

# Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D. CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE Elections Division

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July 1, 2024

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #24136

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Mandy Wright

**VRC-VNC** Coordinator

RE: Voter Registration: Postage Reimbursement and Replenishment Claims

(FY 2023/2024 – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter)

The attached Voter Registration: Postage Reimbursement and Replenishment Claims package includes guidelines, a quarterly postage claims deadline schedule, a postage reimbursement claim form for mailings sent to voters, a postage replenishment claim form for mailings received from voters through the business reply mail account, and a monthly activity report.

SB 101 (Ch. 12, Statutes of 2023) continued several elections-related mandate suspensions for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. One of the suspended mandates is Elections Code section 2105 which requires county elections officials to design and conduct outreach efforts to identify unregistered, eligible citizens and register them to vote. Therefore, the Secretary of State will not reimburse counties for the mailing of blank voter registration cards mailed for outreach activities under Section 2164(a)(4) during the current fiscal year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024).

Any additional voter registration card-related postage costs (such as when a card is received unsealed) will continue to be reimbursed or covered through the replenishment of your postage account.

In order to timely process postage reimbursement and replenishment claims for voter registration activities performed during the 4th quarter of fiscal year 2023-2024, please complete the enclosed quarterly postage reporting forms and return them to our office by **August 1, 2024**.

Our office will accept the attached electronic fillable forms with an electronic signature. The forms can be submitted by **email or fax**. It will not be necessary to mail the original forms to our office for processing.

If you have any questions, please contact me by email at <a href="VRC-VNC@sos.ca.gov">VRC-VNC@sos.ca.gov</a> or by calling (916) 695-1561.

Attachment

# VOTER REGISTRATION Postage Reimbursement and Replenishment Claims

Voter Registration Postage Reimbursement and Replenishment Claims Package includes the following:

- Voter Registration Postage Claim Guidelines
- Voter Registration Postage Reimbursement Claim Form
- Voter Registration Postage Replenishment Claim Form
- Voter Registration Postage Claim Monthly Activity Report

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION POSTAGE CLAIM GUIDELINES**

In order to timely process postage reimbursement and replenishment claims for postage costs related to voter registration activities for each quarter of a fiscal year, please complete the Voter Registration Postage Reimbursement Claim Form, Voter Registration Postage Replenishment Claim Form, and the Voter Registration Postage Claim – Monthly Activity Report and return to the Secretary of State by the claim's deadline.

Postage Quar	Claims Deadline	
1st Quarter	(July 1 – September 30)	November 1, 2023
2nd Quarter	(October 1 – December 31)	February 1, 2024
3rd Quarter	(January 1 – March 31)	May 1, 2024
4th Quarter	(April 1 – June 30)	August 1, 2024

SB 101 (Ch. 12, Statutes of 2023) suspended several elections-related mandates for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. One of the suspended mandates is Elections Code section 2105 which requires county elections officials to design and conduct outreach efforts to identify unregistered, eligible citizens and register them to vote. Therefore, the Secretary of State will not be reimbursing counties for the mailing of blank voter registration cards mailed for outreach activities under Section 2164(a)(4) during the current fiscal year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024).

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION POSTAGE REIMBURSEMENT AND REPLENISHMENT CLAIMS**

#### 1. Reimbursement for Mailing Voter Registration Cards (VRCs)

The Secretary of State is required to reimburse county elections offices for postage paid on voter registration cards:

REIMBURSEMENT ALLOWANCE	ELECTIONS CODE SECTION		
Mailed to voters per their request pursuant to § 2158(c)	2164(a)(3)		
*Mailed per outreach activities pursuant to § 2105	2164(a)(4)		
Mailed to obtain information required to complete a registration form pursuant to § 2153(c)	2164(a)(1)		

\* SB 101 (Ch. 12, Statutes of 2023) has suspended the reimbursement for postage related to outreach activities. There will be no reimbursement for any postage paid on registration cards for outreach activities for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

The quantities and costs for postage paid for mailing voter registration cards under these code sections are to be itemized on the quarterly **Voter Registration Postage Reimbursement Claim Form** and submitted to the Secretary of State by the claim's deadline for that fiscal quarter.

#### 2. Reimbursement for Mailing Voter Notification Cards (VNCs)

The Secretary of State is required to reimburse county elections offices for postage paid on voter notification cards:

REIMBURSEMENT ALLOWANCE	ELECTIONS CODE SECTION
Mailed to new registrants pursuant to § 2153	2164(a)(1)
Mailed per USPS Address Correction pursuant to § 2153(c)	2164(a)(1)

The quantities and costs for postage paid for mailing voter notification cards under these code sections are to be itemized on the quarterly **Voter Registration Postage Reimbursement Claim Form** and submitted to the Secretary of State by the claim's deadline for that fiscal quarter.

#### 3. Replenishment of Postage Account for Mailing Voter Registration Cards

The Secretary of State is required to replenish the local county business reply mail account for the return of county specific voter registration cards that are mailed to the county elections office.

REPLENISHMENT ALLOWANCE	ELECTIONS CODE SECTION		
Mailed by voter to county pursuant to § 2157(a)(7)	2164(a)(2)		

The number of forms and the cost associated with the local county business reply mail account for the return of county specific voter registration cards to the county elections office should be itemized on the quarterly **Voter Registration Postage Replenishment Claim Form** and submitted to the Secretary of State by the claim's deadline for that fiscal quarter.

