

# Arkansas

## *Voter Registration & Voter List Maintenance Guide*

*Provided by*

VOTER  
REFERENCE   
FOUNDATION

**Disclaimer:** This is a guide to Arizona'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 this guide or the information linked to on the state site.

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## Who can I contact with election related questions?

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**CHIEF STATE ELECTION OFFICER:**  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**Physical Address:**

State Capitol  
500 Woodlane Avenue, Suite 256  
Little Rock, AR 72201

**Mailing Address:**

Arkansas Secretary of State  
500 Woodlane Avenue, Suite 256  
Little Rock, AR 72201

**Phone Number:**

501-682-3419

**Email Address:**

[arsos@sos.arkansas.gov](mailto:arsos@sos.arkansas.gov)

**Website:**

<https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections>

## How do I register to vote?

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### [Link to register to vote](#)

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#### [Ark. Const. Art. 3, § 1](#)

To register to vote in the State of Arkansas, you must:

- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Be an Arkansas resident.
- Be age 18 or turn 18 on or before the next election.
- Not be a convicted felon whose sentence has not been discharged or pardoned.
- Not be presently adjudged as mentally incompetent as to your ability to vote by a court of competent jurisdiction.

## How do I cancel my voter registration?

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If you wish to cancel your Arkansas voter registration, contact your [local County Clerk's office](#) for instructions.

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#### [Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §11, Cancellation of registration](#)

- e. Within ten (10) days following the receipt or possession of information requiring any cancellation of registration, other than under section 11(a)(1) of this amendment, the permanent registrar shall cancel the registration, note the date of the cancellation, the reason for the cancellation, and the person cancelling the registration.

## How is voter list maintenance handled?

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### Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §10. Transfer and change of status

(a) Upon a change of legal residence within the county, or a change of name, any registered voter may cause his or her registration to be transferred to his or her new address or new name by completing and mailing a federal or state mail voter registration application form, by updating his or her address at the Office of Driver Services, any state revenue office, public assistance agency, disabilities agency, or other voter registration agency, by signing a mailed request to the permanent registrar, giving his or her present address and the address at which he or she was last registered or his or her present name and the name under which he or she was last registered, or by applying in person at the office of the permanent registrar.

(b)(1) Upon a change of legal residence from one (1) county within the state to another county within the state, any registered voter may cause his or her registration to be transferred to the new county at his or her new address by:

(A) Completing and mailing a federal or state mail voter registration application form;

(B) Updating his or her new address at a voter registration agency, including without limitation the Office of Driver Services or a state revenue office, public assistance agency, or disabilities agency;

(C) Signing a mailed request to the permanent registrar giving the voter's present address and the address at which the voter was last registered; or

(D) Applying in person for the transfer at the office of the permanent registrar.

(2)(A) If the updated registration information is actually received in the office of the county clerk of the voter's new county not later than four (4) days before a scheduled election, the voter shall have the right to vote in the scheduled election in the precinct into which the voter just moved in the new county.

(B) If the updated registration information is not actually received by the fourth day before a scheduled election, the voter shall not be eligible to vote in the scheduled election.

(c) If the change of legal residence is made pursuant to subsection (a) or subdivision (d)(1) of this section during the thirty-day administrative cut-off period immediately prior to any election scheduled within the county, the registered voter shall retain his or her right to vote in the scheduled election in the precinct to which he or she just moved.

(d) The permanent registrar shall conduct a uniform, nondiscriminatory address confirmation program during each odd-numbered year to ensure that voter registration lists are accurate and current.

**Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §10. CONTINUED**

The address confirmation program shall be completed not later than ninety (90) days prior to a primary or general election for federal office. Based on change of address data received from the United States Postal Service or its licensees, or other unconfirmed data indicating that a registered voter no longer resides at his or her registered address, the permanent registrar shall send a forwardable address confirmation notice, including a postage-paid and preaddressed return card, to enable the voter to verify or correct the address information.

(1) If change of address data indicate that the voter has moved to a new residence address in the same county and, if the county is divided into more than one (1) congressional district, the same congressional district, the address confirmation notice shall contain the following statement:

“We have received notification that you have moved to a new address in \_\_\_\_\_ County (or in the \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional District). We will reregister you at your new address unless, within ten (10) days, you notify us that your change of address is not a change of your permanent residence. You may notify us by returning the attached postage-paid postcard or by calling (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. If this is not a permanent change of residence and if you do not notify us within ten (10) days you may be required to update your residence address in order to vote at future elections.”

