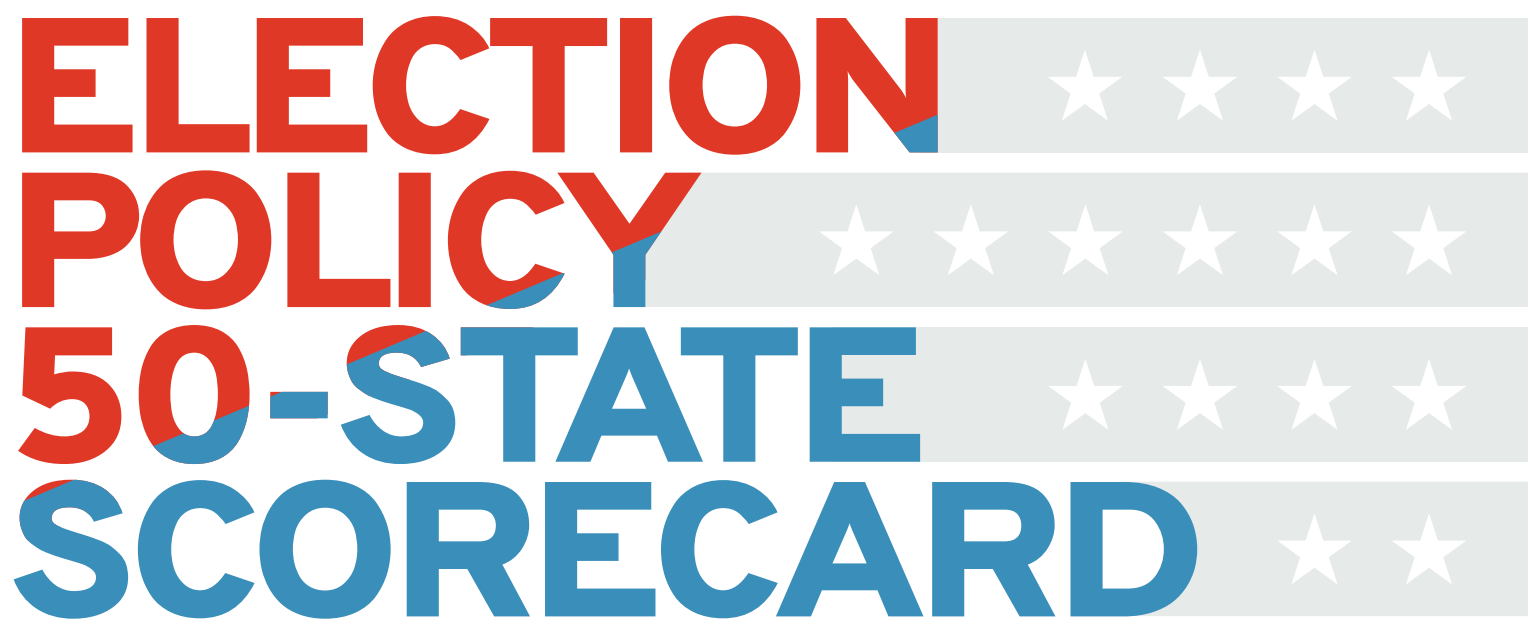

July 2026

ELECTION POLICY 50-STATE SCORECARD

A graphic featuring the title 'ELECTION POLICY 50-STATE SCORECARD' in large, bold, sans-serif font. The text is split into four lines: 'ELECTION' (red), 'POLICY' (red), '50-STATE' (red and blue), and 'SCORECARD' (blue). To the right of the text are four horizontal grey bars, each containing white stars. The first bar has four stars, the second has six, the third has four, and the fourth has two.

By Chris McIsaac



Policy Study
No. 340



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publication.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

American elections are highly decentralized across the 50 states, which results in a wide variety of approaches to all aspects of election policy. These differences provide an opportunity for states to learn from each other and share best practices. This is especially valuable as election officials navigate the current environment, in which public trust in the process can swing based on election outcomes.

Public perceptions of elections are shaped by a number of factors, many of which are beyond the control of election officials and state policymakers. However, the policies that govern elections in a state are something that officials can control—or at least influence. This scorecard identifies and evaluates states on a set of policies that are especially important for conducting elections worthy of public trust. These include:

- **VOTER ELIGIBILITY:** The right to vote is a central pillar of any functioning democracy. State policies play a vital role in ensuring that only U.S. citizens vote in U.S. elections, determining when younger Americans can sign up to vote, and deciding how voting rights are impacted after a criminal conviction.
- **VOTER REGISTRATION:** Registering to vote is the starting point for most citizens who choose to engage in the democratic process. State policies that set registration deadlines and the methods used to register voters have important implications for making the process both easy to navigate and secure enough to ensure that only eligible citizens vote in U.S. elections.
- **VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE:** Ensuring the accuracy of voter rolls is one of the core responsibilities of election administrators, and doing this well requires access to reliable data. State policies that allow election officials to securely share data across state lines and utilize data from a wide range of sources provides a strong foundation for maintaining reliable lists of eligible voters.
- **VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY:** Confirming the identity of an individual seeking to cast a ballot is a central part of administering elections, both in-person and by mail. Whether it is checking identification (ID), verifying signatures, or providing time for ballot curing, the policies state officials adopt help set the tone and expectations for identity verification.

This scorecard identifies and evaluates states on a set of policies that are especially important for conducting elections worthy of public trust.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

- **VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY:** The growth of early voting is one of the most significant trends in U.S. elections over the past quarter century. Millions of U.S. citizens now vote early, either in person or by mail without needing a reason to do so. This trend makes it easier for voters to participate in the democratic process, but it also introduces complexities for election administrators.
- **TABULATION AND AUDITS:** Counting votes and verifying the results are central to conducting a trustworthy election. Paper ballots play a critical role in this system, as they allow voters to verify their selections before casting their ballots and allow officials to conduct timely and transparent audits. At the same time, technology plays an essential role in delivering results quickly by tabulating ballots accurately and efficiently.

This scorecard addresses each of these topics in detail on a 50-state basis. Each state receives an overall star rating as well as a rating on its component scores, allowing for valuable comparison of the different approaches across states. Our scoring methodology evaluates states through the lens of secure and trustworthy elections that limit the amount of red tape that voters and election officials need to navigate to participate. Overall, the results suggest that states have a strong policy foundation that supports trustworthy elections, and the scorecard provides a path forward for ongoing improvement.

This scorecard addresses each of these topics in detail on a 50-state basis. Overall, the results suggest that states have a strong policy foundation that supports trustworthy elections and the scorecard provides a path forward for ongoing improvement.



INTRODUCTION

The decentralization of U.S. elections across the 50 states produces a wide variety of approaches to different aspects of election policy. Overall, these differences strengthen the system—even as they produce the policy variation this scorecard is designed to evaluate—because they allow for experimentation and innovation that can either lead to new best practices or serve as cautionary tales on strategies to avoid. Importantly, the responsibility for making these policy decisions is delegated to the states, not concentrated in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this scorecard is to evaluate each state on six aspects of election policy and the extent to which their policies contribute to trustworthy elections and minimize voting hurdles. Specifically, we assigned a score to each state in each of the following categories:

1. Voter Eligibility
2. Voter Registration
3. Voter List Maintenance
4. Verifying Voter Identity
5. Voting Before Election Day
6. Tabulation and Audits



State Scoring Categories

The six categories focus on core elements of election administration; these scores are aggregated into a single score for each state. In addition, we also include a supplemental policy section that highlights three other important election topics outside the core function of administering a free and fair election: primaries, political speech protections, and election worker safety. This category is intended to be informational only and is therefore not factored into overall scores.

This report is structured into two main sections. The first section presents a brief overview of the scoring methodology, followed by a detailed explanation of the policy categories and how we grade states on the underlying policies that contribute to the overall score within each category. In addition, the first section includes summary 50-state results for each category. The second section presents state-by-state results, including links (verified for accuracy at the time of publication) to the relevant statutes and other sources that informed our scoring decisions.

Overall, the scorecard seeks to emphasize performance on an issue-by-issue basis over aggregate scoring across all issues. Although we do assign each state an overall score, the true value of the scorecard is in highlighting the existing strengths as well as opportunities for improvement across different policy areas in each state, all through the perspective of building trust in the process and minimizing red tape for voters. In addition, the scorecard's reliance on state statutes demonstrates the central role that state lawmakers play in establishing the election rules that election officials are tasked with carrying out.

SCORING METHODOLOGY

This scorecard covers six core election policy categories and a supplemental policy category. Each category includes three specific election policies that served as the basis for our evaluation. For each policy, states could earn 2 points for full credit, 1 point for partial credit, or 0 points for no credit. At 2 points per policy, the total number of available points in each category was 6. Stars for each category were assigned based on the total number of points earned as a percent of the total points available across the three policies as outlined in Table 1. Overall star scores were determined by calculating the average star score for the 6 core categories and rounding to the nearest half percentage point.

All scores are based on the policies in place as of June 15, 2026. For the purpose of assigning scores for issues that are subject to ongoing legal proceedings, we measure states based on their enacted statutes or official policies until a final resolution of the matter is reached.

Table 1: Scoring System for Star Assignments

Category Points Earned (%)	Category Star Score
100	5
83	4
67	3
50	2.5
33	2
17	1
0	0



State
Scoring
System

One important exception to the scoring described above is North Dakota, which is the only state that does not require voters to register. This means that Category 2, Category 3, and the “preregistration” topic in Category 1 are not applicable to North Dakota. Thus, North Dakota’s score is based on a smaller set of policies than the rest of the states.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Table 2 presents each state’s star rating across the six core categories that contribute to the overall score, along with the overall star rating. The results reveal meaningful variation across states but also a broad policy foundation that supports trustworthy elections. All states scored at or above 3 stars overall, with an average overall score of 4 stars. Scores varied across the categories, with average stars ranging from 4.5 for “voter list maintenance” to 3.1 for “verifying voter identity.” The detailed discussion that follows examines each category in turn, explaining the policies evaluated, the scoring rationale, and how states performed.

Table 2: State Scores by Category And Overall

State	1. Voter Eligibility	2. Voter Registration	3. Voter List Maintenance	4. Verifying Voter Identity	5. Voting Before Election Day	6. Tabulation and Audits	Overall Stars
Alabama	3	5	5	2	1	4	3.5
Alaska	3	2.5	5	2	4	4	3.5
Arizona	4	5	5	5	4	4	4.5
Arkansas	5	3	5	2.5	3	4	4
California	3	4	2.5	2.5	3	5	3.5
Colorado	4	2.5	5	4	5	5	4.5
Connecticut	4	4	5	1	3	5	3.5
Delaware	4	3	5	1	3	4	3.5
Florida	5	5	5	5	5	4	5
Georgia	5	5	5	5	4	5	5
Hawai’i	4	3	5	3	5	4	4
Idaho	5	3	2	2.5	4	5	3.5
Illinois	4	3	5	2.5	3	4	3.5
Indiana	5	5	4	4	2.5	5	4.5
Iowa	4	3	4	4	5	4	4
Kansas	5	5	5	4	5	4	4.5
Kentucky	3	5	5	4	2.5	4	4
Louisiana	5	5	5	3	3	2	4
Maine	4	3	5	3	4	4	4
Maryland	3	4	5	1	4	4	3.5
Massachusetts	4	2.5	5	3	4	5	4
Michigan	5	2.5	5	4	4	4	4

SUMMARY OF RESULTS (CONTINUED)

State	1. Voter Eligibility	2. Voter Registration	3. Voter List Maintenance	4. Verifying Voter Identity	5. Voting Before Election Day	6. Tabulation and Audits	Overall Stars
Minnesota	4	2	5	2.5	4	5	4
Mississippi	3	3	5	3	0	3	3
Missouri	5	5	4	2.5	3	4	4
Montana	5	2.5	3	5	4	4	4
Nebraska	5	5	3	3	4	4	4
Nevada	4	2.5	5	3	4	4	4
New Hampshire	5	2	3	2.5	1	5	3
New Jersey	4	3	5	2.5	3	5	4
New Mexico	4	2.5	5	2.5	4	5	4
New York	4	5	5	3	4	4	4
North Carolina	5	5	3	4	5	5	4.5
North Dakota	5	N/A	N/A	4	5	4	4.5
Ohio	5	5	5	5	4	5	5
Oklahoma	5	5	3	2.5	4	4	4
Oregon	4	3	5	2.5	4	5	4
Pennsylvania	4	5	5	1	3	4	3.5
Rhode Island	4	4	5	5	5	5	4.5
South Carolina	5	5	5	2.5	3	5	4.5
South Dakota	5	3	3	2.5	4	4	3.5
Tennessee	3	5	5	3	3	5	4
Texas	4	3	5	5	2.5	4	4
Utah	5	5	5	4	5	5	5
Vermont	3	3	5	2	4	5	3.5
Virginia	3	5	5	2.5	3	5	4
Washington	4	2.5	5	4	4	5	4
West Virginia	4	5	5	2.5	2	5	4
Wisconsin	4	3	5	2.5	4	4	4
Wyoming	4	2.5	1	2	4	4	3

Note: Overall star score is the average of the category stars, rounded to the nearest 0.5 percent.



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CATEGORY 1

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

The right to vote is a central pillar of any functioning democracy. Throughout most of the United States' history, large segments of the population were excluded from the voting booth by law, but today, voting rights are nearly universal for any citizen over the age of 18.¹ Exceptions to that general rule include state-imposed restrictions on voting rights for individuals convicted of certain crimes or deemed mentally incompetent.

States vary in how they implement this national voter eligibility framework, however. To ensure compliance with the U.S. citizenship standard, some states require that people present documentary proof of citizenship (DPOC) when registering to vote, whereas others (most) rely on the applicant's sworn statement of citizenship on the registration form.² States also set different thresholds for when Americans under the age of 18 can register to vote, ranging from preregistration at age 15 years to active registration beginning at age 17 years and 10 months.³ Finally, the restrictions imposed on the voting rights of individuals convicted of certain felonies and the procedures in place to restore those rights vary substantially, with most states restricting voting rights at least during incarceration and often longer, and a few never removing them at all.⁴

This scorecard prioritizes citizenship-verification approaches that rely on government data, preregistration thresholds that extend for 6 to 24 months and balance voter convenience with administrative simplicity, and felon voting right restoration procedures that occur automatically without requiring additional action by the individual.

CITIZENSHIP VERIFICATION

U.S. citizenship is a requirement to vote in any federal or state election and in the vast majority of elections held at the local level.⁵ The framework in place to enforce this requirement varies by state and includes a mix of federal and state laws and policies that are implemented as part of each state's voter-registration and list-maintenance procedures.

1. "19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: Women's Right to Vote (1920)," National Archives, last accessed April 16, 2026. <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/19th-amendment>; "15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: Voting Rights (1870)," National Archives, last accessed April 16, 2026. <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/15th-amendment>.
2. "Legislative Approaches to Ensuring Only Citizens Vote," National Conference of State Legislatures, March 17, 2026. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/legislative-approaches-to-ensuring-only-citizens-vote#list-maintenance-options>.
3. "Preregistration for Young Voters," National Conference of State Legislatures, Feb. 26, 2025. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/preregistration-for-young-voters>.
4. United States Probation and Pretrial Services, "General FAQ," District of Nebraska, last accessed April 16, 2026. <https://www.nep.uscourts.gov/?q=faq/general/31>.
5. Wren Orey et al., "Four Things to Know about Noncitizen Voting," Bipartisan Policy Center, Feb. 20, 2026. <https://bipartisanpolicy.org/article/four-things-to-know-about-noncitizen-voting>.



Policies Evaluated:

- ★ Citizenship Verification
- ★ Preregistration Age
- ★ Voting Right Restoration

CATEGORY 1

VOTER ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

From a voter-registration perspective, the baseline for ensuring that only citizens vote in U.S. elections is the voter registration form itself. The first question on the National Voter Registration (NVR) form and every state registration form asks whether the applicant is a U.S. citizen, and there are federal and state criminal penalties for providing false voter-registration information.⁶ In fact, the federal form warns that noncitizens could be subject to deportation if they attempt to register unlawfully.

In addition to the risk of criminal prosecution under federal and state laws, states have also taken steps to deter noncitizen registration by passing laws that require DPOC.⁷ There are two main approaches to citizenship verification. The first is to require all voters to present DPOC at the point of registration. The other requires DPOC, but only if the government is unable to verify citizenship through other existing data sources. If that check confirms citizenship, the applicant is automatically registered without any further action required, but if the check is inconclusive, the applicant must present DPOC.

Requiring DPOC at the point of registration faces significant implementation challenges. In *Arizona v. Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.*, the Supreme Court ruled that such a requirement conflicts with federal law and cannot be enforced for federal elections in states that are subject to the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA).⁸ The origin of that case was an Arizona law requiring election officials to reject any registration form that was not accompanied by DPOC. However, the court found that the NVRA's requirement that states "accept and use" the federal registration form—which does not include a requirement for DPOC—preempted Arizona's state law in the context of a federal election. As a result, Arizona now manages separate voter lists for those who present DPOC and can participate in all federal, state, and local elections and those who have not presented DPOC and are therefore eligible only for federal contests.⁹

Beyond the DPOC requirement, which adds complexity for election administrators needing to manage "federal only" registration lists, a third approach to preventing noncitizen voting is to cross-reference existing data from other government sources to obtain information that can confirm citizenship. Georgia's approach, which relies on an automated data exchange between the Secretary of State and the Department of Driver Services, is a prime example of this, as it facilitates information-sharing that can confirm citizenship without placing an additional burden on voters to present the same document to multiple state agencies.¹⁰ Arizona also relies on a similar procedure to seek confirmation of citizenship proactively in cases where an individual does not submit DPOC with their voter registration application.



Beyond the DPOC requirement, which adds complexity for election administrators needing to manage "federal only" registration lists, a third approach to preventing noncitizen voting is to cross-reference existing data from other government sources to obtain information that can confirm citizenship.

6. "National Mail Voter Registration Form," U.S. Election Assistance Commission, last accessed April 16, 2026. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/eac_assets/1/6/Federal_Voter_Registration_ENG.pdf.

7. "Legislative Approaches to Ensuring Only Citizens Vote," <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/legislative-approaches-to-ensuring-only-citizens-vote#list-maintenance-options>.

8. *Arizona v. Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.*, 570 U.S. 1 (2013). <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/570/12-71/case.pdf>.

9. "Federal Only Voters," Clean Elections, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.azcanelections.gov/federal-only-voters>.

10. Chris McIsaac, "Georgia Prevents Noncitizen Voting While Minimizing Red Tape for Americans," R Street Institute, March 4, 2026. <https://www.rstreet.org/commentary/georgia-prevents-noncitizen-voting-while-minimizing-red-tape-for-americans>.

CATEGORY 1

VOTER ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

A small number of local jurisdictions (e.g., Burlington, VT, San Francisco, CA, and Frederick, MD) allow some noncitizens to vote in local elections.¹¹ These jurisdictions' policies have been cited in support of false claims that noncitizen voting is occurring in large numbers nationwide.

For this category of the scorecard, all states started with 1 point (partial credit) to reflect the existence of state laws and voter registration forms that require statements affirming U.S. citizenship (Table 3). From there, we awarded an additional point (full credit) to the 28 states that take additional steps to confirm citizenship, which come in the two main forms previously noted (i.e., a state law that requires DPOC either at the point of registration or later in the registration process or the use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements [SAVE] data system to perform back-end citizenship checks as part of voter list maintenance or registration). We deducted 1 point from the partial credit baseline for three states with local governments that allow noncitizens to participate in local elections because allowing this can fuel concerns over noncitizen voting and send mixed signals from the government regarding voting eligibility.

Table 3: Citizenship Verification Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State takes action beyond attestation oath to confirm citizenship, including a DPOC requirement or use of the federal SAVE data system	28
1 (partial credit)	State requires voters to attest to citizenship on voter registration form	19
0 (no credit)	Local government in the state allows noncitizens to vote in local elections	3

PREREGISTRATION AGE

For most of U.S. history, the minimum age to vote was 21.¹² In 1943, Georgia became the first state in the nation to reduce the voting age to 18; 12 years later, in 1955, Kentucky followed suit.¹³ Momentum around this change grew during the Vietnam War era and eventually resulted in the ratification of the 26th amendment in 1971, which lowered the voting age to 18 nationwide.¹⁴

With voting eligibility now firmly set at 18, contemporary policy debate on this topic centers on determining the age at which Americans can register to vote. All states allow some period of preregistration (the time during which individuals younger than age 18 can register to vote), but the duration of this period and the method for determining it vary from state to state. There are two general approaches: one that sets a firm age at which a person becomes eligible to register and another that determines registration eligibility based on the person's age at the time of the next election.

