



Connecticut

Voter Registration & Voter List Maintenance Guide

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State Guide to Voter Registration & Voter List Maintenance Statutes

This is a guide to your state's laws relating to voter registration and voter list maintenance.

The statutes/codes cited in this guide may not be the most recent version. States may have more current or accurate information. We make no warranties or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in the individual state guides or the information linked to on the state site.

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Who can I contact with election related questions?

[Link to Elections Official](#)

Chief Elections Office:	Stephanie Thomas, Secretary of State <u>Elections Division</u>
Physical Address:	165 Capitol Avenue, Suite 1000 Hartford, CT 06106
Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 150470 Hartford, CT 06115-0470
Phone Number:	860-509-6200
Fax Number:	860-509-6127
Online Contact:	<u>LEAD@ct.gov</u>



How do I register to vote?

[Link to Register](#)

[Link to Statutes](#)

If you can answer yes to all three of these questions, you are eligible to register to vote in Connecticut.

- Are you at least 17 and turning 18 on or before Election Day?
- Are you a United States citizen living in Connecticut?
- If you have been convicted of a felony, have you completed confinement?



How do I cancel my voter registration?

[Link to Statute](#)

[Sec. 9-35b. Relinquishment of registration by elector.](#)

Except during the period between the last session for the admission of electors prior to an election and the day following that election, any elector of any municipality who desires to relinquish his rights as an elector and to have his name erased from the registry list shall make a signed written request to the registrars of voters of such municipality. Upon receipt of such application, the registrars shall remove the elector's name from the registry list and any enrollment list. Any person whose name has been removed from the registry list pursuant to this section may reapply for admission as an elector at any time, without prejudice on account of such removal. In the event such person is admitted as an elector, the registrar of the municipality shall notify the registrars of the municipality where such person resided at the time of his relinquishment that his electoral privileges have been restored.

How is voter list maintenance handled?

Sec. 9-19i. Change of address form submitted for purposes of motor vehicle operator's license to serve as notification of change of address for voter registration purposes; exception; procedure. Electronic notification system.

(a) Any change of address form submitted by a person in accordance with law for purposes of a motor vehicle operator's license shall serve as notification of change of address for voter registration for the person unless the person states on the form that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall forthwith transmit such change of address information to the registrars of voters of the town of the former address of the person. If the name of the person appears on the registry list of the town, and if the new address is also within such town, the registrars shall enter the name of such elector on the registry list at the place where he then resides. If the name of the person appears on the registry list of the town and if the new address is outside such town, the registrars shall remove the name of such elector from the registry list and send the elector the notice, information and application required by subsection (c) of section 9-35, except that if said commissioner is using an electronic system pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary of the State may prescribe alternative procedures for sending such notice and information and may waive the requirement to send such application.

Sec. 9-21. Removal of elector from registry list.

(a) If any applicant for admission as an elector in any town has previously been admitted as an elector in any other town in this state, or in any other state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, Guam or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, he shall, under penalties of perjury, so declare, and shall also declare by what name and in what town and state, district or territory he was last admitted as an elector and the street address from which he last voted therein. The admitting official shall within forty-eight hours thereafter transmit a notice of cancellation of such registration, upon a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State to the registrars of such other town or, in the case of a town in another state, district or territory, to the appropriate registration official or officials in such other town. Upon receipt of such notice of cancellation of registration, the registrars of the town from which such elector has removed shall forthwith erase the name of such elector from the registry list of the town, if the same has not been erased therefrom.

(b) When the Secretary of the State receives information from a registration official of another state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, Guam or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands that an elector of this state has registered in such other state, district or territory, the Secretary of the State may transmit a notification of such registration to the registrars of the town where such individual may be an elector in this state. If the registrars determine that the individual identified in the notice is an elector in this state, the registrars shall remove the name of such elector from the registry list.

Sec. 9-21a. Search of computerized voter registration records. Duplicate registrations.

(a) The Secretary of the State, at such times as the Secretary determines, may cause a search to be made of computerized voter registration records to identify electors who may be registered in more than one town. The Secretary may compile, from such search, a list of possible duplicate registrations in any town or towns and transmit such list to the registrars of voters of the appropriate town or towns.

