



Placer County Elections Office

A Guide to Registering Voters

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GENERAL INFORMATION

This guide has been developed by the Placer County Elections Office to help political parties, voter registration drive coordinators, petition management companies, circulators, and volunteers understand their responsibilities and requirements when helping citizens to register to vote.

The California Secretary of State has an Elections Fraud Investigation Unit that vigorously responds to possible violations of the California Elections Code and the Penal Code relating to election, voter registration, petition signature collection, and voter fraud. The Placer County Elections Office will submit possible fraudulent voter registration forms and/or violation of elections law to the Secretary of State for their review.

If you have questions or witness activity that you suspect may be improper, please contact the Secretary of State's Office at 916-657-2166 or 800-345-8683.

This publication is for general information only and does not have the force and the effect of law, regulation or rule. In case of conflict, the law regulation or rule will control. Interested persons should obtain the most up-to-date information available because of possible changes in law or procedure since the publication of this document.

IN ORDER TO REGISTER TO VOTE, A PERSON MUST:

- Be a United States citizen and a resident of California.
- Be 18 years old or older on Election Day.
- Not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony.
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.

Documentation of proof of citizenship, residency or age is not required to register to vote. The statement on the voter registration card is signed by the voter under penalty of perjury and is sufficient. This is all the law requires (Elections Code §2111, 2112). In addition, pursuant to Elections Code §2121 no fees may be charged for registration.

WHEN SHOULD VOTERS RE-REGISTER?

- If they do not remember voting within the last five years.
- If they have moved since the last time they voted.
- If they wish to change their party affiliation.
- If they have changed their name.

WHO CAN REGISTER VOTERS?

Pursuant to Elections Code §2158, the Placer County Elections Office will provide voter registration cards in sufficient quantities to any individuals or organizations that wish to distribute the cards other than to persons who have been convicted of violating this section within the last five years. There are no statutory requirements specifying citizenship, age or other criteria for persons distributing registration cards.

Individuals and organizations shall be permitted to distribute voter registration cards anywhere within the county. Please be advised that distribution in front of a commercial business may require coordination with the management of the facility to determine appropriate places and times.

Pursuant to Elections Code §2158 (1) If after completing his or her voter registration card, an elector entrusts it to another person, the latter shall sign and date the attached, numbered receipt indicating his or her address and telephone number, if any, and give the receipt to the elector. Failure to comply with this paragraph shall not cause the invalidation of the registration of a voter.

Individuals or organizations who distribute voter registration cards shall give a voter registration card to any elector requesting it.

If distribution of voter registration cards is undertaken by mailing cards to persons who have not requested the cards, the person mailing the cards shall enclose a cover letter or other notice with each card instructing the recipients to disregard the cards if they are currently registered voters.

Every person who willfully violates the above code is guilty of an infraction, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$200 per application (Elections Code §18107).

HOW TO GET STARTED

1. Come to the Placer County Elections Office located at 2956 Richardson Drive in Auburn.
2. There is no charge for voter registration cards and the return postage is paid by the California Secretary of State.
3. Any individual or organization may obtain up to 50 voter registration cards simply by asking.
4. If an individual or organization wishes to obtain voter registration cards with the intent of distributing them, they must complete the "Voter Registration Card Statement of Distribution" form. This form is provided by the Placer County Elections Division and requires the name of the organization, address, telephone number, and name of the individual requesting the cards as well as a brief explanation of how the cards are to be distributed.

The Affidavit of Registration is a legal document that must be used and processed with care.

- ✓ Have the voter complete the voter registration card accurately using their current information.
- ✓ Print legibly using blue or black ink.
- ✓ Correct an error by having the voter draw one line through the error and printing the correction above it.
- ✓ Correct an error to a political party choice by having the voter draw a line through the error. The voter should fill in the oval next to their party choice and initial it.

Please be reminded that...

- Voter registration cards are not to be given to other groups or organizations that have not been authorized to distribute cards by the Placer County Elections Office.
- The party preference area of the voter registration card should not be completed in advance.
- Voters cannot use a mail drop address as a residence address.
- Voters cannot use a PO Box as a residence address.
- A voter can only complete a voter registration card for themselves and cannot register their spouses or members of the same household. Each voter must complete and sign their own voter registration card.

STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION DATABASE-HELP AMERICA TO VOTE ACT (HAVA)

There are several legal requirements related to voter registration that went into effect January 1, 2006. Some of those requirements are contained in Elections Code §2150 and HAVA Section 303 (a) (5) (A).

