National Voter Registration Act & Voter Registration Agencies

Training for Voter Registration Agency Staff

Revised September 2023





Our NVRA Training Goals

By the end of this training, you will:

- Be more familiar with the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) and California law
- Understand the role of voter registration agencies (VRAs) and their staff
- Know what voter registration looks like in action!
 - How to help an applicant/client register to vote
 - Who is eligible to vote?
 - What if your applicant/client has a disability?
- Know what a client can expect after they register
- Be aware of VRA coordinator and staff responsibilities





National Voter Registration Act (NVRA)

- Signed into law in 1993
- Established that the right to vote is a fundamental right
- States that it is the duty of federal, state and local governments to promote voting
- Requires governmental agencies to offer voter registration
 - Known as "Motor Voter" voter registration is offered to all DMV customers applying for a driver license or identification card (DL/ID), renewing a DL/ID, or requesting a change of address
 - Also reaches people who may not visit DMV
 - Must offer voter registration at any public assistance agency
 - Must offer voter registration at any agency primarily serving people with disabilities





NVRA Goals



- Make it easier for U.S. citizens to register to vote
- Remedy past discrimination
 - In voting and in voter registration
 - Safeguard against "purging" voter rolls
- Increase voter registration in underserved and disabled communities





Why Voter Registration Matters

- California has approximately 5 million unregistered eligible voters
- California has a voter registration rate of approximately 82%
- People can't vote unless they are registered
 - In 2022, 41.47% of eligible voters cast a ballot in the General Election
- Californians with disabilities and those who are low-income are less likely to be registered





California Elections Code

NVRA in California

- NVRA has been codified into California law with some additional requirements
 - Elections Code sections 2400-2408
- 3-part team
 - Requirements on county elections officials, Voter Registration Agencies (VRAs) and the Secretary of State's office
- Voter registration accountability
 - You and the VRAs play a large role in this
- Pre-registration is available for eligible 16 & 17-year-olds
 - Pre-registrants will be automatically registered to vote on their 18th birthday



Who Must Offer Voter Registration?



- Offices designated as Voter Registration Agencies (VRAs) must offer voter registration opportunities
- Five categories of non-DMV VRAs
 - Public Assistance
 - Disability Service
 - Armed Forces Recruitment
 - Other
 - Voluntary Designations



California's VRAs

Public Assistance Agencies

- County Health/Human Service Offices (CalFresh, CalWORKS, MediCal)
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Offices
- Covered California (California's Health Benefit Exchange/HBEX)
- California Student Aid Commission (CSAC)
- County offices that administer General Assistance/General Relief Programs
- CA Dept. of Social Services in connection with the CalFresh Program
- Private entities under contract with Public Assistance Agencies to provide NVRA-related services

NOTE: Please visit our NVRA website for the most up-to-date list of VRAs: https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/nvra/voter-registration-agencies/vr-agency-contact-roster/



California's VRAs (cont'd)

Disability Services Agencies

- Department of Rehabilitation
 - Vocational Rehabilitation Services
 - Independent Living Centers
- Department of Developmental Services
 - Regional Centers
- Department of Social Services
 - Office of Deaf Access Contractors
 - Office of Services to the Blind, Assistance Dog Special Allowance Program
- State & County Mental Health Providers
- In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)
- University of California (UC) offices providing services to students with disabilities
- California State University (CSU) offices providing services to students with disabilities
- California Community Colleges (CCC) offices providing services to students with disabilities
- Private entities under contract with Disability Service Agencies to provide NVRA-related services

California's VRAs (cont'd)

Armed Forces Recruitment Offices

Other VRAs

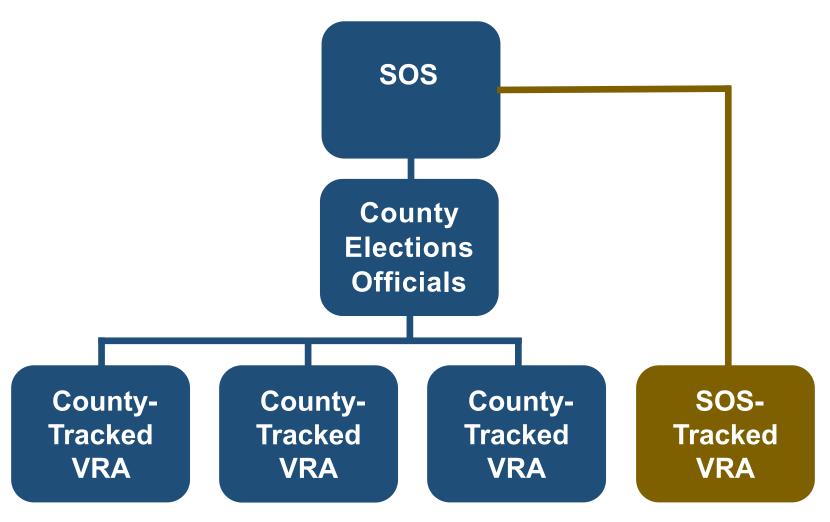
- California Department of Tax and Fee Administration District Offices
 - Private entities under contract with this agency to provide NVRA-related services
- Franchise Tax Board District Offices
 - Private entities under contract with this agency to provide NVRA-related services

Native American Sovereign Entities (Voluntary)

Shingle Springs Health & Wellness Center and satellite offices



The Core of the NVRA/California Law: A 3-Part Team





The Core of the NVRA/California Law: SOS

The Secretary of State must:

- Coordinate with county elections officials, VRAs, and state agencies on implementation
- Publish monthly reports with voter registration numbers from VRAs and each of their offices and sites
- Publish biennial voter registration reports for the US Election Assistance Commission (EAC)
- Prepare training materials



The Core of the NVRA/California Law: County Elections Officials

County elections officials must:

- Designate an NVRA Coordinator
- Place known VRAs, and their offices and sites, on a county roster
- Provide Voter Registration Cards (VRCs) to VRA offices within county
- Track the VRCs provided to VRAs and each of their offices and sites
- Report to the Secretary of State:
 - On monthly basis the number of voter registrations from VRAs and each of their offices and sites
 - On biennial basis voter registration numbers for the EAC



Assist VRAs with training, upon request

The Core of the NVRA/California Law: VRAs

Voter registration agencies must:

- Offer voter registration
- Designate an NVRA Coordinator at each site
- Notify the county elections officials of the location of each of their offices and sites (if they are a county-tracked VRA)
- Print Voter Preference Forms (VPFs) from SOS website in all required Voting Rights Act languages
- Order VRCs in all required Voting Rights Act languages
- Train staff annually on NVRA requirements
- Train new staff on how to carry out their NVRA responsibilities



The Core of the NVRA/California Law: VRAs (cont'd)

VRAs must also:

