Any person, company, or organization that is paying people to assist others in registering to vote must make sure that the people they have hired for this purpose properly complete Box 12 of the voter registration form. California Elections Code Section 2159.5 lists the legal responsibilities of individuals giving or receiving compensation for submitting voter registration forms.

### **15) Is training required for voter registration drives?**

Training is not required, but helpful training information can be found on page 20 of the Secretary of State’s *Guide to Voter Registration in California*, available at [http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/guidetovr\\_1006.pdf](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/guidetovr_1006.pdf).

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

No, they are not.

## **REGISTRATION DEADLINES**

### **17) What is the deadline to register to vote?**

For the 2008 general election, the deadline is **Monday, October 20, 2008**. California requires voters to be registered 15 days before an election. Cal. Elec. Code § 2102(a).

### **18) Is the registration form submission deadline different from the voter registration deadline?**

Generally not. For the 2008 general election, the deadline is **Monday, October 20, 2008**. California requires voters to be registered 15 days before an election. Cal. Elec. Code § 2102(a).

### **19) Is Election Day registration allowed?**

No. If your registration status is in doubt on Election Day, you may cast a provisional ballot. Cal. Elec. Code §§ 14310–12. However, provisional ballots are not reported until 35 days after the election (Cal. Elec. Code § 15375) and in many cases are not counted at all.

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

Any registered voter may vote early in California. Check with your local county elections official (see back page) for instructions.

Any registered voter may vote by mail in California. Cal. Elec. Code § 3003. You must apply in writing to your county elections official before the 7th day before the election (October 28, 2008). For more information, visit [http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_m.htm](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_m.htm).

## **VOTER REGISTRATION LEGISLATION**

### **21) Is there any pending legislation that effects voter registration?**

One bill, AB 1819, would authorize a person who is at least 16 years of age and otherwise meets all voter eligibility requirements to submit his or her affidavit of registration.

Another, AB 2371, affects the procedures for automatic voter registration already in place when citizens apply for driver's licenses or file personal income tax returns.

All pending legislation can be found here: <http://www.ncsl.org/programs/legismgt/elect/elections.cfm>.

### **22) What applicable statutes are possibly affected?**

If you would like to read the statutes that generally apply to voter registration, they are under Division 2 of the California Elections Code.

- §§ 2100–24 on voter registration generally;
- §§ 2135–43 on registration procedures; and

- §§ 3000–24 on absentee voting.

**23) Are there any helpful elections official contacts?**

For more information, contact the Elections Division of the California Secretary of State's Office:

1500 11th Street, 5th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Ph: (800) 345-VOTE (8683)  
Fax: (916) 653-3214

**24) What web resources are available?**

The California Secretary of State has a website dedicated to providing information on the voter registration process: [www.ss.ca.gov/elections](http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections).

The National Campaign for Fair Elections is another resource:  
<http://nationalcampaignforfairelections.org/pages/california>.

## COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIALS CONTACT INFORMATION

County	Address	Phone	Online Contact
Alameda	1225 Fallon St., Rm. G-1, Oakland, CA 94612	(510) 272-6933	<a href="http://www.acgov.org/rov/index.htm">www.acgov.org/rov/index.htm</a>
Alpine	P.O. Box 158, Markleeville, CA 96120	(530) 694-2281	<a href="http://www.alpinecountyca.gov/departments/county_clerk">www.alpinecountyca.gov/departments/county_clerk</a>
Amador	810 Court St., Jackson, CA 95642	(209) 223-6465	<a href="http://www.co.amador.ca.us/depts/elections/index.htm">www.co.amador.ca.us/depts/elections/index.htm</a>
Butte	25 County Center Dr., Oroville, CA 95965	(800) 894-7761	<a href="http://clerk-recorder.buttecounty.net">http://clerk-recorder.buttecounty.net</a>
Calaveras	891 Mountain Ranch Rd., San Andreas, CA 95249	(209) 754-6376	<a href="http://www.co.calaveras.ca.us/departments/recorder.asp">www.co.calaveras.ca.us/departments/recorder.asp</a>
Colusa	546 Jay St., Suite 200, Colusa, CA 95932	(530) 458-0500	<a href="http://www.colusacountyclerk.com">www.colusacountyclerk.com</a>
Contra Costa	P.O. Box 271, Martinez, CA 94553	(925) 335-7800	<a href="http://www.cocovote.us">www.cocovote.us</a>
Del Norte	981 H St., Rm. 160, Crescent City, CA 95531	(707) 465-0383	E-mail: <a href="mailto:elections@co.del-norte.ca.us">elections@co.del-norte.ca.us</a>
El Dorado	P.O. Box 678001, Placerville, CA 95667	(530) 621-7480	<a href="http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/elections">www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/elections</a>
Fresno	2221 Kern St., Fresno, CA 93721	(559) 488-3246	<a href="http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/2850/index.html">www.co.fresno.ca.us/2850/index.html</a>
Glenn	516 W. Sycamore St., Willows, CA 95988	(530) 934-6414	<a href="http://www.countyofglenn.net/Elections/home_page.asp">www.countyofglenn.net/Elections/home_page.asp</a>
Humboldt	3033 H St., Rm. 20, Eureka, CA 95501	(707) 445-7481	<a href="http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/election">www.co.humboldt.ca.us/election</a>
Imperial	940 W. Main St., Suite 202, El Centro, CA 92243	(760) 482-4226	<a href="http://www.imperialcounty.net/Election">www.imperialcounty.net/Election</a>
Inyo	P.O. Box F, Independence, CA 93526	(760) 878-0224	<a href="http://www.countyofinyo.org/Recorder/RecorderElectionsWebsite.htm">www.countyofinyo.org/Recorder/RecorderElectionsWebsite.htm</a>
Kern	1115 Truxtun Ave., 1st Fl., Bakersfield, CA 93301	(800) 452-8683	<a href="http://elections.co.kern.ca.us/elections/">http://elections.co.kern.ca.us/elections/</a>
Kings	1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA 93230	(559) 582-3211	<a href="http://www.countyofkings.com/acr/elections/index.html">www.countyofkings.com/acr/elections/index.html</a>
Lake	255 N. Forbes St., Lakeport, CA 95453	(707) 263-2372	<a href="http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/DepartmentDirectory/Registrar_of_Voters.htm">www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/DepartmentDirectory/Registrar_of_Voters.htm</a>
Lassen	220 S. Lassen St., Suite 5, Susanville, CA 96130	(530) 251-8217	<a href="http://clerk.lassencounty.org/registrar.htm">http://clerk.lassencounty.org/registrar.htm</a>
Los Angeles	P.O. Box 1024, Norwalk, CA 90651	(800) 815-2666	<a href="http://www.lavote.net">www.lavote.net</a>
Madera	200 W. 4th St., Madera, CA 93637	(559) 675-7720	<a href="http://www.madera-county.com/countyclerk/index.html">www.madera-county.com/countyclerk/index.html</a>
Marin	P.O. Box E, San Rafael, CA 94913	(415) 499-6456	<a href="http://co.marin.ca.us/depts/RV/main/index.cfm">http://co.marin.ca.us/depts/RV/main/index.cfm</a>
Mariposa	P.O. Box 247, Mariposa, CA 95338	(209) 966-2007	<a href="http://www.mariposacounty.org">www.mariposacounty.org</a>
Mendocino	501 Low Gap Rd., Rm. 1020, Ukiah, CA 95482	(707) 463-4371	<a href="http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/acr/elections.htm">www.co.mendocino.ca.us/acr/elections.htm</a>
Merced	2222 M St., Rm. 14, Merced, CA 95340	(209) 385-7541	<a href="http://www.co.merced.ca.us/elections/">www.co.merced.ca.us/elections/</a>
Modoc	204 S. Court St., Alturas, CA 96101	(530) 233-6200	E-mail: <a href="mailto:judi_stevens@modocounty.us">judi_stevens@modocounty.us</a>
Mono	P.O. Box 237, Bridgeport, CA 93517	(760) 932-5537	<a href="http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/departments/elections/elections.html">www.monocounty.ca.gov/departments/elections/elections.html</a>
Monterey	P.O. Box 4400, Salinas, CA 93912	(831) 796-1499	<a href="http://MontereyCountyElections.us">http://MontereyCountyElections.us</a>