In order for a voter registration affidavit to be accepted and processed, the voter must provide a current and valid California driver's license or state ID number if they have been issued one. If they do not have a California driver's license or California state ID number, they must provide the last four digits of their social security number. Either number will be verified by the California Secretary of State through the statewide voter registration database. If the voter has not been issued a valid driver's license or a social security number, the State shall assign the voter a number which will serve to identify the voter for voter registration purposes. The number assigned under this clause shall be the unique identifying number.

If the voter does not provide the required information, **do not** hold the completed voter registration card and **do not** attempt to contact the voter for the missing information. The Placer County Elections Office will make any necessary follow-up contact with the voter.

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM REQUIREMENTS

County elections official to provide voter registration cards. Elections Code §2158.

County elections officials shall do all of the following:

(a) Provide voter registration cards designed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2157 for the registration of voters at his or her office and in a sufficient number of locations throughout the county for the convenience of persons desiring to register, to the end that registration may be maintained at a high level. The cards shall be available in all languages required by Section 203 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10503) or Section 4(f)(4) (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10303(f)(4)) of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.

(b) Provide voter registration cards designed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2157 in sufficient quantities to any individuals or organizations that wish to distribute the cards other than to persons who have been convicted of violating this section within the last five years. Individuals and organizations shall be permitted to distribute voter registration cards anywhere within the county.

(1) An individual or organization that distributes voter registration cards designed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2157 shall obtain the voter registration cards from the county elections official or the Secretary of State. The individual or organization shall comply with all applicable regulations established by the Secretary of State when distributing the cards.

(2) If, after completing his or her voter registration card, an elector entrusts it to another person, the latter shall sign and date the attached, numbered receipt indicating his or her

address and telephone number, if any, and give the receipt to the elector. Failure to comply with this paragraph shall not cause the invalidation of the registration of a voter.

(3) An individual or organization that distributes voter registration cards designed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2157 shall give a voter registration card to any elector requesting it, provided that the individual or organization has a sufficient number of cards.

(4) If distribution of voter registration cards pursuant to this subdivision is undertaken by mailing cards to persons who have not requested the cards, the person mailing the cards shall enclose a cover letter or other notice with each card instructing the recipients to disregard the cards if they are currently registered voters.

(c) Mail a voter registration card immediately to a person who wishes to register to vote and requests a voter registration card.

Affidavit of Registration. Elections Code §2150.

(a) The affidavit of registration shall show:

(1) The facts necessary to establish the affiant as an elector.

(2) The affiant's name at length, including the person's given name, and a middle name or initial, or if the initial of the given name is customarily used, then the initial and middle name. The affiant's given name may be preceded, at the affiant's option, by the designation of "Miss," "Ms.," "Mrs.," or "Mr." A person shall not be denied the right to register because of that person's failure to mark a prefix to the given name and shall be so advised on the voter registration card. This subdivision shall not be construed as requiring the printing of prefixes on an affidavit of registration.

(3) The affiant's place of residence, residence telephone number, if furnished, and email address, if furnished. A person shall not be denied the right to register because of the person's failure to furnish a telephone number or email address, and shall be so advised on the voter registration card.

(4) The affiant's mailing address, if different from the place of residence.

(5) The affiant's date of birth to establish that the affiant will be at least 18 years of age on or before the date of the next election. In the case of an affidavit of registration submitted pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 2102, the affiant's date of birth to establish that the affiant is at least 16 years of age.

(6) The state or country of the affiant's birth.

(7) (A) In the case of an affiant who has been issued a current and valid driver's license, the affiant's driver's license number. (B) In the case of any other affiant, other than an affiant to whom subparagraph (C) applies, the last four digits of the affiant's social security number.

(C) If a voter registration affiant has not been issued a current and valid driver's license or a social security number, the state shall assign the affiant a number that will serve to identify the affiant for voter registration purposes. If the state has a computerized list in effect under this paragraph and the list assigns unique identifying numbers to registrants, the number assigned under this subparagraph shall be the unique identifying number assigned under the list.

(8) The affiant's political party preference.

(9) That the affiant is currently not imprisoned for the conviction of a felony.

(10) A prior registration portion indicating whether the affiant has been registered at another address, under another name, or as preferring another party. If the affiant has been so registered, the affiant shall give an additional statement giving that address, name, or party.

(b) The affiant shall certify the content of the affidavit of registration as to its truthfulness and correctness, under penalty of perjury, with the signature of the affiant's name and the date of signing. If the affiant is unable to write, the affiant shall sign with a mark or cross. An affiant who is an individual with a disability may complete the affidavit with reasonable accommodations as needed.

(c) The affidavit of registration shall also contain a space that would enable the affiant to state the affiant's ethnicity or race, or both. An affiant shall not be denied the ability to register because the affiant declines to state the affiant's ethnicity or race.