(2) If the change of address data indicates that the voter has moved to a new address in another county or, if a county is divided into more than one (1) congressional district, to a new address in the same county but in a new congressional district, the notice shall include the following statement:

“We have received notification that you have moved to a new address not in \_\_\_\_\_ County (or not in the \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional District). If you no longer live in \_\_\_\_\_ County (or in the \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional District), you must transfer your registration to your new residence address in order to vote in the next election. If you are still an Arkansas resident, you may obtain a form to transfer your registration by calling your county clerk's office or the Secretary of State. If your change of address is not a change of your permanent residence, you must return the attached postage-paid postcard. If you do not return this card and continue to reside in \_\_\_\_\_ County (and in the \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional District), you may be required to provide identification and update your residence address in order to vote at future elections, and if you do not vote at any election in the period between the date of this notice and the second federal general election after the date of this notice, your voter registration will be cancelled and you will have to reregister in order to vote.

### **Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §10. CONTINUED**

If the change of address is permanent, please return the attached postage-paid postcard which will assist us in keeping our voter registration records accurate.”

(e) The county clerk may send out an address confirmation to any voter when he or she receives unconfirmed information that the voter no longer resides at the address on the voter registration records. The county clerk shall follow the same confirmation procedure as set forth in subsection (d) of this section.

(f) Based on change of address information received pursuant to subsections (a) and (d) of this section, the permanent registrar shall:

(1) Update and correct the voter's registration if the information indicates that the voter has moved to a new address within the same county and the same congressional district;

(2) Designate the voter as inactive if the information indicates the voter has moved to a new address in another county or to a new address in another congressional district in the same county or if the address confirmation notices have been returned as undeliverable; or

(3) Cancel the voter registration in the county from which the voter has moved if the voter verifies in writing that he or she has moved to a residence address in another county. [As amended by Acts 1977, No. 882, § 1; 1991, No. 581, § 1; 1995, No. 947, § 6; 1995, No. 964, § 6; 1999, No. 1108, § 1; 2007, No. 560, § 1; 2009, No. 659, § 3.]

### **Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §11, Cancellation of registration**

(a) It shall be the duty of the permanent registrar to cancel the registration of voters:

(1) Who have failed to respond to address confirmation mailings described in section 10 of this amendment and have not voted or appeared to vote in an election during the period beginning on the date of the notice and ending on the day after the date of the second general election for federal office that occurs after the date of the address confirmation notice;

(2) Who have changed their residence to an address outside the county;

(3) Who have died;

(4) Who have been convicted of a felony and have not discharged their sentence or been pardoned;

(5) Who are not lawfully qualified or registered electors of this state or of the county; or

(6) Who have been adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(7) Who are not citizens of the United States.

**Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §11, CONTINUED**

(b) It shall be the duty of the permanent registrar of each county upon the registration of a person who has been registered previously in another county or state to notify promptly the permanent registrar of such other county or state of the new registration.

(c)(1) It shall be the duty of the State Registrar of Vital Records to notify promptly the Secretary of State of the death of all residents of this state.

(2)

(A) The Secretary of State shall compile a listing of the deceased residents of this state and shall promptly provide this listing to the permanent registrar of each county.

(B) The deceased voter registration shall be cancelled by the permanent registrar.

(d)(1) It shall be the duty of the circuit clerk of each county upon the conviction of any person of a felony to notify promptly the permanent registrar of the county of residence of such convicted felon.

(2)

(A) It is the duty of any convicted felon who desires to register to vote to provide the county clerk with proof from the appropriate state or local agency, or office that the felon has been discharged from probation or parole, has paid all probation or parole fees, or has satisfied all terms of imprisonment, and paid all applicable court costs, fines, or restitution.

(B) Proof that the felon has been discharged from probation or parole, paid all probation or parole fees, or satisfied all terms of imprisonment, and paid all applicable court costs, fines, or restitution shall be provided to the felon after completion of the probation, parole, or sentence by the Department of Correction, the Department of Community Correction, the appropriate probation office or the circuit clerk as applicable.

(C) The circuit clerk or any other entity responsible for collection shall provide proof to the Department of Correction, the Department of Community Correction, or the appropriate probation office that the felon has paid all applicable court costs, fines, or restitution.

(D) Upon compliance with subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section, the felon shall be deemed eligible to vote.

(e)(1)

(A) If upon inquiry an individual is found by a court to be unfit and disqualified to act as a grand or petit juror because the person is not a citizen of the United States:

(i) The name of the individual shall be put aside and not used; and

(ii) A notation of the dismissal of the name and reason for dismissal of the name shall be made in the jury book.

(B) The circuit clerk shall promptly notify the permanent registrar of the county of residence of an individual who is disqualified from serving as a juror under subdivision (e)(1)(A) of this section.

**Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §11, CONTINUED**

(C) After receiving the notice from the circuit clerk, the permanent registrar shall promptly cancel the dismissed juror's voter registration, update the voter registry, and send the dismissed juror notice under subsection (f) of this section.

(2)

(A) It is the duty of any person whose registration has been cancelled under subsection (e) of this section to provide the permanent registrar with proof from the appropriate federal, state, or local agency that he or she is a citizen of the United States.