- Incorporate online NVRA services into benefits enrollment websites
- Offer an opportunity to register to vote online and provide an online Voter Preference Form if they offer web-based enrollment. VRAs offering webbased enrollment include:
 - CalSAWS, CalWIN, LEADER Online Benefits Enrollment
 - Dept. of Rehabilitation Vocational Rehabilitation Services
 - Covered California
 - Dept. of Tax and Fee Administration
 - CDSS in connection with the CalFresh Program



NVRA Agency Specific Information

Many NVRA agencies have provided specific NVRA/California Law information to their programs/staff:

- Native American Sovereign Entities (Voluntary) Shingle Springs Health and Wellness Center (August 2023)
- Dept. of Social Services County Welfare Departments (CalFresh, CalWORKS) (April 2019)
- Dept. of Social Services County Welfare Departments (CalFresh, CalWORKS) (April 2018)
- In-Home Supportive Services (July 2017)
- Covered California (October 2014)
- Dept. of Health Care Services Medi-Cal (July 2014)
- Dept. of Rehabilitation Independent Living Centers (October 2013)
- Dept. of Developmental Services Regional Centers (March 2013)
- Dept. of Rehabilitation Vocational Rehabilitation Services (January 2013)
- Dept. of Social Services Deaf Access Program (December 2012)
- Dept. of Public Health Women, Infants, and Children Program (November 2011)

State agency instructions can be found at: https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration-agencies/nvra-agency-specific-info/



Forms at 3 Opportunities



NVRA requires **VRAs** to offer voter registration by:

- Offering 2 forms
 - Voter Preference Form (VPF)
 - Voter Registration Application
- At 3 opportunities
 - Application for new services or benefits
 - Application for renewal or recertification
 - Notification of change of address

2 Forms at 3 Opportunities (cont'd)

Form 1 – Voter Preference Form (VPF)

- Available from SOS website in 10 languages
 http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/nvra/training/voter-preference-forms/
- Have VPFs available in all required VRA languages
- Keep VPFs for 2 years
 - Can be stored electronically or as a hard copy, in individual case files or in a central file





Form 1 - paper

California's Voter Preference Form (VPF)

ľ	If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today? (Check One)				
	Already registered. I am registered to vote at my current residence address.				
	Yes. I would like to register to vote. (Please fill out the attached voter registration form.)				
	No. I do not want to register to vote.				
	NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT CHECK A BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME. YOU MAY TAKE THE ATTACHED VOTER REGISTRATION FORM TO REGISTER AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.				
	alicent Name				
чp	Applicant Name Date				
Important Notices					
١.	. Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.				
2.	If you would like help in filling out the voter registration form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the voter registration form in private.				
3.	If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party preference or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the Secretary of State by calling toll-free (800) 345-VOTE (8683) or you may write to: Secretary of State, 1500 - 11 th Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814. For more information on elections and voting, please visit the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov .				
01/13 NVRA Voter Preference Form					

Form 1 - electronic

Under the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1992, DSPS is an Agency-Based Registration Site, where students have the opportunity to become registered voters during the application process. There is no obligation to register to vote and the student's decision will have no effect on services offered by DSPS.

To be eligible to register to vote, you must be a U.S. Citizen, and meet all eligibility requirements. Need to check if you're eligible? See who can vote in California.

If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today? (Check One) Already registered. I am registered to vote at my current residence address. I would like to register to vote. If you checked "Yes", click on the following link/button to be redirected Voter Registration Form I do not want to register to vote. http://registertovote.ca.gov/?t=vra&id= NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT CHECK A BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME. YOU MAY CLICK THE VOTER REGISTRATION LINK ABOVE TO REGISTER ANYTIME AT YOUR CONVENIENCE. Student ID Applicant Name Date Important Notices 1. Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this 2. If you would like help in filling out the voter registration form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the voter registration form in private 3. If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party preference or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the Secretary of State by calling toll-free (800) 345-VOTE (8683) or you may write to: Secretary of State, 1500 - 11th Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814. For more information on elections and voting, please visit the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov. 05,2020 CA - 01/13 NVRA Voter Preference Form

Example of a Voter Preference form offered with an online application

- If the applicant wishes to register to vote, they can click the Voter Registration Form button
- The Voter Registration Form button will connect the applicant with California's Online Voter Registration system using the agency's unique URL





2 Forms at 3 Opportunities (cont'd)

Form 2 – Voter Registration Application

The voter registration application is available in two formats:

- Paper form: Voter Registration Card (VRC)
 - Offer VRCs in all required Voting Rights Act languages
 - These may be different from the languages in which you are required to provide services, depending on your program/agency
 - Keep sufficient stock of VRCs on hand at all offices and sites
 - Forward completed VRCs daily (best practice)
- <u>Electronic form</u>: California Online Voter Registration website (COVR) via your agency's unique URL
 - Can be offered to clients via hyperlink and/or QR code

Help the applicant register to vote, if asked

 "Equal Assistance" = providing as much assistance with completing the voter registration application as you do with your agency's forms

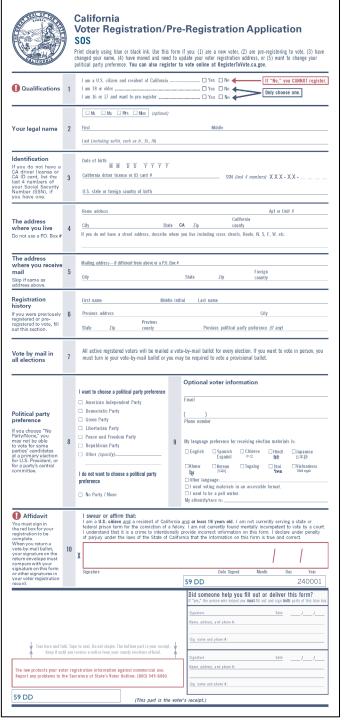


Form 2 - paper

California's Voter Registration Card (VRC)



We will go through the VRC in detail beginning on page 30

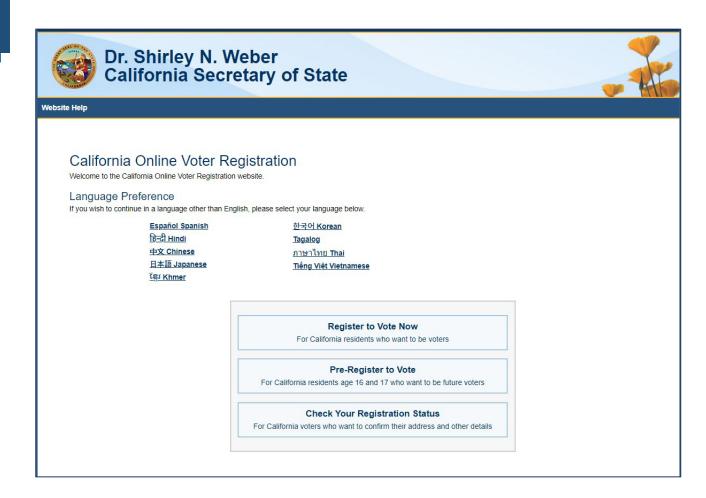




Form 2 - electronic

California's Online Voter Registration Application (COVR)





