

Voter Registration Training

Virginia Organizing is dedicated to challenging injustice by empowering people in local communities to address issues that affect the quality of their lives

Key Elements:

- **Statewide**
- **Grassroots**
- **Non-partisan**
- **Anti-racist**
- **Center people who are directly affected**
- **Multi-Constituency**
- **Move people to take action**
- **Develop leaders**
- **Power analysis**



Reach out to us if you'd like to get involved: info@virginia-organizing.org



Virginia Organizing especially encourages the participation of those who have traditionally had little or no voice in our society. By building relationships with individuals and groups throughout the state, Virginia Organizing strives to get them to work together, democratically and non-violently, for change.

Our Campaigns:

- **Wide variety of local campaigns**
- **Statewide/national:**
 - **Health Care**
 - **Housing**
 - **Environmental Justice**
 - **Criminal Justice Reform**
 - **Restoration of Rights**


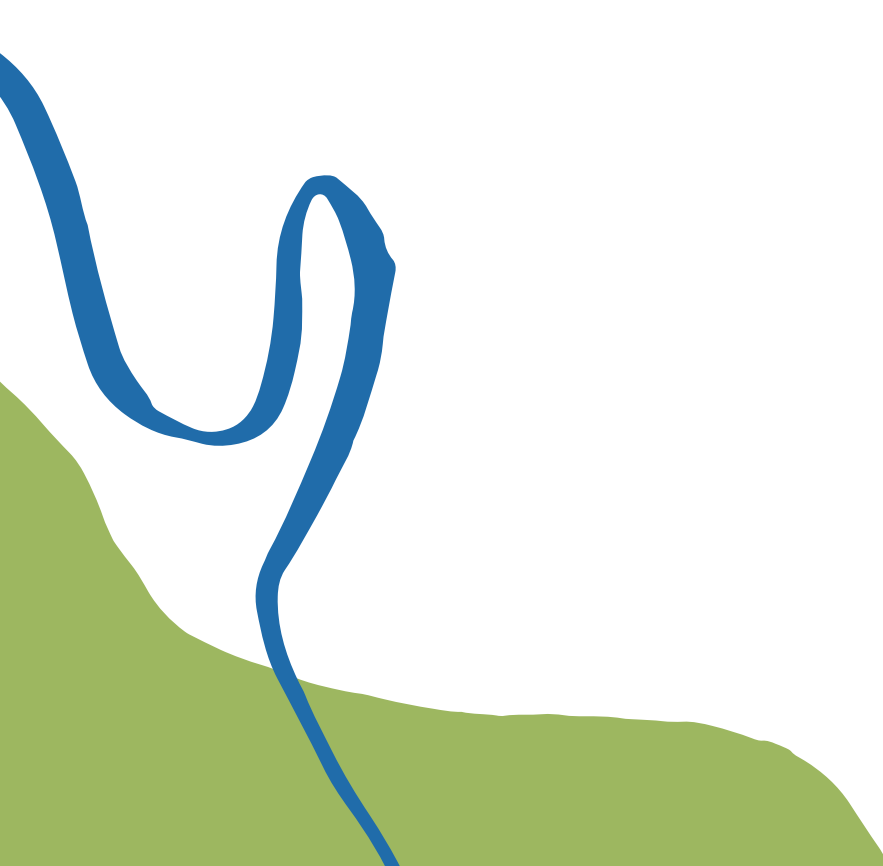
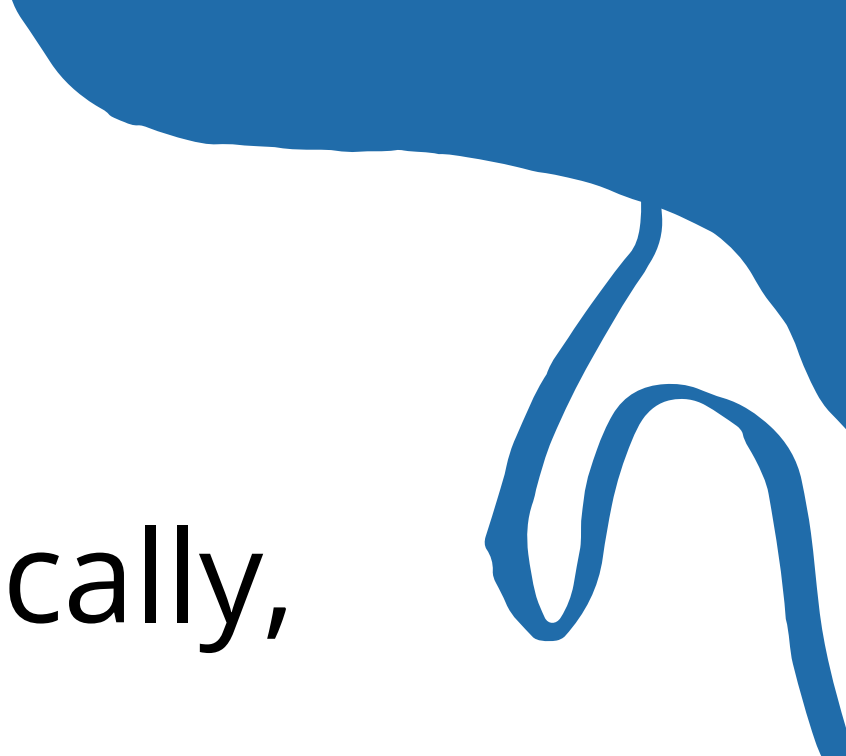


