



ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION IN THE STATES

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Over the past several years, online registration has made steady progress in reforming voter registration in the states. At this writing, 34 states and the District of Columbia allow individuals to register to vote completely electronically. Four states have passed legislation to enable online voter registration in the near future and several states have pending online voter registration legislation. What follows is a summary of the provisions in place and under development in these states.

ALABAMA

Alabama launched online voter registration in January 2016. It can be accessed at <https://www.alabamavotes.gov/olvr/default.aspx>. An Alabama drivers' license or identification (ID) card is required in order to submit the application electronically.

ALASKA

Alaska launched online voter registration in November 2015. It can be accessed at <https://voterregistration.alaska.gov>. An Alaska drivers' license or ID card is required in order to use this registration method.

ARIZONA

Arizona developed its "EZ Voter Registration" system in 2002. It can be accessed at <https://servicearizona.com/webapp/evoter/selectLanguage>. An Arizona drivers' license or ID card is required submit the application electronically.

CALIFORNIA

California's online system was enacted in 2011 (SB 397) and implemented in mid-September 2012. Although the website, <http://registertovote.ca.gov>, indicates that the applicant's signature must be in the DMV database in order to submit an application fully online, the FAQ indicates that an applicant who does not have a signature on file may nonetheless submit her other information online, and then print, sign, and mail the application to the election official to submit the required signature. It also appears that some counties may permit a signature to be supplied in some other way after the application is submitted.

COLORADO

Colorado passed online registration in 2009 (HB 1160) and launched the system in 2010. A Colorado drivers' license or ID is required. The form is available at <https://www.sos.state.co.us/Voter/secuVerifyExist.do>.

CONNECTICUT

Passed in 2012 (HB 5024), Connecticut's online system was launched in February 2014. The system is available at <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/>. To use the online voter registration system applicants must have a current and valid driver's license, learner's permit or non-driver photo ID card issued by the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and a signature on file with DMV.

DELAWARE

Delaware launched its online registration tool in April 2014. The registration tool is available at <https://ivote.de.gov/voterlogin.aspx>. Applicants can provide a signature by providing an active DMV number, in which case the person's signature on file will be used for voter registration. Otherwise, applicants can provide an electronic image of their signatures using a pointing device.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

After first offering mobile users the opportunity to sign and send a voter registration application from a mobile phone or tablet, the District of Columbia enacted in 2014 (B-20-0264) a more extensive online voter registration system that became operative in August 2015. The system now allows applicants to either provide an electronic signature directly to the board of elections using a touchscreen device, or provide the applicant's DMV-issued ID number along with consent to the use of the applicant's DMV signature for voter registration. It is available at <http://www.vote4dc.com>.

FLORIDA

Florida enacted online registration in 2015 as SB 228 (Chapter 2015-36). The system will allow applicants with a Florida driver's license or state ID to submit online applications, and will be available by October 1, 2017. If the information from the ID provided does not match the state's data, the system will populate the applicant's information into a form that must be printed, signed, and delivered to the election official. The bill requires a comprehensive risk assessment before the system is publicly available.

GEORGIA

Georgia passed online voter registration in 2012 (SB 92) and launched it in March 2014. The system is available at <https://registertovote.sos.ga.gov/GAOLVR/>. To use the Online Voter Registration System, an applicant must have a valid driver's license or identification card issued by the Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) with a signature on file with DDS.

HAWAII

Hawaii passed online voter registration in 2012 (HB 1755), and implemented its system in August 2015. In order to use the online system, applicants must have a current Hawaii Driver's License or State ID card. The system is available at <https://olvr.hawaii.gov>.

IDAHO

Idaho enacted online voter registration in 2016 as SB 1297. The system will require users to have a current and valid Idaho driver's license or ID card, and eligible individuals must be registering to vote at the address shown on the ID.

ILLINOIS

Illinois passed a 2013 bill (HB 2418) to create an online voter registration system, which launched in June 2014. An Illinois driver's license or ID card number and the last four digits of the registrant's Social Security number are required. The system is available at <https://ova.elections.il.gov>.

