

# Oregon

## Registration Deadline

Forms must be received or postmarked 21 days before an election.<sup>1</sup>

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## Database Implementation Status

Oregon is currently constructing a statewide voter registration database, in which county officials have direct access to a centralized statewide system. Oregon contracted with Saber Consulting as of August 2003 to help with the design and implementation of this system.<sup>2</sup>

## Entering Voter Registration Information

*Who inputs voter registration information?* County election officials generally review and enter information from voter registration forms in their jurisdictions into the statewide system.

*What happens to voter registration forms submitted at state registration agencies?* Forms received by voter registration agencies are sent within five days to the Secretary of State or the appropriate county clerk; forms received by the Secretary of State will be sent within five days to the appropriate county.<sup>3</sup> The Department of Transportation (“DOT”) is directed by law to develop methods to send registration information electronically.<sup>4</sup> Until that process is complete, the DOT will transfer forms to the county clerk where the office is located, and these clerks will transfer the forms to the appropriate county.<sup>5</sup>

*How are most forms submitted?* Oregon reported that in 2004, 40% of forms were submitted by mail and 60% were submitted in person. It also reported that 19% were submitted to the DMV, 3% to another voter registration agency, and 78% to other officials.<sup>6</sup>

## Voter Registration Form

The relevant portions of the voter registration form are included at the end of this section.

## Processing of Forms Without Identifying Numbers

*How will the state treat an application with an affirmative indication that the applicant has no valid identifying number?* The applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number. If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered for state races; if the application was submitted by mail, the applicant will have to provide identification before her vote in federal races will be counted. The state will still attempt to match the individual’s information using the process below, to determine whether a valid identifying number can be found.

*How will the state treat an application without an identifying number and without an affirmative indication that the applicant has no such number?* The applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number. If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered for state races.<sup>7</sup> For federal races, the applicant will be considered “provisionally registered,” and must provide a driver’s license number, or if she has none, the last four digits of her social security number, on a signed voter registration form in order to vote a regular ballot.

*How will the state treat an application listing an identifying number that is either incomplete or illegible?* The applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number. If the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered for state races.<sup>8</sup> For federal races, the applicant will be considered “provisionally registered,” and must provide a driver’s license number, or if she has none, the last four digits of her social security number, on a signed voter registration form in order to vote a regular ballot.

## **Matching Against Motor Vehicle and Social Security Records**

*What fields from the voter registration form will the state seek to match to motor vehicle or Social Security records:* identifying number, first name, last name, and date of birth.

*How precise is the match standard?* Oregon will use an exact match standard.

*How much human intervention is involved in determining whether information is matched?* Officials will search the DMV database directly.

*Description of matching process:* When voters supply their Oregon driver’s license numbers, county clerks will perform a manual search of the DMV database. Clerks will have the ability to search through possible matches and perform as many searches as they see fit before determining if a match has been found. Information on forms listing SSN digits will be automatically checked against the SSA database through the standard AAMVA process: the county election official will submit an entered record to the DMV database, which will automatically submit the appropriate fields to the SSA and return a code indicating whether the record was successfully matched or not, based on an exact match of the SSN-4, first name, last name, month of birth, and year of birth.

*What are the consequences if the state cannot find a match?* The applicant will be assigned a unique voter registration number; if the applicant is otherwise eligible, she will be considered registered for state races.<sup>9</sup> For federal races, the applicant will be considered “provisionally registered,” and must provide a driver’s license number or, if she has none, the last four digits of her social security number, on a signed voter registration form in order to vote a regular ballot.

If Oregon later determines that the match failed due to a “scrivener’s error,” and it can locate a properly matching identifying number, the identifying number will be corrected and used instead as the unique voter registration number.<sup>10</sup>

## Notice and Opportunity to Resolve Errors

*Does the applicant have the opportunity to correct a missing or incomplete identifying number, without submitting a new form?* Yes. The applicant may correct missing or incomplete information at any point before 8 p.m. on Election Day, but that information must be supplied in writing on a signed voter registration form.

*Does the applicant have the opportunity to resolve a failed match without submitting a new form?* Yes. As long as the applicant previously submitted the minimum requirements for eligibility, she may provide information to resolve a failed match at any point before 8 p.m. on Election Day, but that information must be supplied in writing on a signed voter registration form.

*If information on an otherwise timely application is corrected after the voter registration deadline, is the correction still timely?* Yes. As long as the applicant previously submitted the minimum requirements for eligibility, she may provide correct information at any point before 8 p.m. on Election Day.

*Description of notice and correction process:* An applicant whose identifying number is missing, incomplete, illegible, or unverified will be notified by mail. The mailing may include either instructions to resolve the error or a provisional ballot. The applicant may attempt to resolve the error at any point before Election Day. For corrections made within 20 days before an election, the voter may have to retrieve her mail ballot from the county clerk's office.<sup>11</sup>

## Identification Requirements at the Polls

*Who must provide identification at the polls?* Oregon elections are conducted by mail.<sup>12</sup> An applicant registering in person must show identification to an election official when she registers, but not when she votes. An applicant registering by mail who has no identifying number or whose identifying number is unverified must provide a copy of identification before voting in order to vote a regular ballot.

### Forms of ID:

voters registering by mail without a verified identifying number:	valid photo ID utility bill bank statement paycheck stub other gov't document
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*What forms of identification are accepted?* Valid photo identification, a paycheck stub, a utility bill, a bank statement, or any other government document.