Disclaimer: Virginia Organizing is a non-partisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit. We do not coordinate with any political party or candidate.

Goal for the training: Feel more comfortable with the process and forms associated with registering voters and applying for restoration of civic rights

Virginia Department of Elections has an online training course that we highly encourage you to take if you plan to do voter registration drives. You must sign an affidavit to be registered with the department to do registration drives, or request more than 25 voter registration forms from the Registrar's office.

<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/registration-drives/>



"Virginia law requires training and registration for some individuals and groups conducting voter registration drives. Specifically, groups and individuals that obtain 25 or more voter registration applications from ELECT or a local registrar's office must register with ELECT or in person at the general registrar and take training (Va. Code § 24.2-416.6). Groups printing their own registration applications and engaging in registration drives are also strongly encouraged to register and receive this training."

Why get out the vote?

- Elections like 2023 where only state legislators and local officials are on the ballot tend to have low turnout
- Turnout for local elections is low as 15%
- Only 74% of people who have gotten their rights restored are registered to vote
- Voter suppression continues to persist

New Voting Legislation

- 1.** Individuals can now vote 45 days prior to election day without an excuse
- 2.** Individuals are not required to show a photo ID when they show up to the polls on election day*
- 3.** Election Day is now a state holiday to help ensure folks have time to cast their ballots
- 4.** Online voter registration for individuals who access services at the DMV office or DMV website
- 5.** Expanded absentee voting timelines

*More details on next slide

New ID Procedures

- When voter arrives to polling location, they will be asked for an acceptable form of ID
 - This has been expanded to include non-photo IDs (see link below)
- If voter doesn't have an ID, they will need to sign a statement saying they are the named registered voter before they can cast their ballot
 - Folks who register for the first time via mail will *not* be able to provide the signed statement in replacement of an ID
- If a voter does not show ID, nor signs the statement, they will be offered a provisional ballot

SPECIAL FEDERAL ID REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN FIRST TIME ABSENTEE BY MAIL VOTERS

- For persons who registered to vote in Virginia by mail, federal law requires them to show identification (ID) when voting for the first time in a federal election if they did not send a copy of one of these IDs with their voter registration applications. Recent legislation has eliminated the differences in acceptable identification for in-person voting. Therefore, the special federal ID requirements only apply to certain absentee voters by mail who will be notified by a notice explaining the requirements sent with their absentee ballot. Voters who receive a notice about this special requirements need to include a copy of any of the following types of ID with the voted ballot:
 - A current and valid photo ID (for example a driver's license);
 - OR a current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck that shows name and address;
 - OR another government document that shows name and address (for example a voter card).
- If the voter returns an absentee ballot by mail without a copy of one of these forms of ID, the absentee ballot will be treated as a provisional ballot and counted only if the voter provides a copy of ID to the electoral board by the deadline applicable to all voters. If the voter returns an absentee ballot by mail without a copy of one of these forms of ID, the absentee ballot will be treated as a provisional ballot and counted only if the voter provides a copy of ID to the electoral board by the deadline applicable to all voters.

Additional Updates

New rule adopted by the State Board of Elections: Virginia voters who cast absentee ballots will now send their forms back in envelopes marked with tracking codes (both the outgoing envelopes sent to voters and the included return envelopes voters use to mail completed ballots back)

Voter Registration

- You can only help register new voters, or update information for someone who's moved. Check their status at <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/voter>
 - You'll need first & last name, birthdate, and last four digits of their SSN
 - Link to citizen portal: check status, register to vote, apply to vote by mail, find polling location
- Qualifications to register to vote in Virginia
 - Be a U.S. Citizen
 - Be a resident of Virginia
 - Be 18 years old before election
 - Have rights restored
 - Not be registered to vote/planning to vote in another state
- Where folks can register to vote
 - Local registrar office
 - DMV (in-person or online)
 - Online
 - Folks with a DMV ID can submit application electronically at vote.virginia.gov
 - Folks without a DMV ID can fill out the application online, but must print it off and mail it to their local registrar

Application: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formswarehouse/veris-voter-registration/applications/Voter-Registration-Application.pdf>

■

Use blue or black ink

Virginia Voter Registration Application

Starred (*) items are required. If you do not complete all of the items that are marked with *, your application may be denied (See instructions on reverse side).

