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How to Register to Vote

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## **HOW TO**



# REGISTER TO VOTE

District of Columbia
Board of Elections and Ethics
441 - 4th Street, NW Suite 250
Washington, DC 20001-2745
202-727-2525

### HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To register in the District, you must be:

- ✓ a U.S. citizen
- ✓ a D.C. Resident
- ✓ least 18 year of age by election day
- ✓ not incarcerated for a felony
- ✓ not adjudged mentally incapacitated.

If you meet these requirements, you can register to vote by filling out a Mail-in Registration Form.

Forms are available at all D.C. Public Libraries, Fire Houses, and Police Stations. Forms may also be downloaded from the Board's web site at <a href="http://www.@dcboec.org">http://www.@dcboec.org</a>.

Your mail-in form must be postmarked at least 30 days before an election for you to vote in that election.

#### **POLITICAL PARTIES**

When you register to vote, you may choose to be "affiliated" with a political party. If you do not wish to be a member of one the parties, mark the space for "No Party" ("independent") on the registration form.

Please note that "independents" and members of minor parties cannot vote in primary elections. Only Members of the Democratic, Republican, D.C. Statehood Party, The Umoja Party, and Green Party may vote in their own party's primary election.

## VOTER NOTIFICATION CARD

The Board of Elections and Ethics sends a Voter Notification Card to all new registrants, voters who have requested changes to their voter record, and to voters affected by changes (precinct and polling place) made by the Board. The Voter Notification Card is not an official document and is not required to be shown at the polling place to vote. However, it is useful to keep for information concerning polling place location, precinct number and advisory neighborhood commission single member district assignment. Space is provided on the back of the notification card for the voter to make changes to the record by entering the desired information and mailing the card to the Board of Elections.

# Services for Senior Citizens and Handicapped Persons

Most polls are accessible to people in wheel chairs or with walkers. Other services include handicapped parking, curbside voting, wheelchair accessible voting booths, magnifying glasses and large print ballot posters for vision-impaired voters. The Board also operates a TDD line for hearing-impaired voters at 639-8916.

## Información en Español

La Junta de Elecciónes publica en Español todos los formularios de información para el votante. Usted puede solicitar uno con solamente llamar al 727-2525.

#### **KEEPING YOUR** REGISTRATION UP-TO-DATE

All changes to your voter registration record must be in writing, using a mail-in voter registration form, your voter notification card, or a written request.

Change of Name - include previous name, current name, address, date-of birth and signature. Name changes may be made anytime registration is open.

Change of Address - include name, previous address, current address, date-of-birth, and signature. Changes may be made anytime registration is open or you may file an election day change of address at the polls. Voters who fail to keep their address current are at risk of having their name removed from the active voter registry.

Change to Party Registration - include name, address, previous party affiliation, current party affiliation, date-of-birth, and signature. Party affiliation may be changed anytime registration is open. In a Primary Election, a voter must be registered with a major political party and must vote the ballot of the party of record.

Note: If registration or change has been made through a volunteer registration drive or at a NVRA registration site and a reasonable time has elapsed without receiving notification of registration or change, please confirm status with the

Board at 202-727-2525.

REGISTER and VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

District of Columbia **Board of Elections and Ethics** 441 - 4th Street, NW Suite 250 North Washington, DC 20001-2745

202-727-2525 202-347-2648 - Fax 202-639-8916 -TDD for the Hearing Impaired

Web Site Address: http://www.dcboee.org

#### ABSENTEE VOTING

Absentee voting is available for voters who cannot go to the polls on election day because they are elderly, handicapped or out of town. There are two types of absentee voting: in-person and by mail.

You may cast an absentee ballot in person, in the Board's office beginning 15 days before the election. The deadline for in-person absentee voting is 4:45 p.m. the day before election day.

To receive a mail absentee ballot, you must make your request in writing. Absentee ballot application forms are available through our office and at the Board's web site, or you may write a short note that includes the following information:

- ✓ Your name and address
- ✓ Your mailing address (if different)
- ✓ Your reason for voting absentee
- ✓ Your signature

Your request for a mail absentee ballot must reach our office at least one week before the election.

**QUESTIONS?** Call 727-2525

TDD: 639-8916