Voting in Oregon Guide

Secretary of State
Bill Bradbury

call 1 866 ORE VOTES/673 8683
se habla español

visit www.oregonvotes.org

tty 1 866 350 0596
for the hearing impaired
message from the Secretary of State

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“You have the power to change the face of Oregon politics. You have a vote!

By voting, you have the ability to make politicians listen, to drive policy direction and to be a part of the greatest experiment in government—democracy.

Registering to vote is the first step in making your voice in government count, but remember, you also have to vote.

Voting is the most important and effective way for you to participate in our Democracy!”

Secretary of State
Bill Bradbury
To vote in Oregon you need to be registered in the county where you live.

You can register to vote in state and local elections if you can answer yes to these three questions:

- Are you a resident of Oregon?
- Are you a US citizen?*
- Are you at least 18 years old?*

See the pages 4–5 for identification requirements to vote in Federal races.

*In some cases you can register to vote immediately before you turn 18 or before you become a citizen. However, you must be 18 or a citizen in order to vote. ORS 247.015(2)(4). For more information call 1 866 ORE VOTES.

If this is your first time registering to vote in Oregon, you must register at least 21 days before the election you want to vote in.

where and how to register

You can get a voter registration card at any of the following places:

- any County Elections Office See page 14 for contact information.
- the Secretary of State’s Office See page 14 for contact information.
- some state agencies such as the Division of Motor Vehicles
- a voter registration drive

You can fill the card out in person or send it in by US mail.

You can also print out a registration card online at www.oregonvotes.org.

If you need assistance registering to vote, call 1 866 ORE VOTES or your County Elections Office. If because of a disability you cannot physically sign your name on the voter registration card, you may submit a signature stamp attestation to your County Elections Official. Call 1 866 ORE VOTES or your County Elections Office for more information.

The last day to register to vote is the 21st day before an election.

This is also the last day to change your political party for a Primary Election.

what is on the registration card

To complete your registration you will provide your:

- full legal name
- Oregon residence address
- date of birth
- signature
- valid identification See instructions on pages 4–5.

selecting a political party

You may want to select a political party when you register but it is not required.*

* Major political parties require you to be registered as a member of their party in order to vote for their candidates in the Primary Election.

updating your voter registration

Once you have registered, you are responsible for keeping your information up to date. You can do this by completing and returning a voter registration card with the new information.

You should update your registration if you do any of the following:

- change your home address
- change your mailing address
- change your name
- change your signature
- want to change or select a political party*

* You can change your political party or select a new one as long as it is more than 20 days before the Primary Election. Postmarks do not count.
registering to vote for Federal races

valid identification

Valid identification to vote for Federal races requires:

1. If you have a current, valid Driver’s License or ID number issued by the State of Oregon Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), you must provide it on the card.

2. If you do not have a current, valid Driver’s License or ID number issued by the State of Oregon Division of Motor Vehicles, you must affirm this on the card by marking the circle in Section 4.

You must then provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number in Section 4a of the card.

3. If you do not have a Social Security number, you must affirm this on the card by marking the circle in Section 4a.

In addition, if you do not have a current, valid Oregon Driver’s License/ID or a Social Security number and you are registering by mail, you must affirm this by marking the circle in Sections 4 and 4a and provide a copy of one of the following:

→ valid photo identification
→ a paycheck stub
→ a utility bill
→ a bank statement
→ a government document
→ proof of eligibility under the Uniformed and Overseas Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) or the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (VAEH)

If you do not provide valid identification, you will not be eligible to vote for Federal races.

You will, however, still be eligible to vote for state and local contests.
All elections in Oregon are Vote by Mail. This means that registered voters receive their ballots in the mail and can vote in the comfort of their home.

**voters’ pamphlets**
A state Voters’ Pamphlet is mailed to every household in Oregon about 3 weeks before each statewide election. It includes information about each measure and candidate in the upcoming election.

If you do not receive a Voters’ Pamphlet, you can order or pick one up from:

- Any County Elections Office
- The Secretary of State’s Office

See page 14 for contact information.

Some counties may print a Voters’ Pamphlet with local measures and candidates. These may be included with the state pamphlet or mailed separately.

For each statewide election, the Voters’ Pamphlet is also available in an accessible online format at [www.oregonvotes.org](http://www.oregonvotes.org). An audio Voters’ Guide is also available for each statewide election. Call 1 866 ORE VOTES for more information.

**vote by mail**
Vote by Mail was first tested in local elections in 1981.

Since 1998, all Oregon elections have been Vote by Mail.