11. "Laws permitting noncitizens to vote in the United States," Ballotpedia, last accessed April 13, 2026. https://ballotpedia.org/Laws_permitting_noncitizens_to_vote_in_the_United_States.
12. Brandon J. Murrill, "The Twenty-Sixth Amendment and Reduction of the Voting Age (Part 2): History of Voter Age Qualifications," Congressional Research Service, April 23, 2025. https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/LSB/PDF/LSB11287/LSB11287.1.pdf.
13. Gemma R. Birnbaum, "'Old Enough to Fight, Old Enough to Vote': The WWII Roots of the 26th Amendment," The National WWII Museum, Oct. 28, 2020. <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/voting-age-26th-amendment>.
14. "Twenty-Sixth Amendment," Constitution Annotated, last accessed April 16, 2026. <https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-26>.

CATEGORY 1

VOTER ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

Among the 28 states that determine registration eligibility based on a specific age, the most common age is 16, but ages range from age 15 in Colorado to 17 years and 10 months in Texas.¹⁵ Meanwhile, 22 states base registration eligibility on the age of the voter at the time of a future election (typically the next general election). Depending on the timing of the next election and the birthday of the specific person, this approach results in eligibility ages that fluctuate from person to person and can be as low as age 16. Mechanically, election officials track these records separately from the active voter list until the person reaches age 18.

Supporters of preregistration on the younger end of the spectrum argue that it eventually increases voter turnout and creates a more streamlined registration process that can be completed as part of obtaining a driver’s license at age 16.¹⁶ Opponents, however, point out that Americans between the ages of 18 and 29 are the most mobile age cohort, which raises the likelihood that preregistration records will become obsolete quickly.¹⁷ There are also concerns about the data privacy of underage individuals’ preregistration records, which some states mitigate by granting enhanced privacy protections to pre-registrant data.¹⁸



Depending on the timing of the next election and the birthday of the specific person, this approach results in eligibility ages that fluctuate from person to person and can be as low as age 16. Mechanically, election officials track these records separately from the active voter list until the person reaches age 18.

For scoring, all states started with 1 point (partial credit) because they permit some period of preregistration (Table 4). From there, states with a preregistration period that is at least 6 months but no more than 2 years before age 18 earned another point (full credit). Although all states currently permit some period of preregistration, a state that removed that option would earn 0 points.

Table 4: Preregistration Age Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	Preregistration period extends for 6-24 months	46
1 (partial credit)	Preregistration period extends for less than 6 or more than 24 months	3
0 (no credit)	No preregistration	0

15. “Preregistration for Young Voters.” <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/preregistration-for-young-voters>.
16. Seo-Young Silvia Kim et al., “The Future of Voter Registration: Access, Accuracy, and Cost,” MIT Election Data and Science Lab, last accessed April 13, 2026, p. 15. <https://electionlab.mit.edu/sites/default/files/2023-10/voter-registration.pdf#page=15>.
17. Zachary Scherer, “Young Adults Most Likely to Change Living Arrangements,” U.S. Census Bureau, Aug. 31, 2020. <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2020/08/young-adults-most-likely-to-change-living-arrangements.html>.
18. “Voter Roll Privacy,” U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Jan. 3, 2023, p. 19. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/Voter_Roll_Privacy.pdf.

CATEGORY 1

VOTER ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

VOTING RIGHTS RESTORATION

U.S. citizens over the age of 18 have the right to vote in most circumstances, but states can remove those rights in certain situations, such as a finding of mental incompetence or following a conviction for certain crimes.¹⁹ Particularly with regard to the latter situation, states vary in their policies for removing and restoring the right to vote.

On one end of the spectrum, individuals convicted of felonies in Vermont and Maine never lose their right to vote, even while incarcerated.²⁰ At the other end, states like Alabama and Tennessee not only take away voting rights until the completion of the sentence, but also require individuals to take a series of administrative steps to restore their voting rights. The most common approach among states is to restore voting rights proactively after an individual is released from prison or completes their full sentence.

With the exception of limited circumstances in which a conviction for certain crimes (e.g., murder, treason, voting-related crimes) results in lifetime voting bans in some states, in general, all states restore voting rights at some point (or never take them away in the first place). This scorecard remains agnostic on state policy choices around whether or not to remove voting rights and on the specific timing of restoration. Instead, it focuses on the administrative process that individuals must navigate to restore the right to vote.

We gave 2 points (full credit) to states that minimize the administrative burden by not requiring any action from the individual to restore voting eligibility in most circumstances, regardless of whether that occurs at the point of release from incarceration or after completing other sentencing terms such as probation and paying any restitution (Table 5). By this metric, states that do not remove rights at all also qualify for full credit. We gave 1 point (partial credit) to Kentucky and Iowa because the automatic restoration policies currently in place depend on executive orders, which can be easily reversed under a new administration, and to Arizona and Wyoming because the states' automatic restoration policies only apply to first-time felony convictions. We gave 0 points to states that follow a general policy of requiring individuals to complete additional administrative steps to restore their rights, such as petitioning a court or the Governor.

Table 5: Voting Rights Restoration Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State restores voting rights automatically	42
1 (partial credit)	State restores voting rights automatically for first-time offenders only or the authorization to restore voting rights automatically depends on an executive order	4
0 (no credit)	State does not automatically restore voting rights	4

19. "State Laws Affecting the Voting Rights of People with Mental Disabilities," Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, last accessed April 13, 2026. https://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2016_State-Laws-Affecting-Voting-Rights-of-PWD.pdf.

20. Disenfranchisement & Rights Restoration," Voting Rights Lab, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://tracker.votingrightslab.org/issues/disenfranchisement-and-rights-restoration>.

CATEGORY 1

VOTER ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

Table 6: Category 1 State Scores—Voter Eligibility

State	Citizenship Verification	Preregistration Age	Voting Rights Restoration	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alabama	2	2	0	4	67	3
Alaska	1	1	2	4	67	3
Arizona	2	2	1	5	83	4
Arkansas	2	2	2	6	100	5
California	0	2	2	4	67	3
Colorado	2	1	2	5	83	4
Connecticut	1	2	2	5	83	4
Delaware	1	2	2	5	83	4
Florida	2	2	2	6	100	5
Georgia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Hawai'i	1	2	2	5	83	4
Idaho	2	2	2	6	100	5
Illinois	1	2	2	5	83	4
Indiana	2	2	2	6	100	5
Iowa	2	2	1	5	83	4
Kansas	2	2	2	6	100	5
Kentucky	1	2	1	4	67	3
Louisiana	2	2	2	6	100	5
Maine	1	2	2	5	83	4
Maryland	0	2	2	4	67	3
Massachusetts	1	2	2	5	83	4
Michigan	2	2	2	6	100	5
Minnesota	1	2	2	5	83	4
Mississippi	2	2	0	4	67	3
Missouri	2	2	2	6	100	5

CATEGORY 1

VOTER ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

State	Citizenship Verification	Preregistration Age	Voting Rights Restoration	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Montana	2	2	2	6	100	5
Nebraska	2	2	2	6	100	5
Nevada	1	2	2	5	83	4
New Hampshire	2	2	2	6	100	5
New Jersey	1	2	2	5	83	4
New Mexico	1	2	2	5	83	4
New York	1	2	2	5	83	4
North Carolina	2	2	2	6	100	5
North Dakota	2	N/A	2	4	100	5
Ohio	2	2	2	6	100	5
Oklahoma	2	2	2	6	100	5
Oregon	1	2	2	5	83	4
Pennsylvania	1	2	2	5	83	4
Rhode Island	1	2	2	5	83	4
South Carolina	2	2	2	6	100	5
South Dakota	2	2	2	6	100	5
Tennessee	2	2	0	4	67	3
Texas	2	1	2	5	83	4
Utah	2	2	2	6	100	5
Vermont	0	2	2	4	67	3
Virginia	2	2	0	4	67	3
Washington	1	2	2	5	83	4
West Virginia	1	2	2	5	83	4
Wisconsin	1	2	2	5	83	4
Wyoming	2	2	1	5	83	4

CATEGORY 2

VOTER REGISTRATION

Registering to vote is the starting point for most citizens who choose to engage in the democratic process. Every state except North Dakota requires potential voters to submit an application containing basic information such as age, citizenship status, and home address.²¹ Election officials review the application, and if it meets the criteria, the individual is confirmed as an eligible voter and added to the state's registration list. As of the 2024 election, there were 211 million registered voters in the United States.²²

The voter registration process is governed by a mix of federal and state requirements. For federal elections, the NVRA of 1993 outlines the general framework for voter registration that most states follow.²³ Six states are exempt from the NVRA because they do not have voter registration at all (North Dakota) or because they permitted same-day registration at the time Congress enacted the NVRA (Idaho, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Wyoming, and Wisconsin). One of the central provisions of the NVRA was the integration of voter registration into state driver's license registration process, which explains why the NVRA is commonly referred to as the "Motor Voter" law. Other key elements of the NVRA include requirements for states to offer registration by mail, limits on how far in advance states can set the voter registration deadline, and minimum standards for maintaining accurate voter registration lists.²⁴

This scorecard focuses on three main issues in which states vary in their approach to voter registration: use of same-day registration, online voter registration, and automatic voter registration. There are policy tradeoffs associated with each of these, and states that minimize red tape for voters and election workers while promoting secure and accurate registration lists earned top scores in this category.



Policies Evaluated:

- ★ Registration Deadline
- ★ Online Voter Registration
- ★ Automatic Voter Registration

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

States follow two main approaches for determining when voter registration lists are finalized for an election cycle. One common approach is to set the registration deadline up to 30 days before Election Day, but another is to allow voters to register at the polling location on Election Day or during early voting, commonly known as same-day registration.²⁵

21. "Voting in North Dakota," North Dakota Secretary of State, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.sos.nd.gov/elections/voter/voting-north-dakota>.
22. "Election Administration and Voting Survey 2024 Comprehensive Report," U.S. Election Assistance Commission, June 2025, p. 144. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2025-07/2024_EAVS_Report_508.pdf#page=144.
23. Sarah J. Eckman, "Voter Registration: Background and Current Issues," Congressional Research Service, Feb. 7, 2026. https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/R/PDF/R45030/R45030.14.pdf.
24. Ibid.
25. "Voter Registration Deadlines," National Conference of State Legislatures, Oct. 13, 2025. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-registration-deadlines>.

CATEGORY 2

VOTER REGISTRATION (CONTINUED)

Administrative simplicity is one of the central arguments for a pre-Election Day registration deadline, as it reduces the number of tasks temporary poll workers are required to complete at a polling location and shifts the responsibility for application processing to full-time election workers with more experience.²⁶ In addition, it locks in the registration list in advance of Election Day, reducing the number of moving parts that election officials must navigate while operating polling locations and processing ballots. Proponents of same-day registration point to the voter-convenience benefits of registering and casting a ballot in a single visit to the polls and the potential for increased turnout, disputing claims that it significantly increases administrative complexity.

Considering the capacity challenges facing understaffed election offices across the country and the ongoing challenge of retaining election workers, we gave 2 points (full credit) to the 24 states that do not permit same-day registration during the early voting period or on Election Day (Table 7). This allows election workers to finalize voter lists in advance and prioritize other core Election Day tasks such as checking IDs and processing ballots.²⁷ In addition, we awarded full credit to three states that permit same-day registration during early voting or on Election Day using provisional ballots only. This approach relieves pressure on poll workers to make immediate eligibility determinations and instead gives election workers time to review eligibility after polls close and before ballots are processed.²⁸

The remaining 22 states that register voters permit some degree of same-day registration, which we assessed differently depending on the specific policies in place. We gave partial credit to 11 states that take steps to avoid duplicate same-day registrations by requiring same-day registrants to cast a provisional ballot in some instances or by providing election workers with access to an updated voter registration list to check eligibility of same-day registrants in real time. In addition, we gave partial credit to two states that limit same-day registration to presidential elections only. We gave 0 points to the remaining nine states that do not use provisional ballots or provide election workers with real-time access to the voter registration database and instead rely on post-election checks to identify and prosecute ineligible same-day registrants who voted.

Table 7: Registration Deadline Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State does not permit same-day registration or permits same-day registration using provisional ballots only	27
1 (partial credit)	State does not permit same-day registration or permits same-day registration using provisional ballots only	13
0 (no credit)	State permits same-day registration without a requirement for provisional ballots or real-time access to the voter registration database	9

26. "Same-day registration," MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Feb. 9, 2022. <https://electionlab.mit.edu/research/same-day-registration>.
27. Barry C. Burden and Robert M. Stein, "The Americans on the front lines of elections," Brookings, Jan. 9, 2024. <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-americans-on-the-front-lines-of-elections>; Wren Orey et al, "Election Official Turnover Rates through the 2024 Election," Bipartisan Policy Center, Aug. 19, 2025. <https://bipartisanpolicy.org/issue-brief/election-official-turnover-rates-through-the-2024-election>.
28. Chris McIsaac, "How Provisional Ballots Can Strengthen Same-Day Registration," R Street Institute, May 8, 2026. <https://www.rstreet.org/commentary/how-provisional-ballots-can-strengthen-same-day-registration>.

CATEGORY 2

VOTER REGISTRATION (CONTINUED)

ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

Citizens have a variety of options for registering to vote, such as filling out and submitting a paper application at an election office, applying to vote while obtaining a driver’s license at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), or completing an online application at home. Registering to vote is typically a convenient and secure process. The emergence of online voter registration over the past two decades is one prominent example of technology helping to deliver a seamless registration experience to voters.²⁹

Arizona was the first state to offer online registration, and it did so in 2002. Today, 42 states operate an optional online registration portal, and during the 2024 election cycle, approximately 14 percent of total registrations occurred online.



Online voter registration is a simple concept whereby an individual completes a voter registration form online through a secure government website.³⁰ Once submitted, the information provided on the application can often be cross-referenced with other data sources, such as previously submitted driver’s license applications, streamlining the process for verifying voter eligibility and freeing up staff resources to handle applications that require additional information or data checks. Arizona was the first state to offer online registration, and it did so in 2002.³¹ Today, 42 states operate an optional online registration portal, and during the 2024 election cycle, approximately 14 percent of total registrations occurred online.³²

Giving voters the option to register online improves convenience and streamlines the overall registration process. We gave the 42 states that offer online voter registration 2 points (full credit; Table 8). We gave 0 points to the seven who register voters but do not offer an online registration option.

Table 8: Online Voter Registration Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State offers online voter registration	42
1 (partial credit)	N/A	0
0 (no credit)	State does not offer online registration	7

29. “Online Voter Registration,” National Conference of State Legislatures, Jan. 23, 2025. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/online-voter-registration>.
30. “Glossary of Election Terminology,” U.S. Election Assistance Commission, July 16, 2021, p. 61. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/glossary_files/Glossary_of_Election_Terms_EAC.pdf.
31. “Online Voter Registration,” The Pew Charitable Trusts, May 2015, p. 2. https://www.pew.org/-/media/assets/2015/05/ovr_2015_brief.pdf.
32. “Election Administration and Voting Survey 2024 Comprehensive Report,” U.S. Election Assistance Commission, June 2025. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2025-07/2024_EAVS_Report_508.pdf#page=144.

CATEGORY 2

VOTER REGISTRATION (CONTINUED)

AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION

Automatic voter registration (AVR) is a relatively new approach to voter registration that began in Oregon in 2015 and is now used in 24 states nationwide.³³ Under the NVRA, all covered states are required to offer residents the opportunity to register to vote when interacting with the DMV and other state offices that provide public assistance, such as health and disability agencies.³⁴ Under this model, the individual affirmatively accepts the offer to register before the application is processed. AVR builds on the NVRA approach but shifts the dynamic. Instead of the individual needing to opt-in to voter registration, AVR turns the choice into an opt-out. Registration is still optional, but the default response is for the voter to accept the offer of registering.

In most states, the difference between an AVR and non-AVR approach is minimal from the perspective of the individual engaging with the government agency because the decision about whether or not to register is finalized on the front-end during the application process. Once someone declines the offer to register, no further action is necessary.³⁵ On the other hand, someone who declines to register in one of the 10 states that follow a back-end AVR model is required to confirm their choice days or weeks later, typically by responding to a notice delivered via mail.³⁶ If election officials do not receive a timely response to the notice confirming the decision to decline registration, the application moves forward, and the individual becomes a registered voter.

Giving citizens the option to register as they complete some other interaction with a state government agency improves voter convenience and streamlines the registration process. However, by requiring people to take an additional step confirming their decision to decline voter registration, back-end AVR creates unnecessary red tape. While increasing the number of registered voters is a worthy goal, Americans still have the right to decline participation in the election process, and those who make that choice should not face excessive administrative burdens.

For scoring purposes, we gave the 38 states that either use AVR with a front-end opt-out or do not use AVR at all 2 points (full credit; [Table 9](#)). We gave 0 points to the remaining 11 that require voters to take additional action through a back-end opt-out.

Table 9: Automatic Voter Registration Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State uses AVR with a front-end opt-out or no AVR	38
1 (partial credit)	N/A	0
0 (no credit)	State uses AVR with back-end opt-out	11

33. "Automatic Voter Registration," National Conference of State Legislatures, July 21, 2025. "<https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/automatic-voter-registration>."

34. Eckman, p. 8. "https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/R/PDF/R45030/R45030.14.pdf."

35. "Automatic Voter Registration," MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Feb. 16, 2023. "<https://electionlab.mit.edu/research/automatic-voter-registration>."

36. Ibid.

CATEGORY 2

VOTER REGISTRATION (CONTINUED)

Table 10: Category 2 State Scores—Voter Registration

State	Registration Deadline	Online Voter Registration	Automatic Voter Registration	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alabama	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alaska	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Arizona	2	2	2	6	100	5
Arkansas	2	0	2	4	67	3
California	1	2	2	5	83	4
Colorado	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Connecticut	1	2	2	5	83	4
Delaware	2	2	0	4	67	3
Florida	2	2	2	6	100	5
Georgia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Hawai'i	0	2	2	4	67	3
Idaho	0	2	2	4	67	3
Illinois	0	2	2	4	67	3
Indiana	2	2	2	6	100	5
Iowa	0	2	2	4	67	3
Kansas	2	2	2	6	100	5
Kentucky	2	2	2	6	100	5
Louisiana	2	2	2	6	100	5
Maine	0	2	2	4	67	3
Maryland	1	2	2	5	83	4
Massachusetts	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Michigan	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Minnesota	0	2	0	2	33	2
Mississippi	2	0	2	4	67	3
Missouri	2	2	2	6	100	5

CATEGORY 2

VOTER REGISTRATION (CONTINUED)

State	Registration Deadline	Online Voter Registration	Automatic Voter Registration	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Montana	1	0	2	3	50	2.5
Nebraska	2	2	2	6	100	5
Nevada	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
New Hampshire	0	0	2	2	33	2
New Jersey	2	2	0	4	67	3
New Mexico	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
New York	2	2	2	6	100	5
North Carolina	2	2	2	6	100	5
North Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio	2	2	2	6	100	5
Oklahoma	2	2	2	6	100	5
Oregon	2	2	0	4	67	3
Pennsylvania	2	2	2	6	100	5
Rhode Island	1	2	2	5	83	4
South Carolina	2	2	2	6	100	5
South Dakota	2	0	2	4	67	3
Tennessee	2	2	2	6	100	5
Texas	2	0	2	4	67	3
Utah	2	2	2	6	100	5
Vermont	0	2	2	4	67	3
Virginia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Washington	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
West Virginia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Wisconsin	0	2	2	4	67	3
Wyoming	1	0	2	3	50	2.5

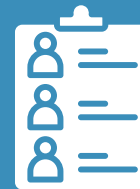
CATEGORY 3

VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE

Ensuring the accuracy of the voter rolls is one of the core responsibilities of election administrators and a requirement under the NVRA.³⁷ The population of eligible voters in any given jurisdiction is constantly changing due to a variety of factors, such as residents turning 18, dying, or moving out of and into different jurisdictions. Voter list maintenance refers to the procedures in place to regularly review the voter rolls and remove voters who are no longer eligible.³⁸ Beyond the ongoing churn resulting from these situations, other reasons that a voter may become ineligible include changes in citizenship status, convictions for certain crimes, findings of mental incompetence, and prolonged voting inactivity.

