

California Online Voter Registration (COVR)

Instructional Guide

Created June 2020



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



COVR Link:

registertovote.ca.gov

Introduction to COVR (con't)

- **Registration deadline**
 - You can register online up to the deadline of 15 days before an election
 - Anyone registering within 14 days of an election (who wants to vote in that election) should print out their completed online application and take it to their county elections office, polling place, or vote center
- **To register online, you will need to provide your:**
 - Date of birth
 - CA driver license or identification card (DL/ID) number
 - Last four digits of their social security number (SSN)
 - If you do not have a DL/ID number or SSN, you can still register to vote online. You will need to take additional steps later on to complete your 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](#)

[Tiếng Việt Vietnamese](#)



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.



Classification

I am **one** of the following *

A U.S. citizen and resident of California.

OR

A U.S. citizen and a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty outside my county.

A U.S. citizen and an eligible spouse or dependent of a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty outside my county.

A U.S. citizen and an activated National Guard member on State orders outside my county.

A U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S. temporarily.

A U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S. indefinitely.

A U.S. citizen and have never resided in the U.S.

Next

Classification

- Choose one of the listed options indicating your U.S. citizenship and residency status. Click “Next” to proceed to Page 2.
- Those who choose one of the options below the “OR” (Military and Overseas Voters) will be directed to a slightly different Page 2 than those who are residents of California.



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
- Military and Overseas Voters will not see the Qualifications section on Page 2.

Page 2



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

First name*

Middle name

Last name*

Suffix

Email address

Confirm email

Phone number

Phone numbers are posted at polling places on election day.

(YYYY) Date of birth *

If you are 16 or 17 years old pre-registering, you will automatically be a registered voter once you turn 18.

Place of Birth

U. S. State/Territory

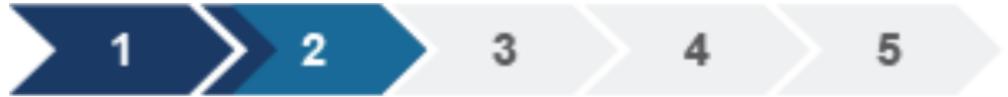
Foreign Country/Region

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.



Personal Information

Legal Name

Prefix

First name*

Middle name

Last name*

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.
- Military and Overseas Voters enter an email address and phone number in a later section.

Date of birth * (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

- You must enter the U.S. state or territory or the foreign country or region in which you were born.
- Military and Overseas Voters will not see the Place of Birth section.



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

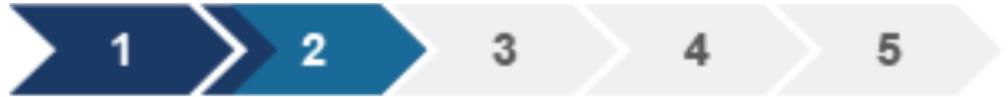
- You must provide your California driver license or identification card (DL/ID) number, if you have one. If you do not have a DL/ID, you must check the box.
- You must also provide the last four digits of your social security number, if you have one. If you do not, you must check the box.

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

My language preference for receiving election materials is

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.

Page 2



Home and Mailing Address

Home Address *

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*

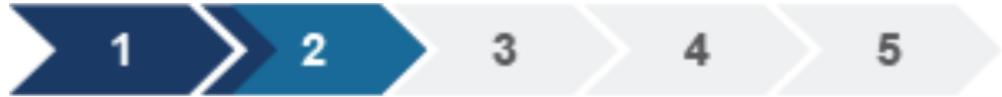
County*

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.
- For Military and Overseas Voters, this section is titled California Residence Address.



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 *

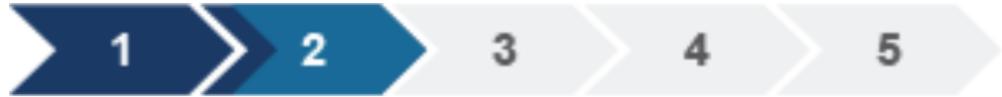
State

Zip *

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.



I have a street address. I do not have a street address.

Describe where you live including cross streets, Route, N, S, E, W

County * ▼

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.
- Military and Overseas Voters will not see the 'I do not have a street address' option. They must enter a street address, which cannot be a P.O. Box or business address.



State

Zip *

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.
- For Military and Overseas Voters, the 'I was previously registered or pre-registered to vote' check box appears beneath the Legal Name section.



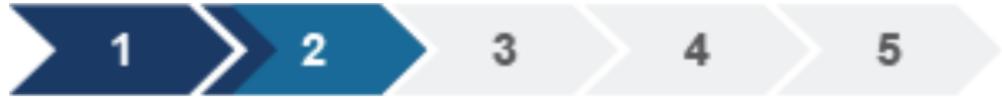
My mailing address is different from my home address.