(d) If a person assists the affiant in completing the affidavit of registration, that person shall sign and date the affidavit below the signature of the affiant.

(e) The affidavit of registration shall also contain a space to permit the affiant to apply for permanent vote by mail status.

(f) The Secretary of State may continue to supply existing affidavits of registration to county elections officials before printing new or revised forms that reflect the changes made to this section by Chapter 508 of the Statutes of 2007.

TELEPHONE NUMBER AND ADDRESS OF PERSON ASSISTING WITH VOTER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

Telephone number and address of person or organization who pays money for completed affidavit of registration. Elections Code §2159.

(a) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 2158, any person who, in exchange for money or other valuable consideration, assists another to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration from the elector, shall sign in his or her handwriting and affix directly on the affidavit of registration his or her full name, telephone number, and address, and the name and telephone number of the person, company, or organization, if any, that agrees to pay money or other valuable consideration for the completed affidavit of registration. Failure to comply with this section shall not cause the invalidation of the registration of the voter.

(b) Any person who in exchange for money or other valuable consideration assists another to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration from the elector, and knowingly misrepresents himself or herself as having helped register another to vote on a registration form is guilty of a misdemeanor, pursuant to Section 18108.1.

Requirements for paying for assisting persons to register to vote. Elections Code §2159.5.

A person, company, or other organization that agrees to pay money or other valuable consideration, whether on a per-affidavit basis or otherwise, to a person who assists another person to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration or by

assisting with the submission of an affidavit of registration electronically on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State, shall do all of the following:

(a) Maintain a list of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all individuals that the person, company, or other organization has agreed to compensate for assisting others to register to vote, and shall provide to each person receiving that consideration a written statement of that person's personal responsibilities and liabilities under Sections 2138, 2138.5, 2139, 2150, 2158, 2159, 18100, 18101, 18103, 18106, 18108, 18108.1, and 18108.5. Receipt of the written statement shall be acknowledged, in writing, by the person receiving the consideration, and the acknowledgment shall be kept by the person, company, or organization that agrees to compensate that person. All records required by this subdivision shall be maintained for a minimum of three years, and shall be made available to the elections official, the Secretary of State, or an appropriate prosecuting agency, upon demand. As an alternate to maintaining the records required by this subdivision, the records may be filed with the county elections official, who shall retain those records for a minimum of three years. The county elections official may charge a fee, not to exceed actual costs, for storing records pursuant to this subdivision.

(b) Not render any payment or promised consideration unless the information specified in Section 2159 has been affixed personally on the affidavit in the handwriting of the person with whom the agreement for payment was made.

(c) At the time of submission of paper affidavits to an elections official, identify and separate those affidavits into groups that do and that do not comply with the requirements of Sections 2150 and 2159. A signed acknowledgment shall be attached to each group of affidavits identifying a group as in compliance with Sections 2150 and 2159, and a group as not in compliance with either Section 2150 or 2159, or both.

(d) Failure to comply with this section shall not cause the invalidation of the registration of the voter.

CONFIDENTIAL VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Pursuant to Elections Code § 2187, 2188, and 2194, voter registration information is available to persons or groups for election, scholarly, journalistic or political purposes or governmental proposes, as determined by the Secretary of State. Each request to view, purchase, or use voter registration information must be submitted on an application form available at the Placer County Elections Office located at 2956 Richardson Drive in Auburn or online at www.placercountyelections.gov.

Voter information not to be sent outside the United States. Elections Code §2188.5.

(a) A person who requests voter information pursuant to Section 2188 or who obtains signatures or other information collected for an initiative, referendum, political party qualification, or recall petition shall not send that information outside of the United States or make it available in any way electronically to persons outside the United States, including, but not limited to, access over the Internet.

(b) For purposes of this section, "United States" includes each of the several states of the United States, the District of Columbia, and the territories and possessions of the United States.

Return of completed affidavits of registration. Postcard Registration. Election Code §2138.

Individuals and organizations distributing voter registration cards pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 2158 and who receive completed voter registration cards from voters shall return the completed cards to the county elections official or shall deposit the cards in the postal service within three days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays, of receipt from a voter.

Confidential information. Election Code §2138.5.

(a) Notwithstanding any other law, an affiant's driver's license number, identification card number, social security number, and signature contained on an affidavit of registration are confidential and shall not be disclosed by an individual or organization that distributes voter registration cards pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 2158, or by a person entrusted with an affidavit of registration from an elector pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 2158. However, this subdivision shall not be construed to prohibit a person entrusted with an affidavit of registration from an elector pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 2158 from returning the affidavit to the individual or organization that distributed the voter registration card pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 2158.

