**Disclaimer:** This guide is designed for informational purposes only. It is not legal advice and is not intended to create an attorney-client relationship. The Election Protection Coalition does not warrant any information contained in this guide, nor does the Coalition suggest that the information in this guide should be used as a basis to pursue legal advice or decision-making.

**Note:** This FAQ is not exhaustive. Situations or inquiries may arise that are not answered below. In those circumstances, contact your hotline captain or command center for assistance. Please make sure to record all of the voter’s contact information should follow-up be necessary.

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**1. Am I registered to vote?**

You can determine whether a voter is registered to vote by checking the Nebraska Secretary of State’s website ([https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView/RegistrantSearch.do](https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView/RegistrantSearch.do)).

**2. Where do I vote?**

You can determine a voter’s proper polling place by checking the Nebraska Secretary of State’s website ([https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView/PollingPlaceSearch.do](https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView/PollingPlaceSearch.do)). If a voter has moved recently and has not updated his or her voter registration, refer to Question #6.

**3. When do the polls open and close?**

The polls are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central Time or 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mountain Time on Election Day, depending on the region. The polling place will remain open for a reasonable period after the closing time to allow voters in line at the polling place by 8:00 p.m. Central Time or 7:00 p.m. Mountain Time to vote.
4. When is/was the voter registration deadline?

Voters may register to vote online, by mail, or in person. The voter registration deadline depends on the method of registration.

**Online**
The online voter registration deadline is 5:00 p.m. Central Time on the third Friday before an election. The deadline for online registration for the May 12, 2020 primary election is April 24, 2020 (i.e., the third Friday preceding the election date). The deadline for online registration for the November 3, 2020 general election is October 16, 2020. In order to register online, a voter must have a Nebraska driver’s license or state-issued identification card. Applicants can apply to register at [https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/](https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/).

**By Mail**
The mail-in voter registration deadline is the third Friday before an election; voter registration applications submitted by mail will be processed if they are postmarked on or before that day. The deadline for online registration for the May 12, 2020 primary election is April 24, 2020. The deadline for the November 3, 2020 general election is October 16, 2020. To register by mail, applicants should complete the voter registration form available in English and Spanish at [https://sos.nebraska.gov/elec/ele_forms.html](https://sos.nebraska.gov/elec/ele_forms.html) and mail the form and supporting documents to their local election office. Applicants can find the address for their local election office at [http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html](http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html).

**In Person**
The deadline to register in person is 6:00 p.m. Central Time on the second Friday before an election, which is May 1 for the May 12, 2020 primary election or October 23 for the November 3, 2020 general election. Individuals may register to vote in person at their local county clerk. Voters registering in person should visit [http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html](http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html) to find their election office.

5. Can I vote without providing identification?

Yes. Nebraska does not require identification on Election Day, unless the voter registered by mail and did not previously provide the required proof of residence.

Voters can register by mail or in person without identification. To register without providing identification, a voter must provide proof of his or her current address and must fill out the voter registration form, available in English and Spanish at [http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/ele_forms.html](http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/ele_forms.html). Acceptable forms of proof of address include a current photo ID or a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document dated within 60 days of the date it is provided as proof of address. The proof of address must have a name and address matching the registration application.

In addition, there are a few situations where an applicant who registers by mail does not need to present identification even if they are a first-time Nebraska voter:

- The individual has provided their Nebraska driver’s license number or the last four digits of their social security number and the election commissioner or county clerk verifies the number against a record available from the Department of Motor Vehicles;
- The individual is a member of the U.S. armed forces or Merchant Marine who by reason of active duty is absent from their place of residence where the member is otherwise eligible to vote;
• The individual is a spouse or dependent of a member of the U.S. armed forces or Merchant Marine who is absent from their place of residence due to the service of that member;
• The individual resides outside the United States and but for such residence would be qualified to vote in Nebraska if Nebraska was the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States;
• The individual is elderly or handicapped and has requested to vote by alternative means other than by casting a ballot at their polling place on Election Day.

To register to vote online, an applicant must have a Nebraska driver’s license or other state issued identification card.