Most states follow a common list-maintenance framework based on the requirements of the NVRA, including the reasons for removal, the procedures for providing notice to voters of their pending removal, and the time period during which list maintenance activities are allowed to occur. However, states use different data sources to accomplish these tasks. For example, some states use the federal SAVE system and jury dismissal records to identify noncitizens, whereas others consult reports from the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) and interstate data-sharing organizations such as the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) to identify voters who move from one jurisdiction to another.³⁹

Effective list maintenance depends on reliable data from a variety of federal and state sources. To grade states on list-maintenance practices, we focused on the use of interstate data-sharing networks and the types of sources states rely on to identify voters who die or become ineligible because of a change in resident status. States that participate in multistate list-maintenance data-sharing agreements, consult the USPS National Change of Address (NCOA), and use Social Security Administration (SSA) data and other sources of information to track deceased voters earned top scores in this category.



Policies Evaluated:

- ★ Multistate Data Sharing
- ★ Address Changes
- ★ Deceased Voters

37. Eckman, p. 10. https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/R/PDF/R45030/R45030.14.pdf.

38. "Glossary of Election Terminology," p. 93. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/glossary_files/Glossary_of_Election_Terms_EAC.pdf.

39. "Voter Registration and Voter List Maintenance Fact Sheet," U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Feb. 2, 2026. <https://www.uscis.gov/save/current-user-agencies/guidance/voter-registration-and-voter-list-maintenance-fact-sheet>; "Best Practices: Voter List Maintenance," U.S. Election Assistance Commission, March 2023, p. 10. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/electionofficials/VoterList/Best_Practices_Voter_List_Maintenance_V1_508.pdf.

CATEGORY 3

VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE (CONTINUED)

MULTISTATE DATA SHARING

Established in 2012, ERIC supports the efforts of its 27 member states to maintain accurate voter rolls.⁴⁰ ERIC members regularly submit their voter registration lists to the organization, which then uses data-matching software to compare each member’s lists against other members’ lists.⁴¹ The primary purpose of the comparison process is to identify duplicate voters who appear on multiple state lists, which is typically because of an interstate move. In addition, ERIC supplements the direct comparison data with additional sources, such as the NCOA and SSA master death file to generate seven reports that are regularly delivered to members to support their list-maintenance efforts.⁴²

Although ERIC is the largest interstate data-sharing network and has the longest track record, it is not the only option. States can share data through bilateral agreements and participate in other recently created networks, such as the Alabama Voter Integrity Database (AVID) or the EleXa network established by Ohio’s Secretary of State.⁴³ Georgia, for example, participates in both ERIC and AVID.⁴⁴

Interstate data sharing through multistate organizations like ERIC or bilateral agreements is an essential tool for identifying voters whose registrations need to be canceled or moved because of a change of address. Therefore, we gave 2 points (full credit) to states that share data with two or more states (Table 11). Those sharing with a single other state earned 1 point (partial credit), and those that do not participate in any of these systems received 0 points.

Table 11: Multistate Data Sharing Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	Member of multistate data-sharing organization and/or bilateral agreements in place with two or more states	37
1 (partial credit)	Bilateral agreement in place with one other state	3
0 (no credit)	State does not participate in multistate data-sharing organization and no evidence of bilateral agreements	9

ADDRESS CHANGES

In a typical year, approximately 12 percent of the U.S. population moves.⁴⁵ Of the 40 million Americans who moved in 2023, approximately 8 million crossed state lines, and the rest moved within the same state. Both types of moves have major implications for voter registration. Interstate moves require the person to register as a new voter in the new state, and their previous state of residence needs to cancel the voting record. Even short-distance, in-state moves can result in the voter residing in a completely different legislative or congressional district, which requires a registration update rather than a wholesale cancellation.

40. “ERIC Overview,” Electronic Registration Information Center, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://ericstates.org>.

41. “How ERIC Works,” Electronic Registration Information Center, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://ericstates.org/how-does-it-work>.

42. Ibid.

43. “Secretary LaRose Launches Multi-State Election Integrity Network Called ‘Elexa,’” Ohio Secretary of State, Dec. 15, 2025. <https://www.ohiosos.gov/office/media-center/categories/press-releases/2025-12-15>.

44. Colin Wood, “Conservative states are building their own voter database,” Statescoop, April 15, 2025. <https://statescoop.com/conservative-states-avid-eric-voter-database-who-we-are>.

45. Owen G. Denoeux and Mehreen S. Ismail, “States with High Numbers of In-Movers From Other States Didn’t Necessarily Have High Shares of Recent Arrivals in 2023,” U.S. Census Bureau, April 29, 2025. <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2025/04/state-newcomers.html>.

CATEGORY 3

VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE (CONTINUED)

NCOA data from the USPS is a critical resource for tracking address changes and serves as a foundation for effective voter list maintenance. Forty-seven states currently use data from the NCOA, which is specifically identified in the NVRA as a resource that satisfies the law’s requirement to conduct list maintenance.⁴⁶ This database compiles official change-of-address records filed with the USPS and can help election officials identify voter records that require an update or cancellation.⁴⁷ To access NCOA data, states can either obtain a license for direct access or obtain the data through membership in ERIC. For scoring purposes, we gave states that are required or permitted to use NCOA data 2 points (full credit); states without evidence of NCOA use received 0 points (Table 12).

Table 12: Address Changes Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	NCOA use required or permitted	47
1 (partial credit)	N/A	0
0 (no credit)	No evidence of NCOA use	2

DECEASED VOTERS

Canceling the registration of a deceased voter is a core function of voter list maintenance, and the Help America Vote Act of 2002 requires states to use data from agencies responsible for tracking death records, typically a department of health or vital records.⁴⁸ Many states also supplement this required data sharing with other sources of information that indicate the death of a voter, including the Social Security Limited Access Death Master File, which is one of the most comprehensive sources and can be accessed directly through an agreement with the SSA or through membership in ERIC.⁴⁹ States can also rely on more localized resources, such as obituaries and notifications from family members or estate representatives.

All states meet the minimum federal standard of using state vital records, so we gave each state 1 point (partial credit) for this baseline (Table 13). We gave an additional point (full credit) to the 47 states that go beyond the federal minimum standard by allowing election officials to consider other sources that indicate the death of a voter.

Table 13: Deceased Voters Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State and local vital records and additional sources	47
1 (partial credit)	State and local vital records	2
0 (no credit)	No death record checks	0

46. Eckman, p. 11. https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/R/PDF/R45030/R45030.14.pdf.

47. “Glossary of Election Terminology,” p. 57. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/glossary_files/Glossary_of_Election_Terms_EAC.pdf.

48. 52 U.S.C. § 21083(a)(2)(A)(ii), [https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=\(title:52%20section:21083%20edition:prelim\)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=(title:52%20section:21083%20edition:prelim)).

49. “Limited Access Death Master File Download,” National Technical Information Service, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://dmf.ntis.gov>.

CATEGORY 3

VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE (CONTINUED)

Table 14: Category 3 State Scores—Voter List Maintenance

State	Multistate Data Sharing	Address Changes	Deceased Voters	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alabama	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alaska	2	2	2	6	100	5
Arizona	2	2	2	6	100	5
Arkansas	2	2	2	6	100	5
California	0	2	1	3	50	2.5
Colorado	2	2	2	6	100	5
Connecticut	2	2	2	6	100	5
Delaware	2	2	2	6	100	5
Florida	2	2	2	6	100	5
Georgia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Hawai'i	2	2	2	6	100	5
Idaho	0	0	2	2	33	2
Illinois	2	2	2	6	100	5
Indiana	1	2	2	5	83	4
Iowa	1	2	2	5	83	4
Kansas	2	2	2	6	100	5
Kentucky	2	2	2	6	100	5
Louisiana	2	2	2	6	100	5
Maine	2	2	2	6	100	5
Maryland	2	2	2	6	100	5
Massachusetts	2	2	2	6	100	5
Michigan	2	2	2	6	100	5
Minnesota	2	2	2	6	100	5
Mississippi	2	2	2	6	100	5
Missouri	1	2	2	5	83	4

CATEGORY 3

VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE (CONTINUED)

State	Multistate Data Sharing	Address Changes	Deceased Voters	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Montana	0	2	2	4	67	3
Nebraska	0	2	2	4	67	3
Nevada	2	2	2	6	100	5
New Hampshire	0	2	2	4	67	3
New Jersey	2	2	2	6	100	5
New Mexico	2	2	2	6	100	5
New York	2	2	2	6	100	5
North Carolina	0	2	2	4	67	3
North Dakota	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio	2	2	2	6	100	5
Oklahoma	0	2	2	4	67	3
Oregon	2	2	2	6	100	5
Pennsylvania	2	2	2	6	100	5
Rhode Island	2	2	2	6	100	5
South Carolina	2	2	2	6	100	5
South Dakota	0	2	2	4	67	3
Tennessee	2	2	2	6	100	5
Texas	2	2	2	6	100	5
Utah	2	2	2	6	100	5
Vermont	2	2	2	6	100	5
Virginia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Washington	2	2	2	6	100	5
West Virginia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Wisconsin	2	2	2	6	100	5
Wyoming	0	0	1	1	17	1

CATEGORY 4

VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY

Confirming the identity of an individual seeking to cast a ballot is a central part of administering elections, and the process for doing this varies substantially across jurisdictions and voting methods. For in-person voting, the procedures range from requiring voters to present a photo ID to requiring a voter to sign their name in a poll book without providing any additional documentation.⁵⁰ For mail-in ballots, voters are often required to sign the ballot envelope, and election workers must confirm that the signature on the ballot matches the signature on file in the voter registration record.⁵¹ If a discrepancy arises, some states provide voters with an opportunity to correct the error so the ballot can be counted.⁵²

Supporters of strict photo ID verification requirements argue that such policies are necessary to deter voter fraud, whereas opponents argue that voter fraud concerns are overstated and the compliance burden falls disproportionately on certain groups, increasing the risk of voter disenfranchisement.⁵³ Research suggests that both sides overstate their case, and the actual impacts are negligible.⁵⁴ Nevertheless, U.S. citizens overwhelmingly support requiring photo ID at the polls.⁵⁵

To grade states on this issue, we considered their policies on voter ID at the polls and the identity-verification and ballot-curing procedures for mail ballots. States that request ID from voters and require those without ID to cast a provisional ballot; verify mail ballots using signatures or ID numbers; and provide voters with a limited period to correct mail-ballot errors earned top scores in this category.

VOTER ID AT THE POLLS

Voters in all states are required to provide some form of personal information to an election worker when voting in person, ranging from a photo ID to a signature in a poll book. For those states with



Policies Evaluated:

★ Voter ID at the Polls

★ Mail Ballot Verification

★ Ballot Curing Procedures

50. "Voter ID Laws," National Conference of State Legislatures, July 2, 2025. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id>.

51. "Table 14: How States Verify Voted Absentee/Mail Ballots," National Conference of State Legislatures, Feb. 24, 2026. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/table-14-how-states-verify-voted-absentee-mail-ballots>.

52. "Table 15: States with Signature Cure Processes," National Conference of State Legislatures, July 17, 2025. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/table-15-states-with-signature-cure-processes>.

53. Jonathan Madison, "Balancing Security and Access: Pragmatic State-Level Approaches to Citizenship Verification and Voter ID," R Street Institute, Feb. 24, 2026. <https://www.rstreet.org/commentary/balancing-security-and-access-pragmatic-state-level-approaches-to-citizenship-verification-and-voter-id>.

54. Enrico Cantoni and Vincent Pons, "Strict ID Laws Don't Stop Voters: Evidence From a U.S. Nationwide Panel, 2008-2018," National Bureau of Economic Research, May 2021. https://www.nber.org/system/files/working_papers/w25522/w25522.pdf.

55. Steven Shepard et al., "Majority of Americans Continue to Back Expanded Early Voting, Voting by Mail, Voter ID," Pew Research Center, Aug. 22, 2025. https://www.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/20/2025/08/PP_2025.8.22_voting-policy_report.pdf.

CATEGORY 4

VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY (CONTINUED)

ID requirements, the stringency of the standards varies. Some states accept only photo IDs; others accept other documents such as utility bills or paystubs that establish identity.

To score states on this issue, we focused on two main considerations. First, whether voters are asked to present any form of ID at the polls, regardless of whether it includes a photo. Second, how states that ask for IDs handle instances when a voter cannot produce an acceptable form of ID when they attempt to vote.

There is a clear dividing line between the 36 states that ask voters to present ID at the polls and the 14 that do not. Under our methodology, the states that do not ask for ID at all received 0 points (Table 15). The remaining states received full or partial credit depending on the steps voters without an ID needed to take to cast a ballot.

We gave 2 points (full credit) to states that require ID but give voters without an ID the opportunity to cast a provisional ballot that will be counted if the voter returns within a set number of days after the election to show ID. We also gave 2 points (full credit) to states where voters without an ID can cast a provisional ballot that is then subject to review by election workers to determine eligibility using methods such as signature verification. In both cases, the ballots are not counted without verification of voter identity through the presentation of a physical document or a review by election officials. We gave partial credit to 13 states that request an ID from voters but allow those without an ID to cast a regular ballot if they sign an affidavit or if election officials or other third-party individuals sign statements attesting to their eligibility to vote.

Table 15: Voter ID at the Polls Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	ID requested at the polls; voters without an ID cast a provisional ballot that will not be counted unless one of the following occurs: • The voter returns within a set time to show ID • Election officials confirm the identity of the provisional voter through signature verification or another method	23
1 (partial credit)	ID requested at the polls; voters without an ID are able to cast a regular ballot if an affidavit is signed by the voter, an election official, or another third party	13
0 (no credit)	ID not requested	14

MAIL BALLOT VERIFICATION

Mail voting plays a central role in U.S. elections, and the use of mail ballots increased from 10 percent in 2000 to 29 percent in 2024.⁵⁶ Consequently, a significant percentage of the electorate does not physically enter a polling location to show an ID, even in states where it is required for in-person voting. Instead, states verify the identity and eligibility of voters using information voters provide on the mail-ballot envelope. Although all states require voters to sign the ballot envelope in some manner, they impose different requirements on what voters need to include and take different approaches to verify the information when it arrives at the election office.⁵⁷

56. Charles Stewart III, “How We Voted in 2024: A Topical Look at the Survey of the Performance of American Elections,” MIT Election Data and Science Lab, last accessed April 13, 2026, p. 7, <https://electionlab.mit.edu/sites/default/files/2025-07/HowWeVotedIn2024.pdf#page=7>.

57. Ali Swenson, “How election officials verify mail-in and absentee ballots,” PBS, Oct. 15, 2022. <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/how-election-officials-verify-mail-in-and-absentee-ballots>.

CATEGORY 4

VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY (CONTINUED)

The most common approach to verifying the identity of a mail voter is through signature verification, which involves a manual comparison of the signature on the envelope to the signature in the voter's registration record. The same process can be followed using other information, such as a voter's driver's license number in Georgia, for example. For scoring in this subcategory, we gave the 32 states that follow this approach 2 points (full credit), as it strikes the appropriate balance between verifying voter identity and minimizing voting barriers (Table 16).

Eleven states require voters to also obtain the signature of a notary or third-party witness, which is an effective approach to verify identity but creates an extra administrative burden for voters. As a result, we gave these states 1 point (partial credit). Seven states require election workers to verify that a signature exists on the envelope but not to investigate whether it matches the voter's signature on file. We gave these states 0 points.

Table 16: Mail-Ballot Verification Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State requires and verifies a signature or ID number on the ballot envelope but does not require a witness or notary	32
1 (partial credit)	State requires and verifies a signature or ID number on the ballot envelope and requires a witness or notary	11
0 (no credit)	State requires a signature on the ballot envelope but does not verify it	7

BALLOT-CURING PROCEDURES

A subset of the mail ballots that arrive at an election office invariably contain incorrect or incomplete information required by state law for the ballot to be counted. For example, a ballot envelope may be missing a signature, or the signature may not appear to match the signature on file. States vary in how they treat these ballots, with some providing an opportunity for voters to correct the issue and others simply rejecting the ballot.⁵⁸

Allowing voters to correct an administrative mail-ballot error is a reasonable policy when contained to a short period. Lengthy or open-ended curing periods introduce uncertainty into the certification process that could delay results in close races. It also extends the duration of the campaign, as candidates have an incentive to persuade their supporters to engage in the curing process. For those reasons, we gave 2 points (full credit) to the 20 states that allow ballot curing for no more than seven days after the election and 1 point (partial credit) for the 14 states where it lasts longer (Table 17). We gave 0 points to the 16 states where mail-ballot errors result in an automatic rejection.

Table 17: Ballot-Curing Procedures Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State allows voters to cure ballots for no more than seven days after election	20
1 (partial credit)	State allows voters to cure ballots for more than seven days after election	14
0 (no credit)	State does not allow voters to cure ballots	16

58. "Returning, Verifying, and Curing Mail Ballots," Voting Rights Lab, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://tracker.votingrightslab.org/issues/returning-verifying-and-curing-mail-ballots>.

CATEGORY 4

VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY (CONTINUED)

Table 18: Category 4 State Scores—Verifying Voter Identity

State	Voter ID at the Polls	Mail Ballot Verification	Ballot-Curing Procedures	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alabama	1	1	0	2	33	2
Alaska	1	1	0	2	33	2
Arizona	2	2	2	6	100	5
Arkansas	2	1	0	3	50	2.5
California	0	2	1	3	50	2.5
Colorado	2	2	1	5	83	4
Connecticut	1	0	0	1	17	1
Delaware	1	0	0	1	17	1
Florida	2	2	2	6	100	5
Georgia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Hawai'i	0	2	2	4	67	3
Idaho	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Illinois	0	2	1	3	50	2.5
Indiana	2	2	1	5	83	4
Iowa	1	2	2	5	83	4
Kansas	2	2	1	5	83	4
Kentucky	1	2	2	5	83	4
Louisiana	1	1	2	4	67	3
Maine	0	2	2	4	67	3
Maryland	0	0	1	1	17	1
Massachusetts	0	2	2	4	67	3
Michigan	1	2	2	5	83	4
Minnesota	0	1	2	3	50	2.5
Mississippi	2	1	1	4	67	3
Missouri	2	1	0	3	50	2.5

CATEGORY 4

VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY (CONTINUED)

State	Voter ID at the Polls	Mail Ballot Verification	Ballot-Curing Procedures	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Montana	2	2	2	6	100	5
Nebraska	2	2	0	4	67	3
Nevada	0	2	2	4	67	3
New Hampshire	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
New Jersey	0	2	1	3	50	2.5
New Mexico	0	2	1	3	50	2.5
New York	0	2	2	4	67	3
North Carolina	2	1	2	5	83	4
North Dakota	2	2	1	5	83	4
Ohio	2	2	2	6	100	5
Oklahoma	2	1	0	3	50	2.5
Oregon	0	2	1	3	50	2.5
Pennsylvania	0	0	1	1	17	1
Rhode Island	2	2	2	6	100	5
South Carolina	2	1	0	3	50	2.5
South Dakota	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Tennessee	2	2	0	4	67	3
Texas	2	2	2	6	100	5
Utah	2	2	1	5	83	4
Vermont	0	0	2	2	33	2
Virginia	1	0	2	3	50	2.5
Washington	2	2	1	5	83	4
West Virginia	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Wisconsin	2	1	0	3	50	2.5
Wyoming	2	0	0	2	33	2

CATEGORY 5

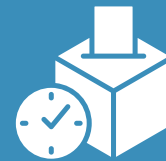
VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY

The growth of early voting is one of the most significant trends in U.S. elections over the past quarter century.⁵⁹ Between 2000 and 2024, the share of citizens voting before Election Day grew from 14 percent to 60 percent.⁶⁰ This change in voting behavior has important implications for voters and election administrators, as “Election Day” has evolved into “Election Season.”

From a voter perspective, there are clear benefits to having greater flexibility and choice regarding the method and timing of casting a ballot. For example, early voting gives Americans the option to vote on a regularly scheduled day off from work rather than choosing between casting a ballot or missing a paycheck. In addition, ballots that are delivered to voters and returned to election offices through the USPS provide even greater convenience, particularly in rural areas where the nearest polling location could be hours away and for older voters who find it logistically difficult to leave their homes.⁶¹

For election administrators, pre-Election Day voting introduces additional complexities over a single day of in-person voting. In many states, election officials are essentially operating three separate elections under three different sets of rules and procedures. These include a multiday mail-voting election, a multiday in-person election during the early voting period, and a single-day election held on Election Day.

