

Frequently Asked Questions

What Does “Resident” Mean for Voting?

You are considered a resident of South Dakota if:

- You have a fixed, permanent place where you live and usually sleep for at least 30 consecutive days
- You plan to come back to South Dakota if you leave for a while.

You can read the full statute at the bottom of this page.

Other details:

- If you live in a South Dakota county but temporarily go to another county, state, or territory, you are still a resident of your home county.
- If you live somewhere in South Dakota and don’t plan to move, that’s your residence
- You stop being a South Dakota resident if you move to another state or territory and plan to live there permanently.
- You can only be a resident of one place at a time.

Who Can Register to Vote?

You can register to vote if:

- You are a resident of South Dakota (as explained at the bottom of this page).
- You meet the voter qualifications (for example, age, citizenship) for the next municipal, primary, general, or school district election.

Where you vote:

You can only vote in the precinct (local voting area) where you live.

Which ID Do I Have to Provide?

What if you don’t have a South Dakota driver’s license, state ID, or social security number?

You must:

- Complete your registration in person at your County Auditor’s Office
- Fill out and sign a statement under oath saying you do not have any of the required IDs

What ID do I need to bring with me to vote?

You must show a photo ID. Approved IDs include:

- South Dakota driver’s license or nondriver ID
- U.S. passport or other U.S. government-issued photo ID
- Military ID
- Student ID from a South Dakota high school or college
- Tribal photo ID

No ID?

You can still vote by signing a personal identification affidavit.

How Do Primary Elections Work for Voters in South Dakota?

In a primary election:

- Voters only receive a ballot for their registered party
- If you’re registered as Independent (IND) or No Party Affiliation (NPA), you may choose a ballot based on the party’s rules

Here’s how it works in South Dakota:

- Democratic Primary: Open to Democrats and IND/NPA voters
- Libertarian Primary: Open to Libertarians, and IND/NPA voters
- Republican Primary: Only open to registered Republicans

Is Your Voter Information Public?

What is public:

- Your name
- Your address
- Your party
- Year of birth
- Email address
- Phone number
- Registration info

These can be used for election purposes.

What is private:

- Month and day of birth
- Driver’s license number
- Social Security Number
- The source of your registration

What Does “Inactive” Mean?

You’re marked “inactive” if you haven’t voted or updated your voter information in four years.

- Inactive voters can still vote
- You’ll just be asked to update your registration when you vote

12-1-4. Resident defined--Intention.

For the purposes of this title, “resident” means an individual who maintains an actual fixed permanent dwelling, establishment, or any other abode where the individual lives and usually sleeps for at least thirty consecutive days. An individual who is a resident of this state remains a resident during an absence from this state, if the individual intends to return to this state after a period of absence. An individual may only be a resident of one place.

If an individual who is a resident of a county of this state, goes into another county of this state or another state or territory for a temporary purpose, the individual remains a resident of the county.

An individual is considered to be a resident of the county or municipality of this state in which the individual actually lives, if the individual has no present intention of leaving.

An individual remains a resident of this state until the individual becomes a resident of another state. If an individual moves from this state to another state or territory with the intention of becoming a resident of that state or territory for any purpose, the individual is no longer a resident this state.

12-4-1. Persons entitled to register--Precinct.

An individual who is a resident of this state, as defined in § 12-1-4, and has or will have the qualifications of a voter prescribed by § 12-3-1 or 12-3-1.1 at the next ensuing municipal, primary, general, or school district election, is entitled to be registered as a voter in the election precinct in which the person maintains residence.

An individual eligible to vote may vote only in the election precinct where the person maintains residence.