(b) Upon receipt of such list from the Secretary, the registrars may make such additional investigation as they deem necessary to determine if any elector in their town whose name appears on such list was previously registered in another town. The registrars of voters shall send to each elector on the registry list in their town, who the registrars of voters determine to be the same person who was previously registered in another town, a notice of duplicate registration in a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State stating that (1) based on a computer search of voter registration records it appears that the elector may have been registered to vote in another town before registering in the registrars' town, (2) as the result of such previous registration, the elector is no longer entitled to remain on the registry list in the previous town, and (3) unless the elector contacts the registrars of voters within thirty days to confirm that the elector is still entitled to be on the registry list in the previous town, the elector's name shall be removed from the list. The notice of duplicate registration shall include a form on which the elector may confirm that the elector is entitled to be on an active registry list because the elector is a bona fide resident of the registrars' town and either is not the person whose name appears on the registry list of another town, or has registered in the registrars' town after registering in any other town.

(c) When an elector whose name appears on the inactive list files the confirmation provided for in this section, the elector's name shall be restored to the active list. No elector shall be removed from the registry list pursuant to this section unless both registrars of voters agree that such elector has subsequently registered to vote in another town.

Sec. 9-35. Making and arrangement of preliminary list. Active and inactive registry lists. Removal of names. Change of address within municipality.

(a) The registrars, on the Tuesday of the fifth week before each regular election, shall be in session for the purpose of completing a correct list of all electors who will be entitled to vote at such election. Such registry list shall consist of an active registry list and an inactive registry list. Such session shall be held during such hours between nine o'clock a.m. and five o'clock p.m. as the registrars find necessary to complete the list. Notice of such session shall be given at least five days before the session by publication in a newspaper having a circulation in such municipality, if any, and by posting on the signpost therein, if any, or at some other exterior place near the office of the town clerk. Such publication shall not be required to be in the form of a legal advertisement.

(b) At such session and on any day except on the day of an election or primary, the registrars shall remove from the list the name of each elector who has died, who has been disfranchised or who has confirmed in writing that the elector has moved out of the municipality, except electors entitled to remain on such list under the provisions of this chapter. An elector shall be deemed to have confirmed in writing that the elector has moved out of the municipality if (1) the elector has submitted a change of address form for purposes of a state motor vehicle operator's license, unless the elector states on the form that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes, (2) the elector has submitted a change of address form to a voter registration agency, as defined in section 9-23n, and such agency has provided such change of address to the registrars of voters, or (3) the registrars of voters have received a cancellation of previous registration from any other election official indicating that such elector has registered as an elector outside such municipality.

Section 9-35, cont.

(c) Whenever the registrars of voters of a town remove from the registry list the name of an elector who has submitted a change of address to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or a voter registration agency under subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (b) of this section, indicating that the elector has moved out of such town, the registrars shall send the elector, by forwardable mail to the elector's former address from such list or current address in the new town, (1) a notice of removal, (2) information explaining how to have the elector's name restored to such list, which shall be in a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, and (3) a mail-in voter registration application which can be used by the elector to apply for admission as an elector in the new town. If such notice, information and application are sent to the elector's former address and are returned undeliverable, the registrars shall mail such documents to the elector's address in the new town.

(d) The registrars shall enter the names on such list by street and number of the house, when the houses are numbered, so that there shall be entered on the list first, the street, avenue or road; second, the number of the house or residence in numerical order or, if the registrars of any town find it more convenient, by odd and even numbers in numerical order; and third, the names of the electors in such house in alphabetical order. The names of any electors who cannot be so listed shall be listed alphabetically in the voting district wherein any such elector is a bona fide resident. The registrars of voters may consecutively number the names on the registry list, may include voter identification numbers for the names on the registry list, and may include a mark, as prescribed by the Secretary of the State, next to the name of each first-time registrant on the system who registers to vote on or after January 1, 2003, and does not provide identification with his or her mail-in voter registration application as provided in the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time, provided such list shall comply in all respects with the requirements of law other than for the addition of such numbers and marks. The registrars shall not use Social Security numbers for any such voter identification numbers.