To grade states on this category, we considered whether all voters had the option to vote early in person or by mail; the duration of the early voting period; the deadline by which mail ballots are required to arrive to be counted; and the timeline election workers face for processing mail ballots. States earning top scores in this category offer early in-person voting beginning seven to 21 days before Election Day, allow voters to cast a mail ballot without an excuse, require mail ballots to be returned by Election Day, and allow election workers to process mail ballots at least one day before Election Day.



Policies Evaluated:

★ Early In-Person Voting

★ No-Excuse Mail Voting

★ Mail Ballot Receipt Deadlines and Processing Timelines

59. Kyle Yoder et al., “The Expansion of Voting Before Election Day, 2000-2024,” The Center for Election Innovation & Research, July 2024. <https://electioninnovation.org/research/expansion-voting-before-election-day>.

60. Charles Stewart III, p. 7. <https://electionlab.mit.edu/sites/default/files/2025-07/HowWeVotedIn2024.pdf#page=7>.

61. Daniel R. Biggers and Michael J. Hanmer, “Who Makes Voting Convenient? Explaining the Adoption of Early and No-Excuse Absentee Voting in the American States,” *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 15:2 (2015), pp. 192-210. <https://gvpt.umd.edu/sites/gvpt.umd.edu/files/pubs/Biggers%20and%20Hanmer%20SPQ%20early%20and%20no-excuse%20absentee%20voting%20adoption.pdf#page=5>.

CATEGORY 5

VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY (CONTINUED)

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING

Early in-person voting refers to any method by which a voter obtains, completes, and casts a ballot at a physical polling location before Election Day. Although the different forms of early voting are important to distinguish from an administrative perspective, the differences have limited impact on the voter experience. For example, early voters in some states follow the same procedures at the polls as Election Day voters, whereas others are filling out an absentee ballot at the polling location, which is then signed, deposited into a drop box, and processed as a mail ballot.⁶² Similar procedures are followed in the eight states that operate all-mail elections and still provide an in-person voting option for completing the mail ballot.



Although the different forms of early voting are important to distinguish from an administrative perspective, the differences have limited impact on the voter experience.

For scoring purposes, we gave 1 point (partial credit) to all 47 states that allow people to vote early in person regardless of the specific method. From there, we also considered the early voting period and awarded an additional point (full credit) to states with an early voting period that begins at least seven days but no more than 21 days before Election Day. The seven-day minimum helps ensure that an early voting day will fall on an off day for most employed voters and is consistent with expert recommendations.⁶³ The 21-day maximum falls between the median and average early voting start dates and was selected to account for the diminishing returns of keeping polling locations open during periods of low utilization that can occur when early voting extends for multiple weeks.⁶⁴ It also helps ensure that voters cast their ballots with as much relevant information about the candidates as possible and limits the risk of voting before learning about something that would have changed their vote.

Applying these criteria, 26 states fell within the seven- to 21-day window and were given 2 points (full credit), 21 received 1 point (partial credit) for earlier (18 states) or later (three states) starting dates, and three earned 0 points for offering no early voting at all (Table 19).

Table 19: Early In-Person Voting Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State offers in-person early voting and/or in-person absentee voting beginning seven to 21 days before Election Day	26
1 (partial credit)	State offers early in-person voting and/or in-person absentee voting that begins less than seven or more than 21 days before Election Day	21
0 (no credit)	State does not offer in-person early voting and/or in-person absentee voting	3

62. “Early In-Person Voting,” National Conference of State Legislatures, Nov. 6, 2025. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/early-in-person-voting>.
63. “Prioritizing Achievable Federal Election Reform,” Bipartisan Policy Center, January 2022, p. 12. <https://www.rstreet.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Coalition-Election-Report-Release-Final.pdf#page=12>.
64. “Logical Election Policy,” Bipartisan Policy Center, January 2020, p. 30. https://bipartisanpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Bipartisan_Elections-Task-Force_R01-2.pdf.

CATEGORY 5

VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY (CONTINUED)

NO-EXCUSE MAIL VOTING

Casting a ballot by mail is one of the primary methods that Americans use to vote early, and the practice has a long history in American elections dating back hundreds of years.⁶⁵ Traditionally, eligibility to vote by mail was limited to members of the military or others who had an acceptable reason preventing them from being physically present at the polls on Election Day. In the modern era, however, many states have expanded mail-voting eligibility to all voters. Today, voting by mail without an excuse is permitted in 36 states, including the eight that administer all-mail elections; the other 14 states require voters to provide an approved excuse to vote by mail.

Mail voting is a secure and convenient method of voting that is popular in the states where it is used broadly.⁶⁶ The basic mechanics of the process include mailing ballots to eligible voters who then mark their selections and return the ballot through the mail or by hand to an election office or secure drop box. On ballot distribution, states like California and Washington that administer all-mail elections automatically send ballots to all eligible voters.⁶⁷ Other states require voters to request a mail ballot, and the permanence of that choice varies. Some states, like Arizona and Minnesota, continue mailing ballots to the voter in all future elections unless the voter changes their preference, whereas others, like Florida and Pennsylvania, require voters to request a mail ballot for each election cycle.⁶⁸

For scoring purposes, we focused on the fundamental question of whether a voter is allowed to vote by mail without an excuse. On that measure, we gave 36 states 2 points (full credit; Table 20). We gave the other 14 states 0 points (no credit), as partial credit was not available on this metric.

Table 20: No-Excuse Mail Voting Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State does not require an excuse to vote by mail	36
1 (partial credit)	N/A	0
0 (no credit)	State requires an excuse to vote by mail	14

MAIL BALLOT RECEIPT DEADLINES AND PROCESSING TIMELINES

Two key administrative policies can help ensure that mail voting does not delay result reporting. First, there should be an Election Day deadline for non-UOCAVA (Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act) mail ballots to arrive at an election office or be deposited into a secure ballot drop box.⁶⁹ Second, election officials should be permitted to begin processing mail ballots before Election Day.⁷⁰

65. Lonnie G. Bunch III, “How the Civil War Spawned the Mail-In Ballot,” *Smithsonian Magazine*, Sept. 3, 2024. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/blogs/office-of-the-secretary-of-the-smithsonian/2024/09/03/how-civil-war-spawned-mail-in-ballot>.

66. “Mail Voting is Safe and Secure,” Bipartisan Policy Center, Feb. 20, 2026. <https://bipartisanpolicy.org/report/mail-voting-is-safe-secure>.

67. “Vote-by-Mail FAQ,” California Secretary of State, February 2026. <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/pdfs/trusted-info/vbm-faq.pdf>; “Frequently Asked Questions on Voting by Mail,” Washington Secretary of State, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/helpful-information/frequently-asked-questions-voting-mail>.

68. “Table 3: States With Permanent Absentee Voting Lists,” National Conference of State Legislatures, Oct. 4, 2024. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/table-3-states-with-permanent-absentee-voting-lists>.

69. Chris McIsaac, “An Election Day Deadline for Mail Ballots Is Common-Sense Policy,” R Street Institute, April 2, 2026. <https://www.rstreet.org/commentary/an-election-day-deadline-for-mail-ballots-is-common-sense-policy>.

70. Jonathan Madison, “Improving Vote-by-Mail Elections,” R Street Institute, Feb. 11, 2026. <https://www.rstreet.org/commentary/improving-vote-by-mail-elections>.

CATEGORY 5

VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY (CONTINUED)

With regard to the ballot deadlines, states have the flexibility to decide whether ballots must be received or postmarked on or before Election Day. In fact, a 2026 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Watson v. Republican National Committee* confirmed that states have the authority to adopt a postmark deadline in federal elections when the court upheld Mississippi's law that permits counting of mail ballots that arrive up to five days after Election Day.⁷¹ Currently, 36 states require ballots to arrive at election offices by Election Day, and 14 states accept ballots that arrive later as long as they are postmarked on or before Election Day.

The argument in favor of an Election Day receipt deadline is that it allows for efficient ballot tabulation and avoids a scenario in which results are delayed in a close race because officials must wait for ballots that may still be en route. Proponents of the postmark standard, however, argue that voters who mail their ballot in time should not be penalized for mail delays over which they have no control.

For mail ballots that arrive well in advance of Election Day, another important administrative issue is the timeline that election workers must follow for processing those ballots. In most states, election workers are permitted to begin the process of verifying signatures, removing ballots from security envelopes, and preparing them for tabulation before Election Day. Completing these steps in advance is beneficial to the counting process, as it smooths the workflow and allows election workers to spend Election Day focused on the ballots cast in-person at polling locations. Nevertheless, states like Wisconsin and Pennsylvania continue to prohibit election officials from pre-processing mail ballots, instead requiring election workers to wait until Election Day to begin processing them. In these cases, work that could be completed in advance is instead pushed into the busiest days of the election cycle.

States like Wisconsin and Pennsylvania continue to prohibit election officials from “pre-processing” mail ballots, instead requiring election workers to wait until Election Day to begin processing them. In these cases, work that could be completed in advance is instead pushed into the busiest days of the election cycle.



For our scoring, we gave 2 points (full credit) to the 32 states that have an Election Day ballot deadline and allow the pre-processing of mail ballots (Table 21). We gave 1 point (partial credit) to 16 states that either have an Election Day deadline or allow election workers to pre-process, but not both. Two other states received 0 points because they do not allow pre-processing and they allow mail ballots to arrive after Election Day.

Table 21: Mail Ballot Receipt Deadlines and Processing Timelines Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State does not accept mail ballots that arrive after Election Day and state allows election workers to begin processing ballots before Election Day	32
1 (partial credit)	State either does not accept mail ballots that arrive after Election Day or state allows election workers to begin processing ballots before Election Day, but not both	16
0 (no credit)	State accepts mail ballots received after Election Day if postmarked by Election Day AND state requires election workers to wait until Election Day to begin processing mail ballots	2

71. *Watson v. Republican National Committee*, U.S. Supreme Court, June 2026. https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/24-1260_g3cn.pdf.

CATEGORY 5

VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY (CONTINUED)

Table 22: Category 5 State Scores—Voting Before Election Day

State	Early In-Person Voting	No-Excuse Mail Voting	Mail Ballot Receipt Deadlines and Processing Timelines	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alabama	0	0	1	1	17	1
Alaska	2	2	1	5	83	4
Arizona	1	2	2	5	83	4
Arkansas	2	0	2	4	67	3
California	1	2	1	4	67	3
Colorado	2	2	2	6	100	5
Connecticut	2	0	2	4	67	3
Delaware	2	0	2	4	67	3
Florida	2	2	2	6	100	5
Georgia	1	2	2	5	83	4
Hawai'i	2	2	2	6	100	5
Idaho	1	2	2	5	83	4
Illinois	1	2	1	4	67	3
Indiana	1	0	2	3	50	2.5
Iowa	2	2	2	6	100	5
Kansas	2	2	2	6	100	5
Kentucky	1	0	2	3	50	2.5
Louisiana	2	0	2	4	67	3
Maine	1	2	2	5	83	4
Maryland	2	2	1	5	83	4
Massachusetts	2	2	1	5	83	4
Michigan	1	2	2	5	83	4
Minnesota	1	2	2	5	83	4
Mississippi	0	0	0	0	0	0
Missouri	2	0	2	4	67	3

CATEGORY 5

VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY (CONTINUED)

State	Early In-Person Voting	No-Excuse Mail Voting	Mail Ballot Receipt Deadlines and Processing Timelines	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Montana	1	2	2	5	83	4
Nebraska	1	2	2	5	83	4
Nevada	2	2	1	5	83	4
New Hampshire	0	0	1	1	17	1
New Jersey	1	2	1	4	67	3
New Mexico	1	2	2	5	83	4
New York	2	2	1	5	83	4
North Carolina	2	2	2	6	100	5
North Dakota	2	2	2	6	100	5
Ohio	1	2	2	5	83	4
Oklahoma	1	2	2	5	83	4
Oregon	2	2	1	5	83	4
Pennsylvania	1	2	1	4	67	3
Rhode Island	2	2	2	6	100	5
South Carolina	2	0	2	4	67	3
South Dakota	1	2	2	5	83	4
Tennessee	2	0	2	4	67	3
Texas	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Utah	2	2	2	6	100	5
Vermont	1	2	2	5	83	4
Virginia	1	2	1	4	67	3
Washington	2	2	1	5	83	4
West Virginia	2	0	0	2	33	2
Wisconsin	2	2	1	5	83	4
Wyoming	1	2	2	5	83	4

CATEGORY 6

TABULATION AND AUDITS

Ensuring the accurate tabulation of ballots is a central responsibility of election administration and a core element of an election system worthy of public trust. According to one survey, nearly 60 percent of the public had high confidence in the accuracy of the national election results in 2024, and that percentage rises for confidence in the accuracy of results at the state and local levels.⁷² Another reported that 92 percent of voters were confident that their own vote in 2024 was tabulated correctly.⁷³

Election officials rely on a variety of tools and procedures to help ensure accurate vote counts, verify results, and identify opportunities for improvement. In particular, the use of voter-verifiable paper ballots combined with ballot tabulation machines allows for fast and accurate ballot processing without sacrificing the ability to conduct an audit or hand count of physical ballots if necessary. (Despite this progress, some jurisdictions continue to consider abandoning the use of ballot tabulators and moving to large-scale hand counts that take longer to complete and are less accurate.) In addition, the expanded use of audits that cover both ballot tabulation and adherence to procedures plays an important role in validating results and holds potential as a public-communication and trust-building tool, especially if such audits were to become standard practice with quick turnarounds.

To grade states on this category, we considered the type of equipment used for in-person voting, the use of machine tabulators for counting paper ballots, and the types of audit policies in place. States that primarily use hand-marked paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record, count ballots using tabulators, and require audits that are completed publicly and before certification received the top scores in this category.

PAPER BALLOTS

Voting equipment used in American elections has evolved over time. A process that began with paper ballots marked by hand at one point shifted to automated direct recording electronic (DRE) devices that record votes on a digital screen without generating any paper record.⁷⁴ In recent



Policies Evaluated:

★ Paper Ballots

★ Machine Tabulation

★ Audits

72. "Most are confident votes were counted accurately in the 2024 presidential election," AP-NORC Center, Jan. 3, 2025. <https://apnorc.org/projects/most-are-confident-votes-were-counted-accurately-in-the-2024-presidential-election>.

73. "Voters Broadly Positive About How Elections Were Conducted, in Sharp Contrast to 2020," Pew Research Center, Dec. 4, 2024, p. 13. https://www.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/20/2024/12/PP_2024.12.3_election-2024_REPORT.pdf#page=13.

74. "Voting technology," MIT Election Data and Science Lab, April 21, 2023. <https://electionlab.mit.edu/research/voting-technology>.

CATEGORY 6

TABULATION AND AUDITS (CONTINUED)

years, most states that adopted DREs have returned to voting procedures that rely on hand-marked paper ballots or ballot-marking devices (BMDs) that print paper-ballot records of the selections voters made on the touchscreen. The voter then verifies their selections before depositing the ballot into a tabulator. In fact, voters in every state except Louisiana now reside in voting jurisdictions where a paper record of the voter’s choice exists, either as a hand-marked or BMD-generated ballot.⁷⁵

Using a paper-based system is important for two main reasons.⁷⁶ First, it provides a physical record that can be used to check election results in a future audit or recount. Second, paper ballots provide machine-based voters with an opportunity to confirm—prior to placing the ballot into the tabulator—that the printed ballot accurately reflects the selections made on the touchscreen. Together, these features help alleviate concerns around the reliability of voting machines and create redundancies in the system that election officials can use to verify results.

For scoring purposes, we gave 49 states 2 points (full credit) for administering elections that rely on paper records either through the use of hand-marked paper ballots or voting machines that generate a voter-verifiable paper record (Table 23). Louisiana is the only state that still relies on DREs that do not generate a paper record and, therefore, received 0 points.

Table 23: Paper Ballots Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	All voters in the state live in a jurisdiction that primarily uses hand-marked paper ballots or voting machines that generate a voter-verifiable paper record	49
1 (partial credit)	N/A	0
0 (no credit)	Some voters in the state live in a jurisdiction that primarily uses voting machines that do not generate a voter-verifiable paper record	1

MACHINE TABULATION

The vast majority of American elections use optical scanners, which are machines that read ballots and tally results.⁷⁷ These machines vary in size and capability, with hand-fed models designed to accept ballots directly from voters at polling locations and batch-fed versions intended to process high volumes of ballots at central processing centers.⁷⁸ The primary benefit of using an optical scanner is its high degree of speed and accuracy, allowing election officials to complete the vote count quickly while maintaining the capability to conduct an audit or hand re-count using the paper ballots, which remain the official voting record.

However, in recent years, some jurisdictions have conducted or considered the use of hand counts.⁷⁹ For example, Nye County, Nevada, conducted a hand count of 12,000 ballots in the 2022 general election that ran concurrently with the machine-tabulation process, and Republicans in Gillespie County, Texas, conducted hand counts in the 2024 and

75. “The Verifier — Voting Equipment — November 2026,” Verified Voting, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://verifiedvoting.org/verifier>.
76. “Glossary of Election Terminology,” p. 64. https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/glossary_files/Glossary_of_Election_Terms_EAC.pdf.
77. Ibid., p. 62.
78. “Voting Equipment,” Verified Voting, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://verifiedvoting.org/votingequipment>.
79. Wren Orey et al., “How Ballot Tabulators Improve Elections,” Bipartisan Policy Center, April 25, 2022. <https://bipartisanpolicy.org/explainer/how-ballot-tabulators-improve-elections>.

CATEGORY 6

TABULATION AND AUDITS (CONTINUED)

2026 primary elections.⁸⁰ However, both jurisdictions encountered execution challenges. The Nye County hand count resulted in as much as a 25 percent error rate, and Gillespie County faced staffing challenges that drove officials to scale back from 8,000 early and Election Day hand-counted ballots in 2024 to 3,000 Election Day ballots in 2026.⁸¹ At the state level, several legislative and regulatory proposals have been put forth to expand the use of hand counting, though none have been enacted.⁸²

Hand counting takes more time and is less accurate than using machines to count ballots. For scoring purposes, we gave all 50 states 2 points (full credit) for using machines as the primary tabulation method in most voting jurisdictions (Table 24). Recognizing that hand counting occurs in small voting jurisdictions where the volume of ballots does not justify the cost of a machine, we did not penalize states if the jurisdiction had fewer than 7,000 registered voters. Hand-count jurisdictions typically averaged around 500 registered voters, with the largest hand-count jurisdiction being Benewah County, Idaho, at 6,000.⁸³

Table 24: Machine Tabulation Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	Scanners are used to tabulate general election ballots in all jurisdictions with at least 7,000 registered voters	50
1 (partial credit)	N/A	0
0 (no credit)	Hand count is used to tabulate general election ballots in one or more jurisdictions with at least 7,000 registered voters	0

AUDITS

Election audits are a valuable tool for verifying results and ensuring adherence to the various laws, policies, and procedures that govern election administration.⁸⁴ The number of states conducting election audits has grown in recent years, and 48 states now audit some element of their election process.⁸⁵ The details of how audits are conducted vary substantially from state to state, and research suggests that well-designed election audits can bolster voter confidence.⁸⁶ However, audits can have the reverse effect when they lack transparency or are perceived to be partisan exercises.⁸⁷

80. Brett Forrest, “Nye County ballot hand count likely won’t make deadline,” Las Vegas CW, Nov. 16, 2022. <https://cwlsvegas.com/news/beyond-the-podium/nye-county-ballot-hand-count-likely-wont-make-thursday-deadline-mark-kampf-southern-nevada-aclu-supreme-court-election-midterms-ballots>.

81. Jessica Huseman, “Despite fewer ballots than in 2024, the Gillespie County GOP’s second hand count takes nearly as long,” Votebeat Texas, March 4, 2026. <https://www.votebeat.org/texas/2026/03/04/gillespie-county-republicans-hand-count-2026-primary-election>.