(b) An individual or organization that distributes voter registration cards pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 2158, a person entrusted with an affidavit of registration from an elector pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 2158, or an individual or organization that assists with the submission of an affidavit of registration electronically on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State shall comply with both of the following:

(1) Shall not use affidavit of registration information for any personal, private, or commercial purpose, including for any of the following:

(A) The harassment of a voter or voter's household.

(B) The advertising, solicitation, sale, or marketing of products or services to a voter or voter's household.

(C) Reproduction in print, broadcast visual or audio, or display on the Internet.

(2) Shall employ reasonable security measures, including employing administrative and physical safeguards, and, for affidavit of registration information available in an electronic form, technical safeguards, to protect the voter registration information from unlawful disclosure and misuse.

Misuse of information; misdemeanor. Elections Code §18109.

(a) It is a misdemeanor for a person in possession of information identified in Section 2138.5, or obtained pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 2183) of Chapter 2 of Division 2 of this code or Section 6254.4 of the Government Code, knowingly to use or permit the use of all or any part of that information for any purpose other than as permitted bylaw.

(b) It is a misdemeanor for a person knowingly to acquire possession or use of voter

registration information from the Secretary of State or a county elections official without first complying with Section 2188.

IMPORTANT ELECTION CODE SECTIONS TO KNOW

Last day to register to vote. Elections Code §2102.

(a) Except as provided in Chapter 4.5, a person shall not be registered as a voter except by affidavit of registration. The affidavit of registration shall be mailed or delivered to the county elections official and shall set forth all of the facts required to be shown by this chapter. A properly executed affidavit of registration shall be deemed effective upon receipt of the affidavit by the county elections official if received on or before the 15th day before an election to be held in the registrant's precinct. A properly executed affidavit of registration shall also be deemed effective upon receipt of the affidavit by the county elections official if any of the following apply:

(1) The affidavit is postmarked on or before the 15th day before the election and received by mail by the county elections official.

(2) The affidavit is submitted to the Department of Motor Vehicles or accepted by any other public agency designated as a voter registration agency pursuant to the federal National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20501 et seq.) on or before the 15th day before the election.

(3) The affidavit is delivered to the county elections official by means other than those described in paragraphs (1) and (2) on or before the 15th day before the election.

(4) The affidavit is submitted electronically on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 2196 on or before the 15th day before the election.

(b) For purposes of verifying a signature on a recall, initiative, or referendum petition or a signature on a nomination paper or any other election petition or election paper, a properly executed affidavit of registration shall be deemed effective for verification purposes if both of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) The affidavit is signed on the same date or a date before the signing of the petition or paper.

(2) The affidavit is received by the county elections official on or before the date on which the petition or paper is filed.

(c) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the affidavit of registration required under this chapter shall not be taken under sworn oath, but the content of the affidavit shall be certified as to its truthfulness and correctness, under penalty of perjury, by the signature of the affiant.

(d) A person who is at least 16 years of age and otherwise meets all eligibility requirements to vote may submit his or her affidavit of registration as prescribed by this section. A properly executed affidavit of registration made pursuant to this subdivision shall be deemed effective as of the date the affiant will be 18 years of age, if the information in the affidavit of registration is still current at that time. If the information provided by the affiant in the affidavit of registration is not current at the time that the affidavit of registration would otherwise become effective, for his or her registration to

become effective, the affiant shall provide the current information to the proper county elections official as prescribed by this chapter.

(e) An individual with a disability who is otherwise qualified to vote may complete an affidavit of registration with reasonable accommodations as needed.

(f) An individual with a disability who is under a conservatorship may be registered to vote if he or she has not been disqualified from voting.

Conditional Voter Registration. Election Code §2170.

(a) "Conditional voter registration" means a properly executed affidavit of registration that is delivered by the registrant to the county elections official during the 14 days immediately preceding an election or on election day and which may be deemed effective pursuant to this article after the elections official processes the affidavit, determines the registrant's eligibility to register, and validates the registrant's information, as specified in subdivision (c).

(b) In addition to other methods of voter registration provided by this code, an elector who is otherwise qualified to register to vote under this code and Section 2 of Article II of the California Constitution may complete a conditional voter registration and cast a provisional ballot, or nonprovisional ballot under subdivision (f), during the 14 days immediately preceding an election or on election day pursuant to this article.

(c) (1) A conditional voter registration shall be deemed effective if the county elections official is able to determine before or during the canvass period for the election that the registrant is eligible to register to vote and that the information provided by the registrant on the registration affidavit matches information contained in a database maintained by the Department of Motor Vehicles or the federal Social Security Administration.

