



# QUICK FACTS



## How do I register to vote?

To register to vote in California, you must be:

- 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.

If you are eligible, you can register to vote or update your registration online at [registertovote.ca.gov](https://www.registertovote.ca.gov). If you would like to fill out a physical form, voter registration applications can be found at post offices and libraries.

You must re-register to vote if you move, change your name, or change your political party preference.

## Can I pre-register to vote in California?

Yes, to pre-register to vote in California, you must:

- Be 16 or 17 years old; and
- Meet all of the other eligibility requirements to vote.

After pre-registering, you will automatically be registered to vote on your 18th birthday. Go to [registertovote.ca.gov](https://www.registertovote.ca.gov) to pre-register to vote.

## What if I need to check my voter registration status?

To check your voter registration status - including political party - you can use the "My Voter Status" tool at [voterstatus.sos.ca.gov](https://www.voterstatus.sos.ca.gov). You can also call our Voter Hotline at 1-800-345-VOTE (8683) for your status.

## What if I miss the voter registration deadline?

If you miss the deadline to register to vote 15 days before an election, you still have an opportunity to register and vote. You can go to your county election office, vote center, or polling place on or before Election Day to complete the conditional voter registration process (often referred to as "Same Day Voter Registration"). You will have to fill out a voter registration card and will be given a ballot. Once county elections officials have verified your voter registration, your vote will be counted. Contact your county elections official for more information or visit [vote.ca.gov](https://www.vote.ca.gov).

## What if I need voter information in a different language?

Statewide voter information is available in 10 languages. Visit [www.sos.ca.gov/election/voting-california](https://www.sos.ca.gov/election/voting-california). Contact your county elections official to see what languages local information may be available in.

## When will I receive my voter guide?

Registered voters will receive, by mail, their non-partisan State Voter Information Guide from the Secretary of State's office a few weeks before Election Day. The State Voter Information Guide will also be available online at [voterguide.sos.ca.gov](https://www.voterguide.sos.ca.gov). County elections offices will also mail a county voter information guide to voters. County voter guides will include information about where and how to vote as well as a sample ballot.

## When will I receive my ballot?

For the September 14, 2021, California gubernatorial Recall Election all active registered California voters will receive their ballot in the mail, if they have registered before the voter registration deadline. County elections officials will begin mailing ballots by August 16, 2021.



## Can I track where my vote-by-mail ballot is?

Yes! Where's My Ballot? allows voters to track and receive notifications on the status of their vote-by-mail ballot, every step of the way. Sign up at **WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov** to receive an automatic email, SMS (text), or voice call notifications about your ballot.

## What if I need a replacement ballot or need an emergency ballot?

If you did not receive a vote-by-mail ballot or you have lost or destroyed your original vote-by-mail ballot, the timeframe to request a vote-by-mail ballot has passed, or you are unable to vote in person at the polls, you may apply in writing for a late vote-by-mail ballot. This application will need to be provided in person to the county elections official by you or your representative. The late vote-by-mail ballot application can be found at **elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/vote-by-mail/pdf/late-vote-by-mail-application.pdf**.

## How can I return my vote-by-mail ballot?

Instead of going to the polls on Election Day, you may vote using the vote-by-mail ballot that will be sent to you.

- By mailing it to your county elections official (must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by your county elections office no later than 7 days after Election Day);
- Dropping your ballot into one of your county's ballot drop boxes, or at a ballot drop-off location, ballot drop box, or a polling location anywhere in the state
- Asking someone you trust to return your ballot for you, as long as they do not get paid on a per ballot basis.

## How do I find out if my ballot has been counted?

You can go to "My Voter Status" to find out if your vote was counted and if not, why not at **voterstatus.sos.ca.gov**.

## How early can I vote?

Your county may offer early voting locations before Election Day. For a list go to **vote.ca.gov**. For the September 14, 2021, California Gubernatorial Recall Election, vote-by-mail ballots will be mailed to every active Californian voter on or before August 16, 2021. To ensure your vote-by-mail ballot is counted, it must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by your county election office no later than 7 days after Election Day.

## How do I find my polling place or vote center?

- Check the back of your county voter information guide for your polling place, vote centers, or ballot drop-off locations
- Contact your county elections office
- Call the Secretary of State's Voter Hotline - 1-800-345-VOTE (8683) or visit **voterstatus.sos.ca.gov**
- Text 'VOTE' to 'GOVOTE' (468-683)

## Is my vote secure?

Yes, California exceeds Federal requirements for election security. Every vote must be cast on a paper ballot or have a voter verified paper audit trail. Voting equipment used to cast and count ballots must be certified for use in California and kept offline. Elections officials conduct post-election audits, including a manual tally of a sample of ballots, after every election to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the vote count. Voters can find official, trusted election information as well as learn more about our election security safeguards, and cybersecurity efforts at **vote.ca.gov**.

## How can I get up-to-the-minute election results?

- Statewide election vote counts can be found at **electionresults.sos.ca.gov**
- Follow us on Twitter @CASOSvote
- Sign up for E-updates at **https://goo.gl/BB7zb4**

## SEPTEMBER 14 | California Gubernatorial Recall Election

Register to Vote..... Aug 30  
Conditional Voter Registration..... Aug 31-Sep 14  
Early voting..... Sep 11-13  
Return vote-by-mail ballot..... Sep 14

\*Polls are open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM on Election Day



**TO FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE  
TEXT 'VOTE' TO 'GOVOTE' (468-683)**