Vote by Mail has increased voter participation and reduced the cost of running an election.

**ballots**
Ballots are mailed to every registered voter 14 to 18 days before the election.

**The post office will not forward your ballot!**
If you move or change your mailing address you need to update your voter registration information to get a ballot. See page 3.

You have until 8pm on the day of the election to make any updates.

If you do not receive your ballot at least 2 weeks before the election, call your County Elections Office for help. When your ballot pack comes in the mail, it will include:

- an official ballot
- a secrecy envelope
- a ballot return envelope

Your ballot return envelope has an area for you to sign.

**You must sign in order for your ballot to be counted.**
An Elections Official will compare the signature on your ballot return envelope to the signature on your voter registration card to verify your identity.

**Signing another person’s name is illegal. You must sign your own ballot return envelope.**

If you have a disability and cannot physically sign your name on the ballot return envelope, you may submit a signature stamp attestation to your County Elections Official. Call 1 866 ORE VOTES or your County Elections Office for more information.

**other inserts**
You may also receive voting instructions, locations of ballot dropsites, or other useful information from your County Elections Office.
Carefully read and follow all instructions printed on your ballot. The instructions will say whether you should use a pen or pencil to mark your ballot.

1. To vote, fill in the oval or complete the arrow next to your choice.

2. To write-in a candidate:
   → Clearly print his or her name on the dotted line provided on the ballot.
   → Fill in the oval or complete the arrow next to the name you wrote-in.

   ! You must do both for your vote to be counted!

1. Check your ballot carefully!
   Make sure you have completely filled in the ovals or fully completed the arrows next to your choices.

   You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still count.

   ! You cannot change your vote once you have returned your ballot.

2. If you vote for more candidates than allowed or you vote both Yes and No on a measure, it is called an overvote.

3. Your vote will not count for that candidate or measure.

   If you overvote by mistake or you want to change your vote before you’ve sent in your ballot, contact your County Elections Office to request a replacement ballot.

! Contact your County Elections Office or call 1 866 ORE VOTES to request a replacement ballot if:

→ you make a mistake
  (you vote for the wrong candidate, you overvote, etc.)

→ your ballot is damaged or spoiled
  (it is torn, something is spilled on it, etc.)

→ you lose your ballot
  or for any other reason.

See page 14 for county contact information.
1 After you have completed your ballot and checked it for accuracy place it in the secrecy envelope and **seal it**.

2 Place the secrecy envelope in the ballot return envelope and **seal it**.

3 Check to make sure that your name and address are printed correctly on the back of the ballot return envelope.

   → If either your name or address is **not** correct, contact your County Elections Office for help.

   → If they are both correct, go to step 4.

4 Read the Voter’s Statement printed on the ballot return envelope. If all of the statements are true, sign the ballot return envelope.

   **You must sign in order for your ballot to be counted.**
   **Signing another person’s name is illegal. See page 5.**

5 You can return your ballot by using any of the three methods shown below.

   → You can return your ballot by sending it through the US mail with first class postage.

   → You can return your ballot by dropping it off at any County Elections Office or a designated dropsite.

   Call 1 866 ORE VOTES to find your nearest dropsite.

   You can call 1 866 ORE VOTES or your County Elections Office to find out if your ballot was received.

   Your ballot must be received in a County Elections Office or a designated dropsite by **8pm** on Election Day.

   **Postmarks do not count!**
   If your ballot arrives at the County Elections Office after 8pm on Election Day, it will not be counted.
Can I still vote in person?
You can still vote in person in Oregon. Each County Elections Office provides privacy booths for voters who want to vote in person or voters who need assistance.

Can I vote if I am gone during an election?
If you are going to be away during an election, you can request an absentee ballot.
Call 1 866 ORE VOTES or contact your County Elections Office for more information.

How can I change my vote?
You can change your vote as long as you have not already returned your ballot.
Call 1 866 ORE VOTES or contact your County Elections Office to request a replacement ballot.

You cannot change your vote once you have returned your ballot.

How do I know if my ballot was received?
Call 1 866 ORE VOTES or contact your County Elections Office. Each county keeps a record of every voter who has returned a ballot.

Can I get assistance?
If you are unable to vote your ballot for any reason, you can get assistance. You can also request to receive information in an alternative format.
Call 1 866 ORE VOTES or contact your County Elections Office for more information.

Is my vote secret?
Your vote is secret. No one will know how you voted. The secrecy envelope that contains your ballot is removed and separated from the ballot return envelope before it is opened. Then your ballot is counted.

