

## VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### Eligibility

You are qualified to register to vote in Ohio if you meet all the following requirements:

1. You are a citizen of the United States.
2. You will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the general election.
3. You will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote.
4. You are not incarcerated (in jail or prison) for a felony conviction under the laws of Ohio, another state or the United States.
5. You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court.
6. You have not been permanently denied the right to vote for violations of the election laws.

You are eligible to vote in elections in your voting precinct held more than 30 days after you are registered to vote in Ohio.

### Submitting Your Voter Registration Form

#### Returning your own form:

You may return your completed voter registration form in person or by U.S. mail to any of the following public offices:

- Any county board of elections;
- The Ohio Secretary of State's office;
- BMV or Deputy Registrars;
- Office of designated agencies, including:
  - » The Department of Job and Family Services;

- » The Department of Health (including the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program);
  - » The Department of Mental Health;
  - » The Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities;
  - » The Rehabilitation Services Commission; or
  - » Any state-assisted college or university that provides assistance to disabled students;
- Any county treasurer's office;
  - Any public high school or vocational school; or
  - Any public library.

If you are updating your current Ohio voter registration and returning your completed change of name and/or address form by U.S. Mail, you must send it to your county board of elections or the Secretary of State's Office.

#### Returning someone else's form:

Anyone entrusted to return a completed voter registration form on behalf of another person must return the completed form to a board of elections or to the office of the Secretary of State. Forms must be returned the earlier of 1) within 10 days after the registration form is completed, or 2) by the voter registration deadline before an election if the registration form has been signed on or before the registration deadline for the next upcoming election in the voter's precinct.

#### Notice from County Board of Elections

Within 20 business days after receiving your properly completed voter registration form, your county board of elections must register you to vote and promptly notify you by mail of your precinct, polling location and the identification requirements for voting.

### Registration Deadlines

Your properly completed voter registration form must be **postmarked** or **received by** the 30th day before the election at which you wish to vote. If the voter registration deadline falls on a day when offices of the Secretary of State and county board of elections are closed, the deadline is extended to the next succeeding business day when the government office is open.

### NOTICE TO ALL VOTERS

(R.C. 3503.28(A)(6))

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid photo identification; a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of election or a voter registration notification sent by a board of elections, that shows the voter's name and current address. Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by providing the last four digits of the voter's social security number and by casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not have any of these forms of identification, including a social security number, will still be able to vote by signing an affirmation swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot." (Effective September 12, 2008)

**WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION  
FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF  
A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.**

## PENALTIES

### No person shall:

- Knowingly aid or abet any person to register in violation of law:  
5th degree felony; R.C. 3599.11(A).
- Knowingly destroy, or help to destroy, any completed voter registration form:  
5th degree felony; R.C. 3599.11(B)(1).
- Knowingly fail to timely return any voter registration form entrusted to him or her to a board of elections or the Secretary of State:  
5th degree felony or 1st degree misdemeanor; R.C. 3599.11(B)(2).
- Receive compensation for registering voters on a fee per signature or fee per volume basis (only payment on basis of time worked is permitted):  
5th degree felony; R.C. 3599.11(C).

Under Ohio law, a 5th degree felony conviction may result in a prison sentence of 6 to 12 months and/or a fine of up to \$2500. A 1st degree misdemeanor conviction may result in up to 6 months in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1000.

For more information about registering and voting in Ohio, please access on-line information at [www.sos.state.oh.us](http://www.sos.state.oh.us), or telephone toll free 877-767-6446.



### JENNIFER BRUNNER OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE

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# VOTER REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

(Ohio Revised Code  
Section 3503.28)



Ohio Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner  
Elections Division