



A Short Guide to Missouri State Voter Registration Drive Requirements

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

In Missouri,¹ any individual may become a registered voter if she is:

- 17 years and 6 months of age or older for registration; actual age on election day must be 18 years or older
- a citizen of the United States
- a resident in the State of Missouri

Missouri restricts the following individuals from voting:²

- Individuals confined under a sentence of imprisonment;
- Individuals on probation or parole after the conviction of a felony
- After conviction of a felony or misdemeanor connected with voting or the right of suffrage
- Individuals declared incapacitated

WHAT CONSTITUTES A COMPLETE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION?

In Missouri,³ the following information about the applicant must appear on the voter registration application in order for it to be considered complete:

- Name
- Residence address
- Mailing address, if any
- Date of birth
- State or country of birth
- MO Driver's License number or MO Identification number or last four digits of social security number
- Dated application
- Signed
- Check boxes: The first check box asks whether you are a U.S. Citizen. The second box asks whether you will be 18 years of age by the next election. The information is required in order to cast a ballot

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?

None found in the Missouri Revised Statutes.

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

Yes. According to SB 1014, which has passed in both Houses, individuals and organizations must turn in applications to election officials within 7 days of collecting them.⁴ Please note that this rule has not gone into effect yet. It is still awaiting the Governor's approval.

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

No.

¹ Missouri Revised Statutes § 115.133.1.

² Missouri Revised Statutes § 115.133.2.

³ Missouri Revised Statutes § 115.155.1.

⁴ According to SB1014, § 115.203.4, as passed.



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D. Are there special rules requiring a third party to sign her name to the completed voter registration application?

None currently.

E. Does the state require voter registration organizations to register or file other information detailing its voter registration activities?

Yes, Individuals compensated for soliciting more than 10 VR applications must be registered with the Secretary of State.⁵ (NOTE: This rule is pursuant to SB1014 which has not yet gone into effect. It is still awaiting the Governor's approval.)

- VR solicitors must be registered for every election cycle
- VR solicitors must be at least 18 years old
- VR solicitors must be a registered voter in the state of Missouri

Each VR solicitor must provide to the Secretary of State:

1. Name
2. Address (and mailing address, if any)
3. Paid or unpaid status⁶
4. Identity of paying organization
5. Signature
6. With the affirmation, "I hereby swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that all statements made by me are true and correct."

Failure to register before conducting VR solicitations is a class 3 election offense.⁷

Conviction for willfully and falsely making any certificate, affidavit, or statement required to be made pursuant to any provision of sections 115.001 to 115.641, including but not limited to statements specifically required to be made "under penalty of perjury" shall be punished by "imprisonment of not more than five years or by fine of not less than two thousand five hundred dollars but not more than ten thousand dollars or by both such imprisonment and fine."

Valid VR applications will be accepted by election officials even if the VR solicitor fails to register with or, submits false information to, the Secretary of State.

F. Does the state require any training in order to conduct voter registration drives?

No.

G. Are there restrictions on who may help others register to vote?

Yes.

1. VR solicitors must be registered for every election cycle
2. VR solicitors must be at least 18 years old
3. VR solicitors must be registered voters in the state of Missouri (hence, VR workers must be US citizens and non-felons or former felons with rights restored)

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. The voter registration drive may only contact the applicant and mail her a new form to complete.

⁵ According to SB 1014, §§ 115.205.1 and 115.205.2, as passed.

⁶ According to SB 1014 § 115.205.1, as passed. Section 115.205.1 only requires those circulators paid for soliciting more than 10 applications to be registered with the Secretary of State. Section 115.205.2 also requires all voter registration solicitors to provide information on their paid or unpaid status, thereby suggesting that even unpaid circulators might also be required to notify the Secretary of State prior to canvassing the field.

⁷ Please note that section 115.205.4 states that "[a]ny voter registration solicitor who knowingly fails to register with the Secretary of State is guilty of a class three election offense." (Emphasis added.)



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B. How may an applicant correct an incomplete application after it has been submitted to county election officials?

If the application does not contain all of the information required, the county elections official will inform the applicant of the reason for rejection by mail and send the applicant a new voter registration card.

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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