

northwest
HARVEST



NORTHWEST HARVEST

Volunteer Guide for Voter Engagement

Process

STEP 1: GREETING & GETTING READY

Introduce yourself and tell the person you are here to help people get registered to vote.

Go over the eligibility criteria with them:

- ✓ A citizen of the United States
- ✓ A resident of Washington state
- ✓ At least 18 years old by Election Day
- ✓ Not disqualified from voting due to a court order
- ✓ Not currently incarcerated/serving a felony sentence

Make sure they have either a current Washington state driver license, a current Washington state ID card, or the last 4 digits of their SSN.

If they are not eligible to vote, let them know that they can still advocate for themselves and their community! Give them information about how to sign up for our advocacy alerts.

STEP 2: COMPLETING THE FORM

There are two options you can use: completing the paper form OR completing the registration online.

ONLINE

- Log onto votewa.gov. This will let you register, update your registration, and see what's on your ballot.
 - To begin an electronic application, click "Start."
 - Users will be directed to enter their personal identification, language preference, military service, Washington address, mailing address if different, and other information. Users will then be asked to affirm the accuracy of the information and to authorize the use of their signature on their driver's license.
 - Upon submitting the registration, VoteWA users will be given a confirmation of receipt, and information about their county of registration.

PAPER FORM

- Box #1: Applicant must enter all their personal information. (If the mailing address is different than the physical address they must list both.)
- Box #2: Qualifications—they must check US Citizen to fill out the form.
- Box #3: Have them fill this out if they live overseas/active in military service.
- Box #4: Identification—you do not need a Washington state driver's license to register to vote, and if they do not have a license number, please use the last 4 digits of the person's social security number.
- Box #5: Change of Name or Address is only valid if the voter has moved or changed their voting address.
- Box #6: Applicant must sign and date the application for the form to be valid.

For folks who are unhoused, they may use Northwest Harvest's community market addresses. Remind them that their ballot will be mailed there 18 days before the election and they will need to pick it up.

SODO Community Market:
1915 4th Ave S
Seattle, WA 98134

Fruitvale Community Market:
1819 Fruitvale Blvd
Yakima, WA 98902

STEP 3: REVIEWING

Review the form to ensure that all of the boxes have been completed and that the form is signed and dated.

STEP 4: CLOSING

- After clicking submit or finishing the paper form, inform the applicant that they will receive a voter confirmation card in the mail in 2-3 weeks at their mailing address.
- Their ballot will be mailed 18 days before Election Day along with a voter's guide with information on the candidates and issues on their ballot.
- Remind them that we are a vote by mail state and that they can drop off their ballot at a ballot drop box nearby or mail it via the USPS.
- Let them know how they can get involved with Northwest Harvest's advocacy work.

Voter Registration FAQs

Who can register to vote?

- A citizen of the United States
- Living at your address in Washington at least 30 days before the next election you vote
- At least 16 years old
- Not disqualified from voting due to a court order
- Not currently serving a sentence of total confinement under the state Department of Corrections for a Washington felony conviction
- Not currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction

What is the difference between the residential address and the mailing address?

- Voting residence/residential address: a person's physical location in WA at the time when they register to vote.
 - The voting residence address may be a shelter, a street corner, the address of a park. (For example: Olympia Ave. NE and Franklin St. NE, Olympia, WA.)
 - This address determines which candidates and measures will be on your ballot.
- The mailing address: the location where the ballot will be sent. It can be a PO Box, the address of a shelter or person who will accept mail deliveries, or general delivery with a nearby post office.
 - Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market can be used as a mailing address.
 - NOTE: If you moved since you last registered to vote, you must update your information to reflect your new address.

When is the deadline to register?

To register by mail or online, your application must be received no later than 8 days before Election Day. Register to vote in person during business hours and any time before 8:00 PM on Election Day.

What if a person is not 18 yet?

If they are 16 or 17, they can sign up for the Future Voter Program with the regular voter registration form. If they have a Washington state driver's license or ID, they can sign up online at VoteWA.gov. Future Voters are automatically registered to vote when they qualify. Starting in 2022, a 17-year-old who will be 18 by the November General Election can vote in the August Primary. For assistance, contact your local elections office.