82. “Prohibit the use of automatic tabulating equipment and electronic ballot marking systems,” South Dakota Legislature, last accessed April 17, 2026. <https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/26620>; Maya Homan, “Georgia Supreme Court rejects changes sought by Trump-aligned board ahead of 2024 election,” *Georgia Recorder*, June 10, 2025. <https://georgiarecorder.com/2025/06/10/georgia-supreme-court-rejects-changes-sought-by-trump-aligned-board-ahead-of-2024-election>; Howard Fischer, “Hobbs nixes allowing Arizona counties to do full hand counts of elections,” *Arizona Daily Star*, July 21, 2024. https://tucson.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/hobbs-nixes-allowing-arizona-counties-to-do-full-hand-counts-of-elections/article_bda550a4-0c83-11ee-a5f5-bffc74ef06fb.html.

83. “Voter Registration Totals,” Vote Idaho, April 1, 2026. <https://voteidaho.gov/data-and-dashboards/voter-registration-totals>.

84. “Audit Law Database,” Verified Voting, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://verifiedvoting.org/auditlaws>.

85. “Post-Election Audits,” National Conference of State Legislatures, July 7, 2025. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/post-election-audits>.

86. Jacob Jaffe et al., “What Effect do Audits Have on Voter Confidence?,” 2023 Annual Meeting of the Election Science, Reform, and Administration Conference, Athens, Georgia, May 31-June 2, 2023, p. 18. https://esra-conference.org/files/election-science-conference/files/what_effect_do_audits_have_on_voter_confidence_-_joseph_loffredo_-_joseph_loffredo.pdf.

87. Jonathan Bydlak et al., “Partisan Election Review Efforts in Five States,” Brennan Center for Justice, July 8, 2021. <https://www.brennancenter.org/media/7893/download/Partisan%20Election%20Review%20Efforts%20Across%20the%20United%20States%20in%202021%20-%202007.08.21.pdf>.

CATEGORY 6

TABULATION AND AUDITS (CONTINUED)

Election audits come in various forms, and the two most common are tabulation audits and procedural audits. Post-election tabulation audits involve hand counting a subset of the paper ballots and comparing the results of the hand count to the results generated by the ballot tabulator. Key policy decisions related to tabulation audits include choosing which contests will be subject to audit, the sample size of ballots that will be hand counted, and the deadline for completing the audit. Risk-limiting audits are a type of post-election tabulation audit that use statistical methods to determine the number of ballots to include in the hand count.⁸⁸ Procedural audits look beyond a comparison of vote totals and can include reviews of election policies and procedures, ranging from ballot chain of custody to the in-person voting experience.⁸⁹



Although nearly every state is engaged in election auditing in some form, it remains a highly decentralized field of election administration in which states tailor audit programs to fit their policy goals.

Although nearly every state is engaged in election auditing in some form, it remains a highly decentralized field of election administration in which states tailor audit programs to fit their policy goals. The U.S. Election Assistance Commission recently published draft voluntary standards that would provide guidance to policymakers and election officials on conducting audits that are objective, professional, effective, secure, and accountable.⁹⁰ This scorecard incorporates a number of the concepts included in the draft standards, particularly related to completing tabulation audits before election certification and incorporating transparency measures such as public observation of the audit and posting the results publicly.⁹¹

For scoring purposes, we gave 2 points (full credit) to the 22 states that complete a post-election tabulation audit before certification, allow public or media observation of audit results, and produce a public report of audit results (Table 25). An audit with a post-certification deadline that is binding on the results (meaning the county would need to amend the results) would also qualify as timely and would be eligible for full credit. We gave 1 point (partial credit) to 26 states that conduct the tabulation audit but are missing either the pre-certification deadline or one or both of the transparency measures. The remaining two states that do not currently conduct a tabulation audit earned 0 points.

Table 25: Audits Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	State conducts a post-election tabulation audit that is timely (completed before certification) and transparent (results are publicly available and public or media observation is permitted)	22
1 (partial credit)	State conducts a post-election tabulation audit that is missing either the timely or transparent aspect	26
0 (no credit)	State does not conduct a post-election tabulation audit	2

88. “Risk-Limiting Audits,” Verified Voting, last accessed April 13, 2026. <https://verifiedvoting.org/audits/whatisrla>.
89. R. Michael Alvarez et al., “Election Auditing: Best Practices and New Areas for Research,” MIT Election Data and Science Lab, last accessed April 13, 2026, p. 12. <https://electionlab.mit.edu/sites/default/files/2023-10/election-audits.pdf#page=12>.
90. “Request for Comment: Election Audit Standards; Correction,” Federal Register, Feb. 25, 2026. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/02/25/2026-03765/request-for-comment-election-audit-standards-correction>.
91. Chris McIsaac, “Audit Law Strengthens Alabama Elections,” R Street Institute, April 27, 2026. <https://www.rstreet.org/commentary/audit-law-strengthens-alabama-elections>.

CATEGORY 6

TABULATION AND AUDITS (CONTINUED)

Table 26: Category 6 State Scores—Tabulation and Audits

State	Paper Ballots	Machine Tabulation	Audits	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alabama	2	2	1	5	83	4
Alaska	2	2	1	5	83	4
Arizona	2	2	1	5	83	4
Arkansas	2	2	1	5	83	4
California	2	2	2	6	100	5
Colorado	2	2	2	6	100	5
Connecticut	2	2	2	6	100	5
Delaware	2	2	1	5	83	4
Florida	2	2	1	5	83	4
Georgia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Hawai'i	2	2	1	5	83	4
Idaho	2	2	2	6	100	5
Illinois	2	2	1	5	83	4
Indiana	2	2	2	6	100	5
Iowa	2	2	1	5	83	4
Kansas	2	2	1	5	83	4
Kentucky	2	2	1	5	83	4
Louisiana	0	2	0	2	33	2
Maine	2	2	1	5	83	4
Maryland	2	2	1	5	83	4
Massachusetts	2	2	2	6	100	5
Michigan	2	2	1	5	83	4
Minnesota	2	2	2	6	100	5
Mississippi	2	2	0	4	67	3
Missouri	2	2	1	5	83	4

CATEGORY 6

TABULATION AND AUDITS (CONTINUED)

State	Paper Ballots	Machine Tabulation	Audits	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Montana	2	2	1	5	83	4
Nebraska	2	2	1	5	83	4
Nevada	2	2	1	5	83	4
New Hampshire	2	2	2	6	100	5
New Jersey	2	2	2	6	100	5
New Mexico	2	2	2	6	100	5
New York	2	2	1	5	83	4
North Carolina	2	2	2	6	100	5
North Dakota	2	2	1	5	83	4
Ohio	2	2	2	6	100	5
Oklahoma	2	2	1	5	83	4
Oregon	2	2	2	6	100	5
Pennsylvania	2	2	1	5	83	4
Rhode Island	2	2	2	6	100	5
South Carolina	2	2	2	6	100	5
South Dakota	2	2	1	5	83	4
Tennessee	2	2	2	6	100	5
Texas	2	2	1	5	83	4
Utah	2	2	2	6	100	5
Vermont	2	2	2	6	100	5
Virginia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Washington	2	2	2	6	100	5
West Virginia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Wisconsin	2	2	1	5	83	4
Wyoming	2	2	1	5	83	4

SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY PRIMARIES, POLITICAL SPEECH, AND ELECTION SAFETY

Democracy in the United States is built on the idea that citizens have the right to select their leaders, and elections are the method used to deliver on that promise. Many of the policies included in this scorecard focus on the details of designing and administering elections that are worthy of public trust. This final section—presented as supplemental information and not included in the overall scores—takes a broader view, covering three policies related to foundational aspects of a free and fair election: access to the primary election ballot, freedom of speech, and the safety of voters and election workers.

PRIMARIES

Primary elections play a central role in the way U.S. citizens elect leaders at all levels of government, and the structure of these elections varies from state to state. On one end of the spectrum, eight states hold closed primaries to determine the candidates from each political party who compete against each other in the general election.⁹² Participation in this type of primary requires affiliation with a political party. On the other end of the spectrum, five states hold nonpartisan primary elections that are open to all registered voters and include all candidates on a single ballot, regardless of political affiliation. Under this structure, the purpose of the primary is to narrow the general election field to a more manageable number, often to just two candidates. Most states fall somewhere in between by maintaining the partisan primary structure that selects a party nominee but allowing Independents to vote in the Republican, Democrat, or third-party election.

When it comes to primary election structures, one of the most important policy choices is determining which voters are eligible to participate. Over the past quarter century, the overall trend has been toward open primaries in which all registered voters can participate. However, closed primaries that require voters to affiliate as a condition of voting or that leave it to the discretion of the political parties to determine whether to allow participation by Independents are still in use. In addition, states like Texas, Ohio, and Alabama that currently have open primaries have recently considered a shift to the closed model.⁹³

92. "State Primary Election Types," National Conference of State Legislatures, April 21, 2026. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/state-primary-election-types>.

93. "Attorney General Ken Paxton Files Joint Motion with the Texas GOP Urging the Court to Close the Republican Primaries," Texas Attorney General, Oct. 9, 2025. <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/news/releases/attorney-general-ken-paxton-files-joint-motion-texas-gop-urging-court-close-republican-primaries>; "HB 320 Bill Analysis," Ohio Legislative Service Commission, Sept. 25, 2025. <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=25923>; Jacob Holmes, "Bill to close primaries dies without vote," *Alabama Political Reporter*, April 10, 2026. <https://www.alreporter.com/2026/04/10/bill-to-close-primaries-dies-without-vote>.



Policies Evaluated:

★ Primaries

★ Political Speech
Protections

★ Election Worker
Safety

SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY

PRIMARIES, POLITICAL SPEECH, AND ELECTION SAFETY (CONTINUED)

The term “open primary” is often used as a catch-all, but numerous variations exist. In the context of a partisan primary system, an open primary always means that Independents can vote without affiliating with a political party. Although less common, some states also allow members of one political party to “cross over” and vote in the primary of another political party. A nonpartisan primary is open by definition because all voters receive the same ballot containing the same list of candidates. For scoring purposes, we gave 2 points (full credit) to states that allowed universal access to the primary ballot for all registered voters.

Closed primaries, on the other hand, require voters to affiliate with a political party as a condition of voting in a primary election. Supporters of closed primaries argue that political parties are private organizations that have a right to determine the method used to select their nominees, including by excluding nonmembers from voting in the primary. This is a reasonable position in theory, but it becomes problematic in practice because it is the local government that typically covers the cost of administering the primaries. As a result, Independent voters in states with closed primaries are forced to pay for elections in which they cannot participate.



Closed primaries require voters to affiliate with a political party as a condition of voting in a primary election. As a result, Independent voters in states with closed primaries are forced to pay for elections in which they cannot participate.

In addition to the basic questions of fairness around taxpayer-funded closed primaries, restrictions on primary participation become even more concerning in the context of uncompetitive general elections. For example, in 2024, 85 percent of congressional districts were uncompetitive in the general election because the makeup of the electorate overwhelmingly favored one party or the other.⁹⁴ Consequently, low-turnout primary elections are often the contest that determines the eventual winner. Excluding voters who choose not to affiliate with political parties from these determinative elections exacerbates situations in which elected officials are responsive to only the small segment of the population who participate in the closed partisan primary election rather than their broader constituency.

We gave 2 points (full credit) to the 26 states with laws explicitly allowing Independent voters to participate in all primary elections (Table 27). We gave 16 other states 1 point (partial credit) because they generally allow Independents to vote but have a closed presidential primary or because they give parties the option to use open primaries if they choose. Finally, eight states received 0 points because unaffiliated voters have no path at all to participating in their closed primaries.

Table 27: Primaries Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	Unaffiliated/Independent voters are allowed to vote in all primaries	26
1 (partial credit)	Unaffiliated/Independent voters are allowed to vote in primaries for most offices except that of the president, or the party can choose to allow open primaries	16
0 (no credit)	Party affiliation is required to vote in all primaries	8

94. Joseph Cerrone, “Research Brief: Why Are Most Congressional Elections Uncompetitive?,” Unite America, Nov. 14, 2024. <https://www.uniteamerica.org/articles/research-brief-why-are-most-congressional-elections-uncompetitive>.

SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY PRIMARIES, POLITICAL SPEECH, AND ELECTION SAFETY (CONTINUED)

POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution secures the fundamental right for U.S. citizens to speak freely, and political speech is among the most strictly protected forms.⁹⁵ Yet it is not uncommon to see laws proposed at the federal and state levels that would infringe on citizens’ right to free speech. The justification often centers on the need to protect the public from harmful speech, and there has been an uptick in new state laws that seek to regulate certain forms of political speech—namely, artificial intelligence (AI)-generated deepfakes—based on the technology used to create it.

Recent advances in AI are impacting all aspects of modern life, including the way elections are administered and campaigns are run.⁹⁶ These advances have raised fears that technology will be used to deceive voters at scale and erode trust in elections, although the actual impacts on elections have so far been minimal.⁹⁷ Nevertheless, the number of states that have responded to these concerns by passing laws regulating the use of AI in certain election-related communications grew from five in 2023 to 31 today.⁹⁸

The rapid adoption of these laws reflects some lawmakers’ impulse to use government regulation to control speech by prohibiting certain types of AI-generated election speech or, more commonly, imposing a labeling requirement. However, both approaches have experienced setbacks in federal court, including a prohibition law in California and a disclosure law in Hawai’i that were both permanently enjoined for violating the First Amendment.⁹⁹ Although questions remain regarding the effectiveness and constitutionality of the labeling requirements in place in other states, a less-restrictive alternative exists—promoting the free exchange of ideas so that truthful counter speech can respond to false claims as they arise, and the public can decide for themselves what they believe.¹⁰⁰

For scoring purposes, we gave 2 points (full credit) to the 19 states that have not enacted legislation regulating the use of AI-generated content in certain election communications (Table 28). Rather than using technological advances as an excuse to regulate political speech, these states continue to prioritize free expression consistent with the spirit of the First Amendment.

Table 28: Political Speech Protections Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	No regulation of AI-generated political speech	19
1 (partial credit)	N/A	0
0 (no credit)	Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech	31

95. “First Amendment,” Constitution Annotated, last accessed April 17, 2026. <https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-1>.

96. Chris McIsaac, “Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Elections,” *R Street Policy Study* No. 304, June 2024. <https://www.rstreet.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/FINAL-r-street-policy-study-no-304.pdf>.

97. Chris McIsaac, “AI and the 2024 Election Part III: Many Uses and Minor Impacts,” *R Street Institute*, Jan. 14, 2025. <https://www.rstreet.org/commentary/ai-and-the-2024-election-part-iii-many-uses-and-minor-impacts>.

98. “Deepfakes in Elections and Campaigns,” *National Conference of State Legislatures*, April 14, 2026. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/artificial-intelligence-ai-in-elections-and-campaigns>.

99. “Judge blocks new California law cracking down on election deepfakes,” *Associated Press*, Oct. 2, 2024. <https://apnews.com/article/california-deepfake-election-law-ee5a3d7cba3e9f5caddf91b127e4938a>; Jeremy Yurow, “Hawaii’s deepfake law struck down over free speech concerns,” *Courthouse News Service*, Jan. 30, 2026. <https://courthousenews.com/hawaii-deepfake-law-struck-down-over-free-speech-concerns>.

100. Chris McIsaac, “Testimony in opposition to TN House Bill 1513, ‘Transparency for Deepfakes in Political Advertising Act,’” *R Street Institute*, Feb. 17, 2026. <https://www.rstreet.org/outreach/testimony-in-opposition-to-tn-house-bill-1513-transparency-for-deepfakes-in-political-advertising-act>; Chris McIsaac, “R Street Institute Letter to Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin in Opposition to VA HB 2479 and VA SB 775, AI in Campaigns and Elections,” *R Street Institute*, Feb. 24, 2025. <https://www.rstreet.org/outreach/r-street-institute-letter-to-virginia-governor-glenn-youngkin-in-opposition-to-va-hb-2479-and-va-sb-775-ai-in-campaigns-and-elections>.

SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY PRIMARIES, POLITICAL SPEECH, AND ELECTION SAFETY (CONTINUED)

ELECTION WORKER SAFETY

In addition to speaking freely, Americans should feel safe participating in the political process as voters, candidates, election workers, and volunteers. Intimidation, threats, and harassment contribute to an environment that discourages participation in elections and drives election workers out of the profession. States can help ensure a safe and secure election environment by enacting laws that protect the people administering elections, promoting collaboration between election officials and local law enforcement, and providing opportunities for law enforcement officers to increase their knowledge of election law.

There are two important strategies for promoting election safety. The first focuses on strengthening legal protections for election workers, such as enhancing the penalties for those who harass, intimidate, or threaten an election worker and applying confidentiality protection to the personally identifiable information of election officials to prevent doxing. Forty states have at least one of these protections in place.¹⁰¹

The second strategy relates to helping law enforcement officers prepare for an election-related incident such as a dispute between voters at a polling location or an incendiary device placed in a ballot drop box. Collaboration between local law enforcement and election officials is on the rise nationwide, which allows department leadership to develop relationships and engage in joint planning exercises in advance of Election Day.¹⁰² In addition, states can build on this by increasing access to election-law training opportunities for officers who will be responding to incidents on the ground.

Georgia is the first and only state in the nation that provides election-law training to all new police officers. The requirement was instituted by the state Peace Officer Standards and Training board in 2024.¹⁰³ In addition to providing training to new officers, states could also offer election-law training as an optional session in the lead-up to election season, which would allow officers to refresh their knowledge on the nuances of laws that are not relevant to their day-to-day responsibilities during most of the year. Increasing officer knowledge of the law can help ensure a positive resolution to sensitive election-related incidents that may arise.

For scoring purposes, we gave 2 points (full credit) to the only state with at least one legal protection for election workers and that offers election law training opportunities to law enforcement officers (Table 29). States with at least one type of legal protection for election workers earned 1 point (partial credit), and the remaining states without any targeted protections or law enforcement training received 0 points.

Table 29: Election Worker Protections Scoring Criteria

Points	Scoring Factors	States
2 (full credit)	Enhanced protections for election workers and election law training for law enforcement	1
1 (partial credit)	Enhanced protections for election workers	39
0 (no credit)	No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training	10

101. “State Laws Providing Protection for Election Officials and Staff,” National Conference of State Legislatures, July 16, 2025. <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/state-laws-providing-protection-for-election-officials-and-staff>.
102. “Local Election Officials Survey 2026,” Brennan Center for Justice, last accessed April 18, 2026, p. 13. https://www.brennancenter.org/media/15483/download/2026_local_election_officials_final_0.pdf.
103. Chris McIsaac and Scot Turner, “Lessons from the States: Building Trust in Georgia Elections,” R Street Institute, *Policy Study No. 329*, July 2025, p. 17, <https://www.rstreet.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/FINAL-r-street-policy-study-no-329.pdf>.

SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY PRIMARIES, POLITICAL SPEECH, AND ELECTION SAFETY (CONTINUED)

Table 30: Supplemental Policy—State Scores

State	Primaries	Political Speech	Election Safety	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Alabama	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Alaska	1	2	1	4	67	3
Arizona	1	0	1	2	33	2
Arkansas	2	2	1	5	83	4
California	1	0	1	2	33	2
Colorado	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Connecticut	1	2	1	4	67	3
Delaware	0	0	1	1	17	1
Florida	0	0	1	1	17	1
Georgia	2	2	2	6	100	5
Hawai'i	1	0	0	1	17	1
Idaho	1	0	0	1	17	1
Illinois	2	2	1	5	83	4
Indiana	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Iowa	2	2	0	4	67	3
Kansas	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Kentucky	0	0	1	1	17	1
Louisiana	1	0	1	2	33	2
Maine	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Maryland	1	0	1	2	33	2
Massachusetts	2	2	1	5	83	4
Michigan	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Minnesota	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Mississippi	2	0	0	2	33	2
Missouri	2	2	0	4	67	3

SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY

PRIMARIES, POLITICAL SPEECH, AND ELECTION SAFETY (CONTINUED)

State	Primaries	Political Speech	Election Safety	Points Earned (Total)	Points Earned (%)	 Overall Stars
Scoring Benchmark	2	2	2	6	100	5
Montana	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Nebraska	1	2	0	3	50	2.5
Nevada	0	0	1	1	17	1
New Hampshire	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
New Jersey	0	2	0	2	33	2
New Mexico	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
New York	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Carolina	2	2	1	5	83	4
North Dakota	1	0	1	2	33	2
Ohio	2	2	1	5	83	4
Oklahoma	1	2	1	4	67	3
Oregon	1	0	1	2	33	2
Pennsylvania	0	2	1	3	50	2.5
Rhode Island	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
South Carolina	2	2	0	4	67	3
South Dakota	1	0	1	2	33	2
Tennessee	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Texas	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Utah	1	0	1	2	33	2
Vermont	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Virginia	2	2	1	5	83	4
Washington	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
West Virginia	1	2	1	4	67	3
Wisconsin	2	0	1	3	50	2.5
Wyoming	0	2	1	3	50	2.5

CONCLUSION

Overall, this election policy scorecard supports the idea that the United States' decentralized approach to elections is a strength of our system of governance. States performed strongly as a whole, with an average star rating of 4, and all states receiving at least 3 stars. Four states earned 5 stars: Florida, Georgia, Ohio, and Utah.

