

How to Register to Vote

How to Register by Mail

1. A Voter Registration Application is attached to this brochure. Simply provide the information requested.

Under state and federal laws, you may be required to submit a copy of an approved form of ID with your mail-in Voter Registration Application.

A copy of a valid photo ID is an acceptable form of identification. Also accepted are:

- A current utility bill with the voter's name and address;
- A current bank statement with the voter's name and address;
- A current government check with the voter's name and address;
- A current paycheck or stub with the voter's name and address; or
- Other government document with your name and address.
- Your driver's license number or, if you do not have one, the last four digits of your social security number.

By registering to vote via U.S. mail, you may be required to show identification when voting for the first time. You may provide a copy of any of the above forms of identification when submitting your application to avoid having to show identification on election day.

What happens if you forget to take an ID to the polls on Election Day? **You will be allowed to cast an affidavit ballot.** Call the Secretary of State's Election Hotline (800) 829-6786 or your county Circuit Clerk's Office for more information.

2. Mail your Voter Registration Application to your county Circuit Clerk.
3. Applications must be postmarked thirty (30) days before the election in which you wish to vote.

How to Register in Person

1. You can register to vote in the following locations:
 - County Circuit Clerk's Office (usually in the County Courthouse);
 - Municipal Clerk's Office (usually in City Hall);
 - Where you apply for or renew your driver's license; or
 - State and federal agencies offering government services.
2. You must register to vote thirty (30) days before the election in which you wish to vote.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Some registered voters are eligible to vote absentee because of age, health, work demands, temporary relocation for educational purposes, or their affiliation with the U.S. Armed Forces. Please check with your Circuit or Municipal Clerk to determine if you are entitled to vote absentee and to learn the procedures for doing so.

If you know you will vote absentee, contact your Circuit or Municipal Clerk at least two weeks before the election. For more information, call the Secretary of State's Elections Hotline at (800) 829-6786.

In order to make it easier for our citizens serving on active-duty in the military to vote, the Secretary of State's Office implemented the **Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)**, an emergency rule allowing these citizens to register to vote up until fourteen (14) days before an election. In addition, Mississippi has also taken the initiative to help overseas troops to cast their ballots. During the 2003 gubernatorial election, Mississippi was the first state to allow active-duty troops to use secured-access email to vote. Since then, 12 other states have followed in allowing some sort of email-access voting. For more information, call the Secretary of State's Election Hotline at (800) 829-6786.

Know Your Voting Rights

- ★ Any Mississippi resident who is a qualified elector is entitled to vote regardless of race or physical ability, with no literacy tests employed.
- ★ No one may refuse a person the right to vote if that person is legally entitled to vote.
- ★ No voter shall be threatened, intimidated, or bribed for voting by any person.
- ★ Voters whose names do not appear on the poll list or who do not have proper identification may vote by affidavit ballot.
- ★ Voters who cast an affidavit ballot are entitled to written information at the time of voting on how to determine if the vote was counted and, if not, why not.
- ★ Voters who require assistance due to blindness or other disability or inability to read may receive assistance from a person of the voter's choice.

Where to Vote

After registering, you will be given your precinct number and the location of that precinct's polling place. Call your county Circuit Clerk's Office for more information.

Polls are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. each Election Day.

If you need instructions on how to use voting devices in your county, please contact the Secretary of State's Office or your local election officials.

Voter Registration Applications

Additional applications can be obtained from your county Circuit Clerk's Office, your county courthouse, public library, or other participating government offices. Mail-in voter registration forms are also available from the Secretary of State's Office and may be downloaded at www.sos.ms.gov.

Mississippi Voter Information Guide



DELBERT HOSEMAN N
Secretary of State

Know your voting rights and responsibilities.

Mississippi Secretary of State's Office
Post Office Box 136
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0136
(601) 359-1350 • FAX (601) 359-1499
Elections Hotline (800) 829-6786
www.sos.ms.gov

Mississippi Election Chart 2011-2015

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Federal Offices					
President and Vice President		✓			
United States Senator (Staggered 6 yr. Term)		✓		✓	
United States Representative		✓		✓	
State Offices					
Governor	✓				✓
Lieutenant Governor	✓				✓
Secretary of State	✓				✓
Attorney General	✓				✓
State Auditor	✓				✓
State Treasurer	✓				✓
Commissioner of Insurance	✓				✓
Commissioner of Ag. & Commerce	✓				✓
State Senator	✓				✓
State Representative	✓				✓
Supreme Court District Offices					
Supreme Court Justice***		✓		✓	
Transportation Commissioner	✓				✓
Public Service Commissioner	✓				✓
State District Offices					
Court of Appeals Judge***		✓		✓	
Chancery Court Judge				✓	
Circuit Court Judge				✓	
District Attorney	✓				✓
Levee Commissioner		✓			
County Offices*					
Sheriff	✓				✓
Chancery Clerk	✓				✓
Circuit Clerk	✓				✓
County Court Judge				✓	
Tax Assessor	✓				✓
Tax Collector	✓				✓
Coroner	✓				✓
Superintendent of Education	✓				✓
County Attorney	✓				✓
Surveyor	✓				✓
County District Offices					
Supervisor	✓				✓
Justice Court Judge	✓				✓
Constable	✓				✓
Election Commissioner		✓			
County School Board Member***		✓			✓
Municipal Offices**			✓		

* Not all counties elect all of the offices listed. ** Some special-charter municipalities hold elections in years other than those indicated. *** Supreme Court Justices, Appeals Court Judges, and County Board of Education members run in staggered terms. This chart reflects regularly-scheduled elections and does not account for special elections, elections affected by litigation, and other special circumstances.

Know Your Representation

- Who is my U.S. Representative?
- Who is my State Senator and State Representative?
- Who is my County Supervisor?
- Who is my City Councilman/Alderman?

To find out the answers to these questions, please contact your county Circuit Clerk's Office or city Municipal Clerk's Office.

Registration Deadline Quick Reference

Election Year	Primary/Runoff	General Election	Registration Deadline
2011.....	August 2/August 23.....	November 8	October 9
2012.....	March 13/April 3.....	November 6	October 7
2013.....	May 7/May 21	June 4	May 5
2014.....	June 3/June 24.....	November 4	October 5
2015.....	August 4/August 25.....	November 3	October 4

Dates listed above for the registration deadlines are for General Elections only; in order to vote in any Primary, Runoff or General Election, you must be registered thirty (30) days prior to the date it will be held to be eligible to vote in that election. Registration deadlines are set thirty (30) days before an election. In the event the deadline falls on a Sunday, please check with your county registrar's office for revised deadline dates. All mail-in applications must be post-marked on or before the registration deadline. Please make note that the U.S. Postal Service does not operate on Sundays.

Registration Qualifications

Every U.S. citizen who possesses the following qualifications is entitled to register to vote in Mississippi:

- A resident of Mississippi and the county, city, or town for 30 days prior to the election;
- At least 18 years old (or will be by the date of the next General Election);
- Not declared mentally incompetent by a court;
- Not convicted of any crime listed in Section 241 of the Mississippi Constitution or any crime interpreted by the Attorney General's Office as applicable, unless having been pardoned or had rights of citizenship restored by Governor, or had suffrage restored by the Legislature.

Once you are registered, you remain registered until you no longer meet one of the qualifications to vote.

Contact Information

**Secretary of State's
Elections Hotline**
(800) 829-6786

Attorney General's Office
(601) 359-3680

U.S. Justice Department
(800) 253-3931

MS Protection & Advocacy
(For Disabled Assistance and Information)
(800) 772-4057