What is the law on restoration of voting rights and felony convictions?

If a person was convicted of a felony in Washington, the right to vote is restored once the person completes their sentence and is not currently serving a sentence of total confinement in prison. Once the right to vote is restored, the person must re-register to vote in order to receive a ballot. If the felony conviction is from another state or in federal court, the right to vote is restored as long as the person is not currently incarcerated for that felony.

How can I verify a voter's registration status?

It's easy to verify a voter's status using the lookup tool on VoteWA.gov.

What do I do if I moved since I last registered?

Voters can visit VoteWA to update an address if they have moved.

Can a voter's registration status change?

Yes. The same registration may have multiple transactions. For example, the same registration may:

- become active in 2014;
- become inactive when the voter moves in February 2015 and neglects to notify the county auditor;
- become active again when the voter updates

their registration in July 2015;

- become inactive when the voter moves again in March 2016;
- be canceled in 2019 if the registration remains inactive through two federal general elections.

What is an “inactive” registration?

If election-related mail is returned by the post office as undeliverable to the voter at that address, the registration is placed on “inactive” status. A voter who is on inactive status may return to active status at any time by updating their address, requesting a ballot, or submitting a new voter registration application. This process is pursuant to state and federal law.

Can an inactive registration be canceled?

If the registration remains inactive through two consecutive federal general elections, the registration is canceled. This is in compliance with state law and the federal National Voter Registration Act.

Is a voter notified when the status of their registration changes?

Yes. Both state and federal law require that a notice be sent to the voter any time there is a change in the status of a registration. Notices are sent by postal mail from the county elections office.

Can a registration be canceled if the voter does not vote?

If the registration remains inactive through two consecutive federal general elections, the registration is canceled. This is in compliance with state law and the federal National Voter Registration Act.

Can a registration be “removed” or “purged” for no reason?

No. A voter’s registration may only be canceled for one or more of the following reasons:

- The voter requests that their registration be canceled;

- The registration file duplicates another, more current registration file for the same voter;
- The registration has been “inactive” through two federal general elections;
- The voter is ineligible to vote due to a court order;
- The voter is ineligible to vote due to incarceration for a felony offense; or
- The voter is deceased.

Do I need to declare a party to register to vote?

We don’t register by party in the State of Washington. You are welcome to vote for the candidate of your choice.

Do you have to prove U.S. Citizenship to vote?

To register to vote in Washington State, people must provide some form of identification — most commonly their Washington State driver’s license or ID, or the last four digits of their Social Security number —and attest in a signed statement that they are a U.S. citizen and eligible to vote.

Voters confirm their eligibility to vote in every election by signing the ballot declaration. If a person illegally registers and votes, they also jeopardize attaining citizenship in the future and could be deported.

While state law does not provide for citizenship verification upon registration, it does allow a local challenge of a voter registration, which can be brought by any person or the county prosecutor. The burden of proof lies with the challenger, and evidence must be presented to the county canvassing board for review. (RCW 29A.08.810 through 29A.08.850.)

An official list of citizens to check citizenship status against does not exist. A person who submits false citizenship on their voter registration application or votes as a noncitizen is guilty of a class C felony. This is clearly stated on all registration forms, and on every ballot envelope.

Voting in the Election FAQs

How do I get a ballot?

Washington state is a vote-by-mail state. State law requires us to deliver ballots to the post office at least 18 days before Election Day. If you haven't received your ballot, please call our Elections team at 360.786.5408.

How do I submit my completed ballot?

After signing the outer envelope, you may mail your ballot via USPS. No stamps are necessary. Your ballot's postage is prepaid. The envelope must be postmarked by Election Day and received in our office prior to certification of the election. If you are concerned about mailing your ballot, please use one of the drop boxes. Please vote early to ensure your vote will be counted.

Why do I have to sign the ballot envelope?