Across the main categories, average scores ranged from 3.1 for verifying voter identity to 4.5 stars for voter list maintenance. While these are strong results in aggregate, variations across categories identify potential opportunities for state-level improvements. The granular data presented on each state's expanded score page offers a clear path to advance such changes.

Beyond their overall strong performance in the main election administration categories, states' scores were consistently lower in the supplemental policy section, averaging 2.5 stars overall. Only one state, Georgia, earned 5 stars. Thus, while policymakers continue their efforts to improve the mechanics of elections, it is essential that they simultaneously focus on the foundational policies necessary for a durable democracy, including access to the ballot, protection of free speech, and the safety of all citizens who participate in the election process.

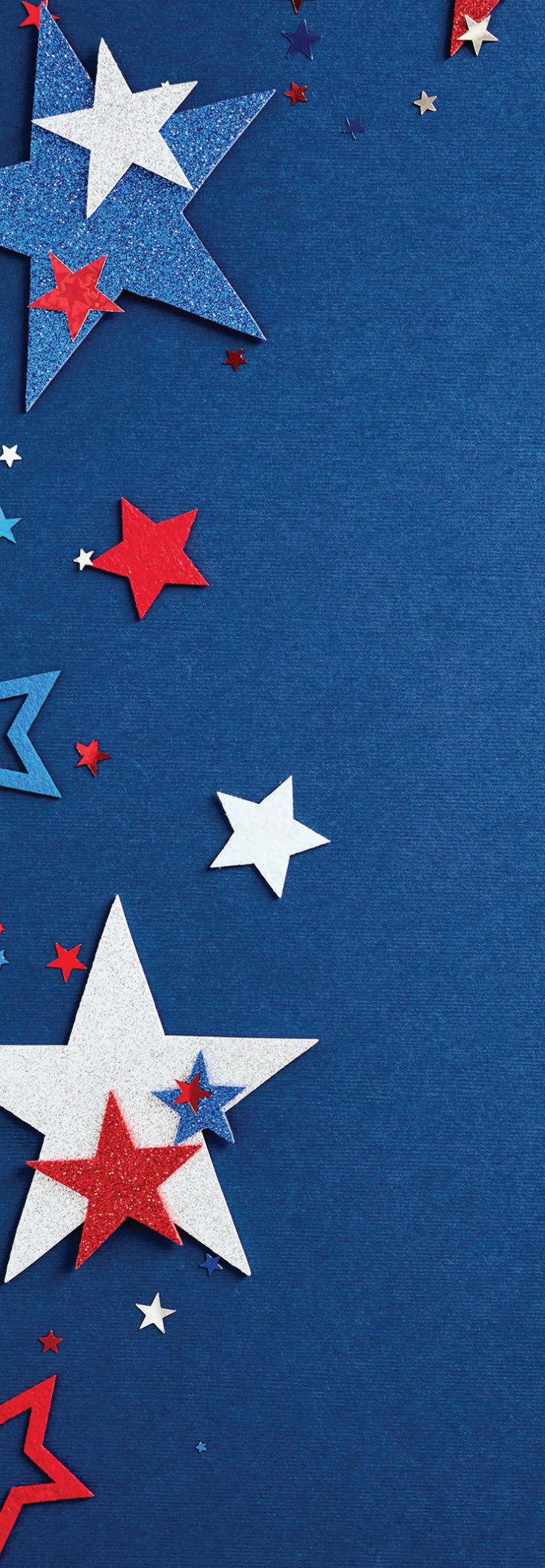
By providing a national perspective on the way the nation's elections are structured and evaluating specific state election policies through a lens of security and voter convenience, this scorecard helps highlight best practices and identifies different paths to achieving an election system worthy of public trust.

Overall, this election policy scorecard supports the idea that the United States' decentralized approach to elections is a strength of our system of governance.



About the Author

Chris McIsaac is a governance fellow at the R Street Institute. His work focuses on research and analysis on electoral reform and budget policy.

A dark blue textured background is decorated with various stars. There are large white stars with red and blue glitter accents, smaller red stars, and small blue and white stars scattered throughout. The stars are of different sizes and orientations, creating a festive, patriotic look.

Snapshot: 50 State Fact Sheets

• • •

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Louisiana	68
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Maryland	70
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Minnesota	73
Mississippi	74
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New Jersey	80
New Mexico	81
New York	82
North Carolina	83
North Dakota	84
Ohio	85
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Oregon	87
Pennsylvania	88
Rhode Island	89
South Carolina	90
South Dakota	91
Tennessee	92
Texas	93
Utah	94
Vermont	95
Virginia	96
Washington	97
West Virginia	98
Wisconsin	99
Wyoming	100

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place ([Ala. Code § 17-4-39](#), [SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if age 18 by the next election ([Secretary of State](#))
- **RESTORATION (no credit):**
Voting right restoration requires application for a Certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote ([Ala. Code § 15-22-36.1](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Fourteen days before Election Day ([Ala. Code § 17-3-50](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([Ala. Code § 17-4-39](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, family member reports, SSA death records ([Ala. Code § 17-4-6.1](#), [Ala. Code § 17-4-39](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo ID requested; if no ID, provisional ballots issued in most cases; regular ballot issued if identity confirmed by two election officials ([Ala. Code § 17-9-30](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):**
Requires signature of two witnesses or a notary (partial credit) ([Ala. Code § 17-11-7](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (no credit):**
No early voting option ([NCSL](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([Ala. Code § 17-11-3](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day ballot deadline; no pre-processing allowed ([Ala. Code § 17-11-18](#), [Ala. Code § 17-11-10](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record (full credit) ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits with a post-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and observation by poll watchers and the media ([Act 433 \[2026\]](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([Ala. Code § 17-3-30](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([Ala. Code § 17-5-16.1](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([Ala. Code § 13A-5-14](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (partial credit):** Preregistration at age 17 years 9 months ([AS §15.07.040](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([AS §15.05.030](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):** Thirty days before Election Day for non-presidential elections; same day permitted for presidential elections using provisional ballots ([AS §15.07.070](#), [AS §15.05.014](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Division of Elections](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):** AVR with back-end opt-out ([AS §15.07.070](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member ([ERIC](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA available through ERIC ([ERIC](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):** Photo or non-photo ID requested; if no ID, provisional ballots issued in most cases; regular ballot issued if voter is personally known to an election official ([AS §15.15.225](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):** Requires signature of a witness or notary ([AS §15.20.081](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):** No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins 15 days before Election Day ([AS §15.20.064](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([AS §15.20.010](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):** Election Day postmark deadline if received up 10 days after Election Day and at least seven days of pre-processing ([AS §15.20.081](#), [AS §15.20.201](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Ninety-five percent of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand-count locations average 216 registered voters ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline and observation by political parties ([Verified Voting](#), [AS §15.15.430](#), [AS §15.15.450](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in primaries for most offices, but not President ([AS §15.25.010](#), [Division of Elections](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([AS §15.56.060](#))

VOTER
ELIGIBILITY

- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
Requires DPOC; SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place ([A.R.S. § 16-166](#), [A.R.S. § 16-165](#), [SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration if age 18 by the next election ([A.R.S. § 16-101](#))
- **RESTORATION (partial credit):**
Restores voting right automatically after completing sentence for first-time offenders but requires restoration by a judge after two or more sentences ([A.R.S. § 13-907](#), [A.R.S. § 13-908](#))

VOTER
REGISTRATION

- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-nine days before Election Day ([A.R.S. § 16-120](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Arizona Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Prohibits automatic voter registration ([A.R.S. § 16-145](#))

VOTER LIST
MAINTENANCE

- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member ([ERIC](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([A.R.S. §16-166](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, other reliable sources, and SSA death records through ERIC ([Election Procedures Manual](#), [ERIC](#))

VERIFYING
VOTER IDENTITY

- **ID (full credit):**
One photo or two non-photo IDs required to vote in person ([A.R.S. § 16-579](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([A.R.S. § 16-550](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Five-day statewide ballot-curing period ([A.R.S. § 16-550](#))

VOTING BEFORE
ELECTION DAY

- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 27 days before Election Day ([A.R.S. § 16-542](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([A.R.S. § 16-541](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([A.R.S. § 16-548](#), [A.R.S. § 16-550](#))

TABULATION
AND AUDITS

- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audit with pre-certification deadline; observation by political parties; results published by the Secretary of State ([Verified Voting](#), [A.R.S. § 16-602](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in primaries for most offices but not President ([Article VII](#), [Section 10](#), [A.R.S. § 16-241](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([A.R.S. 16-1023](#), [A.R.S. 16-1024](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([A.R.S. 16-1004](#), [A.R.S. 13-12401](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if age 18 by the next election ([Secretary of State](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §11](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Thirty days before election ([Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §9](#))
- **ONLINE (no credit):**
No online registration option ([NCSL](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §10](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records ([Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §7](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person ([Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §13](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):**
Requires signature of a witness ([A.C.A. § 7-5-409](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 15 days before Election Day ([A.C.A. § 7-5-418](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([A.C.A. § 7-5-402](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing starting Tuesday before Election Day ([A.C.A. § 7-5-411](#), [A.C.A. § 7-5-416](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits that must begin within 60 days of the election and public reporting of results ([Verified Voting, A.C.A. § 7-4-121](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([A.C.A. § 7-7-308](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** Political Speech: No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([A.C.A. § 7-5-312](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (no credit):**
San Francisco allows noncitizen parents to vote in local school board elections ([Bipartisan Policy Center](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([Elec Code § 2101](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([Elec Code § 2212](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting with real-time access to registration database ([Elec Code § 2170](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
AVR with front-end opt-out ([Elec Code § 2264](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place ([ERIC](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([Elec Code § 2222](#), [2 Cal. Code Regs. § 19078](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (partial credit):**
State and local vital record agencies ([Elec Code § 2205](#), [Elec Code § 2206](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):**
ID not required or requested ([Elec Code § 14216](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([Elec Code § 3011](#), [Elec Code § 3019](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Statewide ballot curing until two days before certification ([Elec Code § 3019](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 29 days before Election Day ([Elec Code § 3016.3](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([Elec Code § 3000.5](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received up to seven days after Election Day and at least 29 days of pre-processing allowed ([Elec Code § 3020](#), [Elec Code § 15101](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [Elec Code § 15360](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in primaries for most offices, but not President, unless the political parties choose to permit ([Elec Code § 8141.5](#), [Elec Code § 13102](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([GOV Code § 84514](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([Elec Code § 2166.8](#), [Elec Code § 18502](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (partial credit):**
Preregistration at age 15 ([C.R.S. § 1-2-101](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([C.R.S. § 1-2-103](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting with real-time access to registration database ([C.R.S. § 1-2-217.7](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):**
AVR with back-end opt-out ([C.R.S. § 1-2-213.3](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([C.R.S. § 1-2-302.5](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, family member reports, SSA death records through ERIC ([C.R.S. § 1-2-602](#), ERIC)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo or non-photo ID requested; if no ID, provisional ballot is issued and accepted with sufficient information to verify eligibility ([C.R.S. § 1-7-110](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([C.R.S. § 1-7.5-107.3](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Eight-day statewide ballot-curing period ([C.R.S. § 1-7.5-107.3](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 15 days before Election Day ([C.R.S. § 1-5-102.9](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([C.R.S. § 1-5-401](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([C.R.S. § 1-7.5-107](#), [C.R.S. § 1-7.5-107.5](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Nearly all (99.9 percent) of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; San Juan is the county that uses hand counts and has approximately 740 registered voters ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Risk-limiting audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [C.R.S. § 1-7-515](#), [8 C.C.R. § 1505-1:25](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([C.R.S. § 1-7-201](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([C.R.S. § 1-46-102 et seq](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([C.R.S. § 1-13-701](#), [C.R.S. § 18-9-313.5](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration if age 18 by the next election ([C.G.S. § 9-12](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([C.G.S. § 9-46a](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting with real-time access to registration database. ([C.G.S. § 9-19j](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):** AVR with front-end opt-out ([C.G.S. § 9-19h](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use permitted ([C.G.S. § 9-32](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):** Photo or non-photo ID requested; if no ID, regular ballot issued if voter signs affidavit ([C.G.S. § 9-261](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (no credit):** Requires but does not verify signatures on mail ballots ([C.G.S. § 9-150a](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):** No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins 15 days before Election Day ([C.G.S. § 9-163aa](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):** Excuse required ([C.G.S. § 9-135](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):** Election Day mail ballot deadline; seven days of pre-processing allowed ([C.G.S. § 9-140b](#), [C.G.S. § 9-140c](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions using optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [C.G.S. § 9-320f](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow ([C.G.S. § 9-431](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([C.G.S. § 9-364a](#), [C.G.S. § 9-368n](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 16 ([15 Del. C. § 1701](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([Del. Const. art. V, § 2.](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):** Fourth Saturday before Election Day ([Department of Elections](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Department of Elections](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):** AVR with back-end opt-out ([15 Del. C. § 2050A](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use permitted ([15 Del. C. § 1704](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, family member reports, and SSA death records through ERIC ([15 Del. C. § 1705](#), ERIC)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):** Photo or non-photo ID requested; if no ID, regular ballot issued if voter signs affidavit ([15 Del. C. § 4937](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (no credit):** Requires but does not verify signatures on mail ballots ([15 Del. C. § 5514](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):** No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins 10 days before Election Day ([15 Del. C. § 5402](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):** Excuse required ([15 Del. C. § 5502](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):** Election Day mail ballot deadline; 30 days of pre-processing allowed ([15 Del. C. § 5508](#), [15 Del. C. § 5510](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use Ballot marking device/tabulator hybrids ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Tabulation audits beginning after certification of the election, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [15 Del. C. § 5012A](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (no credit):** Party affiliation required to vote in all primaries ([15 Del. C. § 3110](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([15 Del. C. § 5145](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([15 Del. C. § 5139](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place; starting in 2027, DPOC required if not confirmed by other data checks ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#), [HB 991 \[2026\]](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([F.S.A. § 97.041](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([Fla. Const. art. VI, § 4](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-nine days before Election Day ([F.S.A. § 97.055](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Department of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([AL Secretary of State](#), [OH Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([F.S.A. § 97.065](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records ([F.S.A. § 98.075](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID requested if no ID, provisional ballot issued and accepted if signatures match ([F.S.A. § 101.043](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([F.S.A. § 101.68](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Two-day statewide ballot-curing period ([F.S.A. § 101.68](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 10 days before Election Day ([F.S.A. § 101.657](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([F.S.A. § 101.62](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([F.S.A. § 101.67](#), [F.S.A. § 101.68](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions using optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits with a post-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [F.S.A. § 101.591](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



PRIMARIES (no credit): Party affiliation required to vote in all primaries ([F.S.A. § 101.021](#))

POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit): Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([F.S.A. § 106.145](#))

ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit): Enhanced protections for election workers ([F.S.A. § 119.071](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place; DPOC required if not confirmed by other data checks (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-216, [SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 17.5 years (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-216)
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-216)



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Fifth Monday before Election Day (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224)
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
AVR with front-end opt-out (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-221)



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member and agreements in place with other states (ERIC, [AL Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-233)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, family member reports, obituaries, SSA death records from ERIC (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-231, ERIC)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-417)
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies state ID number on mail ballots (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386)
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Three-day statewide ballot-curing period (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386)



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins on the fourth Monday before Election Day (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385)
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-380)
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386)



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions using optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Risk-limiting audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), O.C.G.A. § 21-2-498)



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224)
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech (NCSL)
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (full credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers and election law training for law enforcement (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-566, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-569, [Police 1](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 16 ([HRS § 11-12](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([Haw. Const. art. II, § 2](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (no credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting without provisional ballots or real-time database checks ([HRS § 11-15.2](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Office of Elections](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):** AVR with front-end opt-out ([HRS § 11-15.7](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use permitted ([HAR §3-177-157](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records from ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([HAR §3-177-550](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):** Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([HRS § 11-106](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):** Five-day statewide ballot-curing period ([HRS § 11-106](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins 10 days before Election Day ([HRS § 11-109](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([HRS § 11-101](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):** Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([HRS § 11-104](#), [HRS § 11-108](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions using optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results not required, and no public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [HRS § 16-42](#), [HAR §3-177-762](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in primaries for most offices but not President ([HRS § 12-31](#), [Office of Elections](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech. On hold per federal court ruling ([HRS § 11-303](#), [HRS § 11-304](#), [Babylon Bee, LLC v Lopez](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER
ELIGIBILITY

- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place (*I.C. § 34-433*) ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if age 18 by the next election (*I.C. § 34-402*)
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence (*I.C. § 18-310*)

VOTER
REGISTRATION

- **DEADLINE (no credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting without provisional ballots or real-time database checks (*I.C. § 34-408A*)
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR (*NCSL*)

VOTER LIST
MAINTENANCE

- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place (*ERIC*)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (no credit):**
NCOA use not identified for list maintenance (*NCSL*)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records (*I.C. § 34-433*)

VERIFYING
VOTER IDENTITY

- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo ID requested; if no ID, regular ballot issued if voter signs affidavit (*I.C. § 34-1106, I.C. § 34-1113, I.C. § 34-1114*)
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots (*I.C. § 34-1005*)
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))

VOTING BEFORE
ELECTION DAY

- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins on the fourth Monday before Election Day (*I.C. § 34-1012*)
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required (*I.C. § 34-1001*)
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt (*I.C. § 34-1005*)

TABULATION
AND AUDITS

- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Most (98 percent) of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand count counties average 3,100 registered voters; Benewah County is the largest with 6,000 voters ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline; public reporting of results; open to observation by media ([Verified Voting, I.C. § 34-1203A](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow (*I.C. § 34-904*)
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech (*I.C. § 67-6628A*)
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found (*NCSL*)

VOTER
ELIGIBILITY

- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):**
Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([10 ILCS 5/3-6](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([10 ILCS 5/3-5](#))

VOTER
REGISTRATION

- **DEADLINE (no credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting without provisional ballots or real-time database checks ([10 ILCS 5/5-50](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([State Board of Elections](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
AVR with front-end opt-out ([10 ILCS 5/1A-16.1](#))

VOTER LIST
MAINTENANCE

- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([10 ILCS 5/1A-16.8](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))

VERIFYING
VOTER IDENTITY

- **ID (no credit):**
ID not required or requested ([10 ILCS 5/17-9](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([10 ILCS 5/19-8](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Fourteen-day statewide ballot-curing period ([10 ILCS 5/19-8](#))

VOTING BEFORE
ELECTION DAY

- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 40 days before Election Day ([10 ILCS 5/19A-15](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([10 ILCS 5/19-1](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received up to 14 days after Election Day; pre-processing allowed within two days of receipt ([10 ILCS 5/19-8](#))