We will go through COVR in detail beginning on page 45



2 Forms at 3 Opportunities (cont'd)

3 Opportunities

- 1. At the time of application for new services or benefits
- 2. At the time of renewal or recertification
 - Regional Centers Individual Program Plan (IPP)
 - Other agencies reassessment of eligibility
- 3. Upon notification of change of address



Voter Registration in Action

Voter registration must be offered whether the triggering transaction occurs:

- In person
- By phone or video call
- By mail
- Online

VRA's applicant/client must receive a voter registration application, unless they have indicated in writing that they do not want to register



In-person Transactions

- Have client fill out VPF or ask them VPF question
 - document client's answer if they do not complete on their own
- If the client wants to register to vote
 - give client option of completing a paper VRC or online application
 - to register online, provide the client with your unique URL via hyperlink or QR code
 - you may provide clients with <u>both</u> a paper VRC and the unique URL
- If the client does not want to register to vote
 - let them take a VRC or copy of your QR code home



Phone Transactions

- Ask client the VPF question (if they would like to register to vote)
 - document answer on a VPF or in an electronic file
- If the client wants to register to vote
 - give client option of completing a paper VRC or online application
 - if client chooses paper mail a VRC
 - if client chooses online application send your agency's unique URL by
 - email or text if your agreed upon method of communication with your client is via email or text
 - please confirm the client's address/phone number before mailing, emailing or texting the voter registration application
- If the client does not want to register to vote
 - carry on with the rest of the transaction



Mail Transactions

- Mail both the VPF <u>and</u> VRC to the client in your mailed application/intake/renewal packet
- You may also include QR code of your unique URL in your printed application materials
 - client can scan the code and navigate to COVR



Online Transactions

If your agency provides an online system that offers an application for services, recertification/renewal, or change of address your online system <u>must</u> be capable of:

- asking the Voter Preference Form question <u>and</u> providing the NVRA disclosures, and
- 2) storing the client's answer to VPF question for two years If the client wants to register to vote
 - client must be linked to COVR via your agency's unique URL
- If a client does <u>not</u> answer the VPF question
 - they must be provided with the opportunity to register to vote
 - you may offer voter registration in one of the following ways:
 - mail a paper VRC
 - send your agency's unique URL by email or text depending upon your agreed upon method of communication with your client



Offsite Transactions

Voter registration must be offered:

- in the home of applicants/clients receiving in-home assistance if the agency allows them to apply, renew, or update their address in their home
- to adults (parent/guardian) applying for services or benefits on behalf of a child/children

Hand out two forms (VPF and VRC) together

If they prefer to register online

- provide them with a link to COVR using your agency's unique URL, or
- with the QR code that will direct them to your unique URL



Staff Guidance

VRA staff must NOT:

- Discourage an applicant/client from registering to vote
 - But CAN encourage an applicant to register to vote!
- Influence an applicant's/client's political party preference
- Make statements or take actions that give the impression that registering to vote has bearing on whether the applicant can get services



Staff Guidance (cont'd)

The decision to register:

- Is the applicant's/client's alone, including for individuals with disabilities
- It is NOT the decision of a conservator, caseworker, service coordinator, parent, etc.

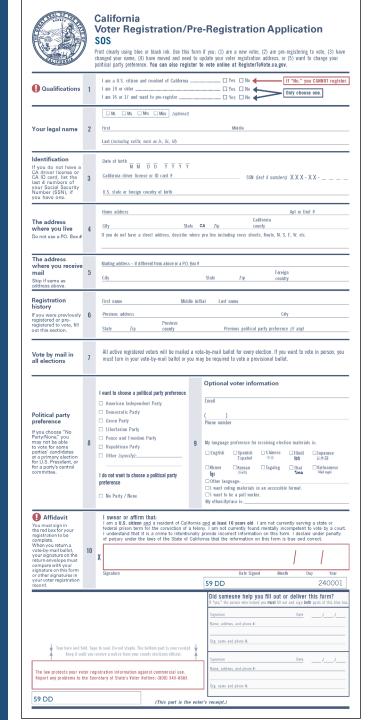
A conservator and/or family member cannot make the voter registration decision on behalf of the applicant/client



Form 2-Paper:

California's Voter Registration Card (VRC)





Refer to our website for a quick guide on completing VRCs:

https://elections.cdn.
sos.ca.gov/pdfs/quick-guide-vrc.pdf



Item 1



1. Qualifications

- The applicant must mark "yes" or "no" to indicate whether or not they are a United States citizen and if they will be 18 years or older by Election Day
- Pre-registrants must indicate they are at least 16 or 17 years of age

Item 2

		☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss (optional)	
Your legal name	2	First	Middle
		Last (including suffix, such as Jr., Sr., III)	

2. Your Legal Name

- The applicant must list their first name, middle name (or initial), and last name
- It should match their CA driver license (DL) or identification card (ID Card)



Item 3

Identification

If you do not have a CA driver license or CA ID card, list the last 4 numbers of your Social Security Number, if you have one. Date of birth $\frac{}{M}$ $\frac{}{M}$ $\frac{}{D}$ $\frac{}{D}$ $\frac{}{Y}$ $\frac{}{Y}$ $\frac{}{Y}$

California driver license or ID card #

SSN (last 4 numbers) XXX-XX- _ _ _ _ _

U.S. state or foreign country of birth

3. Identification

3

- Date of birth: the applicant must list the day, month, and year
- If the applicant has been issued a CA DL/ID, they MUST list the number
 - If they do not have either, they MUST list the last
 4 digits of their Social Security Number.
 - If they do not have any of the above:
 - They can still register to vote
 - They can leave the field blank
- Place of birth: the applicant must list the U.S. state or foreign county of their birth



			0.116
State	CA	Zip	California county
cribe whe	re vou	live including	cross streets Route N S F W etc
cribe whe	re you	live including	cross streets, Route, N, S, E, W, etc.
	,		State CA Zip scribe where you live including

4. The address where you live

- Home address: This should be the applicant's "residential" address.
 - Residence: Place in which the applicant's habitation is fixed and where the intention is to stay. For voting purposes, a person can have only ONE residence.
- City, zip code and county name: each item must be filled out completely.
 - Please note: P.O. Boxes & business addresses are NOT valid here



Item 4 (cont'd)

