

Frequently Asked Questions about Registration



Do I have to put my Social Security Number on my Voter Registration Form?

It is a good idea to do so. If you leave that field blank, the Election Commission is supposed to give you a call. However, they process hundreds, if not thousands of forms every month, and if yours is incomplete, it might slip through the cracks. It will save you a lot of time and effort to put your social security number on your application.

If I've moved here from another state, do I fill out "Address Change" or "New Registration?"

Even if you were previously registered to vote in your home state, you should check the box "New Registration." You are a new Tennessee voter, and checking "New Registration" indicates that you need to be added to Tennessee's voter rolls for the first time.

Do I have to put my phone number on my voter registration form?

It is a good idea to do so. It's not required, but if you don't, the Election Commission will not be able to notify you if your registration form is otherwise incomplete or if anything goes wrong in the registration process.

What if I'm going to college here, but I'm from another state?

You can choose to register either in your home state, or at your address here in Tennessee.

What if I'm homeless? What do I put as my address?

If you're homeless, you can still register to vote. One of the reasons why they need your address is to know where to send your voter registration card. Therefore, the easiest way to register is to list the address of a local homeless shelter or church who opens their doors to the homeless. Make sure that you frequent the place you list as your address to make sure that you get your Voter Registration card when they send it to you.

What if I'm a felon and I've had my voting rights taken away?

If you're a felon, you can get your voting rights restored unless you committed first degree murder, aggravated rape, treason, or voter fraud between July 1, 1986 and June 30, 1996, or you committed murder or rape between July 1, 1996 and June 30, 2006. If you committed any of these offenses, or were convicted of a felony of any kind on or after July 1, 2006, you cannot get your voting rights restored. Also, if you have any outstanding child support payments, voting rights restoration is not possible until those payments are made.