

# Idaho

## Registration Deadline

Forms must be received in person or postmarked 25 days before an election, but the applicant may also register to vote on Election Day.<sup>1</sup>

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## Database Implementation Status

Idaho is installing a new top-down registration system, in which county officials are able to connect directly to a centralized state system. The state engaged Covansys Corporation, PCC Technology Group, and Aradyne Corporation in January 2004 to assist with the installation and upgrade of the system, which was scheduled to be in place by the summer of 2005.<sup>2</sup>

## Entering Voter Registration Information

*Who inputs voter registration information?* County clerks 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 the Secretary of State's office are forwarded to the appropriate county clerk's office for review and entry. Idaho is exempt from the NVRA, and neither the Idaho Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) nor other state agencies accept voter registration forms.

*How are most forms submitted?* In the Election Assistance Commission's 2004 survey, Idaho did not report the distribution of how its voter registration forms were submitted.<sup>3</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?* If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected.

*How will the state treat an application without an identifying number and without an affirmative indication that the applicant has no such number?* If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected.

*How will the state treat an application listing an identifying number that is either incomplete or illegible?* If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected.

## **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?* Idaho will use a hybrid match standard to match information on forms with a driver's license number: the number must match exactly, but discretion is then left to the county clerk to determine whether any of the returned records match. Idaho uses the standard AAMVA criteria for matching information on forms with SSN digits: exact match of the SSN-4, first name, last name, month of birth, and year of birth. Idaho policy is to resubmit records that returned a failed match to ensure that the name and identifying number were entered correctly.

*How much human intervention is involved in determining whether information is matched?* For matching information on forms with a driver's license number, the system will return a list of records with an exact match of the identifying number; the county clerk has the discretion to determine whether a likely match exists among the possible matches returned. The process for matching information on forms with SSN digits is fully automated.

*Description of matching process:* When a new Idaho registration application is entered into the county system, the system will automatically send the information to the DMV to check for a driver's license match or a match of the SSN-4. For driver's license matches, the system returns a list of all records that match the number exactly, for the county auditor to review. Information on forms listing SSN digits will be automatically checked against the SSA database through the standard AAMVA process: the county elections 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.

*Note:* Idaho also mails a verification notice to every voter submitting an application. If the notice is returned undeliverable, the application is rejected.<sup>4</sup>

*What are the consequences if the state cannot find a match?* If uncorrected (see below), the application will be rejected. Forms submitted on Election Day will be matched after Election Day, but the match will not yield consequences for the instant election.

## **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 submit correct information by the close of registration, or may submit a new form either by the close of registration or on Election Day.

*Does the applicant have the opportunity to resolve a failed match, without submitting a new form?* Yes. The applicant may resolve the error by the close of registration, or may submit a new form either by the close of registration or on Election Day.

*If information on an otherwise timely application is corrected after the voter registration deadline, is the correction timely?* No, but the applicant can re-register on Election Day.

*Description of notice and correction process:* An applicant whose identifying number is missing, incomplete, or illegible will be notified by phone or by mail by the county election official. The county may also send the applicant a new application form to submit, by mail or in person, either by the close of the registration deadline or at the polls on Election Day.

## Identification Requirements at the Polls

*Who must provide identification at the polls?* An applicant seeking to register on Election Day, and a first-time voter who registered by mail and whose identifying number has not been verified, must show identification at the polls.<sup>5</sup>

*What forms of identification are accepted?* An applicant seeking to register on Election Day must show either a driver's license or Idaho state identification card; a document showing a valid address in the precinct and a photo identification card; or a current valid student identification card from an Idaho postsecondary educational institution together with a current student fee statement showing the student's address and a photo identification card.<sup>6</sup> First-time voters who registered by mail may show current and valid photo ID, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the voter's name and address.<sup>7</sup>

### Forms of ID:

1st-time voters registering by mail without verified identifying number:	current and valid photo ID current utility bill w/ name, address bank statement w/ name, address government check w/ name, address paycheck w/ name, address other gov't document w/ name, address
Election Day registrant:	driver's license or Idaho state ID photo ID card, document w/ address student ID, photo ID, fee w/ address

*What are the consequences of failing to show identification?* The voter will not be able to cast a ballot.