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Secretary of State is compiling monthly data on postage claims within each quarter. The **Voter Registration Postage Claim – Monthly Activity Report** should be completed and submitted with each claim. The Monthly Activity Report Quarter Totals must balance with the totals itemized on the Postage Reimbursement Claim and the Postage Replenishment Claim forms.

#### **FILING OF CLAIMS**

Our office will accept the attached electronic fillable forms with an electronic signature. The forms can be submitted by email or fax. It is not necessary to mail the original forms to our office for processing.

To submit the Voter Registration Postage Reimbursement and Replenishment Claims package by email, fax, or mail, please use the following contact information:

Email: VRC-VNC@sos.ca.gov

OR

Fax: (916) 653-3214

OR

California Secretary of State Elections Division Attn: VRC-VNC Coordinator 1500 11th Street, Fifth Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

## FOURTH QUARTER VOTER REGISTRATION POSTAGE REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM FORM

FISCAL YEAR			4th Quarter (A	April 1 - June (	30)	
Elections Code section 2164 r Secretary of State to reimburse co costs for mailing voter registrati notification cards as reference	ounties postage on and voter			:		
Not necessary to reimburse reimbursement.  VOTER REGISTRATION CARD		at th	his time. Please co	omplete and sig	n form if cou	nty is not requestin
	Quantity		Postage Rate/ Actual Cost \$	**************************************	 	
				Sub-Total	\$	_
Mailed per Incomplete VRC:		X	<u>\$</u>	\$		
(EC § 2153)	;	X	\$	\$ Sub-Total		
*SB 101 has suspended the reim reimbursement for any postage p year.					. There will b	e no
VOTER NOTIFICATION CARDS	S (VNCs)					
Mailed to New Registrants:		x <u> </u>	\$	\$	<u></u>	
(EC § 2153)	;	x <u>.</u>	\$	\$Sub-Tota	    <b>\$</b>	_
USPS Address Correction:		x <u>.</u>	\$	\$	_	
(EC § 2153(c))		х <u>.</u>	\$	\$	_	
				Sub-Tota	l <u>\$</u>	_
					TOTAL 2:	\$
			GRAND TOTA	AL (1 & 2):	\$	
I certify that this record is accurate substantiate these figures. Please		-	_		n is on file in I	my office to
County Name				County Election	ns Official	
Business Address			_ 	Date		

City, State, Zip Code

(QTR. PR Revised 03/29/24)

## FOURTH QUARTER VOTER REGISTRATION POSTAGE REPLENISHMENT CLAIM FORM

FISCAL YEAR	4th Quarter (April 1 - June 30)			
Authority for replenishment of postal account funds for voter registration cards mailed by voter to county elections office: Election Code §§ 2157(a)(8), 2164(a)(2)  BUSINESS REPLY MAIL (BRM) PERMIT # 85814	County: Prepared By: Telephone No: Email:			
Not necessary to replenish account at this time replenishment.	. Please complete and sign form if county is not requesting			
Prior Quarterly Ending Balance	\$			
Prior Deposits Received from Secretary of State	\$			
	TOTAL \$			
Number of Affidavits Received through BRMA				
Postage Rate	X			
New Quarterly Balance in Account	\$			
Please Replenish Account with a Check in the	Amount of \$			
Please Send Check to:	Please Make Check Payable to:			
County Elections Office Mailing Address:	Mailing Address:			
The number of items reported above represents the a reply mail account by this office.	actual number of affidavits received through the business			
	reportedly charged to the account by your Postmaster. Please voice received by your office. I certify that this record is accurate to on file in my office to substantiate these figures.			
	County Elections Official			
	Date			

(QTR. PR Revised 03/29/24)

## FOURTH QUARTER VOTER REGISTRATION POSTAGE CLAIM - MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

FISCAL YEAR	4th Quarter (April 1 - June 30)
This form must be completed even if your county is not requesting reimbursement or replenishment.	County:  Prepared By:  Telephone No:
	Email:

#### **REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM**

Voter Registration Activity	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	QUARTER TOTAL
*Number Mailed Per Voter Request (EC §2158 (c))				
	19 m 10 m			
*Number Mailed per Incomplete VRC (EC § 2153)				
Voter Notification Activity	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	QUARTER TOTAL
*Number Mailed to New Registrants (EC §§ 2153 & 2164(a)(1))				
*Number of USPS Address Corrections (EC § 2153 (c))				

<sup>\*</sup>The Quarter Total reported must balance the total itemized on the Reimbursement Claim Form.

#### REPLENISHMENT CLAIM

Voter Registration Activity	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	QUARTER TOTAL
***Number of Affidavits Received through the Business Reply Mail Permit #85814 (EC §§ 2157(a)(8) & 2164(a)(2))				

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>The Quarter Total reported must balance the total itemized on the Replenishment Claim Form.

<sup>\*\*</sup>AB 154 has suspended the reimbursement for postage related to outreach activities. There will be no reimbursement for any postage paid on registration cards for outreach activities for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.