6. I have moved and I didn’t update my voter registration, can I vote?

The answer to this question depends on where the voter moved. Refer to the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Moved within the same precinct within the same county</th>
<th>Moved to a different precinct but within the same county</th>
<th>Moved to a different county</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Because the polling place will be the same for the new and old address, voters should go to that polling place and complete a change of address form. The voter will be able to cast a provisional ballot and may be able to cast a regular ballot based on local county rules.</td>
<td>The voter should go to the polling place that corresponds with the new address and complete a registration application. The voter will be able to cast a provisional ballot.</td>
<td>If the voter moved to a new county after the close of the registration period, they will still be entitled to vote for president and vice-president during a general election. Otherwise, the voter must re-register in the new county by the voter registration deadline to be eligible to vote.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. What should I do if there are equipment problems at my precinct?

Voters should immediately notify the election officers if the voting equipment breaks down. If the problem cannot be fixed in a timely manner, a voter should ask if an emergency paper ballot is available.

8. I am a registered voter who is not on the rolls at the precinct where I currently am. Can I vote where I am?

If a voter is not found on the rolls of the polling place where they are attempting to vote, the precinct should call the relevant county clerk’s office to verify the voter’s status.

If the county clerk informs the poll worker that an error has been made, the poll worker must allow the voter to cast a provisional ballot or, under certain circumstances, a regular ballot. If a voter is in the wrong precinct, they should attempt to go to the correct precinct. Otherwise, the voter should ask to cast a provisional ballot.

9. My name isn’t popping up on the list of registered voters – could it have been removed?
A voter’s name may be removed from the list of registered voters by their written request, death, because the voter has registered or voted in another state, because the voter has become ineligible (e.g. through felony conviction or adjudication of incompetency), or in connection with a voter registration list maintenance program.13

If a voter is told that their name has been removed from the voter rolls and cannot resolve the issue, he or she is entitled to cast a provisional ballot. An election official will provide a provision ballot, collect the provisional ballot after the voter has cast his or her vote, and ask the voter to sign a certification indicating that the voter is eligible to vote in that precinct.14

Election Protection hotline volunteers can take steps to help to determine why a voter’s name is not popping up on the list of registered voters:

- Check the voter’s registration status using the registration lookup tool to make sure they are registered to vote and at the right place. (See Question #1.)
- Has the voter moved recently? Could they be registered at an old address? Check that address in the registration lookup tool. (See Question #1 and Question #6.)
- Has the voter changed their name recently, or could they be registered under a different name? Check that name (and any variations of the voter’s name, especially for hyphenated names, which sometimes trip up databases) in the registration lookup tool. (See Question #1.)
- When/where did the voter register to vote? Was that before the deadline?

10. I have a criminal conviction. Can I vote?

An individual cannot vote in Nebraska if they have been convicted of a felony in any state, until two (2) years after completing the felony sentence, including any parole term. The voter disqualification will be removed automatically once the sentence is complete.15

11. I have been offered a provisional ballot. What should I do?

Inquire why the voter was offered a provisional ballot. A registered voter should be offered a provisional ballot only when:16

- The voter did not provide proof of residence or identification after registering by mail and does not provide identification to vote (see Question #5);17
- The voter moved to a new residence within the same county and did not re-register (see Question #6);18
- The voter’s name does not appear on the voter rolls due to error (see Question #8);19 or
- The voter’s name appears with the notation that they have received an early voting ballot.20

Except for the above reasons, a registered voter should be able to cast a regular ballot. A provisional ballot should be a last resort. However, if the voter does cast a provisional ballot, the voter can check whether the ballot was counted by calling the Nebraska Secretary of State’s Office at (888) 727-0007 or (402) 471-2555 or by visiting https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView/ProvisionalBallotSearch.do.

12. I am a college student. Can I register to vote where I go to school?
Yes. A voter who attends school in Nebraska can establish residency and vote in Nebraska if they intend to establish a home in Nebraska. The legal definition for establishing residency includes a place where someone actually lives, has a connection, and where they intend to return after an absence.21

A voter who is a resident of Nebraska but who attends school in another state may vote in Nebraska if his or her family is domiciled in Nebraska and the voter has not established residency in the other state.22 The voter should check the state law of the state in which he or she attends school to determine whether residency is established there.

13. I am physically disabled and need assistance. Will my polling place be accessible?

Polling places are required to be accessible to all registered voters and to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Help America Vote Act. At least one voting booth at each polling place must be installed for easy access for those with physical limitations, must accommodate voters in wheelchairs, and must have a cover or barrier to provide privacy.23 If an individual is unable to access the polling place, one judge of the election and one clerk of the election may take a ballot from the polling place to an accessible, convenient location within one block of the polling place (including the individual’s vehicle) and may assist the individual in casting his or her vote.24

14. I am blind, physically disabled, or cannot read English and require assistance in order to vote. Can I get assistance at the polls?

