

FILLING OUT A VOTER REGISTRATION FORM: A STEP BY STEP GUIDE

You can register to vote if you'll turn 16 or 17 (to pre-register) or 18 by December 31st, you're a U.S. citizen, and you're not incarcerated for a felony conviction. (Note you'll only be able to vote on Election Day this year if you turn 18 by November 2nd.) This year, Election Day is November 2nd. The deadline to register is October 8th. Forms must be hand delivered to the Board of Elections or postmarked by that date. This guide applies to the most recent NYS registration form.

You should print or type the information on the form in blue or black ink. No pencils or other color ink. Print clearly and legibly. Complete the form now and ask a volunteer to check for any mistakes. Your registration form may also have a section asking if you would like to be an organ donor. Your decision whether to complete the organ donor section will not affect your application to enroll to vote.

THE QUESTIONS

- Box 1** Check off if you're a U.S. citizen. If you're not, you can't register. Non-citizens jeopardize their immigration status by filling out the form.
- Box 2** If you'll be 18 by Dec 31st, you can fill out the form. If you are 16 or 17, you may fill out the form to pre-register. You'll only be able to vote if you're 18 by Election Day.
- Box 3** Spell out your last name then first name and middle initial. "Suffix" means if your name has something like Jr. or Sr. at the end of it.
- Box 4** Your date of birth: Month/Day/Year.
- Box 5** Your sex. This question is optional to fill out.
- Box 6-7** This is for your home phone or cell phone and your email address.
- Box 8** Write down your address where you live – not your mailing address. In New York City, put down your borough where they ask for your county even if you did on the line above as well.
- Box 9** If you get your mail someplace other than the address listed in Box 8, put it here. (For example: a P.O. Box or a relative's home.)
- Box 10** If you've voted before, check the "Yes" box.
- Box 11** Write the year that you last voted (to the best of your recollection.)
- Box 12** If your name has changed or you have moved since the last time you voted, put down your previous name and/or your previous address, and the county/borough or state where you last voted.
- Box 13** Fill in your NY Driver's License or Non Driver's ID number, or the last four digits of your Social Security number here. If you don't have a DMV or Social Security number, check that box. Providing accurate info will help avoid ID checks and possible problems at the polls.
- Box 14** The only way you get to vote in a primary election is if you're enrolled in that party (except for the Independence party which allows non-enrolled voters to participate in their primaries). You will still get to vote for whomever you want in the General Election regardless of whether you choose a party or not. If you don't want to choose a party, make sure you check off the bottom box.
- Box 15** If you need to apply for an absentee ballot, check that box. An absentee application form will be mailed to you. The Board of Elections will first mail you an absentee ballot application, and then mail an actual absentee ballot after they receive your completed application. You can also download, print and mail an absentee ballot application to the Board of Elections by visiting <http://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>. To be an Election Day worker, check that box.
- Box 16** Don't forget to read the affidavit and sign your form. Put today's date underneath it.

Remember to ask a NYPIRG volunteer to do a quick check of your form for any mistakes.





New York State Voter Registration Form

Register to vote

With this form, you register to vote in elections in New York State. You can also use this form to:

- change the name or address on your voter registration
- become a member of a political party
- change your party membership

To register you must:

- be a US citizen;
- be 18 years old by the end of this year;
- not be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction (unless parole pardoned or restored rights of citizenship);
- not claim the right to vote elsewhere;
- not found to be incompetent by a court.

Send or deliver this form

Fill out the form below and send it to your county's address on the back of this form, or take this form to the office of your County Board of Elections.

Mail or deliver this form at least **25 days before the election** you want to vote in. Your county will notify you that you are registered to vote.

Questions?

Call your County Board of Elections listed on the back of this form or 1-800-FOR-VOTE (TDD/TTY Dial 711)

Find answers or tools on our website www.elections.ny.gov

Verifying your identity

We'll try to check your identity before Election Day, through the DMV number (driver's license number or non-driver ID number), or the last four digits of your social security number, which you'll fill in below.

If you do not have a DMV or social security number, you may use a valid photo ID, a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or some other government document that shows your name and address. You may include a copy of one of those types of ID with this form—be sure to tape the sides of the form closed.

If we are unable to verify your identity before Election Day, you will be asked for ID when you vote for the first time.

Información en español: si le interesa obtener este formulario en español, llame al 1-800-367-8683

中文資料: 若您有興趣索取中文資料表格, 請電: 1-800-367-8683

한국어: 한국어 양식을 원하시면 1-800-367-8683 으로 전화 하십시오.

কনি আশিদি এই ফর্মটি বাংলাতে পূরণ চান করলে 1-800-367-8683 নম্বরে কল করুন

It is a crime to procure a false registration or to furnish false information to the Board of Elections. Please print in blue or black ink.

Qualifications

1 Are you a citizen of the U.S.? Yes No
If you answer *No*, you cannot register to vote.

For board use only

2 Will you be 18 years of age or older on or before election day? Yes No
If you answer *No*, you cannot register to vote unless you will be 18 by the end of the year.

Your name

3 Last name Suffix
First name Middle Initial

More information

4 Birth date 5 Gender
6 Phone 7 Email

The address where you live

8 Address (not P.O. box)
Apt. Number Zip code
City/Town/Village
New York State County Select your New York State County

The address where you receive mail

9 Address or P.O. box
P.O. Box Zip code
City/Town/Village

Voting history

10 Have you voted before? Yes No 11 What year?

Voting information that has changed

12 Your name was
Your address was
Your previous state or New York State County was

Identification

You must make 1 selection
For questions, please refer to *Verifying your identity* above.

13 New York State DMV number
 Last four digits of your Social Security number x x x - x x -
 I do not have a New York State driver's license or a Social Security number.

Political party

You must make 1 selection
Political party enrollment is optional but that, in order to vote in a primary election of a political party, a voter must enroll in that political party, unless state party rules allow otherwise.

14 **I wish to enroll in a political party**
 Democratic party
 Republican party
 Conservative party
 Working Families party
 Green party
 Libertarian party
 Independence party
 SAM party
 Other _____
I do not want to enroll in any political party and wish to be an independent voter
 No party

16 **Affidavit: I swear or affirm that**

- I am a citizen of the United States.
- I will have lived in the county, city or village for at least 30 days before the election.
- I meet all requirements to register to vote in New York State.
- This is my signature or mark in the box below.
- The above information is true, I understand that if it is not true, I can be convicted and fined up to \$5,000 and/or jailed for up to four years.

Optional questions

15 I need to apply for an Absentee ballot.
 I would like to be an Election Day worker.

Sign
Date

