Conducting a Voter Registration Drive in Delaware

Before Getting Started

Training Requirement: Completing optional training allows a person to become a temporary registrar, which permits the person to receive, distribute and collect Delaware voter registration forms.

Untrained individuals may distribute and collect only the national voter registration form.

For details on being trained as a temporary registrar and conducting voter registration drives with Delaware forms contact the State Election Commissioner at 302-739-4277.

Notification and Registration Requirements: All people and groups conducting voter registration drives within Delaware should register with the state election commissioner or a department of elections. In addition, such persons or groups must list their name along with the name of the solicitor on each application collected and include a sequential number on the application to be used for the voter registration log.

Compensation Restrictions: Individuals who have been trained as temporary registrars should not receive compensation for their voter registration activities. Only untrained individuals who are limited to distributing the national form may be compensated. Do not pay registration drive participants based on how many registrations they collect.

Obtaining Applications

State Form: The state form may be obtained in bulk from the state election commissioner by individuals or groups who have received the appropriate training.

Federal Form: The federal mail-in voter registration application may be used in voter registration drives by individuals or groups, regardless of whether they have received training.

Photocopying Blank Forms: Delaware state voter registration forms may not be photocopied, but national registration forms may be photocopied.

Voter Registration Deadline

Received or postmarked by the 4th Saturday before Election Day.
Incomplete Applications: There is no law or administrative rule prohibiting a voter registration drive volunteer or organizer from filling-in missing information on an application. Do not make changes to an application or adding missing information without the express consent of the applicant.

Photocopying Completed Applications: As a best practice, a voter's full or partial Social Security number and/or driver's license number should not be retained.

Submitting Completed Applications
Voter registration drives using the National Mail Voter Registration Form and not conducted by a temporary registrar:

- Applications must be delivered to the state election commissioner or the department of elections for the county of the voter’s residence within 5 days of their completion or by 4:30 p.m. on the date registration closes.
- Make sure each applicant initials their party affiliation selection.
- Organizations must submit a log of applications that contains the name of organization, the inclusive dates that the applications listed were collected, a list of the full names of the applicants, and an application number assigned by the organization and marked on the application for each application to election officials.
- The federal voter registration application can be mailed to the following address: State of Delaware, Office of the State Election Commissioner, 905 S. Governors Ave., Suite 170, Dover, DE 19904.

Voter registration drives conducted by a temporary registrar:

- Applications must be submitted within five days of completion of the voter registration drive to the state election commissioner.
- Voter registration drives must also turn in applications every five working days during the voter registration drive to the state election commissioner.
- Any application completed prior to the close of voter registration before an election must be returned by 4:30 p.m. on the date registration closes.

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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 Delaware legal professional.

For more information, visit www.fairelectionscenter.org