

Conducting a Voter Registration Drive in Iowa

Voter Registration Deadlines

- Iowa allows Election Day registration at the polls.
- Applications for preregistration before Election Day must be postmarked by 15 days before Election Day or received by 5 p.m. 10 days before Election Day (must be received 11 days before if the election is not a general election).

Getting Started

Training Requirement: Iowa does not require training for registration drives, but the [Iowa Secretary of State's website](#) provides guidelines for soliciting voter registration and absentee requests.

Notification and Registration Requirements: Iowa does not have notification requirements for registration drives.

Compensation Restrictions: Iowa law allows voter registration organizations to pay their employees, but only for their employees' time. Do not pay registration drive participants based on how many registrations they complete.

Obtaining Applications

State Form: The state mail-in voter registration application can be downloaded at the [Secretary of State's website](#).

Federal Form: The [federal mail-in voter registration application](#) may be used in voter registration drives.

Photocopying Blank Forms: Blank applications may be photocopied and used in voter registration drives.

Handling Applications

Incomplete Applications: A person assisting another in completing a voter registration form may not complete any portion of the form without the knowledge or consent of the registrant.

Photocopying Completed Applications: There is no law or rule prohibiting photocopying or retaining information from completed registration applications. **A voter's date of birth, signature, full or partial Social Security Number, and driver's license number should be removed before copying any application.**

Submitting Completed Applications: Completed voter registration applications should be postmarked no later than the 15th day before the election or submitted no later than 5 p.m. on the 10th day before a general election (or the 11th day before a primary election) to the [appropriate county auditor](#) to ensure the fastest processing. Applications can also be delivered or mailed to Elections Division; Office of the Secretary of State; Lucas Building - 1st Floor; 321 E. 12th Street; Des Moines, IA 50319.

This Guide was prepared by FELN staff who are not licensed to practice law in Iowa and FELN intends that the information contained herein is used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed Iowa legal professional.

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