

ELECTIONS

TABLE 6.6

Voter Registration Information

State or other jurisdiction	Closing date for registration before general election (Days)	Same-Day registration	Online registration	Automatic registration (a)	Residency requirements (b)	Registration in other places prohibited (c)	Provision regarding mental competency
Alabama	15	...	★		S	★	★
Alaska	30	(d)	★	★	S, D, 30	★	★
Arizona	29	...	★		S, C, 29	...	★
Arkansas	30	...	...		S, 30	★	★
California	15	★(e)	★	★	S	...	★
Colorado	22 days through voter registration drive, 8 online or by mail, Election Day in person	★	★	★	S, 22	★	...
Connecticut	14 by mail, 7 in person or online, Election Day	★	★	★	S, T	★	★
Delaware	24	...	★		S	★	★
Florida	29	...	★(f)		S	...	★
Georgia	30 online, 29 in person, 28 by mail	...	★		S, C	...	★
Hawaii	29	★(g)	★		S	★	★
Idaho	25 or Election Day	★	★(f)		S, C, 30	...	...
Illinois	28 (h)	★	★	★	S, P, 30	★	...
Indiana	29	...	★		S, P, 30	...	...
Iowa	15 by mail, 10 in person or online, Election Day	★	★		S	★	★
Kansas	21	...	★		S	★	...
Kentucky	29	...	★		S, P, 28	★	★
Louisiana	30	...	★		S, Parish, 30	★	★
Maine	21 by mail, up to Election Day in person	★	...		S, M	★	★
Maryland	21 by mail, early voting period in person	★(i)	★		S, 21	★	★
Massachusetts	20	...	★		S	...	★
Michigan	30 by mail, 21 in person	...	...	(j)	S, M, 30	★	...
Minnesota	21 or Election Day	★	★		S, 20	...	★
Mississippi	30	...	(k)		S, T, 30	★	★
Missouri	28	...	★		S	...	★
Montana	30 by mail or up to Election Day in person	★	...		S, 30	★	★
Nebraska	18 by mail or online, 11 in person	...	★		S	★	★
Nevada	31 by mail, 21 in person or online	...	★		S, C, 30; P, 10	★	★
New Hampshire	10 or Election Day	★	...		S	★	...
New Jersey	21	...	...		S, C, 30	★	★
New Mexico	28	...	(k)		S	...	★
New York	25	...	★		S, P, 30	★	★
North Carolina	25 (l)	(l)	...		S, C, 30	★	...
North Dakota	(m)	(m)	(m)		S, P, 30	(m)	...
Ohio	30 (n)	(n)	(k)		S, 30	★	★
Oklahoma	25	...	★(f)		S	...	★
Oregon	21	...	★	★	S	★	★
Pennsylvania	30	...	★		S, D, 30	★	...
Rhode Island	30	★(d)	★(f)	★	S, T	★	★
South Carolina	30	...	★		S, C, P	★	★
South Dakota	15	...	...		S	★	★
Tennessee	30	...	★(f)		S	★	★
Texas	30	...	...		S, C	...	★
Utah	30 by mail, 7 in person or online (o)	...	★		S, 30	★	★
Vermont	6	★(p)	★	★	S, T	...	...
Virginia	22	...	★		S	★	★
Washington	29 by mail or online, 8 in person	...	★		S, 30	★	★
West Virginia	21	...	★	★	S, T, 30	★	★
Wisconsin	20 by mail or Election Day	★	★(f)		S, P, 28	...	★
Wyoming	14 by mail or Election Day	★	...		S, P	★	★
Dist. of Columbia	30 by mail, Election Day in person	★	★	★	D, 30	★	★
American Samoa	30	...	...		D	★	...
Guam	10	...	...		Territory	★	★
CNMI*	60	...	...		Territory, 120	★	★
Puerto Rico	50	...	...		Territory (q)	...	★
U.S. Virgin Islands	30	...	...		Territory, P, 90	★	★

See footnotes at end of table

TABLE 6.6

Voter Registration Information (continued)

Source: The Council of State Governments survey of state election websites, December 2017.

*Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Key:

★—Provision exists.

...—No state provision.

(a) Eligible citizens who interact with government agencies are automatically registered to vote unless they decline.

(b) Key for residency requirements: S—State, C—County, D—District, M—Municipality, P—Precinct, T—Town. Numbers represent the number of days before an election for which one must be a resident.

(c) State provision prohibiting registration or claiming the right to vote in another state or jurisdiction.

(d) Election-day registration is available in presidential election years, but voters who do so can vote only for the offices of President and Vice President, not in state or local races.

(e) California's same-day registration will take effect on January 1 of the year following the year in which the Secretary of State certifies that the state has a statewide voter registration database that complies with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002.

(f) Not yet implemented: Florida, passed in 2015 and must be implemented by October 2017; Idaho, passed in 2016 and effective January 1, 2017; Oklahoma, passed in 2015; Rhode Island, passed in 2016 and Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea indicates it will be in place before the November elections; Tennessee, passed in 2016 and effective July 1, 2017; and Wisconsin, passed in 2016 and must be in place before the Spring 2017 primary.

(g) In 2014 Hawaii lawmakers passed legislation (HB 2590) to allow voters to register at early voting sites beginning in 2016 or at their assigned polling places on Election Day starting in 2018.

(h) Registration closes 27 days before a general election. Illinois also has a "grace period" registration that extends registration from the normal close of registration up through the 3rd day before the election. Once registered, this voter may cast a ballot during this "Grace Period" at the election authority's office or at a location specifically designated for this purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the discretion of the election authority.

(i) As of January 1, 2016, Maryland voters are able to register and vote on the same day at early voting locations, but not on Election Day.

(j) An online system allows voters to change their address for both their drivers license and voter registration at the same time. Michigan law requires that the same address be on record for both.

(k) In Mississippi, New Mexico, and Ohio, a registered voter can update an existing registration record online, but new applications must still be made on paper.

(l) In 2014, the North Carolina legislature eliminated voters' ability to register and vote on the same day at early voting locations. Registered voters may still update their name and address on their voter registration at an Early Voting site.

(m) No voter registration.

(n) In 2014, the Ohio Legislature passed a bill that eliminated the ability of voters to register during the six early voting days referred to as "Golden Week," when people could both register to vote and cast an in-person absentee ballot.

(o) Must be postmarked 30 days before an election. Voters can register in-person or online up to 7 days before the election. However, these voters will not be eligible to participate in early voting, and must vote on election day.

(p) The Vermont Legislature passed a bill (SB 29) in 2015 to allow for same-day voter registration, effective January 1, 2017.

(q) Voters must have a permanent residence in Puerto Rico to be a qualified elector.