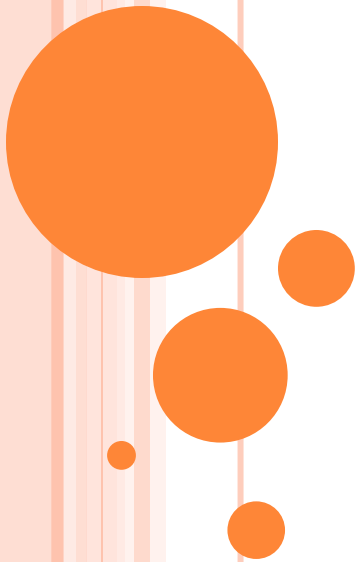


WHO CAN VOTE?

Voter registration and residency



VOTER REGISTRATION LOCATIONS

- County auditor's office
- **City finance office** – you are an official voter registration location (*your duty to insure the form is complete, SDCL 12-4-7.2*)
- Driver's license station
- Public assistance agencies providing food stamps, TANF or WIC
- Department of Human Services offices which provide assistance to the disabled
- Military recruitment offices
- Secretary of State's Office



VOTER REGISTRATION PROCESS

- Ways for someone to register to vote:
 - **Drivers Licensing application**
 - There is a section to register to vote.
 - This voter registration information is sent electronically to the County Auditor with the exception noted below:
 - If a Driver's Licensing exam station only has the ability to take paper applications then the voter registration process takes a little longer because the paper application has to be sent to Pierre to be hand entered.
 - **Voter Registration Application** (paper)





South Dakota
 Voter Registration Form
 _____ County

Use this form to: Register to vote or report a name, address, or party change.
 Please print. Complete the entire form. Return this form to your county auditor.

The deadline for voter registration is 15 days before any election. Your form must be received by the county auditor by this deadline if you are to vote in the next election. Within 15 days you will receive a notice of your registration. If you do not, contact your county auditor. Any private person or entity registering voters is required to provide you with their contact information. For more information, visit www.sdsos.gov.

Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes No
 Will you be 18 years of age on or before the next election? Yes No
 If you checked 'No' in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form.

1	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name(s)/Initial	Suffix	
2	Residence Address	Apt. or Lot #	City	State	Zip Code
3	Mailing Address (if different)		City	State	Zip Code
3a	If Residence Address is a PO Box, rural box, or general delivery, you must give the location of your residence:				
4	Date of Birth (Required) Month / Day / Year	5 Telephone Number	6 South Dakota Driver License Number (Required) If you do not have a current SD Driver License, provide the last 4 digits of Social Security Number		
7	Choice of Party	8 Email Address			

Use this section to cancel your previous voter registration. Previous Voter Registration Information Required, if applicable:

9	Previous Last Name	First Name	Middle Name(s)	Suffix	
10	Previous Address		City	State	Zip Code
11	Previous Driver License Number and State	Previous County	Date of Birth (Required)		

Would you like to be a precinct election worker on election day? Yes No

12 I declare, under penalty of perjury (2 years imprisonment and \$4,000 fine), that:
 *I am a citizen of the United States of America;
 *I actually live at and have no present intention of leaving the above address;
 *I will be 18 on or before the next election;
 *I have not been judged mentally incompetent;
 *I am not currently serving a sentence for a felony conviction; and
 *I authorize cancellation of my previous registration, if applicable.

Signature Required

Date: _____ / _____ / _____
 Month / Day / Year



VOTER REGISTRATION PROCESS *cont'd*

- The voter's registration date is the date the County Auditor receives the application, not the date the voter signs the card.
 - Business Managers: if a voter comes in to register to vote on the deadline day for voter registration, you may want to suggest they take their application directly to the County Auditor. Since your office isn't an official registration site you aren't required to deliver that application by 5:00 pm on the deadline day in order for that voter to vote at the upcoming election
 - Finance Officers: if a voter comes in to register on the deadline day you are able to mail or deliver the application after the deadline has passed and the voter would still be registered in time to vote in the upcoming election (**SDCL 12-4-5**)
- If a Voter's information is incomplete the County Auditor will send them an Incomplete notice.



