

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE LAW

- Ask the following questions to ensure that the voter is indeed eligible to register to vote:
 - Are you a U.S. citizen?
 - Can you provide one of the following original documents to the auditor?
 - A South Dakota driver license or nondriver identification card issued after July 1, 2025
 - A driver license or nondriver ID card from another state indicating citizenship has been verified
 - A tribal identification card
 - OR
 - A photocopy of one of the following to be provided with the application:
 - Birth Certificate
 - United States passport
 - Consular Report of birth abroad issued by the U.S. Department of State
 - A certificate of naturalization
 - Any other document permitted under 42 C.F.R 436.407
- If the person completing the registration form is currently registered to vote, they must complete the cancellation portion of the form as well. They do not need to provide additional proof of citizenship if they are already registered.



GUIDANCE FOR COORDINATING A REGISTRATION DRIVE

- Recommended approach:
 - Coordinate with the county auditor in advance
 - If the auditor is present, applicant may present documentation at the event and be processed for full ballot eligibility
- If the county auditor is unavailable:
 - Continue the registration drive
 - Inform applicants:
 - They will be registered as federal-only voters until documentation is provided to the auditor
 - They will receive instructions on what they need to do from the county auditor
- Alternate option:
 - Assist applicants in completing the registration form
 - Direct them to submit the application in person to the county auditor's office, where documentation can be verified.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Make sure the registration form is fully completed. It is very important to have a complete residence address or physical description of where the voter lives for the county auditor to place the voter in the correct voting precinct.
- All private entities or individuals registering voters must provide their contact information. ([SDCL 12-4-3](#))
- **Any private entity or individual registering a person to vote shall file the completed registration form with the county auditor within ten days or by the next voter registration deadline, whichever comes first.**
 - A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor. ([SDCL 12-4-3.2](#))
- Ensure you have plenty of voter registration application forms.
- Remain impartial, non-coercive, and non-fraudulent. Federal Law prohibits intimidating voters, submitting false registrations, or interfering with the registration process. ([NVRA Section 12](#))
- **Do not** pay or employ people on the basis of how many voters they register. You **MAY** pay an hourly or salaried wage. ([12-4-52](#)) A violation is a class 2 misdemeanor.

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Felony Convictions

- Under South Dakota Codified Law 12-4-18 A person so disqualified becomes eligible to register to vote upon completion of his her sentence and a person who receives a suspended imposition of sentence does not lose the right to vote.

FEDERAL

- Retains the right to vote
 - convicted of felony but only sentenced to probation
 - convicted but only sentenced to pay a fine or restitution

STATE

- Retains the right to vote
 - convicted of felony but only sentenced to probation
 - convicted but only sentenced to pay a fine or restitution
 - Receive a suspended imposition of sentence.