1.

☐ YES ☐ NO

* I am a citizen of the United States of America.

* Full social security number

N

N

N

-

N

N

-

N

N

N

N

☐ No SSN was ever issued.

* Date of birth

M

M

/

D

D

/

Y

Y

Y

Y

* Gender

2.

* Last name

Jr.

Sr.

II

III

IV

(Circle if applicable)

* First name

* Middle name

☐ None

* Residence address (May not be a P.O. Box)

Apt #

* City/Town

* ZIP

E-mail

Phone

N

N

N

-

N

N

N

-

N

N

N

N

3.

* Have you ever been convicted of a felony or judged mentally incapacitated and disqualified to vote?

.....

☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, has your right to vote been restored?

.....

☐ YES ☐ NO

4.

☐ I am an active-duty uniformed services member, spouse or dependent; or an overseas citizen.

☐ I am providing a mailing address (below) because my residence address is not serviced by the U.S. Postal Service or I am homeless.

☐ I am providing a Virginia P.O. Box (below) to protect my residence address from public disclosure because I or a household member is/has:

☐ An active or retired law enforcement officer, judge, U.S. or Virginia Attorney General attorney.

☐ Been granted a court issued protective order.

☐ In fear for personal safety from being threatened or stalked by another person.

☐ A participant in the Virginia Attorney General's Address Confidentiality Program.

☐ Been approved to be a foster parent.

My mailing address (Complete only if you have checked a box in this section)

5.

☐ I am currently registered to vote in another state:

___ ___ .

(Indicate state of previous registration)

6.

☐ I am interested in being an Officer of Election (poll worker) on Election Day.

Please send me information.

7.

AFFIRMATION: I swear/affirm, under felony penalty for making willfully false material statements or entries, that the information provided on this form is true. I authorize the cancellation of my current registration and I have read the Privacy Act Notice.

* Signature

Today's date:

M

M

/

D

D

/

Y

Y

Y

Y

☐ By checking this box, I affirm both that I am an individual with physical disabilities and the Affirmation Statement above. Pursuant to Article II, § 2 of the Constitution of Virginia, individuals with physical disabilities are not required to sign the application for voter registrations.

* Virginia Voter Registration Application Receipt

The application collector must submit your completed application within 10 days or by the deadline to register for the next election, whichever comes first. You can check your voter registration status online at www.elections.virginia.gov/registration. If you do not receive confirmation of your voter registration status within 30 days, contact your local voter registrar or the Virginia Department of Elections.

Name, phone and e-mail of office, group or individual receiving application

M

M

/

D

D

/

Y

Y

Y

Y

Date application received

Thank you for applying to vote in Virginia!

VA-NVRA-1 07/2020

Important to remember:

- Don't forget to give the applicant their receipt
- Alphabetize the applications and separate voting jurisdictions before turning them in to the registrar
- Turn applications to the local registrar within 10 days, or before the registration deadline (whichever comes first)
- An approval or denial notice will be mailed to the address on the application within 14 days (call registrar if not received)
 - Applicants can check the status of their registration on the online portal
 - If the applicant is denied, encourage them to call the registrar first. Appealing the decision formally cost \$10
- Don't pre-fill the application
- You can keep the applicants name, year of birth, address, & contact information. NOT their SSN.
 - Follow up with them around election time, make sure they have a voting plan

Restoration of Rights

- In Virginia, when someone is convicted of a felony they must apply to have their civil rights restored.
- With your rights restored, you can:
 - Vote
 - Become a notary public
 - Serve on a jury
 - Run for public office
- After application is sent, the review process can take between 1-3 months.
 - Applicants must register to vote after their rights are restored.
- If an individual is convicted in another state, but now lives in Virginia, call the Secretary of the Commonwealth to proceed.
- If an individual is convicted in Virginia, but now lives elsewhere, the Virginia Governor can still restore their rights. Follow application process.