Yes. Voters who are blind, who cannot read, or who for reason of physical disability need assistance voting are entitled to choose a friend or relative to assist them with voting, or otherwise get assistance from an election official.25

15. I don’t know how to use the voting equipment. Can I get help?

Yes. If a voter informs a poll worker that they need assistance to operate a voting device, a poll worker may assist the voter.26

16. Can I vote absentee or vote in person before Election Day?

Nebraska uses early voting instead of absentee voting. All registered voters are permitted to participate in early voting.27 The earliest that a voter can request an early voting ballot is 120 days before Election Day—July 6 for the 2020 general elections.

Voters may request an early ballot in person, or send a request by mail, fax, or email. If requesting the early ballot by mail, the voter must mail the request no later than the third Friday before the election—October 16 for the 2020 general election. If requesting the early ballot in person, by fax, or by email, the voter must request the early ballot no later than the second Friday before the election—October 23 for the 2020 general election.28

- Voters may request an early ballot using the form provided on the Secretary of State’s website, available at [http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/pdf/earlyvote_app.pdf](http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/pdf/earlyvote_app.pdf). Voters can email, mail, or fax the form to their Election Commissioner or County Clerk.
- Voters can also submit a written request to their Election Commissioner or County Clerk. The request must include the voter’s home address, the address where the voter wants to receive the ballot, telephone number (if applicable), and signature.
Early voting for the 2020 general election starts October 9, 2018 and ends November 5, 2018. Voters who properly request an early ballot will receive a ballot and an identification envelope. The voter should fill out the ballot, seal it in the identification envelope, sign an oath on the outside of the identification envelope, and mail or deliver the sealed and signed identification envelope to the Election Commissioner/County Clerk. To be counted, the completed ballot must be received by the Election Commissioner/County Clerk before the polls close (8:00 p.m. Central Time/7:00 p.m. Mountain Time) on Election Day.29

The Election Commissioner/County Clerk does not automatically confirm receipt of a voter’s early ballot. The voter may contact the office of the Election Commissioner/County Clerk to confirm receipt.30

17. What if I requested an absentee ballot but I want to vote in person on Election Day?

Nebraska uses early voting instead of absentee voting (see Question #16). A voter whose name appears on the precinct list with a notation that the voter received an early voting ballot can vote in person only by provisional ballot.31

18. Does my state have same-day registration? If so, what is the process?

Nebraska does not have same-day registration. A voter must register by the voter registration deadline (see Question #4).

19. What rules apply to people campaigning or “hanging around” my polling place? Can people approach me?

Individuals are prohibited from electioneering, including circulating petitions or soliciting votes, within 200 feet of any polling place. Prohibited actions include displaying or disseminating information with the purpose of advocating for or against any candidate, elected official, political party, or ballot measure.32

Individuals are also prohibited from conducting an exit poll or otherwise interviewing voters on Election Day to determine voter preferences within 20 feet of the entrance of the polling place or within 100 feet of any voting booth.33

20. Someone is formally challenging my right to vote. What do I do?

Voter qualification may be challenged by any inspector, judge or clerk of election, or registered voter.34 If challenged, a voter will be permitted to vote if they swear an affidavit as to their eligibility.35

21. Can I vote in the primary election?

Primary elections in Nebraska are closed, meaning that voters must be registered members of the party holding the primary to vote in the primary. If there are candidates running as Independents who choose not to participate in the primary for any major party, those candidates will be placed on a non-partisan ballot. Unaffiliated voters cannot participate in primary elections for a major party, but may participate in the non-partisan primary election to the extent there are Independent candidates who chose to be listed on a non-partisan ballot. Voters can affiliate with one major party when they register to vote or they may
update their affiliation at any time online, by mail, or in person using the same procedures they would use to register to vote (see Question # 4). Unaffiliated Voters may also select a party affiliation on primary election day at their polling place, and their record will be updated to reflect their affiliation.36 Nebraska’s primary election is scheduled for May 12, 2020.

8 Id.
22 Id.
25 Id.
26 Id.
36 https://sos.nebraska.gov/elec/voter_info.html