Napa	900 Coombs St., Rm. 256, Napa, CA 94559	(707) 253-4321	<a href="http://www.co.napa.ca.us/Gov/Departments/DeptDefault.asp?DID=13600">www.co.napa.ca.us/Gov/Departments/DeptDefault.asp?DID=13600</a>
Nevada	950 Maidu Ave., Nevada City, CA 95959	(530) 265-1298	<a href="http://new.mynevadacounty.com/elections/">http://new.mynevadacounty.com/elections/</a>
Orange	P.O. Box 11298, Santa Ana, CA 92711	(714) 567-7600	<a href="http://www.ocvote.com">www.ocvote.com</a>
Placer	P.O. Box 5278, Auburn, CA 95604	(530) 886-5650	<a href="http://www.placer.ca.gov/elections">www.placer.ca.gov/elections</a>
Plumas	520 Main St., Rm. 102, Quincy, CA 95971	(530) 283-6256	<a href="http://www.countyofplumas.com/clerkrecorder/elections/">www.countyofplumas.com/clerkrecorder/elections/</a>
Riverside	2724 Gateway Dr., Riverside, CA 92507	(951) 486-7200	<a href="http://www.voteinfo.net">www.voteinfo.net</a>
Sacramento	7000 65th St., Sacramento, CA 95823	(916) 875-6451	<a href="http://www.saccounty.net/elections">www.saccounty.net/elections</a>
San Benito	440 Fifth St., Rm. 206, Hollister, CA 95023	(831) 636-4029	<a href="http://www.sbcvot.us/">www.sbcvot.us/</a>
San Bernardino	777 East Rialto Ave., San Bernardino, CA 92415	(909) 387-8300	<a href="http://www.sbcounty.gov/rov/general_info/default.asp">www.sbcounty.gov/rov/general_info/default.asp</a>
San Diego	P.O. Box 85656, San Diego, CA 92186	(800) 696-0136	<a href="http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/voters/Eng/Eindex.html">www.sdcounty.ca.gov/voters/Eng/Eindex.html</a>
San Francisco	1 Carlton B Goodlett Pl., Rm. 48, SF, CA 94102	(415) 554-4375	<a href="http://www.sfgov.org/site/elections_index.asp">www.sfgov.org/site/elections_index.asp</a>
San Joaquin	P.O. Box 810, Stockton, CA 95201	(209) 468-2885	<a href="http://www.sjcrov.org">www.sjcrov.org</a>
San Luis Obispo	1055 Monterey St., Rm. D-120, SLO, CA 93408	(805) 781-5228	<a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk.htm">www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk.htm</a>
San Mateo	40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402	(650) 312-5222	<a href="http://www.shapethefuture.org">www.shapethefuture.org</a>
Santa Barbara	P.O. Box 159, Santa Barbara, CA 93102	(805) 568-2200	<a href="http://www.sbcvot.com">www.sbcvot.com</a>
Santa Clara	P.O. Box 1147, San Jose, CA 95108	(408) 299-8683	<a href="http://www.sccvot.org">www.sccvot.org</a>
Santa Cruz	701 Ocean St., Rm. 210, Santa Cruz, CA 95060	(831) 454-2060	<a href="http://www.votescount.com">www.votescount.com</a>
Shasta	P.O. Box 990880, Redding, CA 96099	(530) 225-5730	<a href="http://www.elections.co.shasta.ca.us">www.elections.co.shasta.ca.us</a>
Sierra	P.O. Drawer D, Downieville, CA 95936	(530) 289-3295	<a href="http://www.sierracounty.ws">www.sierracounty.ws</a>
Siskiyou	510 N. Main St., Yreka, CA 96097	(530) 842-8084	<a href="http://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/clerk/index.htm">www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/clerk/index.htm</a>
Solano	675 Texas St., Ste 2600, Fairfield, CA 94533	(707) 784-6675	<a href="http://www.solanocounty.com">www.solanocounty.com</a>
Sonoma	P.O. Box 11485, Santa Rosa, CA 95406	(707) 565-6800	<a href="http://www.sonoma-county.org/regvoter/index.htm">www.sonoma-county.org/regvoter/index.htm</a>
Stanislaus	1021 I St., Suite 101, Modesto, CA 95354	(209) 525-5200	<a href="http://slanvote.com">http://slanvote.com</a>
Sutter	1435 Veterans Mem'l Cir., Yuba City, CA 95993	(530) 822-7122	<a href="http://www.co.sutter.ca.us">www.co.sutter.ca.us</a>
Tehama	P.O. Box 250, Red Bluff, CA 96080	(530) 527-8190	<a href="http://www.co.tehama.ca.us">www.co.tehama.ca.us</a>
Trinity	P.O. Box 1215, Weaverville, CA 96093	(530) 623-1220	<a href="http://www.trinitycounty.org/Departments/assessor-clerk-elect/elections.htm">www.trinitycounty.org/Departments/assessor-clerk-elect/elections.htm</a>
Tulare	5951 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277	(559) 733-6275	<a href="http://www.tularecoelections.org">www.tularecoelections.org</a>
Tuolumne	2 S. Green St., Sonora, CA 95370	(209) 533-5570	<a href="http://portal.co.tuolumne.ca.us/">http://portal.co.tuolumne.ca.us/</a>
Ventura	800 S. Victoria Ave., L-1200, Ventura, CA 93009	(805) 654-2781	<a href="http://recorder.countyofventura.org/elections.htm">http://recorder.countyofventura.org/elections.htm</a>
Yolo	P.O. Box 1820, Woodland, CA 95776	(530) 666-8133	<a href="http://www.yoloelections.org">www.yoloelections.org</a>
Yuba	915 8th St., Suite 107, Marysville, CA 95901	(530) 749-7855	<a href="http://elections.co.yuba.ca.us/">http://elections.co.yuba.ca.us/</a>