(2) If the information provided by the registrant on the registration affidavit cannot be verified pursuant to paragraph (1) but the registrant is otherwise eligible to vote, the registrant shall be issued a unique identification number pursuant to Section 2150 and the conditional voter registration shall be deemed effective.

(d) The county elections official shall offer conditional voter registration and voting pursuant to this article, in accordance with all of the following procedures:

(1) The elections official shall provide conditional voter registration and voting pursuant to this article at all permanent and satellite offices of the county elections official and all polling places in the county.

(2) The elections official shall advise registrants that a conditional voter registration will be effective only if the registrant is determined to be eligible to register to vote for the election and the information provided by the registrant on the registration affidavit is verified pursuant to subdivision (c).

(3) The elections official shall conduct the receipt and handling of each conditional voter registration and offer and receive a corresponding ballot in a manner that protects the secrecy of the ballot and allows the elections official to process the registration, determine the registrant's eligibility to register, and validate the registrant's information before counting or rejecting the corresponding ballot.

(4) After receiving a conditional voter registration, the elections official shall process the registration, determine the registrant's eligibility to register, and attempt to validate the registrant's information.

(5) If a conditional registration is deemed effective, the elections official shall include the corresponding ballot in the official canvass.

(e) After receiving a conditional voter registration, the elections official shall provide a provisional ballot in accordance with the following procedures:

(1) If the elections office, satellite office, or polling place is equipped with an electronic poll book, or other means to determine the voter's precinct, the elections official shall provide the voter with a ballot for the voter's precinct if the ballot is available. The ballot may be cast by any means available at the elections office, satellite office, or polling place.

(2) If the elections official is unable to determine the voter's precinct, or a ballot for the voter's precinct is unavailable, the elections official shall provide the voter with a ballot and inform the voter that only the votes for the candidates and measures on which the voter would be entitled to vote in the voter's assigned precinct may be counted pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 14310. The ballot may be cast by any means available at the elections office, satellite office, or polling place.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), if the elections official is able to determine the voter's precinct, but a ballot for the voter's precinct is unavailable, the elections official may inform the voter of the location of the voter's polling place. A voter described in this paragraph shall not be required to vote at the voter's polling place and may instead, at the voter's choosing, cast a ballot pursuant to paragraph (2).

(4) This subdivision does not apply to elections conducted pursuant to Section 4005 or 4007.

(f) An elections official may offer a nonprovisional ballot to a registrant if the official does both of the following:

(1) Uses the statewide voter registration database developed in compliance with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.) to do all of the following before issuing the nonprovisional ballot:

(A) Verify that the registrant is deemed eligible to register to vote.

(B) Verify that the registrant has not voted in the state in that election.

(C) Verify that the registrant has not been included on a roster for that election in another county in the state that is not conducting elections pursuant to Section 4005.

(D) Update the voter's record to indicate that the voter has voted in that election.

(2) If the registrant has been included on a roster for that election in that county, the official updates that roster to indicate that the voter has voted and shall not be issued another nonprovisional ballot for that election.

Registration of persons not entitled to register. Elections Code §18100.

(a) Every person who willfully causes, procures, or allows himself or herself or any other person to be registered as a voter, knowing that he or she or that other person is not entitled to registration, is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years, or in a county jail for not more than one year.

(b) Every person who knowingly and willfully signs, or causes or procures the signing of, an affidavit of registration of a nonexistent person, and who mails or delivers, or causes or procures the mailing or delivery of, that affidavit to a county elections official is guilty of a crime punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the

Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years, or in a county jail for not more than one year. For purposes of this subdivision, “nonexistent person” includes, but is not limited to, deceased persons, animals, and inanimate objects.

Registration of fictitious person. Elections Code §18101.

Every person who knowingly and willfully completes, or causes or procures the completion of, in whole or in part, an affidavit of registration or a voter registration card, with the intent to cause the registration or reregistration as a voter of a fictitious person or of any person who has not requested registration or reregistration as a voter, is guilty of a crime punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months or two or three years, or in a county jail for not more than one year.

Registration of nonexistent person. Elections Code §18102.

Any deputy elections official or registration elections official who knowingly registers a nonexistent person, knowingly registers a person under a false name or address, or knowingly registers a person who is ineligible to register is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months or two or three years or in county jail for not more than one year.

Interference with transfer of affidavit to county elections official. Elections Code §18103.

Any person who knowingly or negligently (a) interferes with the prompt transfer of a completed affidavit of registration to the county elections official, (b) retains a voter’s completed registration card, without the voter’s authorization, for more than three days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays, or after the close of registration, or (c) denies a voter the right to return to the county elections official the voter’s own completed registration card, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Refusal to return affidavits of registration. Elections Code §18104.

