



A Short Guide to Helping Voters Register Under Kentucky Law

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

In Kentucky, an individual may become a registered voter if she is:

- A United States citizen and resident of Kentucky¹ at least 28 days before the election.
- At least 18 years of age on the day of a general election,²
- Not a convicted felon (or, if so, has civil rights restored);
- Not under a judgment of mental incompetence;
- Not claiming a right to vote in another state;
- Registered in the precinct in which she desires to vote.³

Registration is closed during the period from 28 days before the election to seven days after.⁴ A voter who moves within the county may update her registration and vote in her new precinct by signing an affidavit and providing identification by personal acquaintance, driver's license, Social Security Card, credit card, or photo ID.⁵

WHAT CONSTITUTES A COMPLETE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION?

In Kentucky, the registration application is designed by the State Board of Elections and distributed to the county boards. A complete registration application contains the following voter information:

- Name.
- Complete residential address.
- Mailing address if different from the residential address.
- Date of birth.
- Complete Social Security Number.⁶
- Party Affiliation, may include Independent designation.
- Signature or mark attesting to voter's eligibility.⁷

WHAT ARE THE STATE RULES GOVERNING VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES?

A. Are there restrictions on copying completed voter registration applications prior to submitting them to the registrar?

No restrictions in Kentucky laws or administrative rules. As the applications include the applicant's Social Security number, steps should be taken to protect his or her privacy.

B. Are voter registration groups subject to time limits for submitting the voter registration applications they have collected?

No time limits in Kentucky laws or administrative rules.

C. Are voter registration groups prohibited from putting identifying marks on completed voter registration applications?

No restrictions in Kentucky laws or administrative rules.

¹ Ky. Const. § 145

² A voter who is 17 years old at the primary may vote if she will be 18 at the general election.

³ KRS § 116.025

⁴ KRS § 116.045

⁵ KRS §§ 116.085, 117.227, 31 Kentucky Administration Code 4:010

⁶ Applicant is not denied the right to register for refusal to provide his or her social security number.

⁷ KRS § 116.155



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- D. *Are there special rules requiring a third party to sign her name to the completed voter registration application?*
Yes. If the applicant signs the registration application with a mark, it must be witnessed by two people.
- E. *Does the state require voter registration organizations to register or file other information detailing its voter registration activities?*
No.
- F. *Does the state require any training in order to conduct a voter registration drive?*
No
- G. *Does the state have restrictions on who may register voters?*
No restrictions in Kentucky laws or administrative rules.

WHAT ARE THE RULES FOR CORRECTING INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS?

- A. *If a voter registration application is incomplete, may the voter registration drive write the missing information on the application with the consent of the applicant?*
No, only the voter may fill in the information.⁸
- B. *How may an applicant correct an incomplete application after it has been submitted?*
The County Clerk's office will contact the applicant and request any missing information.⁹

County Clerks send notice of the disposition of applications.¹⁰ If the application is not accepted because it is incomplete, the applicant can contact the County Clerk to provide any missing information. Kentucky laws and administrative rules do not specifically address completing incomplete applications

DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this document is for general guidance only. It should not be used as a substitute for consultation with professional legal or other competent advisers. Project Vote is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for the results obtained from the use of this information.

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⁸ Telephone conversation with staff member of Kentucky State Board of Elections on March 15, 2007.

⁹ Telephone conversation with staff member of Kentucky State Board of Elections on March 15, 2007.

¹⁰ KRS § 116.0452