INDIANA

Indiana passed online registration in 2009 (HB 1346) and offered it starting in July 2010. Applicants are required to have a drivers' license or state-issued ID to use the system. The instructions may be found at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/PublicSite/OVR/Introduction.aspx?Link=Polling>.

IOWA

In January 2015, Iowa's Voter Registration Commission passed rules for establishing an online voter registration system that launched in January 2016. Applicants are required to have a drivers' license or state-issued ID to use the system. The new website, maintained by the state Department of Transportation, is linked through the Iowa Secretary of State's office and county auditors' sites. Instructions can be found at <https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/voterinformation/voterregistration.html>.

KANSAS

Kansas developed online registration in 2009; however, only applicants who can upload proof of citizenship documents can complete new applications entirely online. The Kansas instructions are available at <https://www.kdor.org/voterregistration/Default.aspx>. A valid Kansas drivers' license or non-driver ID is required for all transactions. New registrants must also upload, mail, fax, e-mail, or hand-deliver citizenship documents in order to complete the registration.

KENTUCKY

Kentucky launched online voter registration in March 2016. The system is available at <https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/ovrweb/>. Applicants must enter their name, Social Security number and birth date. Users may provide their signature digitally or by providing their Kentucky driver's license or state ID number.

LOUISIANA

Passed in 2009 (HB 250), Louisiana began offering online registration in 2010. A Louisiana drivers' license or "special ID card" is required in order to use the online system. Instructions can be found at <http://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/RegisterToVote/Pages/default.aspx>.

MARYLAND

Maryland passed online registration in 2011 (HB 740) and the tool went "live" in July 2012. It requires the applicant's signature to be on file with the state in connection with either a state ID or drivers' license. It can be found at <https://voterservices.elections.state.md.us/OnlineVoterRegistration>.

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts enacted online registration in 2014 (H.3788), and launched its system in June 2015. The system is available at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>. To submit an online application, applicants must have a valid driver's license, learner's permit, or non-driver ID issued by the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV), and must have a signature on file with the RMV. Applicants without an RMV ID or whose RMV IDs cannot be verified can use the online system to create an application, but must print, sign and mail or hand-deliver the form to election officials.

MINNESOTA

In 2014, the Minnesota Governor signed legislation (HF 2096) authorizing an online voter registration system that was launched in 2013. The system can be found at <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterRegistration/VoterRegistrationStep1.aspx>. Registrants must provide an email address and either their Minnesota-issued driver's license number, Minnesota ID card number, or the last four digits of their Social Security number. An online application may be transmitted to the appropriate county for processing only if the Secretary of State first verifies that the application information matches information in a government database associated with the applicant's driver's license number, state ID card number, or Social Security number. Online applications that were submitted during the brief period in which the Secretary of State administratively established an online system remain valid.

MISSOURI

In December 2013, the Missouri Secretary of State announced the immediate availability of online voter registration. Missourians can register online at <https://sos.mo.gov/votemissouri/request.php>. The system allows signatures to be captured electronically if the applicant is using compatible technology. If not, the applicant can print, sign and mail the form or can receive a form from the Secretary of State's office to complete and return by mail.

NEBRASKA

Nebraska's legislature enacted online voter registration in 2014 (LB 661), and the system was launched in September 2015. A valid Nebraska motor vehicle operator's license or state ID card is required. The system can be found at <https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/>.

NEVADA

Online registration was first piloted in a select group of counties in 2012. Legislation passed in 2011 (AB 82) and the statewide system launched in 2012. A DMV-issued driver's license or ID is required. The form can be accessed at <http://nvsos.gov/index.aspx?page=703>.

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico's legislature enacted online registration in 2015 (SB 643) and the system launched in January 2016. Individuals must provide New Mexico driver's license or state ID issued by the motor vehicles division and social security number. Instructions are available at [https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/\(S\(xx43owmdnsnz4kd1c04zlkdx\)\)/WebPages/InstructionsStep1.aspx](https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/(S(xx43owmdnsnz4kd1c04zlkdx))/WebPages/InstructionsStep1.aspx).

