



Conducting a Voter Registration Drive in North Carolina

Voter Registration Deadline

Applications must be received or postmarked 25 days before Election Day.

Getting Started

Training Requirement: North Carolina does not require training for registration drives.

Notification and Registration Requirements: North Carolina does not have notification requirements for registration drives.

Compensation Restrictions: It is illegal for any person to be compensated based on the number of registration forms submitted.

Obtaining Applications

State Form: State registration forms can be obtained by submitting a [North Carolina Voter Registration Supplies Order Form](#). This form can be downloaded from the [State BOE's website](#).

- If a voter registration drive needs fewer than 1000 forms, they may contact the local board of elections. If a drive needs more than 5000 forms, it should first request permission from the NC State Board of Elections. Send your request to NVRA@ncsbe.gov.

Federal Form: The [federal voter registration application](#) may be used in voter registration drives.

Handling Applications

Incomplete Applications: North Carolina prohibits changing a person's information on a voter registration form prior to delivering it to the County Board of Elections. All complete and incomplete forms must be submitted unaltered. Drives are prohibited from pre-marking party affiliation on the form unless the person receiving the form requested it.

Labeling Applications: Do not place sticky notes or flags on any incomplete forms.

Handling Applications (continued)

Photocopying Completed Applications/Retaining

Information: It is illegal in North Carolina to retain a registrant's signature, full or partial Social Security Number, date of birth, email address submitted under the voter registration laws, or driver's license number. Remove these before copying any application, and do not data-enter any information from the voter registration form.

Submitting Applications: Anyone conducting a voter registration drive who accepts a form must deliver it so that it is received by the county board of elections in time to satisfy the registration deadline. The State Board of Elections indicates to submit forms within 5 days but no later than the deadline. Individual voters may register online with a valid NC Driver's License No. or DMV-issued ID No., but electronic signatures from non-government entities are not accepted.

Applications satisfy the registration deadline if:

- If submitted by mail, they must be postmarked at least 25 days before the primary or election, except that any mailed application on which the postmark is missing or unclear is validly submitted if received in the mail not later than 20 days before the primary or election.
- If submitted in person, by fax, or emailing a scanned form, it must be received by the county board of elections by 5 p.m. (or a later time if the county board allows it) on the 25th day before the election. If the application is submitted by fax or email of a scanned document, a permanent copy of the completed, signed form must be delivered to the county board no later than 20 days before the election.

Fair Elections Center and Campus Vote Project intend the information contained herein to be used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed North Carolina legal professional.

Last updated July 2020

For more information, visit
www.fairelectionscenter.org