(B) Upon complying with subdivision (e)(2)(A) of this section the person shall be deemed eligible to vote and the permanent registrar shall add the citizen to the voter registry upon the citizen's application for voter registration.

(f) Within ten (10) days following the receipt or possession of information requiring any cancellation of registration, the permanent registrar shall cancel the registration and note the date of the cancellation, the reason for the cancellation, and the person cancelling the registration in the voter registration system.

(g)

(1) The permanent registrar shall, thirty (30) days before cancellation, notify all persons whose registration records are to be cancelled in accordance with section 11(a)(1) of this amendment. The notice may be either by publication or by first class mail. The notice by mail shall be as follows:

“NOTICE OF IMPENDING CANCELLATION OF VOTER REGISTRATION.

According to our records you have not responded to our address confirmation notice and you have not voted in any election during the period beginning on the date of the notice and ending on the day after the date of the second general election for federal office after the date of the first notice. This may indicate that you no longer live at the residence address printed on the postcard. If your permanent residence address is still the same as the printed address on this postcard YOU MUST CONFIRM YOUR RESIDENCE ADDRESS in order to remain on the voter registration list. If you do not return the attached postcard within thirty (30) days after the date postmarked on this card YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE CANCELLED and you will have to re-register to vote.”

(2) When, in response to the notice, a qualified voter requests the permanent registrar not to cancel the voter registration, the voter registration shall not be cancelled under section 11(a)(1) of this amendment.

(h) The permanent registrar is authorized, and may be directed by the county board of registration, to determine by mail check, house to house canvass, or any other reasonable means at any time within the whole or any part of the county whether active record registration files contain the names of any persons not qualified by law to vote.

## Ark. Const. Amendment 51, §11, CONTINUED

Further, upon application based upon affidavits of one (1) or more qualified voters by the prosecuting attorney for the county, the circuit judge of the county, for good cause shown, may order the permanent registrar to make sure determination or to cancel the registration of such unqualified persons. [As amended by Acts 1977, No. 744, § 1; 1983, No. 11, § 1; 1987, No. 800, § 1; 1991, No. 581, § 2; 1995, No. 947, § 7; 1995, No. 964, § 7; 2001, No. 560, § 1; 2003, No. 271, § 1; 2003, No. 375, § 1; 2003, No. 1451, § 1; 2009, No. 659, §4; 2019, No. 290, §1; 2023, No. 441, §§ 7, 8.]

## 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

Registration Status	Statute
<b>Active</b> - An active voter who is consistently voting.	<a href="#">Ark.</a> <a href="#">Const.</a> <a href="#">Amendment 51</a>
<b>Inactive</b> - Status indicates a voter who did not vote in the last federal election cycle. This is still considered a voting status, which means a voter can still vote with no additional steps to take.	<a href="#">Ark.</a> <a href="#">Const.</a> <a href="#">Amendment 51</a>
<b>Removable</b> - Status indicates voters that have not voted in the past two federal election cycles. This is a result of compliance with the National Voter Registration Amendment (NVRA).	<a href="#">Ark.</a> <a href="#">Const.</a> <a href="#">Amendment 51</a>

## How do I file a HAVA complaint?

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[Link to HAVA Complaint Process](#)

[Link to HAVA Complaint Form](#)

A complaint must be filed no earlier than forty-six (46) days before an election and no later than thirty (30) days following the certification of the election associated with the complaint. Arkansas Code Annotated § 7-4-120.

## How do I file a non-HAVA election complaint?

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[Link to non-HAVA Election Complaint Process](#)

[Link to non-HAVA Election Complaint Webform](#)

All complaints filed with the Attorney General shall utilize the form provided by the Attorney General and may be submitted by phone, mail, email, or fax, and may also be submitted online at the Attorney General's website, [www.ArkansasAG.gov](http://www.ArkansasAG.gov). All complaints must contain the complainant's first and last name, address, telephone number, and email address (if any), and a description of the violation alleged. A complaint must be filed within 30 days after the election that is the subject of the complaint, and must be signed and dated by the complainant affirming that the information provided is true and correct under penalty of perjury. An unsigned, incomplete complaint submitted without all of this information cannot be processed.

## Who can I contact regarding an election related complaint?

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### **State Board of Election Commissioners**

**Physical/Mailing Address:**

501 Woodlane Drive  
Suite 122 South  
Little Rock, AR 72201

**Phone Number:**

501-682-1834

**Email Address:**

[Info.SBEC@arkansas.gov](mailto:Info.SBEC@arkansas.gov)

**Website:**

[www.state.ar.us/sbec](http://www.state.ar.us/sbec)

### **Office of the Attorney General**

**Physical/Mailing Address:**

Arkansas Attorney General  
101 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72201

**Phone Number:**

833-995-8683

**Email Address:**

[OAG@ArkansasAG.gov](mailto:OAG@ArkansasAG.gov)

**Online Address:**

<https://arkansasag.gov/>