		Home address				Apt	or Unit#
The address						California	
where you live		City	State	CA	Zip	county	
Section and the Control of the Contr	4	If you do not have a	street address describe who		live including	orona streets Bouts N S E W	ata
		if you do not have a	street address, describe whe	re you	live including	cross streets, Route, N, S, E, W	, etc.
Do not use a P.O. Box #							

4. The address where you live (continued)

- If the applicant does not have a street address, they can give an exact description of where they live
 - Cross streets, routes, mailboxes, bridges, or other landmarks can be used
 - Mostly used for applicants living in rural areas with non-specific street addresses
 - Also used for applicants who are unhoused



The address where		Mailing address — if different from above or a P.O. Box #				
you receive mail	5		14.77	-	Foreign	
Skip if same as address above.		City	State	Zip	country	

5. The address where you receive mail

- Mailing address: the applicant should complete this section if they want to receive election mail at an address other than their residential address
- This is typically a P.O. Box or business address



Registration history

If you were previously registered or preregistered to vote, fill out this section. Previous address

City

Previous
State Zip

Middle initial Last name

City

Previous
County

Previous political party preference (if any)

6. Registration history

- The applicant should complete this section if they were previously registered and changed their address, surname, or political party preference
- If the applicant cannot recall their previous address, this item can be left blank



Vote by mail in all elections

7

All active registered voters will be mailed a vote-by-mail ballot for every election. If you want to vote in person, you must turn in your vote-by-mail ballot or you may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

7. Vote by mail

As of January 1, 2022, every active registered voter in California receives a vote-by-mail ballot for every election

If a voter prefers to cast their ballot in person, they may still do so at a polling location



8. Political Party Preference

- The applicant must mark
 a box to choose one of
 the political parties listed.
 If the applicant does not
 want to choose a political
 party preference, mark
 the "No Party / None" box.
- There can be only ONE
 mark in item 8 with NO
 CORRECTIONS or
 ALTERATIONS. A new
 VRC must be filled out if
 an error is made.

Political party preference

If you choose "No Party," you may not be able to vote for some parties' candidates at a primary election for U.S. President, or for a party's central committee.

	I w	rant to choose a political party preference
		American Independent Party
		Democratic Party
		Green Party
		Libertarian Party
		Peace and Freedom Party
5		Republican Party
		Other (specify):
		o not want to choose a political rty preference
		No Party / None

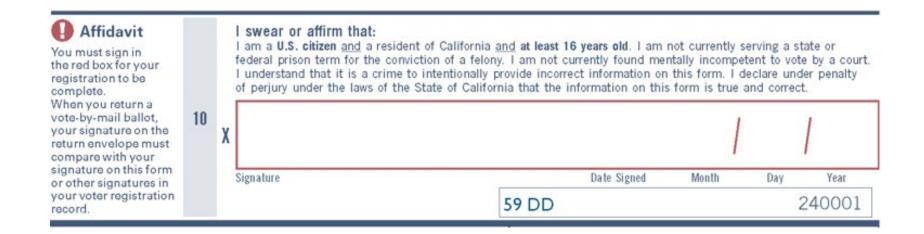


9. Optional Information

- Applicants may list a
 phone number and email
 address. These are
 optional, but
 recommended.
- To receive state materials in another language, the applicant must mark the language preference box.
 If no box is checked, voter materials will be provided in English.

hone num	ber <i>(optional)</i>			
Email (opt				
☐ I would	like to receive	e election inf	formation via em	ail or text.
My language preference for receiving election materials is:				
□ English	□Spanish Español	□Chinese 中文	□Vietnamese Việt ngữ	□Korean 한국어
□Tagalog	□Japanese 日本語	□ Hindi हिंदी	į ši □Kµwet (⊒Thai ไทย
	日本語	हिंदी	វ៉ែត	
I want v	oting materia	ls in an acc	essible format.	
Mv ethnici	ty/race is:			





10. Affidavit

- This item MUST contain the signature/mark/signature
 stamp of the applicant. Please include the date of signing.
- When the registrant returns a vote-by-mail ballot, the signature on the return envelope must compare with the signature on their voter registration record.



Blue Box

Blue Box

If you help fill out the VRC on behalf of the applicant, complete this box. Do not complete the box if you only answered questions or checked if the VRC was complete.

Signature	Date	/_	/
Name, address, and phone #:			
Org. name and phone #:			
Signature	Date	/_	/



California Voter Registration/Pre-Registration Application

Print clearly using blue or black ink. Use this form if you. (1) are a new voter, (2) are pre-registering to vote, (3) have changed your name, (4) have moved and need to update your voter registration address, or (5) want to change your political party preference. You can also register to vote online at RegisterToVote.ca.gov.

Qualifications	1	I am a U.S. citizen and resident of California I am 18 or older I am 16 or 17 and want to pre-register		Yes No Anly choose one
ur legal name	2	Mr. Ms. Mss. (optional) First Last (including sulfir, such as Ir., Sr., III))	Middle
entification ou do not have a driver license or ID card, list the 4 numbers of ur Social Security mber (SSN), if a have one.	3	Date of birth $\frac{1}{M} \frac{1}{M} \frac{1}{D} \frac{1}{D} \frac{1}{V} \frac{1}{V} \frac{1}{V} \frac{1}{V}$ California driver license or ID card #	r	SSN (last 4 numbers) XXX-XX
e address nere you live not use a RO. Box#	4		ate C	Apt or Unit # CAlifernia CA Zip county you live including cross streets, Route, N. S. E. W. etc.
e address nere you receive ail p if same as dress above.	5	Mailing address — if different from above or a P.O. City	. Box#	State Zip Foreign country
gistration tory ou were previously istered or pro- istered to vote, fill this section.	6	First name Mid Previous address Previous State Zip county	dle initi	al Last name City Previous political party preference <i>(et any)</i>
te by mail in elections	7	All active registered voters will be mailed must turn in your vote-by-mail ballot or y	d a vot you ma	e-by-mail ballot for every election. If you want to vote in person, you y be required to vote a provisional ballot.
litical party oference ou choose "No tynNono", you y not be able out for some out for some primary election U.S. President, or a party's central mittee.	8	I want to choose a political party preference A metican Independent Party Democratic Party Creen Party Libertarian Party Peace and Freedom Party Republican Party Other (specify) I do not want to choose a political party preference No Party / None	9	Optional voter information Email () Phose number My language preference for receiving election materials is: English
Affidavit I must sign in red box for your istration to be ney you return a o-by-mail ballot, or signature on the urn envelope must npare with your nature on this form other signatures in rvoter registration ord.	10	I swear or affirm that: I am a U.S. either and a resident of Cal defarl piron term for the conriction of or perjury under the laws of the State of X Signature	ifornia a felor onally Califo	and at least 16 years old. I am not currently serving a state or ye. I am not currently found meritally incompetent to vote by a court. The state of
Keep it un	til you r	e is seal. Do not staple. The bottem part is your receive sections a stillar time your county elections official. Ligistration information against commercial use. retury of State's Yoter Bottline; (800), 345-8883 (This part is th		Did someone help you fill out or deliver this form? It "her," he penns who helped you must bit out and up 1 bits just or this blue but Signature Date / / Name, address, and phone E. One name and phone E. Signature Date / / Name, address, and phone E. One name and phone E. One name and phone E. One name and phone E.
DD		(This part is th	e vote	r's receipt.)

