



Voter Information Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I register to vote?

A: There are several options available to register to vote:

- Download a [voter registration](#) card, print it, fill it out, and mail it to the Election Center.
- Call the Election Center at 502.574.6100 to request that a voter registration card be mailed to you.
- Stop by and complete a voter registration card when you visit:
 - **Election Center**
Urban Government Center
810 Barret Avenue, Room 103
Email: Elections@jeffersonCountyClerk.org
 - Any **Branch Office** of the Jefferson County Clerk
 - **Driver's License Bureau**
 - **Military recruitment offices**
 - **Designated public assistance agencies**

For more information about how to register, visit the State Board of Elections web site at: <http://elect.ky.gov/>.

Q: Who may register to vote in Kentucky?

A: You may register to vote if you are a native-born or naturalized U.S. citizen and:

- will be 18 years old on or before the General Election of your 18th birthday.
- reside within the state and county at least 28 days before an election.
- if a convicted felon, have had your civil rights legally restored.
- have not been judged "mentally incompetent" in a court of law.
- do not claim the right to vote in another state.

Q: When do I need to register to vote?

A: The last day to register to vote is 29 days before each election.

- The Primary Election is held the first Tuesday after the third Monday in May.
- The General Election is held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

Q: When do I need to change my party affiliation?

A: A registered voter can change their political party affiliation at any time.

- Changing political parties between January 1st and the upcoming Primary Election can affect the voter's ability to participate in that Primary Election.
- Changing political parties after the upcoming Primary Election thru December 31st of each calendar year will keep the voter eligible to vote in the new party's Primary Election the following year.

Q: Who may receive voting assistance at the polls?

A: Any registered voter requiring voting assistance due to a temporary/permanent disability, such as:

- Sight impairment
- Hearing impairment
- Inability to read English

Q: Where is my polling location?

A: To find your voting location click here: www.Lojud.org/apps/voter/index.cfm or you may call the Election Center at 502.574.6100. Avoid the last minute rush on Election Day. Find your polling location today.

Q: If I move, will my polling location change?

A: It depends on where you move. If you have moved since you registered to vote, or last updated your registration, make sure you update your voter registration with the Election Center at least 29 days before an election to ensure you vote in your correct and legal polling location on Election Day.

Q: What are proper forms of identification for voting?

A: Proper forms of identification are:

- Drivers license
- Voter identification card (issued upon request at the Election Center)
- Credit card
- Social security card
- Personal acquaintance of an Election Officer
- Other personal identification with the signature and picture of voter

Q: What if I will be out of town on Election Day?

A: Voters who will be outside the county on Election Day may vote in person at the Election Center, 810 Barret Avenue, Room 103, at least 30 days before the election. For more definitive information, visit [Absentee Ballot Voting](#).

Q: What are the reasons a person may be able to vote absentee by mail?

A: Kentucky law allows mailing an absentee ballot for these reasons:

- Voter is unable to go to the polls on Election Day due to age, disability, or illness.
- Voter is a Student who temporarily resides outside the county in which he/she is registered.
- Voter temporarily resides outside the state but who is still eligible to vote in this state.
- Voter is incarcerated in jail and charged with, but not convicted of, a crime.
- Voter's employment location requires him/her to be absent from the county all hours and all days absentee voting by machine is conducted.
- Military personnel confined to a military base on Election Day.
- Residents of Kentucky and their dependents that are members of the Armed Forces.
- Kentucky citizens residing overseas.

Q: What is the deadline to request an absentee ballot application?

A: The voter's completed "Application for Absentee Ballot" must be in the Office of the County Clerk 7 days before an election. For example: For the 2012 Primary Election, the application must be requested by close of business on May 15, 2012.

Request an application in person, by mail, fax, phone or e-mail from:

- The Election Center
- Any branch office of the Jefferson County Clerk's Office

Email: Absentee@JeffersonCountyClerk.org

or call 502.574.6100 for more information.

Q: What time do the polls open and close on Election Day?

A: The polls are open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Q: How is it possible for a 17- year-old to register and vote in a Primary Election?

A: If a citizen's 18th birthday is on or before the date of the General Election, the voter is allowed to participate in the Primary Election in which a candidate is to be elected.

Q: If a person registers as an independent or with no party preference, can that person vote for anyone they want to in the Primary Election?

A: No. Kentucky has a closed Primary system, meaning:

- Registered Democrats vote between Democratic candidates in the Primary to determine which candidate will represent their party in the General Election.
- Registered Republicans vote between Republican candidates in the Primary to determine which candidate will represent their party in the General Election.
- Voters registered as non-partisan vote or "other" may only vote for non-partisan candidates or issues in a Primary Election. They may vote for any candidate in the General Election.

Q: Do voters have to re-register before every election?

A: No. You need to update your voter registration if you have changed:

- Address
- Name
- Political party affiliation, or
- Not voted in two General Elections.

Q: What if a voter needs a ride to the polls on Election Day?

A: Voters should contact their political party headquarters for additional information.

- Republican Headquarters telephone number is 502.584.7111
- Democratic Headquarters telephone number is 502.582.1999.

Q: What happens in Kentucky elections if there is a tie?

A: It is settled by lot, the method is determined by members of the County Board of Elections.