

INFORMATION NEEDED TO PREPARE FOR THE REGISTRATION PROCESS APRIL 2022

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Certain eligible voters must use the Safe at Home voter registration process. California's Address Confidentiality Program provides services that work best when used in conjunction with an overall safety plan. Eligible applicants must enroll at a Safe at Home designated enrolling agency. Click on the link to get more information.

<https://www.sos.ca.gov/registries/safe-home>

To register to vote in California, you must be:

- A United States citizen and a resident of California,
- 18 years old or older on Election Day (JUNE 7, 2022),
- Not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony (for more information on the rights of people who have been incarcerated, please see the Secretary of State's [Voting Rights: Persons with a Criminal History](#)), and
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court (for more information, please see [Voting Rights: Persons Subject to Conservatorship](#)).

Qualifications to Pre-register to Vote

To pre-register to vote in California, you must:

- Be 16 or 17 years old, and
- Meet all of the other eligibility requirements to vote.

You will automatically be registered to vote on your 18th birthday.

NOTE: The registration process is also the method by which voters update changes in legal name, residence, mailing address, and political party affiliation.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full legal name as it appears on registrant's CA Driver's License or CA Identification (ID) Card. You can still register without the CA ID or License. Use the name appearing on your school registration or your birth certificate.

Place of birth as it appears on the birth certificate or naturalization documents. Registrants may need to ask a knowledgeable relative or guardian in the absence of such record. Persons born in the US must know their US state or territory of birth. Naturalized citizens must know their country of birth.

GOVERNMENT RECORDS

CA ID or License number OR Last four digits of the Social Security number If you have them, use them.

If you don't have one or the other, you can still register.

RESIDENCE (HOME ADDRESS)

This information helps the elections office identify the correct ballot when you vote.

You must be able to verify your home address the first time you vote. You can use a CA Driver's License, CA ID, or utility bill. (See [list of acceptable identification before you vote the first time](#).)

<http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/voting-california/what-bring/>)

If you do not have shelter, you may use the nearest cross streets (Hollywood and Vine) or iconic landmark (Capitol Records) where you sleep. Make sure you include the name of the city.

RE-REGISTERING (Not needed for first time registration)

Name used on previous registration

Previous address or cross streets

Previous political party preference

This information helps the elections office locate your records.

RACE/ETHNICITY (Optional)

Get the information from your parents, guardian or other relatives, if necessary.

POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE

What is a Political Party?

A political party is an officially organized group of people who try to influence

- what laws are passed and
- who gets elected to government as their representatives.

The party you pick usually shares your views about what role the government plays in your life and what services it will provide to your community.

Qualified Political Parties in California (Refer to page with party information)

American Independent Party (Do not confuse with *independent/NPP*)

Democratic Party

Green Party

Libertarian Party

Peace and Freedom

Republican Party

TIP: Google the Presidential Nominee for each political party. This is an easy way to determine if a particular political party is likely to support your interests & public policy positions and share your views about the role of government.

independent (Read **NO PARTY PREFERENCE (NPP) INFORMATION.**)

Students who are pre-registering may want to discuss this with parents, guardians, or other trusted adults.

NO PARTY PREFERENCE (NPP) INFORMATION

Voting in Presidential **Primary** Elections (Held between January and July before November Presidential Elections - every 4 years). The next Presidential Primary will be in 2024.

- Voters who registered to vote without stating a political party preference are known as No Party Preference (NPP) voters. NPP voters were formerly known as “decline-to-state” or “DTS” voters.
- NPP voters, unless they choose otherwise (see last bullet: “135 days before the election”), will receive a “non-partisan” ballot that does not include presidential candidates.
- A nonpartisan ballot contains only the names of candidates for voter-nominated offices and local nonpartisan offices and measures.
- Each political party has the option of allowing NPP voters to vote in their midterm or presidential primary elections.
- **135** days before the election, political parties must notify the Secretary of State’s office whether or not they will allow NPP voters to have a vote in the selection of nominees for the general election.

VOTE BY MAIL (VBM) VOTERS NOTICE

- In California, all registered voters who meet the voter registration deadline for an election receive VBM ballots. NPP (*independent*) VBM voters must request a crossover ballot from the Registrar Recorder
 - IF any of the political parties allow NPP voters to help select the party's nominee and
 - IF the voter wants to help one of the political parties select their nominee.
- The Registrar Recorder will send a written notice to VBM voters advising them of the political parties that are allowing NPP voters to weigh in on selection of their nominee.
- Four to six (4 - 6) weeks prior to the election the Registrar's website (lavote.gov) will have instructions for VBM voters.
- NNP voters choosing or having to vote at the polls will be given the same choice at the Vote Center.

ELECTIONS CODE - ELEC

DIVISION 2. VOTERS [2000 - 2700]

(Division 2 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

CHAPTER 2. Registration [2100 - 2194.1]

(Chapter 2 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

ARTICLE 1. General Provisions [2100 - 2124]

(Article 1 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)