How to Run A Voter Registration Drive

Rules and Responsibilities

- **Give a voter registration form to anyone who asks.**
  Forms must be equally available to everyone, regardless of party affiliation, age, race, etc.

- **Give any freebies to anyone who asks.**
  You may hand out small tokens while registering voters. However, you cannot pay or bribe people to vote, so freebies must be available to everyone regardless of voter registration status or intent to vote. This includes waiving admission to events.

- **Inform registrants of the rules of eligibility.**
  Eligible voters are:
  - A citizen of the United States
  - A legal resident of Washington State for at least 30 days (this includes college students)
  - At least 18 years old on Election Day (16 and 17 year olds may pre-register)
  - Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections
  - Not disqualified from voting due to a court order
  (See more voter FAQs on page 2)

- **Make sure they’ve filled in all the boxes and signed at the bottom.**
  Incomplete forms could lead to voters not receiving their ballots.

- **Don’t hand out partisan materials if you represent a nonprofit.**
  Organizations that receive state funds or are a 501(c)(3) cannot hand out partisan materials at a registration drive.

- **Return completed forms on time.**
  Paper registration forms are due back to the Auditor’s Office no later than five days after you received them or eight days prior to the next election (whichever comes first). You can return them by mail or in person. The day the Auditor’s Office receives the forms is the voter’s official registration date.

Questions?
Contact the Elections Division at:
425-388-3444 | elections@snoco.org

Useful Tools for a Successful Drive

- **Voter registration forms**
  Available in 20 languages at sos.wa.gov/elections/voters

- **Pens and clipboards**
  For completing paper voter registration forms.

- **Laptop or tablet computers**
  For online registration at votewa.gov

- **‘Register to Vote’ posters**
  Available at sos.wa.gov/elections/posters.aspx

- **Yourself!**
  Walk up to people and ask if they need to register or update their address.

Additional Resources at:
sos.wa.gov/elections/civics
Voter FAQs

I don’t know if I’m already registered in Washington. How can I check?
Look up your voter registration status at votewa.gov. If you are not registered to vote in Washington, the website will prompt you to register. If your status is “inactive,” you need to update your address.

What are the registration deadlines?
- 8 days before the election: Deadline for by-mail or online registration and updates.
- 8:00 pm Election Day: Deadline for in-person registration and updates.
For in-person locations and hours, visit snoco.org/elections

Do I need to update my address every time I move?
Yes. To receive the correct ballot, you must update your residential address. If you will receive mail at a different address, you must update your mailing address to receive your ballot.

What’s the difference between my residential and mailing address?
Your residential address must be where you live in Washington. This address determines which candidates and measures will be on your ballot.
Your mailing address is where you will receive your ballot. Your ballot can be sent anywhere in the world! You may use a PO Box as a mailing address, but not as a residential address.

Student Voter FAQs

Can I register using my school address as my residential address?
You may register using either your school or home address. If you live on campus, you can list your dorm room or campus apartment number as your residential address. Be sure to update your mailing address if you move frequently to ensure you receive your ballot.

Can I register in Washington if I’m an out-of-state student?
Yes. You may register if you have lived in Washington for at least 30 days. Use your Washington address as your residential address. You may only vote in one state.

Can I vote at home and at my school address?
No. You may only be an active voter in one county in one state. If you receive two ballots, vote only once. It is a felony to vote twice in the same election.