TABULATION
AND AUDITS

- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions using optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline; public reporting of results; open to observation by designated organizations but not general public ([Verified Voting, 10 ILCS 5/24B-15](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([10 ILCS 5/7-44](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([5 ILCS 347/10](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if age 18 by the next election ([I.C. § 3-7-13-1](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([I.C. § 3-7-13-5](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-nine days before Election Day ([I.C. § 3-7-13-10](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Indiana Election Division](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (partial credit):**
Agreement in place with Ohio ([OH Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([I.C. § 3-7-28.2-2](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records, obituaries, estate notices ([I.C. § 3-7-45-6.1](#), [I.C. § 3-7-45-4](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person ([I.C. § 3-10-1-7.2](#), [I.C. § 3-11-8-25.1](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([I.C. § 3-11.5-4-5](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Eight-day statewide ballot-curing period ([I.C. § 3-11.5-4-13.5](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 28 days before Election Day ([I.C. § 3-11-10-26](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([I.C. § 3-11-10-24](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([I.C. § 3-11.5-4-7](#), [I.C. § 3-11.5-4-11](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners and DRE systems ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation and risk-limiting audits with varying pre-certification deadlines based on the type of voting equipment, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [I.C. § 3-11-13-39](#), [I.C. § 3-12-3.5-8](#), [I.C. § 3-12-13](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([I.C. § 3-10-1-6](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([I.C. § 3-9-8](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([I.C. § 3-14-3-4](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 17 ([Iowa Code § 48A.5](#))
- **RESTORATION (partial credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence, per executive order ([Exec. Order No. 7 \[Aug. 5, 2020\]](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (no credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting without provisional ballots or real-time database checks ([Iowa Code § 48A.7A](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Department of Transportation](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (partial credit):**
Agreement in place with Ohio ([OH Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([Iowa Admin. Code r. 821-7.4\(48A\)](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records, family members, obituaries, estate notices ([Iowa Code § 48A.30](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo or non-photo ID requested; if no ID, provisional ballots issued in most cases; regular ballot issued if two other voters attest to identity ([Iowa Code § 49.78](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([Iowa Code § 53.18](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Statewide ballot curing until close of polls on Election Day ([Iowa Code § 53.18](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 20 days before Election Day ([Iowa Code § 53.10](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([Iowa Code § 53.1](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; one day of pre-processing allowed ([Iowa Code § 53.17](#), [Iowa Code § 53.23](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audit with pre-certification deadline and observation by political parties only ([Verified Voting](#), [Iowa Code § 50.51](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([Iowa Code § 43.42](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place; SAVE use required per 2026 legislation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#), HB 2437)
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if age 18 by the next election ([K.S.A. § 25-2306](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([K.S.A. § 22-3722](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-one days before Election Day, except 30 days for presidential primaries ([K.S.A. § 25-2311](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([K.A.R. 7-38-1](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records, obituaries ([K.S.A. § 25-2316c](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person ([K.S.A. § 25-2908](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([K.S.A. § 25-433](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Statewide ballot curing through start of final canvass ([K.S.A. § 25-1124](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins at least seven and up to 20 days before Election Day, depending on the county ([K.S.A. § 25-1123](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([K.S.A. § 25-1119](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed ([K.S.A. § 25-1132](#), [K.S.A. § 25-1134](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners and BMD/tabulator hybrids ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [K.S.A. § 25-3009](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow ([K.S.A. § 25-3301](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):**
Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if age 18 by the next election ([KRS § 116.045](#))
- **RESTORATION (partial credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence per executive order ([Exec. Order No. 3 \[Dec. 12 2019\]](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Fourth Tuesday before Election Day ([KRS § 116.045](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([State Board of Elections](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([KRS § 116.112](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, other reliable sources and SSA death records through ERIC ([KRS § 116.113](#), ERIC)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo ID requested; non-photo ID accepted if claiming a reasonable impediment; if no ID, federal-only provisional ballots issued in most cases; regular ballot issued if voter is personally known by an election official ([KRS § 117.001](#), [KRS § 117.225](#), [KRS § 117.228](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([KRS § 117.087](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Statewide ballot curing until close of polls on Election Day ([KRS § 117.087](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins on the Thursday before Election Day ([KRS § 117.076](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([KRS § 117.085](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; 14 days of pre-processing allowed ([KRS § 117.086](#), [KRS § 117.087](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audit during the canvass and observation by media and political parties ([Verified Voting](#), [KRS § 117.383](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (no credit):** Party affiliation required to vote in all primaries ([KRS § 116.055](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([KRS § 117.322](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([KRS § 119.255](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([La. R.S. § 18:101](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([La. R.S. § 18:102](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Thirty days before Election Day for in person or mail registrations; 20 days for online ([La. R.S. § 18:135](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([La. R.S. § 18:192](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, obituaries ([La. R.S. § 18:173](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo ID requested; if no ID, regular ballot issued if voter signs affidavit ([La. R.S. § 18:562](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):**
Requires signature of a witness ([La. R.S. § 18:1306](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Statewide ballot curing until day before Election Day ([La. R.S. § 18:1317](#), [LA Admin Code 31:303](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 14 days before Election Day ([La. R.S. § 18:1309](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([La. R.S. § 18:1303](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; one to three days of pre-processing allowed ([La. R.S. § 18:1308](#), [La. R.S. § 18:1313.1](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (no credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use DRE systems and do not generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use DRE systems ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (no credit):**
Tabulation audits required pending adoption of new paper-based voting machines ([Verified Voting](#), [La. R.S. § 18:1353](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in primaries for most offices, but not President unless the parties choose to allow ([Secretary of State](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI generated political speech ([Act 806 2026](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([La. R.S. § 18:1461.5](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 16 ([21 M.R.S.A. § 155](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Voting rights never revoked ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 111](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (no credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting without provisional ballots or real-time database checks ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 121-A](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):** AVR with front-end opt-out ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 234](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use permitted (29 ME Code Rules § 250-505-1)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, obituaries, family member reports, SSA death records through ERIC ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 128](#), ERIC)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 671](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):** Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 756](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):** Statewide ballot curing until close of polls on Election Day ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 756-A](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):** Begins at least 30 days before Election Day ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 753-B](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 751](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):** Election Day mail ballot deadline; seven days of pre-processing allowed ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 755](#), [21-A M.R.S.A. § 760B](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Most (96 percent) of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand-count jurisdictions average 250 registered voters, the largest of which is 804 ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Optional risk-limiting audits without any statutory deadline; reporting of results to legislature; public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [21-A M.R.S.A. § 726](#), [21-A M.R.S.A. § 610](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 341](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 1014](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([21-A M.R.S.A. § 674](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (no credit):**
Multiple local jurisdictions allow noncitizens to vote in local elections ([Bipartisan Policy Center](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([Elec. Law § 3-102](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([Elec. Law § 3-102](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting with real-time access to registration database during early voting ([Elec. Law § 3-305](#), [Elec. Law § 3-306](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([State Board of Elections](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
AVR with front-end opt-out ([Elec. Law § 3-203](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA available through ERIC ([Board of Elections](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records, obituaries ([Elec. Law § 3-504](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):**
ID not required or requested ([Elec. Law § 10-310](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (no credit):**
Requires but does not verify signatures on mail ballots ([Elec. Law § 11-302](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Ten-day statewide ballot-curing period ([Elec. Law § 11-302](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins on the second Thursday before Election Day ([Elec. Law § 10-301.1](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([Elec. Law § 9-304](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received up to 10 days after Election Day and pre-processing allowed eight days before the start of early voting ([MD Code Regs 33.03.08](#), [Elec. Law § 11-302](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Risk-limiting audits with a pre-certification deadline and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [Elec. Law § 11-309](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow ([Elec. Law § 8-202](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([Senate Bill 141 \[2026\]](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([Elec. Law § 16-205](#), [Elec. Law § 16-904](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 16 ([M.G.L.A. 51 § 42](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([M.G.L.A. 51 § 1](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):** Same-day registration permitted during early voting until 10 days before Election Day; provisional ballots at polling locations without access to voter registration database ([M.G.L.A. 51 § 26, Secretary of State](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of the Commonwealth](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):** AVR at Registry of Motor Vehicles with back-end opt-out and AVR at health insurance exchange with front-end opt-out ([M.G.L.A. 51 § 42G 1/2](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA available through ERIC (ERIC)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([M.G.L.A. 54 § 76B](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):** Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([M.G.L.A. 54 § 94](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):** Statewide ballot curing until close of polls on Election Day ([M.G.L.A. 54 § 94](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins 10 to 17 days before Election Day depending on the type of election ([M.G.L.A. 54 § 25B](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([M.G.L.A. 54 § 25B](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):** Election Day postmark deadline if received up to three days after Election Day; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([M.G.L.A. 54 § 93, M.G.L.A. 54 § 94](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Nearly all (99 percent) voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand-count jurisdictions average 950 registered voters, the largest of which is 3,892 ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting, M.G.L.A. 54 § 109A](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([M.G.L.A. 53 § 38](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([M.G.L.A. 56 § 48](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([MCL §168.495](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([MCL §168.758](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting with real-time access to registration database at clerk's office ([MCL §168.497](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):**
AVR with back-end opt-out ([MCL §168.493a](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([MCL §168.509aa](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([MCL §168.509o](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo ID requested; if no ID, regular ballot issued if voter signs affidavit ([MCL §168.523](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([MCL §168.766a](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Three-day statewide ballot-curing period ([MCL §168.766a](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 40 days before Election Day ([Mich. Const. art. II, § 4](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([MCL §168.759](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([MCL §168.764a](#), [MCL §168.766](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation and procedural audits beginning after the canvass; public reporting of results; public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [Mich. Const. art. II, § 4](#), [Secretary of State](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([MCL §168.531](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([MCL §168.932f](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([MCL §168.931b](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 16 ([M.S. § 201.071](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([M.S. § 201.014](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (no credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting without provisional ballots or real-time database checks ([M.S. § 201.061](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):** AVR with back-end opt-out ([M.S. § 201.161](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use required ([M.S. § 201.13](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records ([M.S. § 201.13](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([M.S. § 204C.10](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):** Requires signature of a witness or notary ([M.S. § 203B.07](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):** Statewide ballot curing until close of polls on Election Day ([M.S. § 203B.121](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):** Begins 46 days before Election Day ([M.S. § 203B.081](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([M.S. § 203B.02](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):** Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([M.S. § 203B.08](#), [M.S. § 203B.121](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Almost all (99.8 percent) of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; a small number of precincts in two counties conduct hand counts, with an average of 150 voters per precinct ([Verified Voting](#), [Secretary of State](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [M.S. § 206.89](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([M.S. § 204D.08](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([M.S. § 609.771](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([M.S. § 211B.076](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
Require DPOC if other methods cannot verify SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place ([Miss. Code § 23-15-15](#), [SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([Miss. Code § 23-15-11](#))
- **RESTORATION (no credit):**
Voting right restoration requires approval from the legislature or governor ([Miss. Const. Ann. Art. 12, § 253](#), [Miss. Code § 47-7-41](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Thirty days before Election Day ([Miss. Code § 23-15-37](#))
- **ONLINE (no credit):**
No online registration option ([NCSL](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([AL](#) and [LA](#) Secretaries of State)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([Miss. Code § 23-15-152](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records ([Secretary of State](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person ([Miss. Code § 23-15-563](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):**
Requires signature of a witness or notary ([Miss. Code § 23-15-631](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Ten-day statewide ballot-curing period ([Miss. Admin Code 17, R. 4.1](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (no credit):**
No early voting option ([NCSL](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([Miss. Code § 23-15-715](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (no credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received up to five days after Election Day; no pre-processing allowed ([Miss. Code § 23-15-637](#), [Miss. Code § 23-15-639](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (no credit):**
Does not conduct tabulation audits ([Verified Voting](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([Miss. Code § 23-15-575](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([Miss. Code § 97-13-47](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 17.5 years ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.133](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.133](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Fourth Wednesday before Election Day ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.135](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (partial credit):**
Data sharing agreement with Kansas ([Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.179](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records ([Secretary of State Statement](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID requested; if no ID, provisional ballot issued and accepted if signatures match ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.427](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):**
Requires signature of a witness or notary ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.291](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins the second Tuesday before Election Day ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.277](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.277](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; five days of pre-processing allowed ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.293](#), [Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.300](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Almost all voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand counts used in one county with 1,429 registered voters ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation of the precinct selection ([Verified Voting](#), [15 CSR 30-10.110](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.397](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([MCA § 13-2-205](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([MCA § 46-18-801](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting with real-time access to registration database at county election office ([MCA § 13-2-304](#))
- **ONLINE (no credit):**
No online registration option ([NCSL](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place ([ERIC](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA permitted ([MCA § 13-2-220](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, obituaries ([MCA § 13-2-402](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID requested; if no ID, provisional ballot issued and accepted if signatures match ([MCA § 13-13-114](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([MCA § 13-13-241](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Statewide ballot curing until 8:00 pm on Election Day ([MCA § 13-13-245](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 30 days before Election Day ([MCA § 13-13-205](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([MCA § 13-13-201](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([MCA § 13-13-232](#), [MCA § 13-13-241](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
Almost all (99 percent) of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand-count jurisdictions average 1,014 registered voters, the largest of which is 1,293 ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [MCA § 13-17-505](#), [MCA § 13-17-506](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([MCA § 13-10-301](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([MCA § 13-35-802](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([MCA § 13-35-203](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 17 and will be 18 by the next election ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-110](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-313](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Second Friday before election for in-person voting, third Friday for online or mail voting ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-302](#), [Neb. Rev. St. § 32-304](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place ([ERIC](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-329](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, any supporting information ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-327](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-914](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-1027.01](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 30 days before Election Day ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-942](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-938](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed starting the second Friday before Election Day ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-950](#), [Neb. Rev. St. § 32-1027](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
No audit requirement in statute, conducted at discretion of Secretary of State ([Verified Voting](#), [Secretary of State](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in primaries for all nonpartisan offices, including the state legislature, and some partisan federal, state and local offices if parties choose to allow ([Neb. Rev. St. § 32-912](#), [Neb. Rev. St. § 32-701](#), [Secretary of State](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 17 ([NRS § 293.4855](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([NRS § 213.157](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting; provisional ballots on Election Day ([NRS § 293.5842](#), [NRS § 293.5847](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):** AVR with back-end opt-out ([NRS § 293.5768](#), [NRS § 293.57693](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use permitted ([NRS § 293.5303](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, election official knowledge, SSA death records through ERIC ([NRS § 293.540](#), ERIC)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([NRS § 293.277](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):** Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([NRS § 293.269927](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):** Six-day statewide ballot-curing period ([NRS § 293.269927](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins the third Saturday before Election Day ([NRS § 293.3568](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([NRS § 293.269911](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):** Election Day postmark deadline if received up to four days after Election Day; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([NRS § 293.269921](#), [NRS § 293.269927](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Risk-limiting audits without a specific completion deadline; public reporting of results ([Verified Voting](#), [NRS § 293.394](#), [NAC § 293.485](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (no credit):** Party affiliation required to vote in all primaries ([NRS § 293.287](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([NRS § 294A.3493](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([NRS § 293.705](#), [NRS § 293.908](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
Requires DPOC for new voters (NH RSA § 654:12)
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 18 by the next election (NH RSA § 654:7)
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration (NH RSA § 607:A2)



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (no credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day without provisional ballots or real-time database checks (NH RSA § 654:7-a)
- **ONLINE (no credit):**
No online registration option (NCSL)
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR (NCSL)



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted (NH RSA § 654:36-b)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, election official knowledge (NH RSA § 654:37-a)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo ID requested; if no ID, regular ballot issued if election official verifies eligibility (NH RSA § 659:13)
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots (NH RSA § 659:50)
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted (Ballotpedia)



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (no credit):**
No early voting option (NCSL)
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required (NH RSA § 657:1)
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day ballot deadline; no pre-processing allowed (NH RSA § 657:22, NH RSA § 659:49)



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record (Verified Voting)
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Most (92 percent) of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand-count jurisdictions average 870 registered voters, the largest of which is 2,390 (Verified Voting)
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation (Verified Voting, NH RSA § 660:35)



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries (NH RSA § 654:34)
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech (NH RSA § 664:14-c)
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers (NH RSA § 659:40-b)

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):**
Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 17 ([N.J.S.A. § 19:31-5](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([N.J.S.A. § 19:4-1](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-one days before Election Day ([N.J.S.A. § 19:31-6](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Division of Elections](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):**
AVR with back-end opt-out starting in 2028 ([N.J.S.A. § 39:2-3.2, Chapt. 204 2026](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([N.J.S.A. § 19:31-15](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):**
ID not required or requested ([N.J.S.A. § 19:15-17](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([N.J.S.A. § 19:63-17](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Statewide ballot curing until two days before certification ([N.J.S.A. § 19:63-17](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 45 days before Election Day ([N.J.S.A. § 19:63-3, N.J.S.A. § 19:63-9](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([N.J.S.A. § 19:63-3](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received up to six days after Election Day; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([N.J.S.A. § 19:63-22, N.J.S.A. § 19:63-17](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners, BMD/tabulator hybrids, or DRE systems ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Traditional audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting, N.J.S.A. § 19:61-9](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (no credit):** Party affiliation required to vote in all primaries ([N.J.S.A. § 19:23-45](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([NMSA § 1-4-2](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([NMSA § 1-4-27.1](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting; provisional ballots at polling locations without access to voter registration database ([NMSA § 1-4-5.7](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):** AVR with back-end opt-out ([NMSA § 1-4-47](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use required ([NMSA § 1-4-28](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, obituaries, probate records, SSA death records through ERIC ([NMSA § 1-4-25](#), ERIC)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([NMSA § 1-12-10](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):** Requires and verifies the last 4 digits of voter SSN on mail ballots ([NMSA § 1-6-10](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):** Statewide ballot curing through the conclusion of the canvass ([1.10.15.10 NMAC](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):** Begins 28 days before Election Day ([NMSA § 1-6-5.7](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([NMSA § 1-6-3](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):** Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed within one day of receipt ([NMSA § 1-6-10](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [NMSA § 1-14-13.2](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([NMSA § 1-4-15](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([NMSA § 1-19-26.4](#), [NMSA § 1-19-26.8](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([NMSA § 1-20-14](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 16 ([Elec. Law § 5-507](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([Elec. Law § 5-106](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):** Ten days before Election Day, except for same day on first day of early voting using provisional ballots ([Elec. Law § 5-210](#), [Elec. Law § 8-604](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Department of Motor Vehicles](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):** AVR with front-end opt-out ([Elec. Law § 5-900](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use required ([Elec. Law § 5-708](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([Elec. Law § 8-302](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):** Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([Elec. Law § 9-209](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):** Seven-day statewide ballot-curing period ([Elec. Law § 9-209](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins 10 days before Election Day ([Elec. Law § 8-600](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([Elec. Law § 8-700](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):** Election Day postmark deadline if received up to seven days after Election Day; pre-processing allowed within four days of receipt ([Elec. Law § 8-412](#), [Elec. Law § 9-209](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanner and hybrid BMD/tabulators ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline and observation by political parties ([Verified Voting](#), [Elec. Law § 9-211](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (no credit):** Party affiliation required to vote in all primaries ([Elec. Law § 8-302](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([Elec. Law § 14-106](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([State Board of Elections](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([N.C.G.S. § 13-1](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-five days before Election Day, except same-day registration during early voting using retrievable ballots ([N.C.G.S. § 163-82.B](#), [State Board of Elections](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Department of Motor Vehicles](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place ([ERIC](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted ([N.C.G.S. § 163-82.14](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, family member reports, estates ([N.C.G.S. § 163-82.14](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person ([N.C.G.S. § 163-166.16](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):**
Requires signature of two witnesses or notary ([N.C.G.S. § 163-231](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Three-day statewide ballot-curing period ([N.C.G.S. § 163-230.1](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins on the third Thursday before Election Day ([N.C.G.S. § 163-166.40](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([N.C.G.S. § 163-226](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed starting on the fifth Tuesday before Election Day ([N.C.G.S. § 163-231](#), [N.C.G.S. § 163-230.1](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Tabulation audits with binding results, public observation, and reports that get published ([Verified Voting](#), [N.C.G.S. § 163-182.1](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([N.C.G.S. § 163-119](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([N.C.G.S. § 163-274](#), [N.C.G.S. § 163-275](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE:** N/A
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([N.D.C.C. § 12.1-33-03](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION

N/A

- **DEADLINE:** N/A
- **ONLINE:** N/A
- **AUTOMATIC:** N/A



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE

N/A

- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING:** N/A
- **ADDRESS CHANGES:** N/A
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES:** N/A



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo or non-photo ID required to vote in person ([N.D.C.C. § 16.1-05-07](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([N.D.C.C. § 16.1-07-12](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Statewide ballot curing through the conclusion of the canvass ([N.D.C.C. § 16.1-07-13.1](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 15 days before Election Day ([N.D.C.C. § 16.1-07-15](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([N.D.C.C. § 16.1-07-01](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; three days of pre-processing allowed ([N.D.C.C. § 16.1-07-09](#), [N.D.C.C. § 16.1-07-12](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline and no requirements for public observation or public reporting ([Verified Voting](#), [N.D.C.C. § 16.1-06-15](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in primaries for most offices, but not president unless parties choose to allow ([N.D.C.C. § 16.1-11-22](#), [Secretary of State](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([N.D.C.C. § 16.1-10-04.2](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([N.D.C.C. § 12.1-14-02](#))