VOTER REGISTRATION PROCESS *cont'd*

- The voter registration information is entered, by the County Auditor, into Total Vote which is the statewide voter file system.
- The voter file goes through nightly checks:
 - **UJS** – felony check, mental competency
 - **Vital Records** – death records
 - **Social Security Administration** – valid social security number and check for US Citizenship
 - **Drivers Licensing** – valid drivers license
- If a voter is flagged regarding any of these checks the county auditor is notified and will review and proceed according to state law.
- The voter file, every odd year, goes through a **list maintenance** process that cleans up the voter file. This is done by the County Auditors.



SDCL 12-4-5. ENTRY OF APPLICANTS ON REGISTRATION LISTS

- The county auditor shall enter in the master registration file the names of all eligible persons who have had their completed applications for registration and mail registration cards received by any county auditor or any local, state, or federal agency responsible for conducting voter registration under this chapter not later than **5:00 p.m. fifteen days preceding the election**. However, any completed mail registration card mailed to the appropriate county auditor and postmarked not less than thirty days preceding an election shall be added to the registration file. **Voter registrations completed at any local, state, or federal agency during any given week commencing on Tuesday through the following Monday shall be sent to the appropriate county auditors no later than the following Wednesday.** The State Board of Elections may promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, for the alternative transmission of voter registration information by computer from the agency to the secretary of state. The name of any voter who has registered to vote by 5:00 p.m. fifteen days preceding the secondary election shall be added to the file used for the secondary election.



FYI - ACTIVE VS. INACTIVE VOTERS

- **Active voter:** any voter who has voted or updated his/her voter registration information in the last four years.
- **Inactive voter:** Any voter who has not voted or updated his/her voter registration information in the last four years.
- Active and Inactive voters may sign petitions.
- Inactive voters may vote but are required to fill out a new voter registration form prior to voting.
- When Auditor's **calculate the number of signatures** required for a petition, they only calculate that against **active voters**.
- When the Auditor **calculates voter turnout** for the election, they only calculate that against **active voters**.

SDCL 12-4-34. Registered voters referred to in other statutes. If a statute refers to registered voters, it does not include those in the inactive registration file unless specifically included. However, any voter in the inactive registration file may sign a petition.



VOTER REGISTRATION AND RESIDENCY

MUNICIPAL REQUIREMENTS

- Registration and residence required to vote in a municipal election (SDCL 9-13-4.1).
 - No person may vote at any municipal election unless the person is registered to vote pursuant to Chapter 12-4 and resides in the municipality at the time of the election.
 - A person resides in the municipality if the person actually lives in the municipality for at least thirty days each year, is a full-time postsecondary education student who resided in the municipality immediately prior to leaving for postsecondary education, or is on active duty as a member of the armed forces whose home of record is within the municipality.
 - The residency requirement only applies to city and school elections.



VOTER REGISTRATION AND RESIDENCY

SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

- Registration and residence required to vote in school election. (**SDCL 13-7-4.2**)
 - No person may vote at any school election unless the person is registered to vote pursuant to **Chapter 12-4** and resides in the school district at the time of the election.
 - A person resides in the school district if the person actually lives in the school district for at least thirty days each year, is a full-time postsecondary education student who resided in the school district immediately prior to leaving for the postsecondary education, or is on active duty as a member of the armed forces whose home of record is within the school district.
 - The residency requirement only applies to city and school elections.



VOTER REGISTRATION AND RESIDENCY

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Voter registration deadline is 5:00 p.m. fifteen days preceding an election (**SDCL 12-4-5**).
- It shall be the duty of the official in charge of local elections to notify the county auditor at least thirty days preceding their local elections, of precinct boundary changes if any have been made (**SDCL 12-14-1.1**).
- When the boundaries of any election precinct shall be changed, the county auditor shall immediately change the registration list (**SDCL 12-4-11**).

Questions?