NEW YORK

In 2011, New York began allowing individuals with a driver's license or non-driver ID to register or update their voter registration information online. Information can be found at <http://www.dmv.ny.gov/mydmv/motv-pop.htm>. The DMV must already have the person's current name, address, date of birth and gender on file, and applicants must sign up for the MyDMV service online.

OHIO

Ohio enacted online voter registration in 2016 (SB 63), and launched the system in 2017. Individuals must provide a current and valid Ohio driver's license or ID card. Instructions are available at <https://olvr.sos.state.oh.us/ovru/Modify.aspx>.

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma enacted online voter registration in 2015 as SB 313. The system will require users to have a current and valid Oklahoma driver's license or ID card, and eligible individuals must be registering to vote at the address shown on the ID.

OREGON

Online registration was enacted in Oregon in 2009 (HB 2386) and launched in 2010. The online tool can be found at <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/orestar/vr/register.do?lang=eng&source=SOS>. Oregon requires the applicant's signature to be in the DMV database.

PENNSYLVANIA

In August 2015, the Pennsylvania Department of State announced its immediate launch of an online voter registration system. The online tool can be found at <http://register.votespa.com>. Users may provide their signature digitally or by providing their state driver's license or state ID number.

RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island enacted online voter registration in 2016 (H 7024) and the system launched in August 2016. The law allows for a system that verifies applicant information and uses signatures on file with a state agency, quasi-public agency, or municipality. However, the system currently requires a Rhode Island driver's license or State ID number. Online registration can be found at <https://vote.sos.ri.gov>.

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina passed online registration in 2012 (HB 4954) and the online program was precleared by the Department of Justice just a few days before the state's voter registration deadline in October 2012. It requires a state drivers' license or ID. Address changes to be made with the DMV before they may be made online in the election database. The tool is found at http://www.scvotes.org/south_carolina_voter_registration_information.

TENNESSEE

Tennessee enacted online voter registration in 2016 as HB 1742. The system will require users to have a current and valid Tennessee driver's license or ID card.

UTAH

Utah's legislature enacted online registration in 2009 (SB 25) and the tool went "live" in 2010. Utah's online registration information is available at <https://secure.utah.gov/vo-terreg/index.html>. A state drivers' license or ID number is required.

VERMONT

In 2015, Secretary of State Jim Condos announced the roll out of an election management system that included online voter registration. The system launched in October 2015. A driver's license or state ID is not required, but all first-time voters must submit a copy of proof of address, including a photo ID, utility bill, bank statement, or other government document with residential address. The system is available at <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us/>.

VIRGINIA

Passed in 2013 (HB 2341), online registration launched in Virginia in 2013. Online registration information is available at <https://www.vote.virginia.gov>. DMV Customer Number, Social Security number, and date of birth are required. If a person does not have a DMV number, the applicant may still submit the information electronically but must print, sign, and send in the paper copy before the registration deadline to complete the process.

WASHINGTON

Washington passed online registration in 2007 (HB 1528) and launched it in 2009. Washington's online tool may be accessed at <http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/my-vote/>. A Washington drivers' license or state-issued photo ID card is necessary to use the online system.

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia enacted online voter registration in 2013 (SB 477) and launched the system in October 2015. A West Virginia driver's license or ID number is required, as well as the last four digits of the individual's Social Security number. The system may be accessed at <https://ovr.sos.wv.gov/Register#Landing>. NOTE: The law allows county clerks to opt-out of the online system, and several clerks currently mail online registrants a paper registration form that must be returned before registration is complete.

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin enacted online voter registration in 2016 as SB 295, and launched the system in January 2017. The system requires users to have a current and valid Wisconsin driver's license or ID card. The online registration landing page is available at <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/RegisterToVote>.