Your signature on the ballot envelope is used to verify that the correct person voted the ballot. Our staff are trained by the Washington state Patrol in signature verification. We compare the signature on every envelope to the signature on file for the voter in the voter registration database. If the signature does not match or the envelope is unsigned, we challenge it. The voter will receive a letter in the mail explaining how to correct the problem. We are also required to call all voters with signature challenges prior to certification of the election.

How do I know if my ballot has been received and accepted?

Voters can login to the VoteWA voter portal at: <https://votewa.gov/> to track the status of their ballots.

Does anyone know how I voted?

No, the election process used in Washington state ensures a secret ballot. No one, including our Elections staff, knows the choices made by an individual voter.

What services are available to voters living with disabilities?

As a voter with a disability, you can request reasonable accommodations or assistance to vote. The Office of the Secretary of State is committed to ensuring accessibility at voting centers, and that you have the opportunity to vote privately and independently. Accessible formats of the voters' pamphlet are available online. If you wish to join the subscription list to receive a copy on USB drive of the Voters' Pamphlet, please contact the voter hotline at (800) 448-4881 or email voterspamphlet@sos.wa.gov. Accessible voting units (AVUs) are available until 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Is it OK to selfie myself holding my voted ballot and post it on social media?

The state of Washington does not directly prohibit ballot selfies. However, it is illegal to view another's ballot for a purpose prohibited by law, such as vote buying.

I misplaced my original ballot. Can I get a replacement?

Yes. Contact your county elections office to determine the best way to receive a replacement ballot. Replacement ballots may be sent via mail or electronically, picked up at the elections office, or printed from an online application.



BALLOT
DROP
BOXES



REGISTER
TO VOTE

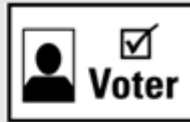


FIND
YOUR
REP

How do I start to vote in Washington?

Qualifications

To vote, you must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, a resident of Washington, and not currently serving a sentence of total confinement in prison.



i A 17-year-old who will be 18 by the November General Election can vote in the August Primary.

Register to vote

Online: Register at VoteWA.gov

By mail: Request a paper form be mailed to you or print your own at sos.wa.gov/elections

No internet access? Call 1 (800) 448-4881.

In person: Visit a county elections office.

i If you are 16 or 17, you can sign up as a Future Voter and be automatically registered to vote when you qualify.

Registration deadlines

By mail or online: Your application must be received no later than eight days before election day.

In person: Visit a local voting center no later than 8 p.m. on election day.

Check your registration info at VoteWA.gov.

Moved? Update your voting address

Contact a county elections office to request a ballot at your new address.



By eight days before election day: Have your application received by mail or updated online.

Or

By election day: Visit a local voting center in person.

What if I'm not 18 yet?



If you are 16 or 17, become a Future Voter!

Future # Voter

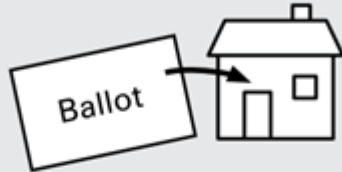
Sign up online at VoteWA.gov with your Washington state driver's license, permit, or ID. Or you can fill out a paper registration form using the last four digits of your Social Security number and mail it in. You'll be automatically registered to vote when you qualify.

Every January on Temperance and Good Citizenship Day, high school students 16 and older have the opportunity to complete a voter registration form in class.

How do I vote and return my ballot?

1

If you're registered to vote, there is no need to request a ballot. Your ballot will be mailed **18 days before election day** to the address you provide in your voter registration. If you need a replacement ballot, contact a county elections office.



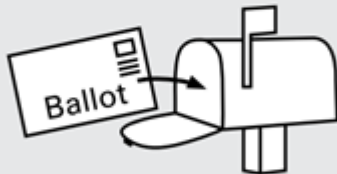
2

Vote your ballot and sign your return envelope. We need your signature to accept your ballot. You are not required to vote every race on your ballot. We encourage using your voters' pamphlet to help you decide.

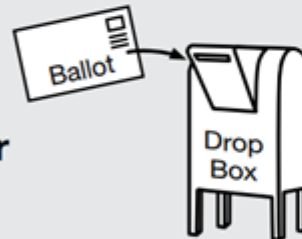


3

Return your ballot by mail, no stamp needed. If mailed, your ballot must be postmarked **by election day**. Don't let a late postmark disqualify your ballot. The USPS recommends that you mail a week before election day.



