

Frequently Asked Questions About Voter Registration

Q: Who can register to vote?

A: You may register to vote if you meet ALL of the following criteria:

- A citizen of the United States;
- A resident of Idaho;
- At least 18 years of age as of the day of the next election;
- Not in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony.

Q: When can I register to vote?

A: In order to be pre-registered for an upcoming election, the county clerk must receive your card postmarked no later than the 25th day prior to the election. If you miss the deadline to pre-register, you can still register at the polls on election day. You can contact the Valley County Clerk's office (208.382.7100) to find out where your polling place is.

Q: How can I get a form to register to vote?

A: You may register to vote:

- By mail: Mail request for mail-in registration form to: Valley County Elections , P.O. Box 1350, Cascade, Idaho 83611;
- By phone: call the Election Department at 208.382.7100;
- In Person: Go to the Valley County Recorder's Office at 219 N. Main Street, Cascade, Idaho 83611
- At any City Clerk's office in Valley County;
- E-Mail jfly@co.valley.id.us;

Q: May I register to vote at my business address or may I use my P.O. Box number?

A: No. A person may only register to vote at his or her place of residence. A business address or a P.O. Box number may only be used as a mailing address.

Q: When is it necessary to re-register?

A: When you move or change your name. Your voter registration should always reflect your current residence address.

Q: What if I just moved and did not re-register? Will I be eligible to vote?

A: If you were previously registered within Valley County and moved within the County's borders, you can vote at the polling place for your new address. You should bring your Idaho Driver's License or Idaho State ID Card with your current address **or TWO** of the following forms of Identification that include your name and current residence address:

- Mail addressed to the voter at his or her current residence address
- Utility bill
- Credit card bill
- Military identification
- College or University fee card or student Identification card
- Lease agreement
- Mortgage statement
- Property tax statement
- Income Tax return
- Bank statement
- Preprinted check or bank deposit slip
- Vehicle registration

Q: May I sign a petition if I am not registered to vote?

A: No. You must be a registered voter for your signature to be valid on a petition. If you complete and sign a voter registration form on the same date or a date prior to signing the

petition, your signature will be valid. The elections official must receive the completed, signed voter registration form on or before the date the petition is filed with the elections office.

QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTE BY MAIL/ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Q: How can I vote an Absentee/Vote by Mail Ballot?

A: Voting by mail is the same as voting by absentee ballot. Rather than going to the polling place to cast a ballot on Election Day, you may request an absentee/vote by mail ballot. Any registered voter may apply for an absentee/vote by mail ballot. Applying is easy. Simply select one of the following options:

- In Person: Applications for absentee ballots may be requested in person at the Valley County Recorder's Office, 219 N. Main Street, Cascade, Idaho 83611
 - By Phone: Call 208.382.7100 and we will mail you an absentee ballot request form.
 - Print application for absentee ballot from the website- www.co.valley.id.us, then click on "Elections."
 - By Mail: Submit a written request with the required information (name of elector, residence address in Valley County and mailing address to which such registration or ballot is to be forwarded), and **signed** by the applicant.
 - By Fax: The fax number for the Valley County Election Department is 208.382.7107.
- If you apply in writing or by fax, your request must include your name, your residence/home address, the mailing address where you want your absentee ballot to be sent and the name and the date of the election for which you are applying.

Remember to sign and date your request!

By Internet: Download and complete an absentee ballot application from our web site:

www.co.valley.id.us , "Elections," "**ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST.**"

Q: When do I apply for an absentee/vote by mail ballot?

A: You may request an absentee ballot as early as 60 days prior to an election.

Q: When is the last day to return my voted absentee/vote by mail ballot?

A: Absentee/vote by mail ballots must be received by the elections official no later than the close of polls (8 p.m.) on Election Day.

Q: How do I turn in my absentee/vote by mail ballot on election day?

A: You may return it in person to the Valley County Clerk's Office at 219 N. Main Street, Cascade, Idaho 83611, by 8:00 p.m. on Election Night. If, because of illness or physical disability, you are unable to return the ballot yourself, you may authorize, in writing, a spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother or sister to return the ballot to the Valley County Clerk's Office at 219 N. Main Street, Cascade, Idaho 83611, by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Q: If I request an absentee/vote by mail ballot, can I change my mind and still vote at my polling place?

A: Yes, but please take your absentee/vote by mail ballot to the polling place and surrender it to the poll workers before voting a regular precinct ballot. If you do not have your absentee/vote by mail ballot to surrender, you will be allowed to cast a ballot at the polling place; however, Idaho Code 18-2307 states someone making "an attempt to vote more than once at any election, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

Q: I received an absentee/vote by mail application from a political campaign. Is this legal to use?

A: Yes. Individuals, organizations and groups may distribute absentee/vote by mail ballot applications; however, they must use the standard format as specified in the Idaho Elections Code. Election officials are not responsible for absentee/vote by mail ballot applications mailed to these individuals or groups. To ensure your ballot is mailed to you in a timely manner, it is recommended that you fax, mail or bring your application directly to the Elections Office.

QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTING

Q: Where do I go to vote/ where is my polling place?

A: Call 208.382.7100

B: Or click on this link <http://www.co.valley.id.us/election.htm>, "Am I Registered?" and follow the instructions.

Q: What are the poll hours of operation?

A: County election polling places are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Q: Why was my polling place changed?

A: In Idaho, there are no permanent poll sites. Locations may change from election to election if a facility previously used is not available for a particular election. Changes to precinct boundaries may sometimes occur when precincts are consolidated or realigned, especially for local elections that are not statewide.

Q: If I do not know what to do when I get to the polling place, will someone help me?

A: Yes. Ask the election poll workers to help you with the voting process. Poll workers cannot, however, help you in making decisions on your voting choices.

Q: Can I vote for someone whose name is not listed on the ballot?

A: Yes if the person is a qualified write-in candidate. Only votes for qualified write-in candidates will be counted. You may ask an election poll worker or call County Elections Office at 208.382.7100 to inquire if someone is a qualified write-in.

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