Application: <https://www.restore.virginia.gov/>

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

RESTORATION OF RIGHTS

To have your rights restored or to check your restoration status visit us at <http://Restore.Virginia.gov>, call us at **804-692-0104**, or simply complete and return this form via mail to:

Secretary of the Commonwealth
Restoration of Rights Division
P.O. Box 2454
Richmond, Virginia 23218

FULL LEGAL NAME	
FULL NAME WHEN CONVICTED	GENDER IDENTITY <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	DATE OF BIRTH
MAILING ADDRESS (INCLUDE CITY, STATE, AND ZIP)	
PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
IN WHICH COURT WERE YOU CONVICTED? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY) <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia Circuit Court <input type="checkbox"/> Out of State Circuit Court <input type="checkbox"/> Military Court <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Court (district, if known) _____	
ARE YOU A U.S. CITIZEN <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Citizen (Non-citizens are still eligible to have their right to be a notary public restored.)	
ELIGIBILITY FOR RESTORATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> I have completed serving any and all terms of incarceration and have been released from any and all terms of supervised probation, parole, or other state supervision.	

THE CIVIL RIGHTS RESTORED THROUGH THIS PROCESS INCLUDE:



VOTE



BECOME A
NOTARY PUBLIC



SERVE ON
A JURY



RUN FOR
PUBLIC OFFICE

Please note that the restoration of rights does not restore the right to possess a firearm.
You must petition the appropriate circuit court pursuant to Virginia Code § 18.2-308.2.
This is not a pardon nor does it expunge a criminal conviction.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH
RESTORATION OF RIGHTS DIVISION

Important Reminders for 2023 Primaries

- Early voting started May 5 for the June 20 primaries
- Request your absentee ballot by June 9 @ 5 *p.m.*
 - Absentee ballots returned to local general registrar's office must be postmarked by 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 20, 2023. (Ballots must arrive by noon on the third day following the election.)
- Early in person voting must be completed by June 17 @ 5:00 *p.m.*
 - Early voting will take place at your local registrar's office

Take Action

- Connect with the people in your own contact list (Are they registered? Do they have a voting plan?)
- Join Each One Takes Ten - get 10 people registered to vote!
- Post flyers or door hangers with voter registration information
 - <https://virginia-organizing.org/register-voters/>
- Connect with your local organizer to develop a plan for your community
 - <https://virginia-organizing.org/staff/>
- Check in to our landing page for additional voter registration information and materials
 - <https://virginia-organizing.org/register-voters/>

Take Action (continued)

- Include flyers or registration forms in food bank deliveries, at gas stations, other essential businesses
- Posters (at rallies or other public spaces) with QR codes that direct folks to registration site
- Social media campaigns (infographics, flowcharts, 'register to vote' sticker on Instagram)
- Ask local media to run a story on the election/voter registration (TV, newspaper radio). Can your local registrar give an interview to discuss how the election will look in your locality?
- Connect with local religious communities, non-profits, or other groups to distribute information

Registering Voters Over the Phone

A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO VIRTUAL CIVIC ENGAGEMENT WORK

"ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?"



YES



Great! Are you interested in helping others get registered? We have a program called "Each One Takes Ten" where folks commit to helping 10 people they know register to vote and create a voting plan. Is that something you're interested in?



NO



NO



You can go to the Virginia Department of Elections Website to register. You just need your first and last name, SSN, and birthdate to check your status.
<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/>

If you need your rights restored, you can contact the Secretary of the Commonwealth (804-786-2441), or visit <https://www.restore.virginia.gov/>

Check their email, and send them the form.



May I have one more minute of your time?



Will you make a call to Governor Northam and ask him to make sure everyone has access to the internet? His number is (804)-786-2211.



That's okay! May I have one more minute of your time?

Want to do more? Contact folks in your cell phone contact list, members of your faith community, friends, family, co-workers and ask them if they are willing to use this flow chart to make contacts!



EACH ONE TAKES TEN

Your name _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

List ten people you will contact to check if they (1) are registered to vote (or need to work on getting their rights restored), (2) know where their polling place is, (3) know who is on the ballot, (4) make sure they have a plan for election day, and know the date and time their polling place will be open on election day and (5) know the process to get an absentee ballot:

NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL	NOTES
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Are any of them willing to commit to work on an EACH ONE TAKES TEN campaign and contact TEN people?

Need help? Contact Virginia Organizing at (434) 984-4655 x222





Resources for registering voters!

Important Contact Information

Department of Elections: (804)-864-8901

- General voter registration/voting questions

Secretary of the Commonwealth: (804)-692-0104

- Restoration of rights questions

Your Local Registrar:

- Questions about voter registration/voting in your community
- <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/voterinformation/publiccontactlookup>

Follow along online



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