VOTER
ELIGIBILITY

- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place ([O.R.C. § 3503.152](#), [SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([O.R.C. § 3503.01](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([O.R.C. § 2961.01](#))

VOTER
REGISTRATION

- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Thirty days before Election Day ([O.R.C. § 3503.19](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))

VOTER LIST
MAINTENANCE

- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([O.R.C. § 3503.21](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records ([O.R.C. § 3503.18](#))

VERIFYING
VOTER IDENTITY

- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person ([O.R.C. § 3505.18](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([O.R.C. § 3509.06](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Four-day statewide ballot-curing period ([O.R.C. § 3509.06](#))

VOTING BEFORE
ELECTION DAY

- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 29 days before Election Day ([O.R.C. § 3509.051](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([O.R.C. § 3509.02](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed ([O.R.C. § 3509.05](#), [O.R.C. § 3509.06](#))

TABULATION
AND AUDITS

- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners, BMD/tabulator hybrids, or DRE systems ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a post-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation; if necessary, counties required to amend election results based on audit findings ([Verified Voting](#), [O.R.C. § 3505.331](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([O.R.C. § 3513.19](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([O.R.C. § 3599.24](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place (26 O.S. § 4-122) ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 17 years 6 months (26 O.S. § 4-103)
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence (26 O.S. § 4-101)



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-five days before Election Day (26 O.S. § 4-110.1)
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([State Election Board](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR (NCSL)



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted (26 O.S. § 4-118.1)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records, nursing and veteran facility administrators, funeral directors (26 O.S. § 4-120.3)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo or non-photo ID requested; if no ID, provisional ballot issued and accepted if affidavit information matches registration records (26 O.S. § 7-114)
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):**
Requires signature of notary (26 O.S. § 14-108)
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins on the Wednesday before Election Day (26 O.S. § 14-115.4)
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required (26 O.S. § 14-105)
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing starting on the Thursday before Election Day (26 O.S. § 14-104, 26 O.S. § 14-123)



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits permitted, no deadline in statute; public reporting of results; and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), 26 O.S. § 3-130)



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow (26 O.S. § 1-104)
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech (NCSL)
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers (26 O.S. § 16-109)

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):**
Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([ORS § 247.016](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([ORS § 137.281](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-one days before Election Day ([ORS § 247.025](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):**
AVR with back-end opt-out ([ORS § 247.017](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([ORS § 247.295](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):**
ID not required or requested ([ORS § 254.470](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([ORS § 254.470](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Twenty-one-day statewide ballot-curing period ([ORS § 254.431](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Ballots mailed 20 days before election ([ORS § 254.470](#), [ORS § 254.472](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([ORS § 254.465](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received up to seven days after Election Day; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([ORS § 253.070](#), [ORS § 254.478](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Tabulation or risk limiting audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [ORS § 254.529](#), [ORS § 254.532](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow ([ORS § 254.365](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([ORS § 260.268](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([ORS § 247.965](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([25 Pa.C.S.A. § 1301](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([25 Pa.C.S.A. § 1301](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):** Fifteen days before Election Day ([25 P.S. § 3071](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Department of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):** AVR with front-end opt-out ([Governor Shapiro](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use permitted ([25 Pa.C.S.A. § 1901](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, obituaries, registrar of wills, SSA death records through ERIC ([25 Pa.C.S.A. § 1505](#), ERIC)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([Department of State](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (no credit):** Requires but does not verify signatures on mail ballots ([25 P.S. § 3146.8](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):** Ballot curing at county discretion ([Department of State](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):** On-demand mail voting begins up to 50 days before Election Day ([25 P.S. § 3146.5](#), [25 P.S. § 3146.2a](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([25 P.S. § 3150.11](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):** Election Day ballot deadline; no pre-processing allowed ([25 P.S. § 3146.8](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners and BMD/tabulator hybrids ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Tabulation and risk-limiting audits with a pre-certification deadline; observation by candidate designees; public reporting of results ([Verified Voting](#), [Department of State](#), [25 P.S. § 3031.17](#), [25 P.S. § 3260.2-A](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (no credit):** Party affiliation required to vote in all primaries ([25 P.S. § 299](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([25 P.S. § 3508](#), [25 P.S. § 3527](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 16 ([R.I.G.L. § 17-9.1-33](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([R.I.G.L. § 17-9.2-3](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):** Thirty days before Election Day for non-presidential elections; same day permitted for presidential elections ([R.I.G.L. § 17-1-3](#), [R.I.G.L. § 17-9.1-3](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):** AVR with front-end opt-out ([R.I.G.L. § 17-9.1-7](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use required ([R.I.G.L. § 17-9.1-27](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records ([R.I.G.L. § 17-10-1](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):** Photo ID requested. If no ID, provisional ballot issued and accepted if signatures match ([R.I.G.L. § 17-19-24.2](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):** Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([R.I.G.L. § 17-20-26](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):** Seven-day statewide ballot-curing period ([410-RICR-20-00-23.12](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins 20 days before Election Day ([R.I.G.L. § 17-20-2.2](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([R.I.G.L. § 17-20-2](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):** Election Day mail ballot deadline; 20 days of pre-processing allowed ([R.I.G.L. § 17-20-8](#), [R.I.G.L. § 17-20-26](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Risk-limiting audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [R.I.G.L. § 17-19-37.4](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([R.I.G.L. § 17-15-24](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([R.I.G.L. § 17-30-1](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([R.I.G.L. § 11-42-4](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([S.C. § 7-5-180](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([S.C. § 7-5-120](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Thirty days before Election Day ([S.C. § 7-5-150](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Election Commission](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA available through ERIC (ERIC)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required; if no ID and a reasonable impediment, provisional ballot issued and accepted unless reason to doubt the impediment claim ([S.C. § 7-13-710](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):**
Requires signature of witness ([S.C. § 7-15-220](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 14 days before Election Day ([S.C. § 7-13-25](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([S.C. § 7-15-320](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; two days of pre-processing allowed ([S.C. § 7-15-420](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting, S.C. § 7-3-20, Election Commission](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([S.C. § 7-9-20](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (no credit):** No specific election worker protections or law enforcement training found ([NCSL](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
Requires DPOC for new registrations (2026 Senate Bill 175)
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 18 by the next election (SDCL § 12-4-1)
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence (SDCL § 12-4-18, Secretary of State)



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Fifteen days before Election Day (SDCL § 12-4-5)
- **ONLINE (no credit):**
No online registration option (NCSL)
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR (NCSL)



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required (SDCL § 12-4-19.6)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records, obituaries (SDCL § 12-4-18)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo ID requested; if no ID, regular ballot issued if voter signs affidavit (SDCL § 12-18-6.1, SDCL § 12-18-6.2)
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots (SDCL § 12-9-10)
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted (Ballotpedia)



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 46 days before Election Day (SDCL § 12-19-1.2, SDCL § 12-19-2.1)
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required (SDCL § 12-9-1)
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day ballot deadline; one day of pre-processing allowed (SDCL § 12-19-12, SDCL § 12-19-43)



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record (Verified Voting)
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners (Verified Voting)
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits beginning after the completion of the canvass, public reporting of results, and public observation (Verified Voting, SDCL § 12-17B-18, 12-17B-21, 12-17B-22)



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow (SDCL § 12-6-26)
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech (SDCL § 12-26-33)
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers (SDCL § 12-26-22)

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
Require DPOC if other methods cannot verify SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place (T.C.A. § 2-2-141, [SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 18 by the next election (T.C.A. § 2-2-104)
- **RESTORATION (no credit):**
Voting right restoration requires petition to the court (T.C.A. § 40-29-102)



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Thirty days before Election Day (T.C.A. § 2-2-109)
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR (NCSL)



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([AL Secretary of State](#), [VA Dept. of Elections](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use permitted (T.C.A. § 2-2-106)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records (T.C.A. § 2-2-133)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID required to vote in person (T.C.A. § 2-7-112)
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots (T.C.A. § 2-6-202)
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 20 days before Election Day (T.C.A. § 2-6-102)
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required (T.C.A. § 2-6-201)
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt (T.C.A. § 2-6-304, T.C.A. § 2-6-202)



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners and DRE systems ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), T.C.A. § 2-20-103)



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries (T.C.A. § 2-7-115)
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([House Bill 1513 \[2026\]](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers (T.C.A. § 2-19-101)

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE agreement in place ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (partial credit):**
Preregistration at age 17 years 10 months ([Elec. Code § 13.001](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([Elec. Code § 11.002](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Thirty days before Election Day ([Elec. Code § 13.143](#))
- **ONLINE (no credit):**
No online registration option ([NCSL](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([Secretary of State](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([Elec. Code § 18.062](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records, family member reports, election official knowledge ([Elec. Code § 16.001](#), [Elec. Code § 16.031](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo ID requested; non-photo ID accepted if claiming a reasonable impediment ([Elec. Code § 63.001](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([Elec. Code § 87.027](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Six-day statewide ballot-curing period ([Elec. Code § 87.0411](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 17 days before Election Day; scheduled to become 12 days upon release of report by Secretary of State ([Elec. Code § 85.001](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([Elec. Code § 82.001](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received by the day after Election Day and at least nine days of pre-processing allowed ([Elec. Code § 86.007](#), [Elec. Code § 87.027](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
With the exception of one county, all voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
Almost all (99.9 percent) voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners and DRE systems; hand-count jurisdictions average 930 registered voters, the largest of which is 1,883 voters ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and observation by candidate representatives ([Verified Voting](#), [Elec. Code § 127.201](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([Elec. Code § 162.003](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([Elec. Code § 255.004](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([Govt. Code § 552.1175](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
Require DPOC for new registrations; SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place ([2026 House Bill 209](#), U.C.A. § 20A-2-502, [SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 (U.C.A. § 20A-2-101.1)
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration (U.C.A. § 20A-2-101.5)



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting using provisional ballots (U.C.A. § 20A-2-207)
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Office of the Lieutenant Governor](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
AVR with front-end opt-out (U.C.A. § 20A-2-204)



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([Utah Admin. Code R623-10-8](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records (U.C.A. § 20A-2-504)



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo or non-photo ID requested; if no ID, provisional ballot issued and accepted if voter returns with ID or clerk verifies identity (U.C.A. § 20A-1-102, U.C.A. § 20A-3a-203, U.C.A. § 20A-4-107)
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots (U.C.A. § 20A-3a-401)
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):**
Statewide ballot curing until day before canvass (U.C.A. § 20A-3a-401)



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 14 days before Election Day (U.C.A. § 20A-3a-601)
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required (U.C.A. § 20A-3a-302)
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing upon receipt (U.C.A. § 20A-3a-204, U.C.A. § 20A-3a-202)



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners and DRE systems ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow (U.C.A. § 20A-9-403)
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech (U.C.A. § 20A-11-1104)
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers (U.C.A. § 20A-1-603)

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (no credit):** Multiple local jurisdictions allow noncitizens to vote in local elections ([Bipartisan Policy Center](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([17 V.S.A. § 2121](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Voting rights never revoked ([17 V.S.A. § 2122](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (no credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting without provisional ballots or real-time database checks ([17 V.S.A. § 2144](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):** AVR with front-end opt-out ([17 V.S.A. § 2145a](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA available through ERIC (ERIC)
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (no credit):** ID not required or requested ([17 V.S.A. § 2563](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (no credit):** Requires but does not verify signatures on mail ballots ([17 V.S.A. § 2546](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):** Statewide ballot curing until close of polls on Election Day ([17 V.S.A. § 2547](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):** Begins 45 days before Election Day ([17 V.S.A. § 2479](#), [17 V.S.A. § 2537](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([17 V.S.A. § 2537a](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):** Election Day mail ballot deadline; 45 days of pre-processing allowed ([17 V.S.A. § 2543](#), [17 V.S.A. § 2546a](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Most (91 percent) of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand-count jurisdictions average 563 registered voters, the largest of which is 4,629 ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [17 V.S.A. § 2493](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([17 V.S.A. § 2363](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([S.23 \[2026\]](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([17 V.S.A. § 1702](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 404, SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 16 ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 403.1](#))
- **RESTORATION (no credit):**
Voting right restoration requires petition to the Governor ([Va. Const. art. II, § 1](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting using provisional ballots ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 420.1](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Department of Elections](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
AVR with front-end opt-out ([V.S.A. § 24.2-411.3](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
NCOA use required ([V.S.A. § 24.2-428](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, SSA death records ([V.S.A. § 24.2-404.3](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo or non-photo IDs requested; if no ID, regular ballot issued if voter signs affidavit ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 643](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (no credit):**
Requires but does not verify signatures on mail ballots ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 709.1](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (full credit):**
Three-day statewide ballot curing period through 2026. Six day statewide ballot curing period starting in 2027 ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 709.1, Chapt. 1018 2026](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 45 days before Election Day ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 701.1](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 700](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received up to three days after Election Day and pre-processing upon receipt ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 709, V.S.A. § 24.2- 709.1](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Risk-limiting audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting, V.S.A. § 24.2- 671.2](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([V.S.A. § 24.2- 530](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([V.S.A. § 24.2-418, V.S.A. § 24.2-1000](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration at age 16 ([RCW § 29A.08.170](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon release from incarceration ([RCW § 29A.08.520](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting with real-time access to registration database at county election office ([RCW § 29A.08.140](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (no credit):** AVR with back-end opt-out ([RCW § 29A.08.315](#), [RCW § 29A.08.359](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use permitted ([RCW § 29A.08.620](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records ([WAC 434-324-090](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):** Photo ID is requested; if no ID, provisional ballot issued and accepted if signatures match ([RCW § 29A.40.160](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):** Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([RCW § 29A.40.110](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (partial credit):** Twenty-one-day statewide ballot-curing period ([WAC § 434.261.053](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Ballots mailed 18 days before election ([RCW § 29A.40.160](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([RCW § 29A.40.010](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):** Election Day postmark deadline; pre-processing allowed upon receipt ([RCW § 29A.40.091](#), [RCW § 29A.40.110](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):** Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [RCW § 29A.60.185](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([RCW § 29A.52.112](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([RCW § 29B.35.010](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([RCW § 9A.90.120](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):**
Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration at age 17 ([W. Va. Code § 3-2-2](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):**
Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([W. Va. Code § 3-2-2](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (full credit):**
Twenty-one days before Election Day ([W. Va. Code § 3-2-6](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):**
Offers online registration option ([Secretary of State](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
AVR with front-end opt-out ([W. Va. Code § 3-2-11](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):**
Agreements in place with multiple states ([OH Secretary of State](#), [VA Department of Elections](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):**
Use of NCOA permitted ([W. Va. Code § 3-2-22](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):**
State and local vital records, obituary, family members ([W. Va. Code § 3-2-23](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (partial credit):**
Photo ID is requested; if no ID, provisional ballots issued in most cases; regular ballot issued if identity confirmed by another adult or an election worker ([W. Va. Code § 3-1-34](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (full credit):**
Requires and verifies signatures on mail ballots ([W. Va. Code § 3-3-10](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):**
Begins 13 days before Election Day ([W. Va. Code § 3-3-3](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (no credit):**
Excuse required ([W. Va. Code § 3-3-1](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (no credit):**
Election Day postmark deadline if received before the beginning of the canvass and no pre-processing allowed ([W. Va. Code § 3-3-5](#), [W. Va. Code § 3-3-8](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners and BMD/tabulator hybrids ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (full credit):**
Risk-limiting audits with a pre-certification deadline, public reporting of results, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [W. Va. Code § 3-4A-28](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (partial credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters not allowed to vote in primaries, but parties have the option to allow ([W. Va. Code § 3-4a-20](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([W. Va. Code § 3-9-10](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (partial credit):** Relies on voter attestation ([SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):** Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([Wis. Stat. § 6.05](#))
- **RESTORATION (full credit):** Automatic restoration upon completion of full sentence ([Wis. Stat. § 304.078](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (no credit):** Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting without provisional ballots or real-time database checks ([Wis. Stat. § 6.55](#))
- **ONLINE (full credit):** Offers online registration option ([Elections Commission](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):** Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (full credit):** ERIC member (ERIC)
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (full credit):** NCOA use permitted ([Wis. Stat. § 6.50](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (full credit):** State and local vital records, SSA death records through ERIC ([ERIC](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):** Photo ID required to vote in person ([Wis. Stat. § 6.79](#), [Wis. Stat. § 6.97](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (partial credit):** Requires signature of witness ([Wis. Stat. § 6.87](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):** No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (full credit):** Begins 14 days before Election Day ([Wis. Stat. § 6.86](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):** No excuse required ([Wis. Stat. § 6.86](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (partial credit):** Election Day ballot deadline; no pre-processing allowed ([Wis. Stat. § 6.87](#), [Wis. Stat. § 6.88](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):** All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):** Most (99 percent) of voters live in jurisdictions that use optical scanners; hand-count jurisdictions average 290 registered voters, the largest of which is 1,183 ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):** Tabulation audit with no specified deadline, public reporting of results in practice but not required, and public observation ([Verified Voting](#), [Wis. Stat. § 7.08\(6\)](#), [Wisconsin Elections Commission](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (full credit):** Unaffiliated/Independent voters allowed to vote in all primaries ([Wis. Stat. § 5.62](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (no credit):** Regulates certain types of AI-generated political speech ([Wis. Stat. § 11.1303](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([Wis. Stat. § 19.36\(14\)](#))

VOTER ELIGIBILITY



- **CITIZENSHIP (full credit):**
Requires DPOC for new registrations and updates; SAVE use authorized in statute; SAVE agreement in place ([W.S. § 22-3-102](#), [SAVE Agency Search Tool](#))
- **AGE (full credit):**
Preregistration if 18 by the next election ([W.S. § 22-3-102](#))
- **RESTORATION (partial credit):**
Restores voting right automatically after completing sentence for first-time offenders; requires others to submit Request for Restoration of Rights Certificate ([W.S. § 7-13-105](#))



VOTER REGISTRATION



- **DEADLINE (partial credit):**
Same-day registration on Election Day and during early voting with real-time access to registration database ([W.S. § 22-3-104](#))
- **ONLINE (no credit):**
No online registration option ([NCSL](#))
- **AUTOMATIC (full credit):**
Does not use AVR ([NCSL](#))



VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE



- **MULTISTATE DATA SHARING (no credit):**
No memberships or agreements in place ([ERIC](#))
- **ADDRESS CHANGES (no credit):**
NCOA use not identified for list maintenance ([NCSL](#))
- **DEATH RECORD SOURCES (partial credit):**
State and local vital record agencies ([W.S. § 22-3-102](#))



VERIFYING VOTER IDENTITY



- **ID (full credit):**
Photo or non-photo ID required to vote in person ([W.S. § 22-1-102](#), [W.S. § 22-2-119](#))
- **MAIL BALLOTS (no credit):**
Requires but does not verify signatures on mail ballots ([W.S. § 22-9-121](#))
- **BALLOT CURING (no credit):**
No ballot curing permitted ([Ballotpedia](#))



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY



- **EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING (partial credit):**
Begins 28 days before Election Day ([W.S. § 22-9-107](#), [W.S. § 22-9-125](#))
- **MAIL VOTING (full credit):**
No excuse required ([W.S. § 22-9-102](#))
- **DEADLINE AND PROCESSING TIMELINES (full credit):**
Election Day mail ballot deadline; pre-processing allowed ([W.S. § 22-9-119](#), [W.S. § 22-9-125](#))



TABULATION AND AUDITS



- **PAPER BALLOTS (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions that primarily use paper ballots or voting machines that generate a paper record ([Verified Voting](#))
- **MACHINES (full credit):**
All voters live in jurisdictions using optical scanners ([Verified Voting](#))
- **AUDIT (partial credit):**
Tabulation audits with a pre-certification deadline; no requirements for public reporting or observation ([Verified Voting](#), [W.S. § 22-6-130](#))



SUPPLEMENTAL POLICY SECTION



- **PRIMARIES (no credit):** Party affiliation required to vote in all primaries ([W.S. § 22-5-214](#))
- **POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS (full credit):** No regulation of AI-generated political speech ([NCSL](#))
- **ELECTION WORKER SAFETY (partial credit):** Enhanced protections for election workers ([W.S. § 22-26-111](#))