Receipt

Receipt

Once the Voter Registration Card is complete, detach the receipt and give it to the applicant.

Political party preference If you choose "No Party/None," you may not be able to vote for some parties' candidates at a primary election for U.S. President, or for a party's central committee.	8	I want to choose a political party preference American Independent Party Democratic Party Green Party Libertarian Party Peace and Freedom Party Republican Party Other (specify):————————————————————————————————————	9	Coptional voter information
Affidavit You must sign in the red box for your registration to be complete.	10	federal prison term for the conviction of a l understand that it is a crime to intention	a felon mally	and at least 16 years old. I am not currently serving a state or ny. I am not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court. provide incorrect information on this form. I declare under penalty rnia that the information on this form is true and correct. Date Signed Month Day Year
				Did someone help you fill out or deliver this form? If "yes," the person who helped you must fill out and sign both parts of this blue box.
				Signature Date / / Name, address, and phone #: Org. name and phone #:
The law protects your vo	ntil you	pe to seal. Do not staple. The bottom part is your receip receive a notice from your county elections official. gistration information against commercial use. cretary of State's Voter Hotline: (800) 345-8683.	<u>†</u>	Signature Date / / Name, address, and phone #: Org. name and phone #:
		(This part is the	e vote	r's receipt.)



Break time

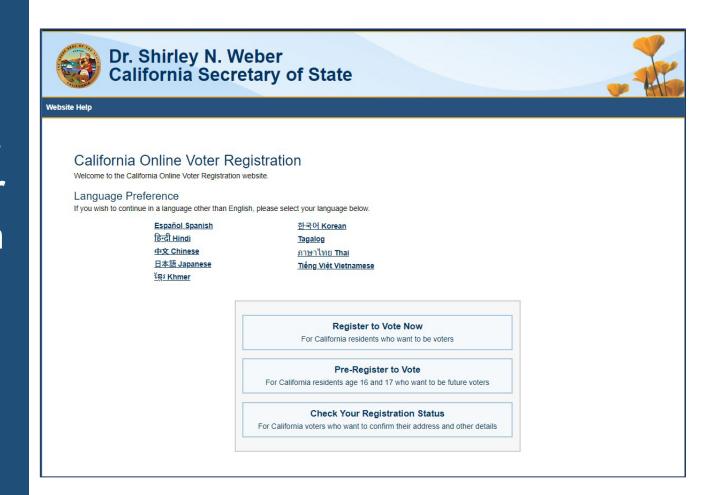
Back in 5 minutes!



Form 2-Electronic:

California's
Online Voter
Registration
Application
(COVR)





COVR Link: registertovote.ca.gov



Introduction to COVR

California Online Voter Registration (COVR)

- Eligible applicants can register or pre-register to vote online
- COVR is available in 10 languages, including English
- You can also check your voter registration status online

To register online, applicants need to provide:

- Date of birth
- CA driver license or identification card (DL/ID) number
- Last four digits of their social security number (SSN)

If no DL/ID number or SSN, applicants can still register to vote online – they will just need to take additional steps to complete their registration





registertovote.ca.gov

California Online Voter Registration

Welcome to the California Online Voter Registration website.

Language Preference

If you wish to continue in a language other than English, please select your language below.

Español Spanish

हिन्दी Hindi

中文 Chinese

日本語 Japanese

ខ្មែរ Khmer

한국어 Korean

Tagalog

ภาษาไทย Thai

<u>Tiếng Việt Vietnamese</u>



For a language other than English, choose one of these options.



You can choose to register, to pre-register, or to check your registration status.

Register to Vote Now

Pre-Register to Vote

Check Your Registration Status



Navigating COVR

☐ I am a U.S. citizen and resident of California. ★

The red asterisk indicates a required field.

Next

Click 'Next' at the bottom of each page in order to continue to the next page.

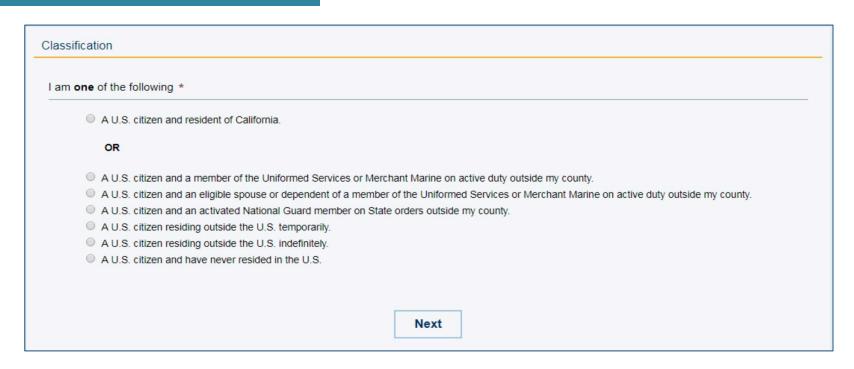
I am a U.S. citizen and resident of California. *

You must be a U.S. citizen to vote. Select the box if you are a U.S. citizen.

If you have left a required field blank, you will be prompted to complete it.



Page 1 1 2 3



Classification

- Choose one of the listed options indicating your U.S. citizenship and residency status. Click "Next" to proceed to Page 2
- The options below the "OR" are for military and overseas voters. If you receive questions from a military voter, we have a quick video on our webpage that guides them through how to register:
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZJp99bSwLQ.





Qualifications	
□ I am a U.S. citizen and resident of California. ★	
Registration/pre-registration *	_
I am 18 or older.	
I am 16 or 17 and want to pre-register.	

Qualifications

- If you chose the first option on Page 1, you will see the Qualifications section at the top of Page 2. If you are a U.S. citizen and resident of California, check the box. You must also indicate that you are either:
 - 18 or older, or
 - 16 or 17 and want to pre-register



Personal Information

- You must complete the extended personal information section.
- In this section you will need to provide your legal name, your date of birth, your place of birth, and legal identification information.

Detailed instructions follow on the next several slides.

