

PLACER COUNTY OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions:

Registering to Vote

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Who is eligible to vote in Placer County?

In order to qualify as a registered voter in Placer County, you must satisfy all of the requirements listed below:

- You must be a citizen of the United States.
- You must currently reside in Placer County.
- You must be 18 years of age or older on or before the date of the next election.
- You must not be in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony. (Note: persons convicted of a specified low-level felony and subject to “post-release community supervision” or “mandatory supervision” may register and vote if otherwise eligible).
- You must not have had your voting rights revoked by a court of law.

How do I register to vote?

You may register to vote by filling out a **Voter Registration Form**. Once completed, be sure to sign and mail it to the Placer County Office of Elections at PO Box 5278, Auburn, CA 95604 or return it in person to the Placer County Office of Elections at 2956 Richardson Drive, Auburn CA, 95603. You may also go online to register to vote on the Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.ca.gov.

Where can I get a Voter Registration Form?

If you are currently a Placer County resident and would like to register to vote, you may:

- Register to vote online using the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov.
- Request a Voter Registration Form from the Placer County Office of Elections by calling our office at 530-886-5650 or toll free in California at 1-800-824-8683 and we will mail a Voter Registration Form to you.
- Come to the Placer County Office of Elections to pick up a Voter Registration Form located at 2956 Richardson Dr, Auburn CA, 95603. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
- Voter Registration Forms are also available for pick-up at local libraries, post offices, DMV offices, or the City Clerk's office.

What information is required on a Voter Registration Form?

According to state law you are required to provide the following information when registering to vote:

- Your full name (we recommend as it appears on your driver's license)
- Your current Placer County residence address
- Your mailing address (if different from your physical address)
- Your date and place of birth
- Your California Driver's License number or California ID number which are issued through the Department of Motor Vehicles, or, if you do not have a California Driver's License or California ID, the last four (4) digits of your Social Security number.
- Political party preference
- Declaration of citizenship
- Signature

Optional Information:

- Telephone number
- E-mail address
- Polling Place Worker Survey

When should I register to vote?

You can register to vote at any time, however in order to cast a ballot in an upcoming election the Placer County Office of Elections must receive your Voter Registration Form at least 15 days prior to Election Day. To ensure you receive your Sample Ballot Pamphlet in a timely manner, please register as early as possible.

Voters are required to complete and submit a new Voter Registration Form any time:

- They move or change their residential address
- Change their name
- Change political party preference

Election mail cannot be forwarded so be sure to complete a new Voter Registration Form when you move.

What happens after I register to vote?

Once your information is entered into our system, it is verified by the Secretary of State's Office and a Voter Notification Card is mailed out to confirm your registration. If you do not receive a Voter Notification Card within 4-6 weeks, contact the Placer County Office of Elections to verify that your Voter Registration Form was received by our office.

What if I forget to sign or provide all of the required information on the Voter Registration Form?

Our office will contact you by mail or telephone to obtain any missing information. Once your information has been corrected, you will receive a Voter Notification Card in the mail confirming your registration. If your information is not verified in time for an election, contact the Placer County Office of Elections at 530-886-5650 or toll free in California at 1-800-824-8683 for further instruction.

I did not vote in the last election. Do I need to reregister?

If you fail to vote during an election your registration as a Placer County voter will not change. However, if you are a Permanent Vote-by-Mail voter and fail to participate in four (4) consecutive statewide general elections your Permanent Vote-by-Mail status will be removed. A new application must be submitted if you wish to reinstate your Permanent Vote-by-Mail status or contact the Placer County Office of Elections to request Permanent Vote-by-Mail status.

How do I know if I am currently registered to vote?

You may go to Placer County Elections home page and click on "Am I registered?" to verify your current registration. You will need your birth date and California driver's license number or the last four of your Social Security number. You may also contact the Placer County Office of Elections at 530-886-5650 or toll free within California 1-800-824-8683 to confirm your registration. If you have recently submitted a Voter Registration Form, you should receive a Voter Notification Card in the mail within 4-6 weeks. If you do not receive a Voter Notification Card, contact the Placer County Office of Elections to verify that our office received your form.

