



Voter Registration Q&A

Who can register to vote in Washington state?

To register to vote in the state of Washington, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States
 - A legal resident of Washington state for at least 30 days prior to election day
 - At least 16 years old (must be 18 to vote)
 - Not disqualified from voting due to a court order
 - Not under Department of Corrections supervision for a Washington felony conviction
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I don't have current ID for Washington, can I still register?

Yes! All you need is the last four digits of your social security number to complete a paper registration form.

If I register to vote, will I be called for jury duty?

Actually, in Washington state, jury duty rolls are filled using driver's license information, not voter registrations.

If I register to vote, will I be drafted into the military?

All men must register with Selective Service once they turn 18 or before turning 26. This has nothing to do with voter registration.

If I register to vote at my new address, will I have to update my car insurance?

Car insurance should not be affected by your voter registration or your legal residency. Car insurance rates are determined by where your car is located and where you drive it. Bottom line: your car does not need to be insured at the same address where you are registered to vote.

I can't register to vote because I have a criminal conviction

Convicted felons must complete jail time, pay assessed fines, and complete parole before they can register to vote. Misdemeanor convictions do not interrupt voting rights in Washington state.

I can't register to vote because I don't have a permanent address

Homeless persons can register and vote in all 50 states. You must provide an address where you can receive mail (PO Box, shelter or nearby church, for example) and a street address (shelter, church, school). The right to vote is not contingent on having a home or permanent address.

I am too young to register to vote

16 & 17 year olds may **pre**register to vote in Washington state, with the understanding that they have to be 18 on or before the election day to actually vote. They will automatically receive a ballot once they turn 18 - if they keep their voting address current at VoteWA.gov.

I am an out-of-state student, do I have to vote absentee from my home?

The US Supreme Court has confirmed that full time students who are out-of-state residents may choose to vote in their college community, regardless of tuition status.

If I register to vote here, will it affect my student financial aid?

Registering to vote here will not affect federal financial aid, state driver's license, or most scholarships (some private scholarships may have residency requirements).

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How does the Auditor verify signatures when a person registers online?

The Auditor matches your driver's license signature to your ballot signature. If they do not match, the Auditor may send you a notice asking for an updated signature.

Will my ballot be forwarded to a new address by the Post Office?

This is unclear. In 2019, forwarding 3rd class ballots was adopted statewide by postmasters. However, recent changes in US mail directives from the newly appointed Postmaster General make this unlikely. Moreover, ballots are sent bulk rate mail, NOT first class and the directives make it clear that such mail is to be set aside and handled 'as time allows'. Best practice? update your voting address ASAP at VoteWa.gov and when returning your completed ballot, use a ballot drop box.

Where are the Drop Boxes for ballots to be returned on election day?

There are numerous drop boxes around Kittitas County where persons can place their ballot on election day by 8 pm. One is at the Auditor's Office and in the County Building parking lot on Fifth Street in Ellensburg. There is also a drop box at CWU SURC east patio, and in Cle

Elum at the upper county courthouse parking lot. You can find more drop box locations on the [Kittitas County Auditor's website](#).

I will be out of state during the election, can I vote by absentee Ballot?

Yes! You can request an absentee ballot as early as 90 days before the election. The request must be made to Kittitas County Auditor. Completed ballots must be returned or postmarked on or before election day.