## Statutes and Regulations

IDAHO CODE §§ 34-401 *et seq.* generally concern registration. IDAHO CODE § 34-437A directs the Secretary of State to establish and maintain a single statewide voter registration database. There are no applicable regulations.

## End Notes

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<sup>1</sup> IDAHO CODE §§ 34-408(1), 34-408A, 34-410.

<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 17; electionline.org, *Statewide Voter Registration Database Status*, at <http://www.electionline.org/Default.aspx?tabid=288>.

<sup>3</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>4</sup> IDAHO CODE § 34-410.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* §§ 34-408A, 34-410. Although the Idaho Code provides that *any* first-time voter registering by mail must show identification, purportedly “[a]s required by the Help America Vote Act of 2002,” IDAHO CODE § 34-410, state policy follows HAVA in exempting those first-time voters registering by mail who have submitted verified identifying numbers.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* § 34-408A.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* § 34-410.

# Idaho Voter Registration Form

**You can use this form to:**

- register to vote in the state of Idaho
- let us know that your name or address has changed.

**To register to vote in Idaho you must:**

- be a U.S. Citizen
- have resided in Idaho and in the county for thirty (30) days prior to the day of election
- be at least 18 years old.

**You cannot register to vote in Idaho if:**

- you have been convicted of a felony and have not had your civil rights restored  
 Persons convicted of a felony in Idaho have their rights automatically restored upon completion of sentencing including probation or parole.

**IMPORTANT! If mailed, this card must be postmarked by the 25th day before an election. If you are a first-time voter in Idaho, a copy of a current and valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or government document that shows your name and address must be submitted with this form or shown at the polls prior to voting.**

**How to register to vote:**

- You may mail or deliver your completed card to your county. County addresses are on the back of this form.
- If mailed, your county elections office will mail you a card to let you know that your registration was received.

**Questions?**

- Call one of the county election offices listed on the back of this form.

Use Pen - Please Print Clearly

Detach Here

**Voter Registration Form**

Last Name <i>(Please Print Clearly)</i>	First Name	Middle Name	Enter Idaho Driver's License # DL # <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 100%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>										
<b>WARNING: ANY ELECTOR WHO SUPPLIES ANY INFORMATION KNOWING IT TO BE FALSE, IS GUILTY OF PERJURY. Perjury is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 1 or more than 14 years. In addition the court may impose a fine of up to \$5,000.</b>			If no Drivers License, enter last 4 digits of Social Security # <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 40px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>										
Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		If you checked 'no' in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form.											
Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		I have not been issued an Idaho DL# or S.S.# <input type="checkbox"/>											
Residence Address (Do Not Use P.O. Box or Business Address) (If no street address, describe location of residence: cross streets, section, township, range, etc.)			Residence in Idaho Male <input type="checkbox"/> Yrs. ___ Months ___ Female <input type="checkbox"/>										
Mailing address if different from above			Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ month      day      year										
Address where previously registered			Telephone Number (Optional) _____										
City _____ State _____ Zip _____			<b>FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY</b> Precinct Data: _____ County _____ City _____ Deputy Clerk _____ Date Received _____										
City _____ State _____ Zip _____													
<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if name change													

DO YOU HAVE ANY LEGAL DISQUALIFICATIONS? YES  NO  *(Idaho felons rights are restored upon completion of full sentence)*

**UNDER PENALTY OF LAW:** By signing this card, I certify that I am a citizen of the United States and that I shall have been a resident of Idaho and the county for 30 days before the next election at which I vote; that I am at least 18 years of age; and I declare under oath or affirmation that the information supplied herein is true.

Signature - Sign on line below.  
 X  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Signature    month    \    day    \    year