Or



If you cannot personally return your ballot, let only people you trust deliver it for you.

4

Check the status of your ballot on **VoteWA.gov** to see if it has been received by your county elections office.



Election staff will contact you before your ballot is processed if:

- Your signature is missing
- Your signature doesn't match your voter registration record

View election results online

After 8 p.m. on election night, tallied results from each county are posted at **sos.wa.gov/elections**

Results are updated as counties report and unofficial until certification.

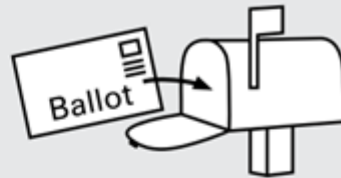
What is different about voting in Washington?

1

Vote by mail

Washington votes by mail every election.

We were the second state in the nation to adopt vote by mail and the first to provide all postage paid. A ballot is mailed at least 18 days before each election, ensuring you have time to cast an informed ballot without waiting in line.



2

Online voter registration

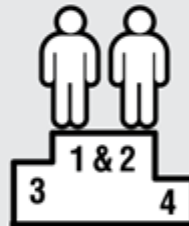
We offer online voter registration. Register to vote or update your address at VoteWA.gov



3

Top 2 Primary

Washington uses a Top 2 Primary system where the two candidates who receive the most votes in the August Primary Election advance to the November General Election, regardless of their party preference.



4

No party affiliation

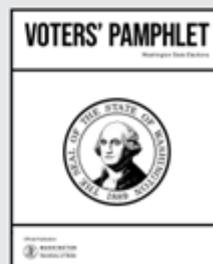


Washington voters do not register by party affiliation. Vote for any candidate regardless of their party preference.

5

Voters' Pamphlet

Only a few states produce voters' pamphlets. Statewide pamphlets are mailed to every household before each General Election.



6

Same day registration



Citizens can register and vote a ballot in person during the voting period until 8 p.m. on election day.

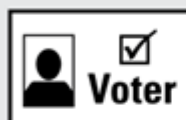
Your voting information

VoteWA

Use VoteWA to:



Register to vote

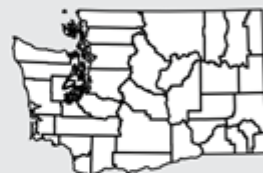


Check or update your voter registration information

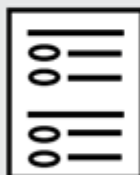
View a list of your elected officials



Contact your county elections office



View your personalized Voters' Guide



Fill out or print a replacement ballot

Find an official ballot drop box



Check the status of your ballot



Login to **VoteWA.gov** to access your customized voting information.

VoteWA is a collaboration between the Office of the Secretary of State and all 39 Washington counties to create an advanced, centralized system for both voter registration and election management.

Elections Office Contacts

Adams County

210 W Broadway Ave, Ste 200
Ritzville, WA 99169-1897
(509) 659-3249
elections@co.adams.wa.us

Asotin County

PO Box 129
Asotin, WA 99402-0129
(509) 243-2084
dmckay@co.asotin.wa.us

Benton County

PO Box 1000
Richland, WA 99352-1000
(509) 736-3085
elections@co.benton.wa.us

Chelan County

350 Orondo Ave, STE 306
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 667-6808
elections@co.chelan.wa.us

Clallam County

223 E 4th St, Ste 1
Port Angeles, WA 98362
(360) 417-2221
elections@co.clallam.wa.us

Clark County

PO Box 8815
Vancouver, WA 98666-8815
(564) 397-2345
elections@clark.wa.gov

Columbia County

341 E Main St, Ste 3
Dayton, WA 99328-1361
(509) 382-4541
auditor_elections@co.columbia.wa.us

Cowlitz County

207 4th Ave N, Rm 205
Kelso, WA 98626-4124
(360) 577-3005
elections@co.cowlitz.wa.us