What is a Primary Election?
Major political parties (Democratic & Republican) choose who they want to run for office by having a Primary Election. The Primary Election is held every even-numbered year on the third Tuesday in May.

If you are registered as a member of a major political party, you can vote in that party’s Primary Election.

Sometimes a major political party will open its Primary Election to voters who are not registered as a member of any political party (non-affiliated voters). Non-affiliated voters will be notified by mail if a party opens its Primary Election.

If neither major political party opens its Primary Election, all non-affiliated voters will automatically receive a ballot with all measures and nonpartisan contests (for example: judges, district attorneys, etc.)

When will I know the results of an election?
Unofficial election results are first available after 8pm on Election Day. Results are updated as ballots are counted.

Unofficial election results are posted at www.oregonvotes.org and are reported through many local media outlets.

The Secretary of State has 30 days to verify and proclaim the official results for state elections.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Address 1</th>
<th>Address 2</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baker County</strong></td>
<td>1995 3rd St, Ste 150</td>
<td>66 SE &quot;D&quot; St, Ste C</td>
<td>Madras</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97741</td>
<td>541 247 3297 1 877 739 4218</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Benton County</strong></td>
<td>PO Box 888</td>
<td>PO Box 69</td>
<td>Grants Pass</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97528</td>
<td>541 473 5151</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clackamas County</strong></td>
<td>825 Portland Ave</td>
<td>305 Main St</td>
<td>Klamath Falls</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97601</td>
<td>541 983 5134 1 800 377 6094</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clatsop County</strong></td>
<td>PO Box 178</td>
<td>PO Box 10</td>
<td>Roseburg</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97470</td>
<td>541 440 4252</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Columbia County</strong></td>
<td>Columbia County Courthouse</td>
<td>201 S Humbolt, Ste 290</td>
<td>Canyon City</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97820</td>
<td>541 575 1675</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Coos County</strong></td>
<td>Coos County Courthouse 250 N Baxter</td>
<td>450 N Buena Vista</td>
<td>Burns</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97720</td>
<td>541 573 6641</td>
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<td><strong>Crook County</strong></td>
<td>300 NE 3rd, Rm 23</td>
<td>225 W Olive St, Rm 201</td>
<td>Newport</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97365</td>
<td>541 265 4131</td>
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<td><strong>Curry County</strong></td>
<td>PO Box 746</td>
<td>PO Box 74</td>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97321</td>
<td>541 967 3831</td>
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<td><strong>Jefferson County</strong></td>
<td>1101 W Main St, Ste 201</td>
<td>300 4th Ave SW</td>
<td>Tillamook</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97141</td>
<td>503 842 3402</td>
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<td><strong>Malheur County</strong></td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
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<td>Vale</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97918</td>
<td>541 473 5151</td>
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<td><strong>Josephine County</strong></td>
<td>PO Box 200</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>The Dalles</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97058</td>
<td>541 278 6254</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Marion County</strong></td>
<td>4263 Commercial St SE, #300</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>Salem</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97302</td>
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<td><strong>Morrow County</strong></td>
<td>PO Box 338</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>Prineville</td>
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<td>97754</td>
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<td><strong>Multnomah County</strong></td>
<td>1040 SE Morrison St</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>The Dalles</td>
<td>OR</td>
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<td><strong>Polk County</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sherman County</strong></td>
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<td>PO Box 1227</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wallowa County</strong></td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>The Dalles</td>
<td>OR</td>
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<td>541 278 6254</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wasco County</strong></td>
<td>101 S River St</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>The Dalles</td>
<td>OR</td>
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<td>541 278 6254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Washington County</strong></td>
<td>3700 SW Murray Blvd, Ste 101</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>The Dalles</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97058</td>
<td>541 278 6254</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wheeler County</strong></td>
<td>PO Box 327</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>The Dalles</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97058</td>
<td>541 278 6254</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Yamhill County</strong></td>
<td>414 NE Evans St</td>
<td>PO Box 1227</td>
<td>The Dalles</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>97058</td>
<td>541 278 6254</td>
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**Secretary of State**
Elections Division
141 State Capitol
Salem OR 97310
www.sos.state.or.us

**phone**
503 986 1518

**fax**
503 373 7414

**toll free number**
1 866 ORE VOTES/673 8683

**TTY**
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To learn more about Oregon’s implementation of the Help America Vote Act:

visit www.uhavavote.org
call 503 986 1518