



A Short Guide to Helping Voters Register Under Nevada Law

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

- In Nevada, an individual may become a registered voter if she is:¹
- A United States citizen;
- A resident of Nevada for at least 30 days;
- A resident of the precinct for 10 days;
- At least 18 years of age on the day of a general election;
- Not a convicted felon (or, if so, has civil rights restored);²
- Not under a judgment of mental incompetence;³

Registration closes at 9 p.m. on the third Tuesday before any primary or general election and at 9 p.m. on the third Saturday preceding any recall or special election. One exception is that if a recall or special election is held on the same day as a primary or general election, registration closes at 9 p.m. on the third Tuesday before the day of the elections.

IS IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

Yes, Nevada requires that the registrant provide proof of residence and ID in the form of a driver's license or "other official document" that includes a photo when registering to vote. If the registrant does not show ID when registering, she must provide ID at the polls.

If registering for the first time and using a mail-in registration, the person must provide (1) A current and valid photo identification of the person (student, employee, and military ID are also accepted⁴); or (2) A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or document issued by a governmental entity, including, without limitation, a check, which indicates the name and address of the person. This ID is not required if the person provided a driver's license or the last four digits of the social security number AND it is matched with "an existing identification record."

WHAT CONSTITUTES A COMPLETE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION?

In Nevada, a complete registration application contains the following voter information:

- Name;
- Address, do not use P.O. Box, a mail forwarding service (mail drop), a business address, unless it is also the residence, an "HCR" (Highway Contract Route, used in rural areas). These four types of addresses may be used as optional addresses;
- If the voter has no street address: Describe the location with enough detail for it to be assigned to a precinct;
- Date of Birth;
- Political Party Affiliation;
- ID number, Nevada driver's license number or Nevada ID number. If registrant has neither number, use the last four digits of the Social Security Number;
- Signature;⁵
- Checked boxes for being a U.S. citizen and over 18 years of age.⁶

¹ Nevada State Constitution Art. 2, Section 1.

² Recent legislation has provided for automatic restoration of the right to vote for those who have been honorably discharged from prison, probation or parole, with certain exceptions. See <http://sos.state.nv.us/elections/voter/restoration.asp#footnote> for information on restoring the right to vote.

³ N.V. Revised Statutes 293.485.

⁴ N.V. Administrative Code 293.395.

⁵ If the person cannot sign her name due to a physical disability, she may: (1) use a signature stamp that meets the standards of the Office of Disability Services (per NRS 426.257); or (2) register and provide appropriate I.D. in person at the Election Department; or (3) if she cannot appear in person, the Election Department will send an official to her.

⁶ N.V. Revised Statutes 293.5235(10). If the applicant fails to check the boxes the application will not be considered invalid. The county clerk will provide a means for the applicant to correct the omission at the time the applicant appears to vote in person.



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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 Nevada in statutes or administrative codes.
- B. *Are voter registration groups subject to time limits for submitting the voter registration applications they have collected?*
Yes, applicants and voter registration groups must return applications in 10 days.⁷
- C. *Are voter registration groups prohibited from putting identifying marks on completed voter registration applications?*
A person assisting another to register in Nevada may not put any mark on the application except at the request of the registrant,⁸ except for the requirements described next in question "D".
- D. *Are there special rules requiring a third party to sign her name to the completed voter registration application?*
The application must include the mailing address and signature of the person who assisted the applicant. The failure to provide the information required by this law does not result in the application being deemed incomplete.⁹
- E. *Does the state require voter registration organizations to register or file other information detailing its voter registration activities?*
Yes, organizations asking for more than 50 applications must make the request on a request form prescribed by the Secretary of State that requires the person or group requesting the forms to describe a plan for distribution of the forms, including the identification of the county or counties with which the person or group plans to file the completed forms.

The county clerk must record on the completed request form the control numbers assigned to the applications that she provided in response to the request.
- 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.

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?*
An application may be completed at the request of the applicant according to an administrative rule.¹⁰
- B. *How may an applicant correct an incomplete application after it has been submitted?*
If a mail-in application is incomplete, the county clerk sends notice, with instructions on how to provide the necessary information.¹¹ If the applicant provides the missing information within 15 days of the day the county clerk mailed out the notice, the county clerk must send notice of registration 10 days afterwards. If the applicant does not provide the information within 15 days,

⁷ N.V. Revised Statutes 293.5235(15).

⁸ N.V. Administrative Code 293.440.

⁹ N.V. Revised Statutes 293.5235(13).

¹⁰ N.V. Administrative Code 293.440.

¹¹ N.V. Administrative Code 293.450, N.V. Revised Statutes 293.5235(6).



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the application is considered invalid. All applications that are turned in to the county boards are deemed to be mail-in registration applications.¹²

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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¹² N.V. Revised Statutes 293.5235.



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APPENDIX A

Specific types of ID that can be used when registering

N.V. Admin. Code 293.395 "Official identification" interpreted. (NRS 293.124, 293.517) For the purposes of NRS 293.517:

1. The Secretary of State interprets "official identification" to mean a government-issued, or otherwise official, article or combination of articles, which establishes both the identity and residence of a person submitting an application to register to vote.
2. The following articles may be used to establish identity:
 - (a) A current and valid Nevada driver's license;
 - (b) A current and valid identification card issued by the Department;
 - (c) A current and valid identification card issued by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States;
 - (d) A current and valid identification card issued by a sheriff of a Nevada county to an employee as a condition of his employment by certain business enterprises;
 - (e) A current and valid identification card issued by an agency of the State of Nevada or political subdivision thereof or the United States, including, without limitation, a public school, college or university;
 - (f) A current and valid student identification card from an accredited private school, college or university;
 - (g) A current and valid United States passport;
 - (h) A current and valid insurance plan identification card which the county clerk determines, in his discretion, to be a reliable indication of the true name and identity of the person;
 - (i) A current and valid tribal identification card;
 - (j) A current and valid employee identification card which the county clerk determines, in his discretion, to be a reliable indication of the true name and identity of the person; or
 - (k) Any other official article which the county clerk determines, in his discretion, to be a reliable indication of the true name and identity of the person, including, without limitation, an expired article listed in paragraphs (a) to (j), inclusive, if that article has been expired for 30 calendar days or less and is otherwise valid.
3. The following articles may be used to establish residency if the current residential address of the applicant, as indicated on the application to register to vote, is displayed on the article:
 - (a) Any article set forth in subsection 2;
 - (b) A current and valid utility bill, including, without limitation, a bill for electricity, gas, oil, water, sewer, septic, telephone, cellular telephone or cable television;
 - (c) A current and valid bank or credit union statement;
 - (d) A current and valid paycheck;
 - (e) A current and valid income tax return;
 - (f) A current and valid statement concerning the mortgage, rental or lease of a residence;
 - (g) A current and valid motor vehicle registration;
 - (h) A current and valid document issued by a governmental agency;
 - (i) A current and valid property tax statement; or
 - (j) Any other official article which the county clerk determines, in his discretion, to be a reliable indication of the true residential address of the person.

(Added to NAC by Sec'y of State by R072-06, eff. 7-14-2006)