Douglas County

PO Box 853
Waterville, WA 98858
(509) 888-6402
elections@co.douglas.wa.us

Ferry County

350 E Delaware Ave, Ste 2
Republic, WA 99166
(509) 775-5225 ext 1139
elections@co.ferry.wa.us

Franklin County

PO Box 1451
Pasco, WA 99301
(509) 545-3538
elections@co.franklin.wa.us

Garfield County

PO Box 278
Pomeroy, WA 99347
(509) 843-1411
mlueck@co.garfield.wa.us

Grant County

PO Box 37
Ephrata, WA 98823
(509) 754-2011 ext 2704
elections@grantcountywa.gov

Grays Harbor County

100 W Broadway, Ste 2
Montesano, WA 98563
(360) 964-1556
elections@co.grays-harbor.wa.us

Island County

PO Box 1410
Coupeville, WA 98239
(360) 678-8290
elections@co.island.wa.us

Jefferson County

PO Box 563
Port Townsend, WA 98368
(360) 385-9119
elections@co.jefferson.wa.us

King County

919 SW Grady Way
Renton, WA 98057-2906
(206) 296-8683
elections@kingcounty.gov

Kitsap County

614 Division St, MS 31
Port Orchard, WA 98366
(360) 337-7128
auditor@co.kitsap.wa.us

Kittitas County

205 W 5th Ave, Ste 105
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 962-7503
elections@co.kittitas.wa.us

Klickitat County

205 S Columbus Ave, Rm 203
Goldendale, WA 98620
(509) 773-4001
voting@klickitatcounty.org

Lewis County

PO Box 29
Chehalis, WA 98532-0029
(360) 740-1164
elections@lewiscountywa.gov

Lincoln County

PO Box 28
Davenport, WA 99122
(509) 725-4971
elections@co.lincoln.wa.us

Mason County

PO Box 400
Shelton, WA 98584
(360) 427-9670 ext 470
elections@masoncountywa.gov

Okanogan County

PO Box 1010
Okanogan, WA 98840
(509) 422-7240
elections@co.okanogan.wa.us

Pacific County

PO Box 97
South Bend, WA 98586-0097
(360) 875-9317
jkidd@co.pacific.wa.us

Pend Oreille County

PO Box 5015
Newport, WA 99156
(509) 447-6472
elections@pendoreille.org

Pierce County

2501 S 35th St, Ste C
Tacoma, WA 98409
(253) 798-VOTE (8683)
elections@piercecountywa.gov

San Juan County

PO Box 638
Friday Harbor, WA 98250
(360) 378-3357
elections@sanjuanco.com

Skagit County

PO Box 1306
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 416-1702
scelections@co.skagit.wa.us

Skamania County

Elections Dept, PO Box 790
Stevenson, WA 98648
(509) 427-3730
elections@co.skamania.wa.us

Snohomish County

3000 Rockefeller Ave, MS 505
Everett, WA 98201-4046
(425) 388-3444
elections@snoco.org

Spokane County

1033 W Gardner Ave
Spokane, WA 99260
(509) 477-2320
elections@spokanecounty.org

Stevens County

215 S Oak St, Rm 106
Colville, WA 99114
(509) 684-7514
elections@stevenscountywa.gov

Thurston County

2000 Lakeridge Dr SW
Olympia, WA 98502-6090
(360) 786-5408
elections@co.thurston.wa.us

Wahkiakum County

PO Box 543
Cathlamet, WA 98612
(360) 795-3219
elections@co.wahkiakum.wa.us

Walla Walla County

PO Box 2176
Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 524-2530
elections@co.walla-walla.wa.us

Whatcom County

311 Grand Ave, Ste 103
Bellingham, WA 98227
(360) 778-5102
elections@co.whatcom.wa.us

Whitman County

PO Box 191
Colfax, WA 99111
(509) 397-5284
elections@co.whitman.wa.us

Yakima County

PO Box 12570
Yakima, WA 98909-2570
(509) 574-1340
iVote@co.yakima.wa.us

OSOS Elections Division

520 Union Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 902-4180
elections@sos.wa.gov