

REGISTERING TO VOTE

Who is eligible to register to vote?

U.S. citizens who:

- Have resided in Kentucky for at least 28 days before an election; and
- Are 18 years old by the date of the next general election. (Anyone who turns 18 years old by the general election is eligible to vote in the prior primary election.)

Who is not eligible to register to vote?

- Anyone convicted of a felony offense, unless civil rights have been restored by the Governor. To apply for restoration of civil rights, contact the local parole office or go to www.corrections.ky.gov to download an application;
- Anyone who has been declared “mentally incompetent” in a court of law and had voting rights removed;
- Anyone who claims the right to vote anywhere outside of Kentucky.

Where do I register to vote?

- County Clerk’s office;
- Driver’s License office when you apply for or renew your driver’s license;
- Social service agency clients when applying or renewing benefits at these locations:
 - K-TAP, SNAP, Medicaid, WIC and state funded offices serving those with disabilities;
- Military Recruitment offices, if you are a prospective member of the military;
- A high school, if you are a student or staff member;
- Download a Kentucky mail-in voter registration form at www.elect.ky.gov; or
- Download a National voter registration form at www.eac.gov/voter_resources.

All completed voter registration forms must be returned or mailed/postmarked to the county clerk by October 6, 2014, to be eligible to vote in the 2014 General Election.

Must I choose a political party affiliation to vote in a primary election?

By law, Kentucky has closed party primary elections. You must register as a Democrat or Republican to vote in either party’s primary election. If you choose to register in a political group or organization or designate independent status, you will not be eligible to vote in Republican or Democrat party primary elections. However, you are eligible to vote in nonpartisan primary elections.

All eligible registered voters, regardless of party affiliation, may vote in general and special elections.

What if I do not wish to choose a political party affiliation?

You may choose to register as Other. If you check Other, please write in the name of your chosen affiliation in the space provided. You may choose, Constitution, Green, Libertarian, Reform, Socialist Workers, Independent Status, or something else of your choice.

How do I know where and when to vote?

After you are registered, you will receive a notice by U.S. mail from the county clerk with your precinct name and voting location address. Polls are open from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM, local time. Anyone in line 6:00 PM will be permitted to vote. For more information, call your county clerk’s office or log onto the Voter Information Center at www.elect.ky.gov/vic.

UPDATING YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION

How do I update my address if I move?

To be eligible to vote, refer to the appropriate situation below:

- 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 voting precinct. If you do not do this before Election Day, you must go to the voting precinct for your new address to vote and update your voter registration address;

- You move outside the county more than 28 days before election day. Update your voter registration address with the new county clerk or renew your driver’s license in the new county at least 29 days before the election. If you do not notify the county clerk in either your old or new county of residence 29 days prior to an election, you are not eligible to vote in either county;
- You move outside the county less than 29 days before the election. You may vote in your previous county of residence for this election, but must immediately register to vote in your new county of residence;

How do I notify the county clerk when I change my name?

- Renew or update your driver’s license;
- Fill out and submit a new voter registration form.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

You may vote an absentee ballot by mail if you are:

1. Uniformed-service or overseas voter
2. Student who temporarily reside outside the county
3. Voter who temporarily resides outside Kentucky (*e.g.*, vacationers)
4. Voter who is incarcerated but has not been convicted
5. Voter whose employment takes you outside the county for all days and hours the polling place is open
6. Voter of advanced age or who suffers from disability or illness
7. Voter who is a participant in the Secretary of State’s Address Confidentiality Program

Request a mail-in absentee ballot application from the county clerk’s office in person, or by mail, email, fax, or phone. The deadline to apply for a mail-in absentee ballot is seven (7) days before the election you plan to vote in.

You may vote an absentee ballot on a voting machine in the county clerk’s office for at least 12 days before the election if you are:

1. Uniformed-service or overseas voter who will be absent from the county on Election Day;
2. Uniformed-service voter confined to a military base
3. Student temporarily residing out of county
4. Voter, and spouse, who has scheduled surgery
5. Voter who will be absent from the county all hours polls are opened
6. Woman in her last trimester of pregnancy
7. Precinct officer, alternate, county board member, deputy clerks, and State Board of Elections staff

You or your spouse may vote a medical emergency absentee ballot for a medical emergency occurring within 14 days or less of an election.

