

Provisional Ballots

A person whose name does not appear on the voter registry for the polling place for their precinct may vote a provisional ballot if they:

- Claim they're registered and have continuously resided in the county where the precinct is located since their registration.
- Have not voted or registered to vote in another county since registering to vote in the county in which the precinct is located.
- Have appeared to vote at the polling place to which they would be assigned based on their address, and they complete the registration application before voting.

You may vote a provisional ballot if your name has a notation that you must show ID to complete your registration but you do not present the necessary ID if you complete the registration application before voting.

Challenges to Eligibility

Poll workers are only allowed to challenge your eligibility to vote if they suspect that you are ineligible on the basis of citizenship, residence, or age.

The questions that the poll workers are allowed to ask are specifically spelled out by statute and they are only allowed to ask these specifically stated questions.

If you answer the questions and sign the oath stating that your answers are truthful, then the poll worker cannot prevent you from voting.

If you do not comply, you will not be permitted to vote.

Illegal Activity

It is illegal to campaign for a political party, candidate, or cause within 200 feet of a polling place. It is also illegal to wear political badges or insignia to the polling place on Election Day.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 makes it illegal for a poll worker to ask you to demonstrate your ability to read or write before giving you a ballot.

If you encounter any of these voting rights violations, contact NCR's Election Protection Hotline at 402-904-5191

Felons

REMOVAL OF VOTING RIGHTS

If you are convicted of a felony, you lose your right to vote and are placed on a nonregistration list during your sentence, including parole and/or probation, and for a two year waiting period after the completion of your sentence.

Felony arrests do not take away voting rights--only convictions do.

A misdemeanor conviction does not take away voting rights.

Even if a person is incarcerated and awaiting trial regarding a felony, that person retains the right to register and vote if they have not been convicted.

The same rules apply even if the felony conviction occurred in another state.

TIMELINE

After your sentence, including any probation/parole, is completed and your release order is issued by the court, a two-year waiting period begins.

You are barred from registering to vote until this two-year waiting period is completed.

The waiting period ends two years after the date your release order is issued by the court.

Attempting to register to vote during this two-year waiting period is a Class IV felony.

REREGISTRATION PROCESS

Once the two year waiting period is over, the registration process is the same as it is for anyone else.

A felony conviction does not require you to show ID before you register or vote. If an election official asks for ID because you are a felon, you are not legally required to show it to them.

If you have completed your sentence, been issued a release, waited for two years past your release order date, and registered before the registration deadline, you will be able to vote in any upcoming election.

If you have any questions regarding your felony status and your voter eligibility, please call NCR at 402-904-5191.



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Know Your Rights



#KnowYourRightsNE

Who is eligible to register to vote?

You must be a **U.S. citizen**, **reside in Nebraska**, **be 18 years old by the general election day (first Tuesday after the first Monday in November)**, **not be a felon** (or 2 years has passed since the completion of your sentence), and **not have been found mentally incompetent to be eligible**.



How to register to vote?

You can register either by mail, in person, or online.

IN PERSON

You can apply at the election office for your county, at designated registration sites, at the DMV when applying for a driver's license, or at the Nebraska Dept. of Education or Dept. of Health and Human Services when registering for public assistance programs.

BY MAIL

You can obtain a voter registration form from the Nebraska Secretary of State's website, at the Nebraska Dept. of Education or Dept. of Health and Human Services offices, armed services recruitment office, bank, post office, library; then mail the completed form to your county election office.

» If it is your first time registering in Nebraska and you are registering by mail, **you must show ID** (proof of identity and proof of address) in order to complete voter registration (a current photo ID and a utility bill/bank statement/pay stub/etc.).

ONLINE

You can find information about how to register online on the Nebraska Secretary of State's website: www.sos.ne.gov

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

In person--6 p.m. on the second Friday before an election.

By mail--must be postmarked by the third Friday before an election.

Updating Registration

You must update your registration when:

- You move from one NE county to a different NE county
- You move within the same NE county
- You change your name
- Or when you want to change your political party affiliation.

You can update your registration at the DMV or by filling out a voter registration form with the updated information (obtainable online or at the county election office) and mailing it to the office of your county election official.

Party Affiliation

When registering, you can choose to **designate a party affiliation** or to **register as "non-partisan"**

Party affiliation determines the ballot that a person receives when voting in Statewide primary elections.

A person who wishes to vote in both partisan and nonpartisan primary elections for state and local offices must declare a party affiliation.

A person who registers as non-partisan will receive only the non-partisan ballot for primary state and local races, but can designate a party preference for primary elections for U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives races.

Early Voting

Any person can apply to vote early. **You don't need to provide a reason.**

You can apply for an early voting ballot by contacting your county election official or by mailing, faxing, or using email to send the completed ballot request form to county election office.

You can have an early voting ballot sent to you or you can vote early in person at your county election office (starting 30 days before a statewide election).

The Early Voting Ballot application can be found on the Nebraska Secretary of State's website: www.sos.ne.gov/elec/ele_forms.html

Mail-Only Voting

Some precincts don't have any polling places to go to on Election Day and require all voters to mail in their ballots instead.

This method can only be utilized when a candidate or an issue is being placed on the ballot at a special election or in counties with populations of less than 10,000 people.



Contact your election official to see if your precinct is one of these mail-only precincts.

Polling Place & Time

You can only vote at your designated polling place.

The polls are open from **8 AM - 8 PM Central Time** and **7 AM - 7 PM Mountain Time**.

Your polling place is listed on your voter confirmation card (which is sent to you when you register to voter) or you can find it through the Nebraska Secretary of State's website: www.sos.ne.gov

If a person does not have two consecutive hours during the time the polls are open when they are not required to be at work on Election Day, they are entitled to be absent from work for such a period of time as will, in addition to their nonworking time, total two consecutive hours between the time of the opening and closing of the polls.

Voting Process

Poll workers will ask for your name and address, and for primary elections they will ask your political affiliation.

You will then be asked to sign the voter registry to confirm your information.

If you are registered to vote and your name or address has changed but you have not updated your voter registration and you show up at your polling place to vote, you can update your voter registration at the polling place (which will serve to update your registration for subsequent elections).



You only have to show ID if you were a first time Nebraska registrant who registered by mail and did not provide ID when you registered.