(e) In any case in which the registrars have obtained reliable information of an elector's change of address within the municipality, the registrars shall enter the name of such elector on the registry list at the place where the elector then resides, provided, if such reliable information is the National Change of Address System of the United States Postal Service, the registrar shall change the registry list and send the elector a notice of the change by forwardable mail and a postage prepaid preaddressed return form by which the elector may verify or correct the address information. If during the canvass the registrars determine that an elector has moved out of the municipality and such elector has not confirmed in writing that the elector has moved out of the municipality, the registrars shall, not later than May first, send to the elector, by forwardable mail, a notice required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, together with a postage prepaid preaddressed return card on which the elector may state the elector's current address. In the year of a presidential preference primary, the registrars shall send such notice not earlier than the date of such primary. If the registrar does not receive the return card within thirty days after it is sent, the elector's name, including the name of an elector who has not voted in two consecutive federal elections, shall be placed on the inactive registry list for four years. At the expiration of such period of time on the inactive registry list, such name shall be removed from the registry list. If such elector applies to restore the elector's name to the active registry list or votes during such period, the elector's name shall be restored to the active registry list. Such registrars shall retain a duplicate copy or record of each such notice in their office or, if the registrars do not have a permanent office, in the office space provided under section 9-5a, and shall note on such duplicate copy or record the date on which such notice was mailed. In each municipality, any elector, upon change of residence within the municipality, may cause the elector's registration to be transferred to the elector's new address by presenting to the registrars a new application for voter registration. The registrars shall thereupon enter the elector's name on the list at the elector's new residence; provided no transfer of registration shall be made on the registry list on election day without the consent of each registrar.

Sec. 9-35a. Posting of names removed from registry list.

Immediately after the close of the session or immediately after the sending of notice of intended removal provided for in section 9-35, the registrars of voters shall post at the town hall or municipal building in the municipality in which they serve, in a place readily accessible to the public, a list of the names of the electors whose names were removed from the registry list at such session or will be removed on the date specified in section 9-35, together with the address of each such elector as it appeared on the registry list at the time the name was so removed. Together with such list, and as a part thereof, such registrars shall also cause to be posted a statement that complete information as to such removal and as to the privileges and remedies of those whose names were removed from the registry list is available from such registrars, specifying when and where such registrars are available for such purpose and, in the case of registrars of voters having office hours, specifying such office hours.

Sec. 9-35b. Relinquishment of registration by elector.

Except during the period between the last session for the admission of electors prior to an election and the day following that election, any elector of any municipality who desires to relinquish his rights as an elector and to have his name erased from the registry list shall make a signed written request to the registrars of voters of such municipality. Upon receipt of such application, the registrars shall remove the elector's name from the registry list and any enrollment list. Any person whose name has been removed from the registry list pursuant to this section may reapply for admission as an elector at any time, without prejudice on account of such removal. In the event such person is admitted as an elector, the registrar of the municipality shall notify the registrars of the municipality where such person resided at the time of his relinquishment that his electoral privileges have been restored.

[The National Voter Registration Act of 1993](#)

Congress enacted the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (also known as the “NVRA” and the “Motor Voter Act”), to enhance voting opportunities for every American. The Act has made it easier for all Americans to register to vote and to maintain their registration. Section 8 of the NVRA contains requirements with respect to the administration of voter registration by States and requires States to implement procedures to maintain accurate and current voter registration lists.

For more information about the NVRA, please visit the [Department of Justice website](#).

List of voter registration statuses and their definitions

[Link to Statutes](#)

Registration Statuses	
Active - A voter whose name appears on the official registration list	Sec. 9-12
Inactive - The registrars shall remove from the active list the name of each elector who has died, who has been disfranchised or who has confirmed in writing that the elector has moved out of the municipality, except electors entitled to remain on such list under the provisions of this chapter. An elector shall be deemed to have confirmed in writing that the elector has moved out of the municipality if (1) the elector has submitted a change of address form for purposes of a state motor vehicle operator's license, unless the elector states on the form that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes, (2) the elector has submitted a change of address form to a voter registration agency, as defined in section 9-23n, and such agency has provided such change of address to the registrars of voters, or (3) the registrars of voters have received a cancellation of previous registration from any other election official indicating that such elector has registered as an elector outside such municipality.	Sec. 9-35

How do I file an election complaint?

[Link to Form](#)

[Link to Statute](#)

The State of Connecticut has two agencies that are involved in the electoral process. The Secretary of the State is responsible for the administration of elections and the State Elections Enforcement Commission is responsible for the investigation and enforcement of alleged violations of the election laws. The State Elections Enforcement Commission is designed to handle complaints and alleged violations of election laws. Therefore, the State Elections Enforcement Commission will be the agency charged with the implementation of the administration complaint procedure.

Who can I contact regarding an election related complaint?

State Elections Enforcement Commission:	Michael J Brandi, Executive Director
Physical Address:	55 Farmington Avenue Hartford, CT 06105
Mailing Address:	State Elections Enforcement Commission 55 Farmington Ave Hartford, CT 06105
Phone Number:	860-256-2940
Email Address:	SEEC@ct.gov
Website:	https://portal.ct.gov/seec