Any deputy registrar of voters having charge of affidavits of registration is guilty of a misdemeanor who knowingly neglects or refuses to return affidavits of registration as provided in Article 3 (commencing with Section 2135) of Chapter 2 of Division 2. The county elections official shall report to the district attorney of the county, under oath, the names of any deputies who have failed to return the affidavits. The district attorney shall take appropriate civil or criminal action.

Writing or affixing political statements on affidavits of registration. Elections Code §18105.

No affidavit of registration or voter registration card shall contain, and no person other than the registrant shall write on or affix thereto, or cause to be written on or affixed

thereto, any statement urging or indicating support or opposition to any candidate or measure.

Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Alteration of affidavit party affiliation. Elections Code §18106.

Every person is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months or two or three years or in the county jail for not more than one year who, without the specific consent of the affiant, willfully and with the intent to affect the affiant's voting rights, causes, procures, or allows the completion, alteration, or defacement of the affiant's party affiliation declaration contained in an executed, or partially executed, affidavit of registration pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 2150 and Section 2151. This section shall not apply to a county elections official carrying out his or her official duties.

Fine for failure to provide voter registration card. Elections Code §18107.

Every person who willfully violates Section 2158 is guilty of an infraction, punishable by a fine not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200).

Penalties for not complying with section 2159 when registering voters. Elections Code §18108.

- (a) Except as provided in subdivision (c), any person who receives money or other valuable consideration to assist another to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration from the elector, and fails to comply with Section 2159, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months or when the failure to comply is found to be willful, not exceeding one year, or both.
- (b) Any person who receives money or other valuable consideration to assist another to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration from the elector, upon a third or subsequent conviction, on charges brought and separately tried, for failure to comply with Section 2159 shall be punished by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one year, or both.
- (c) This section shall not apply to any public agency or its employees that is designated as a voter registration agency pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1973gg), when an elector asks for assistance to register to vote during the course and scope of the agency's normal business.

Misrepresentation as having helped register another is a misdemeanor. Elections Code §18108.1.

- (a) Except as provided in subdivision (c), any person who receives money or other valuable consideration to assist another to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration from the elector, and knowingly misrepresents himself or herself as having helped register another to vote on a registration form, pursuant to Section 2159, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one

thousand dollars (\$1,000), by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by both the fine and imprisonment.

(b) Any person who receives money or other valuable consideration to assist another to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration from the elector, upon a third or subsequent conviction, on charges brought and separately tried, for misrepresenting himself or herself as having helped register another to vote on a registration form, pursuant to Section 2159, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment.

(c) This section shall not apply to any public agency or its employees that is designated as a voter registration agency pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1973gg), when an elector asks for assistance to register to vote during the course and scope of the agency's normal business.

Penalties for failure to comply with section 2159.5. Elections Code §18108.5.

(a) Any person, company, or other organization that agrees to pay money or other valuable consideration, whether on a per-affidavit basis or otherwise, to any person who assists another person to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration who fails to comply with Section 2159.5, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months or when the failure to comply is found to be willful, not exceeding one year, or both.

(b) Any person, company, or other organization that agrees to pay money or other valuable consideration, whether on a per-affidavit basis or otherwise, to any person who assists another person to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration, upon a third or subsequent conviction, on charges brought and separately tried, for failure to comply with Section 2159.5 shall be punished by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one year, or both.

(c) An elections official shall notify any person, company, or other organization that agrees to pay money or other valuable consideration, whether on a per-affidavit basis or otherwise, to any person who assists another person to register to vote by receiving the completed affidavit of registration, that three or more affidavits of registration submitted by a person who assisted another to register to vote do not comply with Sections 18100, 18101, 18103, or 18106. The elections official may forward a copy of each of the noncomplying affidavits of registration to the district attorney, who may make a determination whether probable cause exists to believe that a violation of law has occurred.

(d) This section shall not apply to any public agency or its employees that is designated as a voter registration agency pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1973gg), when an elector asks for assistance to register to vote during the course and scope of the agency's normal business.

Misuse of information: misdemeanor. Elections Code §18109.

(a) It is a misdemeanor for any person in possession of information obtained pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 2180) of Chapter 2 of Division 2, or Section 6254.4 of the Government Code, knowingly to use or permit the use of all or any part of that information for any purpose other than as permitted by law.

(b) It is a misdemeanor for any person knowingly to acquire possession or use of voter registration information referred to in subdivision (a) without first complying with Section 2188.