*What are the consequences of failing to show identification?* The voter will be sent a provisional ballot. The ballot will be counted if the voter supplies identification to the county clerk within 13 days of sending in the ballot, and the county clerk determines that the voter was otherwise validly registered to vote.<sup>13</sup>

## Statutes and Regulations

OR. REV. STAT. tit. 23, ch. 247 generally concerns registration. OR. ADMIN. R. ch. 165, div. 5 comprises the applicable regulations.

## End Notes

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<sup>1</sup> OR. REV. STAT. §§ 247.012(3)(b), 247.025.

<sup>2</sup> electionline.org, *Assorted Rolls: Statewide Voter Registration Databases Under HAVA*, June 2005, available at <http://www.electionline.org/Portals/1/EB11.FINAL1.pdf>, at 21; electionline.org, *Statewide Voter Registration Database Status*, at <http://www.electionline.org/Default.aspx?tabid=288>.

<sup>3</sup> OR. REV. STAT. § 247.012(2)(a); OR. ADMIN. R. 165-006-0060(3).

<sup>4</sup> OR. REV. STAT. § 247.014.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* § 247.017(3).

<sup>6</sup> Election Assistance Commission, *The Impact of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 on the Administration of Elections for Federal Office 2003-2004*, June 30, 2005, tbl. 2, available at [http://www.eac.gov/NVR\\_Spreadsheets/NVRA\\_table\\_2.html](http://www.eac.gov/NVR_Spreadsheets/NVRA_table_2.html). Due to rounding, the percentages listed may exceed 100%.

<sup>7</sup> *See* OR. REV. STAT. § 247.012(4). Oregon maintains two separate registration systems – one for federal races and one for state races. Because Oregon elections are conducted by mail, *id.* § 254.465, election officials can identify the registration status for the individual submitting each ballot, and can tally valid votes for state or federal candidates accordingly.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> Oregon maintains two separate registration systems – one for federal races and one for state races. Because Oregon elections are conducted by mail, *id.* § 254.465, election officials can identify the registration status for the individual submitting each ballot, and can tally valid votes for state or federal candidates accordingly.

<sup>10</sup> *See id.* § 247.012(6).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* § 254.470(5), as amended by 2005 Or. Laws ch. 797 (H.B. 2167).

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* § 254.465.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.* § 254.408.

# Oregon Voter Registration Card



## You may use this card to:

- register to vote in Oregon  
*The deadline to register to vote is the 21st day before an election.*
- change your name, mailing address, residence address or political party affiliation on your voter registration
- become eligible to sign petitions, including initiative, referendum and recall petitions

## how to register to vote

- Fill out the form using black pen and print clearly.  
*If the form is incomplete, it may be rejected.*
  - Sign the form.
  - Mail or drop off the completed form at your County Elections Office.  
*Do not fax! If you fax this form it will be rejected. Addresses are online at <http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/other/info/clerk.htm>*
- Your County Elections Office will mail you a Voter Notification Card to confirm your registration.

## selecting a political party

Some political parties require you to be registered in their party to vote for their candidates at a Primary Election.

## identification

New laws require that people must provide identifying information to register to vote. If you have a current, valid Oregon DMV Driver's License/ID, you must provide that number in section 4. If you do not have a current, valid Oregon DMV Driver's License/ID, you must provide the last four digits of your Social Security number in section 4a.

If you do not have a current, valid Oregon DMV Driver's License/ID or a Social Security number, you must affirm this by marking the boxes in sections 4 and 4a, and if you are registering by mail, you must provide a **copy** of one of the following:

- valid photo identification
- a paycheck stub
- a utility bill
- a bank statement
- a government document
- proof of eligibility under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) or the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (VAEH)

## assistance

If, because of a disability, you need assistance registering to vote or voting please contact your County Elections Official.

## for more information:

call 1 866 ORE VOTES/673 8683 visit [www.oregonvotes.org](http://www.oregonvotes.org) tty 1 866 350 0596  
*se habla español*  
*for the hearing impaired*

## 1 qualifications If you mark no in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form.

Are you a citizen of the United States of America?  Yes  No  
Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day?  Yes  No

## 2 personal information \*denotes optional information

name last \_\_\_\_\_ first \_\_\_\_\_ middle \_\_\_\_\_  
Oregon residence address (include apt. or space number) \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
date of birth (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_ county of residence\* \_\_\_\_\_  
phone number\* \_\_\_\_\_ email address\* \_\_\_\_\_  
mailing address (required if different than residence address) \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

## 3 political party choose one of the following:

- Constitution  Democratic  Libertarian
- Pacific Green  Republican  Not a member of a party
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 4 Oregon DMV Driver's License/ID number If you fill in this section, do not send a copy of ID.

valid Oregon DMV Driver's License/ID number

Mark here only if you **do not have** a valid Oregon DMV Driver's License/ID and go to step 4a.

## 4a last four digits of Social Security number If you fill in this section, do not send a copy of ID.

**x x x x - x x -**   
last four digits of Social Security number

Mark here only if you **do not have** a valid Oregon DMV Driver's License/ID or a Social Security number. If you are registering by mail, please include a copy of acceptable identification, listed to the left.

## 5 signature I swear or affirm that I am qualified to be an elector and I have told the truth on this registration.

sign here \_\_\_\_\_ date today \_\_\_\_\_

If you sign this card and know it to be false, you can be fined up to \$125,000 and/or jailed for up to 5 years.

## 6 registration updates If you are previously registered and updating your information, fill out this section.

previous registration name \_\_\_\_\_ previous county and state \_\_\_\_\_  
home address on previous registration \_\_\_\_\_ date of birth (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_