Personal Information	
Legal Name	
Prefix	Select prefix 🗸
First name*	
Middle name	
Last name*	
Suffix	Select suffix 💙
Email address	
Confirm email	
Phone number	
	Phone numbers are posted at polling places on election day.
Date of birth * (YYYY)	Select month V Select day V
	If you are 16 or 17 years old pre-registering, you will automatically be a registered voter once you turn 18.
Place of Birth	
	o U. S. State/Territory Select place of b ✔
	∘ Foreign Country/Region Select place of b ✔
Identification*	
New voters may have to show a form of time they vote, if a driver license or SS	of identification or proof of residency the first N was not provided when registering.
California driver license or California	
identification card number	 I do not have a California driver license or California identification card.





Personal Information		
Legal Name		
Prefix	Select prefix ▼	
First name*]
Middle name]
Last name*		
Suffix	Select suffix ▼	

Legal Name

You must enter your full first and last name

A middle name is not required

 however, you should enter your middle name or initial if one appears on your California driver license or identification card





Email address						
Confirm email						
Phone number						
	Phone numbers are posted at polling places on election day.					

Email Address and Phone Number

These items are optional but recommended. County elections officials may use this information to contact you if there is an issue with your registration

Date of birth *	Select month ✓ Select day ✓ (YYYY)
	If you are 16 or 17 years old pre-registering, you will automatically be a registered voter once you turn 18.

Date of Birth

This is required information. You must enter the month, day, and year of your birth





Place of Birth	
	○ U. S. State/Territory Select place of birth
	○ Foreign Country/Region Select place of birth ✓

Place of Birth

Enter the U.S. state or territory or the foreign country or region in which you were born





Identification*	
New voters may have to show a form of identification or proof of residency the	first time they vote, if a driver license or SSN was not provided when registering.
California driver license or California identification card number	
	☐ I do not have a California driver license or California identification card.
Social security number (last 4 numbers)	
	☐ I do not have a social security number.

Identification

- You must provide your California driver license or identification card (DL/ID) number, if you have one. If you do not have a DL/ID, you must check the box
- You must also provide the last four digits of your social security number, if you have one. If you do not, you must check the box

Social security number (last 4 numbers)	
	Enter the last four digits of your social security number, or select "I do not have a social security number."
	☐ I do not have a social security number.

If you leave either field blank but do not check the corresponding box, you will receive an error message when you hit 'Next' at the bottom of the page





My ethnicity/race is	Select ethnicity/race	~
My language preference for receiving election materials is	Select language preference	~

Ethnicity/Race

This field is optional

Language Preference

- If you would like to receive election materials in a language other than English, you should select your language preference here
- You must select a language preference to receive non-English voting materials even if you are completing the application in a language other than English





Home and Mailing Address	
Home Address *	
Street address*	● I have a street address. ○ I do not have a street address. Not a P.O. Box or business address (Number, Street, Ave., Drive, etc. Include N, S, E, W)
Apartment or unit number City*	Not a 1.0. Box of business address (Number, Street, Ave., Drive, etc. Include N, 3, L, W)
State	CALIFORNIA
Zip * County *	Select county V
☐ My mailing address is different from my home address.	
☐ I was previously registered or pre-registered to vote.	

Home and Mailing Address

There are several important components to the Home and Mailing Address section. Detailed instructions follow on the next several slides





	I have a street address. I do not have a street address.
Street address*	
	Not a P.O. Box or business address (Number, Street, Ave., Drive, etc. Include N, S, E, W)
Apartment or unit number	
City*	
State	CALIFORNIA
Zip*	
County *	Select county

Home and Mailing Address (cont'd)

- If you have a street address, you must select the 'I have a street address' button and enter your address information
- Street address, City, Zip, and County are required fields
- This address cannot be a business address or a P.O. Box





	OI have a street address.	I do not have a street address.
Describe where you live including cross streets, Route, N, S, E, W		
County *	Select county	v

Home and Mailing Address (cont'd)

- If you do not have a street address, you should select 'I do not have a street address.'
 A field will appear in which you can enter a description of where you live using cross streets or other landmarks
- You must also select the county in which you live
- You can still register to vote if you are experiencing homelessness





	State	CALIFORNIA
	Zip*	
	County *	Select county 🗸
☐ My mailing address is different from my home address.		
I was previously registered or pre-registered to vote.		

Home and Mailing Address (cont'd)

At the bottom of the Home Address section are two check boxes. You can select both boxes, one box, or neither box if neither of the options apply to you





~	✓ My mailing address is different from my home address.			
	Mailing Address			
	Street address or P.O. Box*			
	Apartment or unit number			
	City*			
	State*	Select state 🗸		
	Zip*			

Mailing Address

- If you check the box indicating that your mailing address is different from your home address, the Mailing Address fields will appear
- You must complete each required field indicated by a red asterisk.
- This address can be a business address or a P.O. Box





Previous Registration	
- Notice (logicilation	
First name	
Middle name	
Last name	
Street address	
Apartment or unit number	
City	
State	Select state 🗸
Zip	
Previous political party preference (if any)	

Previous Registration

- If you indicate that you were previously registered to vote, the Previous Registration fields will appear.
- These fields are optional, but the information will help the county elections officials to locate and update your registration.





Political Party Preference	
Do you want to choose a political party prefe	rence? *
O Yes, my political party preference is	Select party preference • Other (specify):
O No Party/None, I do not want to choos	e a political party preference.
(If you choose "No Party/None," you may not be able	e to vote for some parties' candidates at a primary election for U.S. President, or for a party's central committee.)
	Previous Next

Political Party Preference

- You may select a political party preference by choosing a political party from the dropdown menu or entering a different party into the 'Other' field
- If you do not want to choose a political party, you should select the button for 'No Party/None'

Click the 'Next' button to continue to Page 3. If you have left any required fields blank, you will be prompted to complete them before continuing.



Vote-by-Mail in All Elections

All active registered voters will be mailed a vote-by-mail ballot for every election. If you want to vote in person, you must turn in your vote-by-mail ballot, or you may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

Vote by Mail in All Elections

As of January 1, 2022, every active registered voter in California receives a vote-by-mail ballot for every election

If a voter prefers to cast their ballot in person, they may still do so at a polling location





State Voter Information Guide			
I want to g	get my state voter information guide by mail before each statewide election * No		
measures w	r information guide will not be sent to your address if everyone in your household opts out of getting it by mail. Information on statewide candidates and ba rill still be available at the Voter Information Guide Website Defore each statewide election. If another person in your household requests to get it by no rinformation guide will still be mailed to your address.		

State Voter Information Guide

- Select 'Yes' or 'No' to receiving the State Voter Information Guide by mail before each statewide election
- If you choose 'No' but another person in your household requests the State Voter Information Guide by mail, a copy will still be mailed to your address





(County Voter Information Guide	
I want to get my county voter information guide by mail before each election. *		
	○ Yes ● No	
į	A county voter information guide is mailed to you by your county before each election. You can choose to not have the county voter information guide mailed to you and instead receive electronic notification that it is available. However, if your county does not provide electronic notification, a county voter information guide will be mailed to you.	