Incentives for registering to vote. Federal Law: 42 U.S.C. §1973i(c).

Makes it unlawful in an election in which a federal candidate is on the ballot, to knowingly and willfully pay, offer to pay, or accept payment for falsely registering to vote or for voting. Violations are punishable by fine and/or imprisonment for up to five years.

DETERMINATION OF RESIDENCE AND DOMICILE

Term of domicile. Elections Code §2020.

The term of domicile is computed by including the day on which the person's domicile commenced and by excluding the day of the election.

Person away for temporary purposes. Elections Code §2021.

(a) A person who leaves his or her home to go into another state or precinct in this state for temporary purposes merely, with the intention of returning, does not lose his or her domicile.

(b) A person does not gain a domicile in any precinct into which he or she comes for temporary purposes merely, without the intention of making that precinct his or her home.

Move to another state. Elections Code §2022.

If a person moves to another state with the intention of making it his or her domicile, the voter loses his or her domicile in this state.

Move to another state. Elections Code §2023.

If a person moves to another state as a place of permanent residence, with the intention of remaining there for an indefinite time, he or she loses his or her domicile in this state, notwithstanding that he or she intends to return at some future time.

Intention and fact of removal. Elections Code §2024.

The mere intention to acquire a new domicile, without the fact of removal avails nothing, neither does the fact of removal without the intention.

Employment in the service of the United States; navigation; institution. Elections Code §2025.

A person does not gain or lose a domicile solely by reason of his or her presence or absence from a place while employed in the service of the United States or of this state, nor while engaged in navigation, nor while a student of any institution of learning, nor while kept in an almshouse, asylum or prison. This section shall not be construed to prevent a student at an institution of learning from qualifying as an elector in the locality where he or she domiciles while attending that institution, when in fact the student has abandoned his or her former domicile.

Domicile of legislative member or congressional representative. Elections Code §2026.

The domicile of a Member of the Legislature or a Representative in the Congress of the United States shall be conclusively presumed to be at the residence address indicated on that person's currently filed affidavit of registration, as long as the address is a residence under subdivision (c) of Section 349, notwithstanding that the member or representative may have another residence at which any of the following apply:

- (a) A child for whom the member or representative is a parent, step-parent, foster parent, guardian, or caretaker is enrolled in school.
- (b) The spouse, domestic partner, or intimate partner of the member or representative is located for employment.
- (c) The member or representative receives mail or other postal or parcel deliveries.
- (d) The member or representative owns, leases, or rents a dwelling.
- (e) The member or representative claims a homeowner's exemption or any other similar claim for tax purposes.
- (f) The member or representative maintains accounts or pays for utilities, cable or satellite television, Internet service, home security service, home or landscape maintenance, or other similar services.
- (g) The member or representative registers a vehicle or boat.
- (h) The member or representative maintains policies of insurance.
- (i) The member or representative has items of personal property.

Domicile of family; residence in trailer. Elections Code §2027.

The place where a person's family is domiciled is his or her domicile unless it is a place for temporary establishment for his or her family or for transient objects.

Residence in a trailer or vehicle or at any public camp or camping ground may constitute a domicile for voting purposes if the registrant complies with the other requirements of this article.

Place of family and business. Elections Code §2028.

If a person has a family fixed in one place, and the person does business in another place, the former is the person's place of domicile. However, if the person having a family fixed in one place, has taken up an abode in another place with the intention of remaining, and the person's family does not so reside with the person, the person is a domiciliary where the person has so taken up the abode. For purposes of this section, a person may take up an abode at the same place at which the person does business.

Domicile of spouse. Elections Code §2029.

The domicile of one spouse shall not be presumed to be that of the other, but shall be determined independently in accordance with this article.

Marriage to a person employed in the service of the United States. Elections Code §2030.

A domiciliary of this state who marries a person employed temporarily in this state in the service of the United States government, may elect to retain his or her domicile for the purpose of qualifying as an elector only, except that his or her domicile in this state shall terminate if the domiciliary qualifies as an elector in any other state or any territory.

Homeowner's property tax exemption; renter's tax credit; driver's license. Elections Code §2031.

If a person has more than one residence and that person maintains a homeowner's property tax exemption on the dwelling of one of the residences pursuant to Section 218 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the residence subject to the homeowner's property tax exemption is that person's domicile. However, this presumption shall not apply in the event any other residence is listed as the person's current residence address on any driver's license, identification card or vehicle registration issued to that person by, and on file with, the Department of Motor Vehicles.

