



ALEX PADILLA | SECRETARY OF STATE | STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ELECTIONS DIVISION

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May 15, 2020

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #20095

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Paula Ritter
NVRA Coordinator

RE: National Voter Registration Act: Designation of California
Department of Social Services, CalFresh Program, as a Voter
Registration Agency

The Secretary of State has a duty under the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) to coordinate NVRA activities in the State of California. (52 U.S.C. § 20509; Cal. Elec. Code, § 2400 *et seq.*) The NVRA requires that each State shall designate as voter registration agencies “all offices in the State that provide public assistance.” (52 U.S.C. § 20506(a)(2)(A).)

The Secretary of State has designated the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) CalFresh Program as a voter registration agency. This designation includes any private entities under contract with CDSS to accept applications for the CalFresh Program.

CDSS will be required to provide voter registration and voter preference forms to every client that it provides an application, renewal, or change of address relating to the CalFresh Program. While most of CDSS’ CalFresh Program applications are provided online, for those situations requiring a paper application, county elections officials will be required to provide voter registration cards, upon the request of CDSS. (Elec. Code, § 2405 (b)(1).)

The Secretary of State’s office will coordinate directly with CDSS on NVRA implementation and training. In addition, pursuant to California Elections Code section 2405(b)(3), county elections officials will be required to provide training, upon request, to CDSS, or any private entities under contract with CDSS to accept applications under the CalFresh Program located in their county, just as they would other NVRA agencies. The NVRA training materials located on the Secretary of State’s website will be updated to include the CDSS, CalFresh Program.

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For monthly NVRA reporting of online voter registrations, the Secretary of State will add the CDSS, CalFresh Program to existing reports published on the Secretary of State's website. For monthly NVRA reporting of paper voter registrations, county elections officials must track these registration numbers on the NVRA Non-DMV reports submitted to the Secretary of State, to be published on the Secretary of State's website. (Elec. Code, §§ 2405 (b)(2), 2407.)

Attached, you will find the updated NVRA Declaration, which includes the newly-added NVRA agency.

If you have any questions regarding this change, please contact me at (916) 695-1592 or via email at pritter@sos.ca.gov.

Thank you.

State of California

SECRETARY OF STATE DECLARATION

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCIES

WHEREAS, 52 U.S.C. section 20503(a) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) requires that “each State shall establish procedures to register to vote . . . by application made simultaneously with an application for a motor vehicle driver’s license;” and

WHEREAS, 52 U.S.C. section 20506(a)(2)(A) of the NVRA requires that “[e]ach State shall designate . . . all offices in the State that provide public assistance” as voter registration agencies; and

WHEREAS, 52 U.S.C. section 20506(a)(2)(B) of the NVRA requires that “[e]ach State shall designate . . . all offices in the State that provide State-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities” as voter registration agencies; and

WHEREAS, 52 U.S.C. section 20506(c) of the NVRA requires that “a recruitment office of the Armed Forces of the United States shall be considered to be a voter registration agency;” and

WHEREAS, 52 U.S.C. section 20506(a)(3)(A) of the NVRA requires that each state shall also designate “other offices within the State as voter registration agencies;” and

WHEREAS, 52 U.S.C. section 20506(a)(6) of the NVRA requires that a voter registration agency that is an office that provides service or assistance shall “distribute with each application for such service or assistance, and with each recertification, renewal, or change of address form relating to such service or assistance” a voter preference form and voter registration application; and

WHEREAS, section 2401 of the California Elections Code provides, “a private entity under contract with a designated voter registration agency to provide services or assistance on behalf of the designated voter registration agency,” must also distribute a voter preference form and voter registration application at the time of application, recertification, renewal, or change of address relating to such service or assistance (“NVRA-related services”); and

WHEREAS, as chief elections official of California, I have a duty under 52 U.S.C. section 20509 of the NVRA and section 2400, *et seq.* of the California Elections Code, to coordinate NVRA activities in the State of California, including maintaining a current list of all California NVRA agencies designated since the NVRA took effect and incorporating intervening changes in the names of affected state agencies and programs; now

THEREFORE, I, Alex Padilla, Secretary of State of the State of California, do hereby declare the following agencies as designated or re-designated NVRA agencies:

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Field Offices

Public Assistance Agencies

County welfare department offices, which accept applications and administer benefits for the CalFresh Program, formerly known as Food Stamps and federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, which replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, including, if any, private entities under contract with these county welfare department offices to provide NVRA-related services

County welfare department offices, which accept applications and administer benefits for the Medi-Cal program, including, if any, private entities under contract with these county welfare department offices to provide NVRA-related services

County welfare department offices and community based non-profit organizations under contract with the Department of Public Health, formerly the Department of Health Services, which accept applications and administer benefits for the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program, including, if any, private entities under contract with these county welfare department offices to provide NVRA-related services

California Health Benefit Exchange, including, if any, private entities under contract with the California Health Benefit Exchange to provide NVRA-related services

County offices that administer General Assistance/General Relief Programs including, if any, private entities under contract with the county offices to provide NVRA-related services

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC), including, if any, private entities under contract with CSAC to provide NVRA-related services in connection with the Cal Grant Program, the California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth, the Middle Class Scholarship, the California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program, and the Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents Grant Program

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), including, if any, private entities under contract with CDSS to provide NVRA-related services in connection with the CalFresh Program

State-Funded Agencies Primarily Serving Persons with Disabilities

County welfare departments which accept applications and administer benefits for In-Home Supportive Services Program, including, if any, private entities under contract with these county welfare department offices to provide NVRA-related services

Offices of the State Department of Rehabilitation, which provide vocational rehabilitation services, including, if any, private entities under contract with these offices to provide NVRA-related services

Independent Living Centers, including, if any, private entities under contract with Independent Living Centers to provide NVRA-related services

Department of Developmental Services Regional Centers, including, if any, private entities under contract with the Department of Developmental Services Regional Centers to provide NVRA-related services

Offices of contractors with the Department of Social Services, Office of Deaf Access, which provide services to the deaf

Department of Social Services, Office of Services to the Blind, Assistance Dog Special Allowance Program, including, if any, private entities under contract with this office to provide NVRA-related services

State and County Mental Health Providers, including, if any, private entities under contract with these State and County Mental Health Providers to provide NVRA-related services

University of California, offices for students with disabilities, including, if any, private entities under contract with these offices to provide NVRA-related services

California State University, offices for students with disabilities, including, if any, private entities under contract with these offices to provide NVRA-related services

California Community Colleges, offices for students with disabilities, including, if any, private entities under contract with these offices to provide NVRA-related services

Armed Forces Recruitment Offices

Other Agencies

Franchise Tax Board offices, which provide public access for income tax instructions and assistance, including, if any, private entities under contract with these offices to provide NVRA-related services

California Department of Tax and Fee Administration offices, which provide services to the public, including, if any, private entities under contract with these offices to provide NVRA-related services

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto, set my hand
and affix the Great Seal of the State of California, this
15th day of May 2020.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Padilla". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State