VOTING PROCEDURES

Where do I find information about candidates and offices?

A sample ballot will be in the local newspaper at least seven (7) days before Election Day. Call your county clerk’s office and ask about the election being held in your county. Contact the local or state Republican or Democratic Party headquarters. Go to the State Board of Elections’ website, <http://www.elect.ky.gov> to find sample ballots for the current election.

How do I operate the voting machine?

Ask a precinct election officer to show you how to vote on the voting machine. Ask precinct election officers for a sample ballot to review while waiting to vote.

How do I identify myself at the precinct on Election Day?

Voters must show identification or be known personally by a precinct election officer before voting.

Types of identification that are allowed:

- Personal acquaintance with a precinct election officer;
- Driver's License;
- Social Security card;
- Credit card; or
- Another form of identification containing both picture and signature.

What if I have special needs at the polls?

All precincts are required to have a voting machine in each polling place that accommodates a person with a disability to cast a ballot privately and free of outside assistance.

An eligible voter may choose to ask for voting assistance due to physical disability, blindness or an inability to read English. The eligible voter may not be assisted by their employer, agent of their employer, union officer, or agent of that voter's union. The person assisting the voter is allowed to assist the voter in casting their ballot on the voting machine.

Can I vote by Provisional Ballot?

A provisional ballot is only used in federal elections to vote for federal offices. You must live in the voting precinct in which ballot is voted. Provisional ballots are allowed in these circumstances:

- A voter's name does not appear on the precinct roster and their registration status cannot be verified;
- A voter's name is not on the precinct roster and they have been verified as ineligible to vote;
- A voter does not have identification;
- A voter who is voting as a result of a federal or state court order or any order under state law in effect 10 days prior to Election Day that extends polling hours; or
- A voter is challenged by all four precinct election officers.

Provisional ballot voters may check the status of their ballot by logging onto www.electky.ky.gov/registrationinfo or calling the county clerk's office in the county where they voted.

PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICERS

How do I become a precinct election officer?

Counties throughout the state need responsible, registered voters to serve as precinct election officers. If you are interested in being a vital part of your community and the voting process, contact your county clerk to sign up.

Each precinct is required to have four (4) precinct officers serving on the day of the election. Precinct election officers are paid a county-specific rate for their work.

Qualifications:

- You must be an eligible registered voter of the county (but if you turn eighteen (18) years old on or before the General election, you may serve as a precinct election officer);
- You can not be a candidate for office who is to be voted for at the election;
- You can not be the spouse, parent, brother or sister, or child of a candidate who is to be voted for at the election; and
- You can not change your party affiliation for one (1) year prior to your appointment.

Duties:

- Attend a training session;
- Arrive by 5:30 AM at your assigned precinct;
- Set-up the precinct with the required election materials and voting equipment;
- Open the precinct for voting by 6:00 AM;
- Comply with all election laws;
- Close the precinct after the last voter who was in line by 6:00 PM has voted;
- Close and properly secure the required election materials and voting equipment;
- Complete the required forms and paperwork; and
- Specified precinct officers return election materials to the county clerk's office.

More detailed information is available by logging onto www.elect.ky.gov and clicking on the "Serve as an Election Officer" icon on the home page.

VOTER FRAUD

If you believe that your right to vote has been violated, please contact one of the following:

Precinct Election Officers
County Clerk/County Board of Elections
State Board of Elections (502) 573-7100
Attorney General's Election Fraud Hotline
1-800 328-8683

VOTER INFORMATION CENTER

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

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Kentucky State Board of Elections
140 Walnut Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: (502) 573-7100
Fax: (502) 573-4369 or 696-1952
TTY/TTD: (502) 573-7100
www.elect.ky.gov

Kentucky Registry of Election Finance
140 Walnut Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: (502)-573-2226
Fax: (502)-573-5622 or 573-0275
www.kref.ky.gov

Office of the Secretary of State
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 152
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: (502) 564-3490
Fax: (502) 564-4075
TTY/TTD: (502) 564-3490
www.sos.ky.gov

VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE

MAY PRIMARY ELECTION
AND
NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION
Polls are open 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM



Provided by
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
140 Walnut Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 573-7100
TTY/TTD: (502) 573-7100
www.elect.ky.gov