County Voter Information Guide

- Select 'Yes' or 'No' to receiving the County Voter Information Guide by mail before each election
- If you select 'No,' you will receive an electronic notification from your county when the Voter Information Guide becomes available
 - If your county does not provide electronic notifications, a County Voter information
 Guide will still be mailed to you



Volunteer on Election Day		
☐ I want to be a poll worker and assist voters on election day.		
☐ I can provide a polling place on election day.		
Accessibility		
☐ I want voting materials in an accessible format		

Volunteer on Election Day

- You have the option to check that you would like to be a poll worker on election day, or that you can provide an election day polling place
- If you check the poll worker box, a list of languages will appear, and you may select any languages you speak

Accessibility

You can check the box to receive voting material in an accessible format





Help Filling Out This Form	
Did someone help you fill out this form?	
● Yes ○ No	
If yes, the person who helped you must fill out the questions below.	
Name *	
Address *	
Phone Number	
Organization name and telephone number (if any)	

Help Filling Out This Form

If someone helped you to fill out the online voter registration form, you must select 'Yes' and the individual who helped you must provide their name and address



Consent to Use Signature	
To register to vote online, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) must send the California Secretary of State an electronic copy of the signature from your driver's license or state identification card.	
consent to the use of my DMV signature to register to vote. *	
○ Yes ○ No	

Consent to Use Signature

- In order to complete your online registration, you must select 'Yes' to allow the Department of Motor Vehicles to send the California Secretary of State a copy of the signature from your driver license or identification card
- If you select 'No,' you will have two different options to choose from on Page 5 to complete your voter registration



Page 3



Affirmation					
☐ I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that: ★					
 I am a U.S. citizen and a resident of California and at least 18 years old. I am not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony. I am not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court. I understand that it is a crime to intentionally provide incorrect information on this form. The information on this form is true and correct. 					
Previous Next					

Affirmation

You must check the box to affirm your eligibility to register, or pre-register, and the truth and accuracy of your application

Click the 'Next' button to continue to Page 4. If you left any required fields blank, you will be prompted to complete them before continuing.



Page 4

Review – Voter Registration Application

- Review your completed voter registration application to ensure you have entered all your information accurately
- If you find any errors or omissions, click 'Edit' at the bottom of the page. You will be returned to an earlier page of the application where you can add to or change your information
- If the application is complete and correct, click 'Submit'

1	\rangle	2	>	3	4	5

				1		
Eligibility						
	I am a U.S. citizen.	YES				
	Registration/pre-registration	Registration				
Personal Information						
Personal information						
Name						
	First name	Test				
	Home and Mailing Address					
	Home Address					
		Street address	123 Main Street			
California driv		Apartment or unit number				
Sullottia utt		City	Sacramento			
My langi		State	CALIFORNIA			
Wy lang		Zip	95814			
		County	SACRAMENTO			
	Mailing Address					
		Street address or P.O. Box	PO BOX 1234			
		Apartment or unit number	-			
		City	SACRAMENTO			
		State	CALIFORNIA			
	Previous Registration	Zip	95812			
Consent to Use Signature	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·]		
Constitution Constitution						
I consent	to the use of my DMV signature to register to vote.	YES				
Affirmation						
I declare under penalty of perju	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that:					
I am a U.S. citizen an						
 I am not currently in a I am not currently four 						
 I understand that it is a crime to intentionally provide incorrect information on this form. The information on this form is true and correct. 						
	Edit	Submit				
	Edit					
				-		



Signature Needed

- If the DMV cannot find your signature, or you did not give consent to use your DMV signature, you have two options to complete your application. You can:
 - **Option 1:** Print and sign your application and mail it to your county elections office, or
 - **Option 2:** Submit the application without a signature.
 - If you submit without a signature, you will be mailed a document to sign and return

Option 1 - Print, sign, and mail your application

Print and sign your application. Then mail it to your county elections official

If you are using a public computer, protect your personal information!

Once you are done printing, close the browser and delete the PDF file.

Print Application (PDF)

Option 2 - No printer available

If you cannot print your application, you can submit it without your signature. You will be mailed a document that must be signed and returned to your county elections official.

Your voter registration will be delayed until the county receives your signed document.

Submit Application Without Signature



Page 5

Application Complete

Your voter registration application is now complete. Please print a receipt for your records.

Registration Deadline

The deadline to register or re-register to vote for any election is 11:59:59 p.m. Pacific Time on the 15th calendar day before that election.

If this deadline has passed:

- · You can submit an application and it will be processed for future elections.
- You have the opportunity to "conditionally" register to vote and vote provisionally at your local county elections office. Contact your local county elections official for more information or visit <u>Conditional Voter Registration</u>.

For more information on requesting to vote, you may want to visit our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

Application Complete

Your voter registration application is now complete

You may print a copy of your application for your records or request an electronic receipt through your email

Print Application (PDF)

Email address*		
	Send	



Voter Registration Eligibility



To register to vote in California, you must be:

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

To pre-register to vote in California, you must:

- Be 16 or 17 years old
- Meet all other eligibility requirements to vote. You will automatically be registered to vote on your 18th birthday.



Voter Registration Eligibility (cont'd)

Do NOT screen for voter registration eligibility

- It is not the responsibility of VRA staff to determine voter eligibility
- The county elections officials will screen and reject applications from ineligible individuals
- Citizenship concerns? VRA staff can say, "You must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years old or older by Election Day to vote" or "You may pre-register to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 16 or 17 years of age"





Voter Registration Eligibility (cont'd)

- To register, an applicant:
 - Does not need to read or write
 - Does not need to speak English
 - Voter Registration Applications and VPFs are available in 10 languages
 - Can be unhoused
 - Space on Voter Registration Application to describe location where applicant/client lives
 - Does not need a CA driver license/ID card or Social Security Number
 - May complete the Voter Registration Application with reasonable accommodations, if they have a disability
 - Does not have to be able to sign the Voter Registration Application
 - Applicant/client may mark an "X" or use a signature stamp
 https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/publications/you-can-vote-even-if-you-cant-sign-your-name

Who Should Register or Re-register to Vote?

An applicant/client who:

- Has never registered
- Has moved to a new address
- Has changed their name
- Has changed their political party preference
- Is not sure if they are registered to vote
- Has not voted in the last several elections





What Happens After a Person Registers?

Voter receives:

- Postcard confirming status
- Voting materials
- Polling place location
- Mailed ballot



Applicants/Clients with Disabilities

The same rules apply.