If a person has more than one residence and that person claims a renter's tax credit for one of the residences pursuant to Section 17053.5 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the residence subject to the renter's tax credit is that person's domicile. However, this presumption shall not apply in the event any other residence is listed as the person's current residence address on any driver's license, identification card, or vehicle registration issued to that person by, and on file with, the Department of Motor Vehicles.

This section shall not be applicable to state or federal elected officials.

More than one residence. Elections Code §2032.

Except as provided in this article, if a person has more than one residence and that person has not physically resided at any one of the residences within the immediate preceding year, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that those residences in which he or she

has not so resided within the immediate preceding year are merely residences as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 349 and not his or her domicile.

Change of house number. Elections Code §2033.

Whenever the house number or the mailing address of a voter has been changed and the voter's domicile is the same, the public agency authorizing the change shall notify the county elections official in writing of the change and the county elections official shall make the change on the voter's affidavit of registration and a new affidavit shall not be required.

Domicile in more than one precinct. Elections Code §2034.

A person domiciled in a house or apartment lying in more than one precinct shall be registered as domiciled in the precinct designated by the county elections official on the basis of the street address or other precinct the county elections official considers appropriate unless the person requests, either by letter or in person at the office of the county elections official, that he or she wishes to be domiciled for registration purposes in another precinct in which his or her house or apartment lies. In order to fulfill the requirements of this section, the letter of request shall include the name, signature, and residence address of the requester.

Voter residence change 14 days prior to an election. Elections Code §2035.

A person duly registered as a voter in any precinct in California who removes therefrom within 14 days prior to an election shall, for the purpose of that election, be entitled to vote in the precinct from which the person so removed until the close of the polls on the date of that election.

HOW TO COMPLETE A VOTER REGISTRATION CARD A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Box 1	Qualifications: I am a citizen and resident of California: have the voter darken the box next to the Yes or No. A “No” answer means the voter CANNOT register to vote; have them hold on to the registration card and turn it in once they become a citizen. I am 18 or older: Have the voter darken the box next to the Yes or No. I am 16 or 17 and want to pre-register: have the voter darken or check the box next to the Yes or No. Submit the completed form to the Registrar of Voters even if the voter is not eligible.
Box 2	Voter’s legal name: First, middle, and last name (their name should exactly match the name on their California Driver’s License). Darken the box next to Mr., Mrs., Miss, or Ms. (optional).
Box 3	Identification: Voter’s complete date of birth (month, day, and year). Voter’s CA driver’s license or CA ID card number. If they do not have a CA driver’s license or a CA ID card, list the last 4 numbers of their Social Security Number, if they have one (both can be left blank if necessary). Voter’s U.S. state or foreign country of birth.
Box 4	The address where you live: Voter’s home address – (not a PO Box or business address) number, street, suffix (Ave, Dr, etc.). Include N, S, E, or W if needed, and the apartment or unit number. Also list the city, zip, and California county. If the voter doesn’t have a street address, they should list the cross streets nearest to where they reside.
Box 5	The address where you receive mail: Voter’s mailing address if different from residential or it is a PO Box. A foreign country can be listed here if needed.
Box 6	Registration history: If you were previously registered or pre-registered to vote, fill out this section: First name, middle Initial, and last name. Previous address where you were registered. City, State, Zip, and previous county. Previous political party preference (if any).
Box 7	Vote by mail: To receive a vote-by-mail ballot in all elections, check the Yes box.
Box 8	Political party preference: Choose a political party preference or select No Party / None . If No Party / None is selected, you may not be able to vote for some parties’ candidates at a primary election for U.S. President, or for a party’s central committee.
Box 9	Optional voter information: The voter can add their email address and/or phone number here. They can also choose their language preference for receiving election materials. They can also choose if they want their voting materials in an accessible format, to be a poll worker, and they can list their ethnicity/race.
Box 10	Signature and date: Have voter read declaration, sign and date the form.

Blue Box and Receipt	Did someone help you fill out or deliver this form? Persons who receive the registration form from the voter in order to return it to the elections official must complete both parts of the blue box in his/her own hand and provide the applicant with the affidavit receipt from the bottom of the form.
Double-check	Double-check the affidavit to make sure that it is correctly and completely filled out before the voter leaves.

The validity of an affidavit is determined by the county election official. Complete or incomplete affidavits of registration must be turned in to a county elections official or mailed within 72 hours. The 72-hour deadline excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays. Elections Code §2138.

An individual or an organization that distributes or receives the Affidavits of Registration must not attempt to contact the voter for missing or incomplete information. The Placer County Elections Office will contact voters if necessary.

Please contact the Placer County Elections Office if you have any questions at 530-886-5650, toll-free in California at 800-824-8683, or by e-mail at election@placer.ca.gov.