County Auditor Addresses

Aurora PO Box 397, Plankinton, SD, 57368-0397 (605) 942-7752	Corson PO Box 255 McIntosh, SD, 57641-0255 (605) 273-4229	Hand 415 West 1st Avenue Miller, SD, 57362-1377 (605) 853-2182	Marshall PO Box 130 Britton, SD, 57430-0130 (605) 448-2401	Spink 210 E 7th Ave Suite 5 Redfield, SD, 57469-1266 (605) 472-4580
Beadle 450 3rd St. SW, Ste. 201 Huron, SD, 57350 (605) 353-8400	Custer 420 Mt. Rushmore Rd. Custer, SD, 57730 (605) 673-8173	Hanson PO Box 500 Alexandria, SD, 57311-0500 (605) 239-4714	McCook PO Box 190 Salem, SD, 57058 (605) 425-2791	Stanley PO Box 595 Fort Pierre, SD, 57532-0595 (605) 223-7780
Bennett PO Box 460 Martin, SD, 57551 (605) 589-4212	Davison 200 East 4th Avenue Mitchell, SD, 57301 (605) 995-8608	Harding PO Box 26 Buffalo, SD, 57720-0026 (605) 375-3313	McPherson PO Box 390 Leola, SD, 57456 (605) 439-3314	Sully PO Box 265 Onida, SD, 57564 (605) 258-2541
Bon Homme PO Box 605 Tyndall, SD, 57066-0605 Phone Number	Day 711 W 1st St Webster, SD, 57274 (605) 345-9500	Hughes 104 E. Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD, 57501 (605) 773-7451	Meade 1300 Sherman St Ste 126 Sturgis, SD, 57785 (605) 347-2360	Todd 200 E 3rd St Winner, SD, 57580 (605) 842-3727
Brookings 520 3rd St., Suite 100 Brookings, SD, 57006 (605) 696-8250	Deuel PO Box 616 Clear Lake, SD, 57226 (605) 874-2312	Hutchinson 201 W Mentor St Olivet, SD, 57052-2103 (605) 387-4212	Mellette PO Box C White River, SD, 57579-0403 (605) 259-3050	Tripp 200 East 3rd Winner, SD, 57580-1806 (605) 842-3727
Brown 25 Market Street Ste 1 Aberdeen, SD, 57401-4293 (605) 626-7110	Dewey PO Box 277 Timber Lake, SD, 57656-0277 (605) 865-3672	Hyde 412 Commercial Ave. SE Highmore, SD, 57345 (605) 852-2519	Miner PO Box 86 Howard, SD, 57349-0086 (605) 772-4671	Turner PO Box 370 Parker, SD, 57053-0370 (605) 297-3153
Brule 300 S Courtland STE 103 Chamberlain, SD, 57325-1599 (605) 234-4430	Douglas PO Box 159 Armour, SD, 57313-0159 (605) 724-2423	Jackson PO Box 280 Kadoka, SD, 57543-0280 (605) 837-2422	Minnehaha 415 N Dakota Ave Sioux Falls, SD, 57104-2465 (605) 367-4220	Union 209 E. Main Street Ste 200 Elk Point, SD, 57025 (605) 356-2101
Buffalo PO Box 146 Gann Valley, SD, 57341-0146 (605) 293-3217	Edmunds PO Box 97 Ipswich, SD, 57451-0097 (605) 426-6762	Jerauld PO Box 422 Wessington Springs, SD, 57382-0422 (605) 539-9301	Moody 101 E Pipestone Ave STE D Flandreau, SD, 57028-0750 (605) 997-3161	Walworth PO Box 199 Selby, SD, 57472-0199 (605) 649-7878
Butte 117 5th Avenue Belle Fourche, SD, 57717 (605) 723-1459	Fall River 906 N River St Hot Springs, SD, 57747-1398 (605) 745-5130	Jones PO Box 307 Murdo, SD, 57559 (605) 669-7100	Oglala Lakota 906 N River St Hot Springs, SD, 57747-1398 (605) 745-5130	Yankton 321 W. 3rd St., Ste 100 Yankton, SD, 57078-4396 (605) 260-4436
Campbell PO Box 37 Mound City, SD, 57646-0037 (605) 955-3366	Faulk PO Box 309 Faulkton, SD, 57438-0309 (605) 598-6224	Kingsbury PO Box 196 De Smet, SD, 57231 (605) 854-3832	Pennington PO Box 6160 Rapid City, SD, 57709 (605) 394-2153	Ziebach PO Box 68 Dupree, SD, 57623-0068 (605) 365-5157
Charles Mix PO Box 70 Lake Andes, SD, 57356 (605) 487-7131	Grant 210 E Fifth Ave Milbank, SD, 57252-2499 (605) 432-6711	Lake 200 E Center St Madison, SD, 57042-2941 (605) 256-7600	Perkins PO Box 126 Bison, SD, 57620-0126 (605) 244-5624	
Clark PO Box 294 Clark, SD, 57225-0294 (605) 532-5921	Gregory PO Box 437 Burke, SD, 57523 (605) 775-2664	Lawrence PO Box F Deadwood, SD, 57732-0678 (605) 578-1941	Potter 201 S Exene Gettysburg, SD, 57442-1521 (605) 765-9408	
Clay 211 W. Main St. Suite 200 Vermillion, SD, 57069 (605) 677-7120	Haakon PO Box 698 Philip, SD, 57567 (605) 859-2800	Lincoln 104 N Main, Ste 110 Canton, SD, 57013-1703 (605) 764-2581	Roberts 411 2nd Ave E Sisseton, SD, 57262-1495 (605) 698-7336	
Codington 14 First Ave SE Watertown, SD, 57201-3611 (605) 882-6297	Hamlin PO Box 237 Hayti, SD, 57241-0237 (605) 783-3201	Lyman PO Box 38 Kennebec, SD, 57544-0038 (605) 869-2247	Sanborn PO Box 7 Woonsocket, SD, 57385-0007 (605) 796-4513	

For contact information of all county auditors, visit:
<https://vip.sdsos.gov/countyauditors.aspx>

For more information about voting, visit our website:
<https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/default.aspx>