How will I receive information about candidates and measures?

Every registered voter within Placer County is sent a Sample Ballot Pamphlet between 21 to 40 days prior to an election. The Sample Ballot Pamphlet contains information on all local candidates and measures.

In a statewide election, every household will receive a Voter Information Guide from the Secretary of State with information about statewide propositions and the candidates running for office. For more information you may also visit **Election Info/Current Elections** section of this website or the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov.

How do I change my physical address, name or political party?

Any time you move, change your name or political party preference, you need to reregister to vote.

- You may reregister to vote online using the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov.
- Request a Voter Registration Form from the Placer County Office of Elections by calling our office at 530-886-5650 or toll free in California at 1-800-824-8683 and we will mail the form to you.
- Come to the Placer County Office of Elections to pick up a Voter Registration Form located at 2956 Richardson Dr, Auburn CA, 95603. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
- Voter Registration Forms are also available for pick-up at local libraries, post offices, DMV offices, or the City Clerk's office.

Please note: If your mailing address has recently changed, you can notify our office by phone at 530-886-5650 or toll free in California at 1-800-824-8683 or you may submit a written request. Written requests must include your full name, date of birth, current Placer County residential address, new mailing address, the date and your signature. Requests should be sent to the Placer County Office of Elections at PO Box 5278, Auburn CA, 95604.

What if I forget to notify the Placer County Office of Elections of changes to my residence address, name or political party preference?

If you have recently moved or changed your name but have not reregistered to vote, you may not receive important election materials which by law are non-forwardable. In addition, the ballot you receive during an election is based upon your residence address and the precinct/districts in which you reside. Although you are eligible to cast a provisional ballot at the Placer County Office of Elections or any polling place within Placer County on Election Day, by reregistering to vote you help to ensure that your name appears on the roster at your new polling place and that you vote the correct ballot on Election Day.

If it is during a Presidential primary election year and you wish to change your political party preference but have not reregistered to vote, be aware that your ballot will reflect whatever party you are currently registered to.

To find out more about reregistering to vote or for the location of your new polling place, visit our website at **How to Vote/Register to Vote** or contact the Placer County Office of Elections at 530-886-5650 or toll free in California at 1-800-824-8683.

I became a United States citizen after the 15 day close of registration, can I still vote?

Yes. You may cast a provisional ballot at the Placer County Office of Elections once you have:

- Provided proof of citizenship (official naturalization documents).
- Completed a provisional voting packet.

For more information see our website at **How to Vote/New Citizen**.

I am a spouse, dependent or member of the Armed Forces who has been released from active service after the close of registration, can I still vote?

Yes. You may cast a provisional ballot at the Placer County Office of Elections once you have:

- Provided a current form of identification and the official discharge/release documentation.
- Completed a provisional voting packet.

For more information see our website at **How to Vote/Military and Overseas Voters**.

Can a registered voter be removed from the active voter registration list?

Yes. A voter's registration can be cancelled for one of the following reasons:

- At the signed, written request from the person registered. The request should include the registered person's name, date of birth, Placer County residence address, signature and date signed. Send the request to Placer County Office of Elections, PO Box 5278, Auburn, CA 95604.
- When the mental incompetency of the person registered is legally established by a court of law.
- Upon proof that the person is presently imprisoned, on parole, serving a state prison sentence in county jail, serving a sentence for a felony pursuant to subdivision (h) of Penal Code section 1170, or on post release community supervision.
- Upon the production of a certified copy of a judgment directing the cancellation to be made.
- Upon the death of the person registered.
- Upon official notification that the voter is registered to vote in another county or state.
- Upon proof that the person is otherwise ineligible to vote.

Where can I find out more information about registering to vote in Placer County?

To find out more about registering to vote or your status as a Placer County voter, contact the Placer County Office of Elections at 530-886-5650 or toll free in California at 1-800-824-8683.