VRAs must:

- Provide the VPF question and a Voter Registration Application
- Assist with filling out the forms, when requested
- Provide the same level of assistance in completing the Voter Registration Application as in completing the VRA's own forms
- Provide assistance in completing the Voter Registration Application in the person's home if VRA provides services in the person's home
- NOT make assumptions about a person's ability to register and to vote based on the person's disability



Applicants/Clients with Disabilities (cont'd)

Common misconceptions – why some people believe those with disabilities cannot register and vote:

- The person has a disability: physical, psychiatric, intellectual, developmental, etc.
- The person uses a wheelchair
- The person is under conservatorship
 - There is a presumption that a person is competent to vote regardless of conservatorship status
 - A court must find by clear and convincing evidence that the person cannot communicate, with or without reasonable accommodations, a desire to participate in the voting process

Voter registration must be offered to all applicants/clients

Additional voting resources available from Disability Rights California: https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/resources/voting



Disability Etiquette

Basic Guidelines

- Make reference to the person first, then the disability
 - Say "a person with a disability" rather than "a disabled person"
- Do not use the term "handicapped" when referring to a person with a disability
- Offer assistance, but wait until your offer is accepted before you help
- Listen to any instructions the person may give





Disability Etiquette (cont'd)

Common Courtesies

- Share the same social courtesies
 - If you shake hands with people you meet, offer your hand to everyone you meet, regardless of their disability
- When offering assistance to a person with a visual impairment,
 allow that person to take your arm
 - Guide them rather than propel or lead them
 - Give specific directions and warnings of any hazards



Disability Etiquette (cont'd)

Conversation

- Speak directly to the person with a disability, not to the person accompanying them
 - The same principle applies for people who communicate through sign language
- When greeting a person with a severe loss of vision, always identify yourself and others
 - For example, say "On my right is Jane Thomas."
- Speak in a normal tone of voice and indicate when the conversation is over
- Let them know when you move from one place to another

Additional resources regarding disability etiquette are available from: https://unitedspinal.org/disability-etiquette/

VRA Staff Responsibilities



Establish a relationship with your office's or agency's VRA Coordinator

- This person handles VRC orders
- Be sure you have enough
 VRCs to serve all your clients



Assist clients in registering to vote

 When requested, provide the same level of assistance in completing the voter registration application as in completing the VRA's own forms





VRA Staff Responsibilities (cont'd)



Receive NVRA training

- Receive yearly training on NVRA requirements if you assist clients with your agency's application, renewal or change of address processes
- Contact your office's or agency's NVRA
 Coordinator if you have questions or would like further training
- VRA staff may also refer to NVRA training resources on the SOS website

VRA Staff Responsibilities: Training

Choose the link you wish to view!

The Secretary of State provides National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) resources and training materials for county elections officials, NVRA agency coordinators and NVRA agency staff. Elections officials and NVRA agencies can use these materials to train agencies in their county and their staff that provide public assistance or serve people with disabilities. The NVRA requires annual training of agency staff and training of new staff as they come on board. Follow the links below to find the appropriate training for your staff. The tools and resources included in these links, once reviewed, will satisfy the annual training requirements.

New and Noteworthy: 2021 NVRA Updates

Training and Resources for County Elections Officials

The Secretary of State provides National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) training materials for county elections officials. This training includes information related to Senate Bill 35, which codified many best practices across California. Elections officials use these materials to train other county officials that provide public assistance and/or serve people with disabilities.

Training and Resources for VRA Coordinators

The Secretary of State provides National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) training materials for voter registration agency (VRA) coordinators. These coordinators are tasked with ensuring compliance of the NVRA within their agency's offices/sites. This includes ordering/tracking of voter registration cards, annual training of staff, and coordination of NVRA responsibilities with their local county elections official. These training materials will help coordinators complete annual training and will satisfy the annual requirement under the NVRA.

Training and Resources for VRA Staff

The Secretary of State provides National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) training materials for VRA staff. These staff are office/site staff that assist participants with their agency's application, renewal, or change of address processes. The NVRA requires these staff to be trained annually on the procedures and requirements of the NVRA. These training materials will help satisfy the annual requirement under the NVRA.



VRA Staff Responsibilities: Training (cont'd)

Home ▶ Elections and Voter Information ▶ Voter Registration ▶ National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) ▶ Training Information and Resources ▶

Training and Resources for VRA Staff

National Voter Registration Act

NVRA Home

Requirements & Laws

NVRA Voter Registration Agencies

County Responsibilities

Training Information & Resources

NVRA Reports

Frequently Asked Questions

Contact Information

Elections Home











The Secretary of State provides National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) training materials for VRA staff. These staff are office/site staff that assist participants with their agency's application, renewal, or change of address processes. The NVRA requires these staff to be trained annually on the procedures and requirements of the NVRA. These training materials will help satisfy the annual requirement under the NVRA.

Training

NVRA/SB35 Slideshow: (PPT) I (PDF)

NVRA American Sign Language Video

California Online Voter Registration (COVR) Slideshow: (PPT) | (PDF) (updated 4/28/2021)

COVR American Sign Language Video

NVRA Basics - Quick Reference Sheet

Training Frequently Asked Questions

Resources

California's NVRA Manual

NVRA Voter Preference Forms

Elections Video Resources

Voters with Disabilities

Voting Rights for Persons with a Criminal History

NVRA Voter Registration Agency Guidance Letters

SOS NVRA Toolkit - How to Comply with the National Voter Registration Act

Disability Rights California - Voting Publications

Disability Etiquette

SOS-tracked VRA Voter Registration Card Order Form (PDF)



NVRA Resources

SOS Website Resources:

- NVRA Frequently Asked Questions
 https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/nvra/training/pdf/nvra-faq.pdf
- NVRA Training
 https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/nvra/training/
- NVRA County Reporting Responsibilities
 https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/nvra/county-reporting-responsibilities
- NVRA Manual
 https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/nvra/laws-standards/nvra-manual/
- Voters with Disabilities
 https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/voters-disabilities/
- Californians with a Criminal History
 https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/voting-california/who-can-vote-california/voting-rights-californians/



Questions?

Visit

sos.ca.gov

RegisterToVote.ca.gov



SOS Voter Hotlines:

English......(800) 345-VOTE (8683)

Hindi.....(888) 345-2692

Khmer.....(888) 345-4917

Spanish......(800) 232-VOTA (8682)

Thai.....(855) 345-3933

TTY/TDD.....711

Chinese.....(800) 339-2857

Japanese....(800) 339-2865

Korean.....(866) 575-1558

Tagalog.....(800) 339-2957

Vietnamese..(800) 339-8163



Questions about NVRA/California Law?

Questions about NVRA requirements, training, or other issues?

- Contact your agency's VRA Coordinator
- Contact your county elections official's NVRA Coordinator or the SOS NVRA Coordinators

www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/nvra/contact/





Secretary of State NVRA Information

SOS NVRA Contact Information

• Phone: (916) 657-2166

Email: <u>nvra@sos.ca.gov</u>

SOS NVRA Websites

- www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/nvra/
- www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/nvra/training



End of Presentation

