



Guide to Voter Registration Drives

A reference tool to help New Hanover County Citizens conduct effective voter registration drives

Updated August 2016

From the Director of the Board of Elections

I would like to extend my gratitude for your interest in conducting a voter registration drive in New Hanover County. In order to ensure proper implementation of your drive, here are a few things to consider during the process.

The individuals you assist in this process may entrust you or your group to deliver their applications to the New Hanover County Board of Elections by the registration deadline. Timely delivery of the completed applications is the most critical responsibility of the persons conducting drives. As a result of this, it is important to know that voter registration forms are due on the 25th day preceding any election. Voter registration forms received after this deadline will not be processed until after the election.

Also, payments for registering to vote, intimidation in registering or voting, coercion of certain political activity that could be associated with voter registration and voter fraud are prohibited.

It is important that all workers involved in your voter registration drive review this guide before conducting the drive. State law requires that certain application information be completed in order for the application to be processed. **It is your responsibility to ensure that registrants know how to properly fill out the form.**

Your participation in assisting unregistered individuals and in helping update the voter registration records of existing registrants is greatly appreciated. **If you have any questions or concerns after reviewing this guide, please contact our office at 910-798-7330.**

Sincerely,



Derek L. Bowens
Director of Elections

Voter Registration Applications

Voter registration applications may be obtained free of charge at the Board of Elections office located at 230 Government Center Drive, Suite **38** in Wilmington.

Requests for voter registration applications in quantities of 100 or more will initiate a request from our office as to the planned use of the applications. The usage form will request the requestor's full name, physical address, mailing address (if different from physical address), telephone number, and email address. Forms in quantities of 1000 or more are available from the State Board of Elections.

Voter registration applications may be used to:

- Apply to register to vote
- Report a change in party affiliation
- Report a change in address
- Report a name change
- Report a change in other information

Eligibility to Register to Vote

To be eligible to register to vote, a person must meet the following qualifications:

- 1. US Citizen (born or naturalized)**
- 2. Eighteen years of age or older***
 - Individuals who will be 18 years of age by the date of the next general election may register to vote at 17 years of age and vote in the preceding primary.
- 3. Resident of North Carolina and New Hanover County for at least 30 days before the date of the next election.**
- 4. Not a convicted felon, or, if a felon, has had citizenship rights restored***
 - Citizenship and voting rights are automatically restored upon the completion of the **FULL** sentence, including any probation or parole.

Ultimately it is the duty of the Board of Elections to determine an individual's eligibility to register to vote.

In order to be eligible to vote in an election, a registrant's voter registration application must be submitted by the deadline, meaning either hand delivered to the Board of Elections office by 5:00 p.m. on the 25th day before the election or postmarked by the 25th day before the election.

If the individual or group conducting the voter registration drive fails to return the completed forms to the Board of Elections by this deadline, even properly registered applicants will not be processed in time to register to vote on Election Day. **Not returning forms in a timely manner after accepting custody, could result in a Class 2 misdemeanor (N.C. Gen. Stat §163-82.6(a)).**

*In accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. §163-82.1(d), persons who are at least 16 years of age but will not be 18 years of age by the date of the next election and who otherwise qualify to register, may preregister to vote and shall be automatically registered upon reaching the age of eligibility following verification of the person's qualifications and address in accordance with G.S. 163-82.7.

The North Carolina Voter Registration Application/Update Form

All Fields in "RED" are "REQUIRED"

01

NORTH CAROLINA VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

Please use black ink and print legibly.

1 Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes No

IF YOU CHECKED "NO" IN RESPONSE TO THIS QUESTION, DO NOT SUBMIT THIS FORM.

Will you be at least 18 years of age on or before election day? Yes No

Are you at least 16 years of age and understand that you must be 18 years of age on or before election day to vote? Yes No

IF YOU CHECKED "NO" IN RESPONSE TO BOTH OF THESE QUESTIONS, DO NOT SUBMIT THIS FORM.

2 Last Name (Required) _____

First Name (Required) _____

Middle Name (Required) _____

Jr. Sr. II III IV V

3 Date of Birth (Required) MMDDYYYY _____

If you know your NC Voter Registration Number, enter it below: _____

If you have a NC drivers license or non-operators ID card, enter the number below: _____

Enter the last 4 digits of your SSN: _____

Check here if you do not have a NC drivers license, ID card, or a SSN.

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS INFORMATION - No P.O. Boxes or Rural Routes

Street Address where you live (Required) _____

City (Required) _____

County _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (Optional) _____

Have you lived here for 30 days or more? Yes No

If "No," date moved? MMDDYYYY _____

Apartment, Lot, or Unit Number _____

MAILING ADDRESS

Mailing Address (if you do not receive mail at your residential address) _____

Mailing Address Line 2 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

GENDER	RACE	ETHNICITY	POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION
<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> African American/ Black	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian
<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic/ Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaffiliated <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/ Alaska Native		<small>If you indicate a political party that is not currently qualified, or you do not indicate a choice, you will be listed as "Unaffiliated."</small>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiracial		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

7 PREVIOUS VOTER REGISTRATION (This information will be used to cancel your previous voter registration in another county or state.)

Last Name used in Previous Registration _____

First Name used in Previous Registration _____

Previous Address _____

Previous County _____

Previous City _____

Previous State _____ Previous Zip Code _____

I attest, under penalty of perjury, that in addition to having read and understood the contents of this form, that:

- I am a United States citizen, as indicated above;
- I am at least 18 years of age, or will be by the date of the general election; or I am at least 16 years old and understand that I must be at least 18 years old on election day of the general election to vote;
- I shall have been a resident of North Carolina, this county, and precinct for 30 days before the election in which I intend to vote;
- I shall not vote in any other county or state after submission of this form and if I am registered elsewhere, I am canceling that registration at this time; and
- I have not been convicted of a felony, or if I have been convicted of a felony, I have completed my sentence, including any probation or parole. My citizenship and voting rights are automatically restored upon completion of the sentence. No special document is needed.)

Fraudulently or falsely completing this form is a Class I Felony under Chapter 163 of the NC General Statutes.

Signature (Required) X _____ Date _____

version092016 MOISTEN, FOLD, SEAL AND MAIL TO YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

Name is **REQUIRED**

Date of Birth is **REQUIRED**

A physical address cannot be a PO Box. Make sure voters put a physical address in Section 4 and a mailing address (if different) in Section 5. Listing a residential facility in the residential address field would be acceptable (ex. Scott Hall)

Please provide one of the forms of identification (last four of social or driver's license/identification card number).

Special Note: College Students living on campus **MUST** provide a mailing address. Mail will **NOT** be sent directly to their campus addresses. 601 S College Road is not an acceptable residential address!

A signature is **REQUIRED** on EVERY form

All registrants should read this statement carefully before signing the form. Knowingly signing this falsely is a **felony**.

Things to remember...

In order to ensure swift processing of voter registration forms, please be sure to keep these things in mind during your drive:

1. Applications need to be completed using **dark** colored ink (preferably black).
2. Voter Registration forms need to be returned to this office no later than the voter registration deadline. If you are an accepting submission designee and the form is submitted after the deadline, criminal penalties may be applicable.
3. Only **200** forms can be requested from this office per visit. If you know you need a significant amount of forms, please contact the State Board of Elections for bulk orders (919-733-7173).
4. All forms need to be checked for proper completion before acceptance.