

## Voter Registration

- ❖ To register to vote, you must:
  - be a U.S. citizen and a Kentucky resident for at least 28 days before the election;
  - be at least 18 years old by the next general election.
  - not be a convicted felon, or else have had your civil rights restored;
  - not have been adjudged mentally incompetent and had voting rights removed;
  - not claim the right to vote outside Kentucky.
- ❖ You can register to vote via mail or at:
  - County clerk's office;
  - Driver's license office, if applying for or renewing your driver's license;
  - K-TAP, SNAP, Medicaid, WIC and state-funded offices serving individuals with disabilities, if a client of the office; or
  - Armed Forces Recruitment offices, if a prospective member of the armed forces.
  - Online Portal at [www.elect.ky.gov](http://www.elect.ky.gov), if a qualified military or overseas voter.
- ❖ Update your voter registration if you move.
  - Within the county: notify the county clerk of your new address or update your driver's license. The county clerk will tell you the location of your new precinct. If you do not do this before Election Day, you must go to the voting precinct for your new address and update your voter registration address.
  - Outside the county more than 28 days before an election: update your voter registration address with the county clerk or update your driver's license at least 29 days prior to the election. If you do not notify the county clerk in either your old or new county of residence 29 days before an election, you are not eligible to vote in either county.
  - Outside the county less than 29 days before the election: you may vote in your previous county of residence, but you must immediately register to vote in your new county of residence.
  - If you change your name, either renew or update your driver's license, notify the county clerk by writing or visiting his/her office, or fill out a new voter registration card.
- ❖ Applications to register to vote must be turned in to the county clerk's office by COB or postmarked at least 29 days prior to the election.

*KRS Chapter 116.*

## Absentee Voting

*KRS 117.085, KRS117.087*

- ❖ **Mail-in Absentee Ballots:** Applications for mail-in absentee ballots must be received by Oct. 27. Voters eligible for a mail-in absentee ballot are:
  - Military personnel, their dependents, and overseas citizens
  - Students who temporarily reside outside the county
  - Voters who temporarily reside outside Kentucky (e.g., vacationers)
  - Voters who are incarcerated but have not yet been convicted
  - Voters whose employment takes them outside the county for all days and hours the polling place is open
  - Voters of advanced age or who suffer from disability or illness
  - Voters who are participants in the Secretary of State's Address Confidentiality Program
- ❖ **Voting Machine Absentee Ballots:** county boards of elections must begin in-person absentee voting *at least* 12 working days before the election. Voters who may vote absentee in person are:
  - Military personnel, their dependents, and overseas citizens who are absent from the county on election day
  - Military confined to a military base and who learn of that confinement within 7 days or less of an election
  - Student temporarily residing out of county
  - Voter, and spouse, who have surgery scheduled that will require hospitalization
  - Voter who will be absent from the county
  - Woman in her last trimester of pregnancy
  - Precinct officer appointed to serve in a precinct other than that in which he or she is registered, alternate, county board of elections' members and staff, deputy clerks, and State Board of Elections' staff
- ❖ Counting of absentee ballots will begin not before 10 a.m. on Election Day, and results will not be released until after 6 p.m., prevailing time.
- ❖ Information contained in absentee ballot applications will not be made public until after close of business on Election Day. *KRS 117.085(10) and KRS 117.086(7)*

## Voter Information Center (VIC)

Visit the Voter Information Center at [www.elect.ky.gov](http://www.elect.ky.gov) to determine whether you are registered to vote, where to vote, and to view a sample ballot for your county.

## Online Portal for Military & Overseas Voters

- ❖ Military and overseas voters covered by *KRS 117A* may utilize an online portal at [www.elect.ky.gov](http://www.elect.ky.gov) to:
  - Register to vote
  - Update registration information
  - Request and receive an absentee ballot

## Voting Equipment

- ❖ The SBE certifies voting machines that can be sold in Kentucky. Voting machines are purchased by the county fiscal court.
- ❖ Every polling location has a voting machine accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- ❖ For a detailed listing of voting machines by county, please visit [www.elect.ky.gov](http://www.elect.ky.gov).
- ❖ The county board of elections has the discretion to choose which voting equipment to use on Election Day, as long as the requirements of state and federal law are met.

## Election Day

- ❖ **Hours of Voting:** 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., prevailing time. At 6 p.m. the Precinct Sheriff goes to the end of the line and stays there until everyone in front of him/her has voted. Anyone in line by 6 p.m. is given the opportunity to vote.
- ❖ **Voter Identification:** All voters must produce identification or be known by a precinct officer prior to voting. Acceptable types of ID are personal acquaintance of precinct officer, driver's license, Social Security card, credit card, or another form of ID containing both picture and signature. *KRS 117.227 and 31 KAR 4:010.*

## Number of Registered Voters as of July 31, 2015

Democrat: 1,684,726  
Republican: 1,249,568  
Other: 179,964  
**Total: 3,189,644**

**Registration Deadline:** October 5, 2015

# KENTUCKY 2015 GENERAL ELECTION GUIDE



*Alison Lundergan Grimes*  
*Secretary of State*  
*Chief Election Official*

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## Electioneering

- ❖ On Election Day, no person may electioneer within 100 feet of a polling place. However, the restriction does not apply to private property, exit polling, or bumper stickers on vehicles that are present for a reasonable amount of time in which to vote. *31 KAR 4:180E.*
- ❖ During the hours absentee voting is conducted, no person shall electioneer within the interior of a building or affix any electioneering materials to the exterior or interior of a building designated by the county board of elections and approved by the SBE for absentee voting. *31 KAR 4:180E.*

*31 KAR 4:180E.*

## Who is Allowed in the Voting Room?

*KRS 117.235, 117.255 and 31 KAR 4:090*

- Precinct Election Officers
- Voters
- Anyone assisting a voter
- Voting machine technicians
- A minor child accompanying a voter
- Duly appointed challengers
- Law enforcement officers
- Representatives conducting mock elections for school children
- Members of the media

## Voter Assistance

- ❖ Voters with physical disability, blindness or inability to read English may request voting assistance at the polls on Election Day.
- ❖ If a voter has a physical disability or is blind, he/she may apply to the county board of elections for permanent voting assistance.
- ❖ A person may not be assisted at the polls by his/her employer or employer's agent or an officer or agent of his/her union.

*KRS 117.255.*

## Media in the Voting Room

Members of the news media may be in the voting room for the limited purpose of filming the voting process. The media MAY NOT, however, conduct interviews with voters inside the voting room, record the identity of voters, or otherwise disrupt the voting process. *OAG 88-76 and KRS 117.236.*

## Challengers

*KRS 117.187 and KRS 117.315-318*

Each county political party may designate up to 2 challengers in each precinct in the county. Independent or non-partisan candidates may designate one challenger in each precinct in the county.

- ❖ All Challengers must receive training.
- ❖ Challengers may question the eligibility of a voter for the following reasons:
  - Is not a duly registered voter in the precinct;
  - Is not a resident of the precinct;
  - Is a convicted felon; or
  - Is not the person he/she claims to be.
- ❖ Challengers shall not:
  - Speak directly with a voter being challenged;
  - Electioneer;
  - Handle election materials;
  - Attempt to intimidate or harass, verbally or otherwise, any voter who is being challenged or any precinct election officer;
  - Behave in any manner to disrupt activities at the polling place; or
  - Attempt to interfere with the proper conduct of the election.

## Check-Off List Prohibited

Other than official use of the precinct signature roster and challengers, no person allowed in the voting room, including precinct election officers, may use paper, telephone, cell phone, or computer to create a check-off list or record the identity of voters. *KRS 117.236.*