



Completing and Returning Voter Registration Forms While Incarcerated

Qualifications to Register to Vote:

- A United States citizen and resident of California
- At least 18 years of age on or before Election Day
- Not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony, or
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court

Persons detained in jail who can register to vote:

- Serving a misdemeanor sentence (a misdemeanor does not affect your right to vote)
 - Because jail time is a condition of probation (misdemeanor or felony)
 - Serving a felony jail sentence
 - Awaiting trial
- OR
- On parole
 - On probation
 - On mandatory supervision
 - On post-release community supervision
 - On federal supervised release
 - A person with a juvenile wardship adjudication

Persons detained in jail or prison who cannot register to vote:

Currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony in:

- State prison
- Federal prison
- County jail or other correctional facility*

NOTE: Once you have finished serving your term, your right to vote will be restored; however, you must register online at registertovote.ca.gov or by filling out a paper Voter Registration Application

Completing the Form

Return your form as soon as possible. The earlier you are registered, the sooner you will receive your Vote by Mail ballot. Make sure that your form is complete by filling out the bolded sections of the forms. Leaving those sections blank, may cause a delay in processing your form:

Section 1 - *Qualifications: Be sure to check both boxes if they apply. Your form cannot be processed if the U.S. citizenship box is not checked. If you are not a U.S. citizen, then you are not eligible to register and vote.

Section 2 - *Legal Name: We recommend you register to vote using the same name as shown on your California driver's license (DL) or identification card (ID).

Section 3 - Identification: If you have a California DL/ID number and/or Social Security Number (SSN), write that information in this section. If you do not have either, you may leave the fields blank.

Section 4 - *Address Where I Live: You must provide a street address for the address at where you last lived. Include the apartment, unit, space, or building number, and/or letter if it applies to the address.

If you do not have a fixed address, you may give an exact description of where you live. Include cross streets, route, etc.

P.O. Boxes or Mail Drops may not be used as a residence address. They may only be used as a mailing address.

Section 5 - Address Where I Receive Mail: While in jail, please provide the Santa Clara County Jail mailing address. A Personal File Number (PFN) must be included in the first line of the address field.

Section 6 - Registration History: Complete the registration history section, using the address that you were previously registered.

Section 7 - Vote by Mail: Under the Voter's Choice Act, every voter will automatically be sent a Vote by Mail ballot; however, you are not required to use it. Every voter also has the option to go to a Vote Center and vote in person instead.

Section 8 - Political Party Preference: If you prefer not to select a political party, you may check the No Party/None box. Leaving this field blank will automatically default your political party preference to No Party Preference.

Section 9 - Optional Voter Information: Email, phone number, language preference, and other voting requests are optional.

Section 10 - *Affidavit: Sign and date your form. Your form must be signed under the penalty of perjury in order to be validated and processed.

Returning the Registration Form

- Tear off and keep the bottom portion of the form as your receipt. Once validated and processed you will receive a voter notification card in the mail within four to six weeks.
- Forms may be mailed and must be postmarked on or before the registration deadline.
- Forms may be returned in person at the Registrar of Voters' Office; however, returning them by mail is preferred.
- If you are returning forms on behalf of voters, you must return them within 3 days of receiving it.

Paper & Online Registration Deadlines

- Eligible citizens who need to register or re-register to vote within 14 days of an election can complete a Conditional Voter Registration affidavit. You must vote in person at the Registrar of Voters or at any Vote Center that same day.

*** Your form cannot be processed if these fields are left blank.**