

# Voter Registration

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Voter Registration Status, Party Affiliation, Long-Term Care, Homeless Persons, and Felons**

### Voter Registration Status

1) Question: How can a potential voter look up his or her voter registration status?

Answer: We recommend that people with questions regarding their voter registration contact their local Supervisors of the Checklist or Town/City Clerk at the number provided on the Secretary of State's website. <http://www.sos.nh.gov/clerks2010.pdf>

Alternately, voters that have provided their date of birth on a voter registration form may go to the Secretary of State's Registered Voter web link at <http://cfs.sos.nh.gov/app/Public/AbsenteeBallot.aspx>. The person must first enter their first name, last name, town or city, date of birth, and complete the security entry. If the name, town or city, and DOB are the same as what was provided in their voter registration form, their name, voter ID, and party affiliation, if any, will be displayed.

This website does not permit all voters to check their voter registration and party registration because some voters who were registered in the past were not required to provide their date of birth on a voter registration form. New Hampshire is an Election Day registration state in which it is convenient to register on Election Day.

The date of birth and security entry are required to protect the voter's privacy.

Voters should contact the clerk's office at the contact numbers, available at: <http://www.sos.nh.gov/clerks2010.pdf> if they have questions about their voter registration.

2) Question: Is a person's voter registration record considered public information?

Answer: The information on the voter checklist – including the voter's name, domicile address, mailing address, party registration, and whether or not they have voted – is considered public information unless the person is under a legally sanctioned identity protection program.

### Party Affiliation

3) Question: How can a voter look up his or her party affiliation status?

Answer: Voters that have provided their date of birth on a voter registration form may go to the Secretary of State's Registered Voter web link at <http://cfs.sos.nh.gov/app/Public/AbsenteeBallot.aspx>, enter their first name, last name, town or city, and date of birth. If these are the same as what was provided in their voter registration form, they can check their party registration. .

4) Question: What should a voter do if they find the information displayed in error?

Answer: Voters should contact the clerk's office at the contact numbers, available at: <http://www.sos.nh.gov/clerks2010.pdf> if they have questions about their voter registration.

## **Long Term Care**

5) Question: What voting information is there for potential voters residing in long-term care?

Answer: Persons residing in nursing homes, convalescent homes, hospitals, old age homes or long-term care facilities may elect to vote absentee at the domicile they held immediately prior to entering such facility. Alternately, they may establish a domicile at their long-term care location, but they should be careful not to inadvertently vote in both locations.

RSA 654:2 states, "A voter can have only one domicile for (voting) purposes. No person shall be deemed to have lost a domicile by reason of his or her presence or absence while employed in the service of the United States... nor while a patient or confined for any reason in any nursing, convalescent home or hospital, old folks or old age home, or like institution or private facility."

## **Homeless Persons**

6) Question: What voting information is there for potential homeless voters?

Answer: The state does not distinguish between the types of domicile an applicant for voter registration maintains. Homeless persons are subject to the same domicile standards as other voters under the law. Their domicile address on the checklist should be according to the law and E-911 addressing standards. According to RSA 654:1, an inhabitant's domicile for voting purposes is that one place where a person, more than any other place, has established a physical presence and manifests an intent to maintain a single continuous presence for domestic social and civil purposes relevant to participating in self-government."

By law, New Hampshire's voter registration form describes domicile in its simplest form as that place where a person sleeps most nights of the year. If a person sleeps most nights in a park or their vehicle parked in a town or ward, they may use that address as their domicile address.

## **Felons**

7) Question: What voting information is there for potential voters who are felons?

Answer: Incarcerated felons are not permitted to vote in New Hampshire. Persons incarcerated for crimes other than felonies are permitted to vote using an absentee ballot from the town where they were domiciled before incarceration. RSA 654:2-a