Mailing Address

Street address or P.O. Box*	<input type="text"/>
Apartment or unit number	<input type="text"/>
City*	<input type="text"/>
State*	<input type="text" value="Select state"/>
Zip*	<input type="text"/>

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.



I was previously registered or pre-registered to vote.

Previous Registration

First name

Middle name

Last name

Street address

Apartment or unit number

City

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.



Ballot Delivery (Military and Overseas Voters Only)

- Military and Overseas Voters have the option to receive their ballots by mail, email, or fax.
- You must select your first preference for ballot delivery. You may also select a second and third preference in case there is any difficulty delivering your ballot by your preferred method.

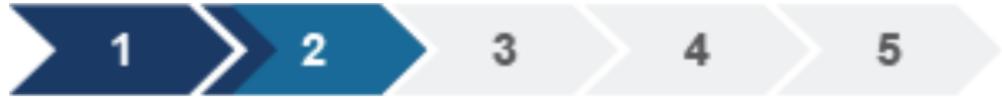
Ballot Delivery

Your ballot may be delivered to you by mail, email or fax. Please choose your delivery preferences.

My first preference is *

My second preference is

My third preference is

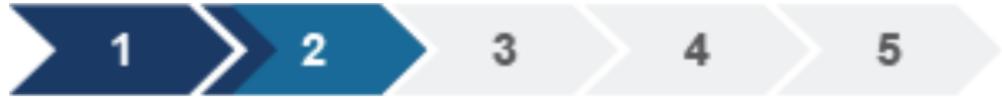


Where To Send My Ballot (Military and Overseas Voters Only)

- Military and Overseas Voters must provide an address where their ballot will be transmitted.
- There are also fields to provide your email address, fax number, and phone number.
 - If you selected email or fax as your preference in the previous Ballot Delivery section, the corresponding field will become a required field.

Where To Send My Ballot

Street address or P.O. Box *	<input type="text"/>
City/Town/APO/FPO/DPO *	<input type="text"/>
State/Province *	<input type="text"/>
Postal Code *	<input type="text"/>
Country *	<input type="text" value="Select country"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>
Confirm email	<input type="text"/>
Fax number	<input type="text"/>
Phone number	<input type="text"/>



Political Party Preference

Do you want to choose a political party preference? *

- Yes, my political party preference is Other (specify):
- No Party/None, I do not want to choose a 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.)

Previous

Next

Political Party Preference

- You may select a political party preference by choosing a political party from the drop-down 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.'
- Military and Overseas Voters will see the Political Party Preference section on Page 3.

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 (Permanent Vote-by-Mail Voter)

I want to get my ballot by mail before each election. *

Yes No

Vote by Mail in All Elections

- Select 'Yes' to become a permanent Vote-by-Mail voter and receive a ballot in the mail before each election.
- Select 'No' if you do not want to receive a mailed ballot.

NOTE: Voter's Choice Act (VCA) counties will send applicants a ballot in the mail even if a mailed ballot is not requested. For more information about VCA counties, visit: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voters-choice-act/vca-counties/>



State Voter Information Guide

I want to get my state voter information guide by mail before each statewide election *

Yes No

A state voter 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 ballot measures will still be available at the [Voter Information Guide Website](#) before each statewide election. If another person in your household requests to get it by mail, a state voter information 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

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.

The languages I speak are

- English
- Chinese
- Japanese
- Korean
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese
- Hindi
- Khmer
- Thai
- Other

I can provide a polling place on election day.

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.



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.

I 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.



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 in a state or federal prison or on parole 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.’

Eligibility

I am a U.S. citizen. **YES**

Registration/pre-registration **Registration**

Personal Information

Name

First name **Test**

Home and Mailing Address

Home Address

Street address **123 Main Street**

Apartment or unit number **-**

City **SACRAMENTO**

State **CALIFORNIA**

Zip **95814**

County **SACRAMENTO**

Mailing Address

Street address or P.O. Box **PO BOX 1234**

Apartment or unit number **-**

City **SACRAMENTO**

State **CALIFORNIA**

Zip **95812**

Previous Registration

First name **Test**

Consent to Use Signature

I consent to the use of my DMV signature to register to vote. **YES**

Affirmation

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that:

- I am a U.S. citizen and resident of California and will be at least 18 years old on Election Day.
- I am not currently in a state or federal prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony.
- I have not currently been found to be 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.

Edit **Submit**



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](#)



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 [Conditional Voter Registration](#).

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](#)