

2021 NVRA UPDATES (10/7/2021)

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE



ATTENTION NVRA AGENCIES:

- *AB 37 – VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS*
- *NVRA TRAINING MATERIALS*
- *NVRA COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR REMOTE TRANSACTIONS*
- *PROPOSITION 17 AND VOTER REGISTRATION ELIGIBILITY*

AB 37 – VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS

Governor Newsom approved Assembly Bill 37 which requires county elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered voter for every election and requires a vote by mail ballot tracking system to be accessible to voters with disabilities. AB 37 also requires county elections officials to permit any voter to cast a ballot using a certified remote accessible vote by mail system for any election and provides that a vote by mail ballot is timely cast if voted on or before election day and if returned by mail, received by the county elections office no later than 7 days after election day. AB 37 will go into effect as of January 1, 2022.

NVRA TRAINING MATERIALS

The following training resources have been updated in 2021:

- Narrated PowerPoint slideshow – NVRA Training for VRA Coordinators
- Narrated PowerPoint slideshow – NVRA Training for VRA Staff
- ASL video - NVRA Training for VRA Coordinators and Staff
- Narrated PowerPoint slideshow – California Online Voter Registration (COVR) Training
- ASL video - California Online Voter Registration (COVR) Training

To view all available training materials, please visit our [NVRA Training and Resources](#) webpage.

NVRA COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR REMOTE TRANSACTIONS

VRAs are conducting more remote transactions than ever. To facilitate your agency's continued compliance, our team has developed specific guidance regarding how to conduct remote NVRA processes when applicants or clients engage with your agency or office over the phone, online, or via email or text. This guidance can be found in our NVRA FAQs document, which is available here: <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/nvra/training/pdf/nvra-faq.pdf>

PROPOSITION 17 AND VOTER REGISTRATION ELIGIBILITY

On November 3, 2020, California voters passed Proposition 17 which removed being on parole as a barrier to voter registration. The current eligibility requirements to register to vote in California are as follows (for ease of identification, the revised bullet is in italicized font):

- 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, and*
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.

Voter Registration Agencies are encouraged to replace any outdated Voter Registration Cards (VRCs) they may have on hand with updated VRCs to avoid the possibility of unintentionally disenfranchising voters.

For more information, please contact the Secretary of State's NVRA Team via email at nvra@sos.ca.gov or call 916-657-2166.