

PLEDGE TO VOTE PROGRAM REFERENCE GUIDE

VOTE 2016

HOW TO USE VOTER REGISTRATION AND PLEDGE CARDS

1. Ask, "Are you registered to vote at your current address?"
2. If they are not registered at their current address, offer a registration application. Say, "I can register you here. It will just take a minute." After the voter finishes the application, review it to make sure it is legible, that required fields are completed, and that it is signed and dated. Required fields have a darker shaded background.



If the voter is registered at their current address, say, "We're asking people to commit to voting this fall. Will you fill out this 'pledge-to-vote' card?" After voter completes the card, review it to make sure it is legible. Write your organization's name on the back. If the voter wants a reminder sent in another language, mark a box on the back.

3. Tell them a reminder will be sent before Election Day, and offer an 'I Will Vote' sticker and a Vote 2016 overview card.



RETURN APPLICATIONS AND CARDS PROMPTLY

Place completed application and cards in business reply envelope. **Mail the envelope at the end of each week. By law, third parties must return applications within 10 days.**



For the voter to receive a reminder to vote, you must return forms to the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office. Order additional reply envelopes online at <http://bit.ly/25PhJ1D>. If you are out of reply envelopes and you need to return the applications by the 10 day deadline, you may also mail or deliver to:

Office of Minnesota Secretary of State, Attn: Pledge to Vote Program
180 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155.

RESPONDING TO HESITATIONS

- I'm in a hurry: "It'll take just a minute and I'll save you the postage."
- No: "Sure? You can decide later to vote or not, today we can just register you. Here's the form if you'd like."
- I don't want jury duty: "Don't worry. Juries aren't selected only by voter rolls anymore. They use drivers' licenses and other sources."
- Voting doesn't matter: "I hear you. It can be hard to see how one vote makes a difference, but it can. Why don't you register—it takes just a second—and you can decide later if you want to vote?"

QUESTIONS?

- For voting questions, call 1-877-600-VOTE. For Pledge to Vote Program questions, contact Jeff Narabrook at 651-201-1339 or jeff.narabrook@state.mn.us.
- Visit mnvotes.org to find polling places, get a sample ballot, check your voter registration, apply to vote by mail, learn about voter rights, get information for voters in special circumstances and more.

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VOTER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS IN MINNESOTA

- U.S. citizen who is at least 18 years old on Election Day and a resident of Minnesota for at least 20 days.
- A voter's criminal record does not affect their right to vote in Minnesota unless they are currently serving a felony conviction sentence. They can vote after they finish all parts of their felony sentence, including any probation, parole, or other conditions such as restitution. This is commonly known as being 'off-paper.'
- Voters under guardianship can vote unless a judge specifically revoked their right to vote.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES?

Visit the 'register to vote' section at mnvotes.org to get details on how to register voters in special circumstances, such as college students, those who fear for personal safety, those moving on or close to Election Day, those who are temporarily or indefinitely homeless and more.

REGISTRATION UPDATES (ADDRESS/NAME CHANGES)

Voters must re-register each time they change address or names, or do not vote at least once during a four-year period. Update their registration by completing a new application. Voters can check their registration status online at mnvotes.org. If the voter is not sure whether their registration record is up-to-date, it is okay to fill out and submit another registration application.

2016 REGISTRATION DATES

You can register to vote any time, except during the 20 days before the election. Registration opens again on Election Day when voters can register at their polling place. They must show an approved proof of residence when they register on Election Day.

	Primary	General
To register early, application must be received by 5 p.m. (paper) or 11:59 p.m. (online)	July 19	Oct. 18
Or, register on Election Day	Aug. 9	Nov. 8

ONLINE VERSUS PAPER REGISTRATION

Voters in Minnesota can register by paper, or online at mnvotes.org. Pledge to Vote Program participants are encouraged to use paper registration forms – this allows the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office to generate a follow-up reminder to the voters you register.

TIPS FOR FILLING OUT REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS

- Address (Item 4): Do not put a U.S. Post Office Box or its commercial equivalent as a residential address. Visit the 'register to vote' section at mnvotes.org to get details on how to register voters who are homeless.
- Mailing Address (Item 5) Only use if the U.S. Post Office will not deliver mail to the voter's actual street or geographical address.
- ID Numbers (Item 7): Have the voter check the box that applies to them and fill in the respective ID number. If the voter does not have a MN-issued driver's license, a MN-issued ID card, or a Social Security Number, they check the third box.
- Oath, Signature and Date (Item 8): Tell voters to read the oath on the application and sign only if all parts apply to them. Make sure the voter writes today's date.