

ELECTION SECURITY

Absentee Voting

Election officials do not open and count any absentee votes that arrive on Election Day until they have confirmed that the individual did not also vote in the polling place.

Voter Records

Each election, voters' records are updated to show that they cast a ballot. Voters casting a ballot prior to Election Day will not be able to have more than one ballot accepted as the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) will give a warning to election officials to stop this. In the rare occurrence of someone voting more than once as part of Election Day, the SVRS system also gives a warning after the election. The voter will then be subject to investigation and possible prosecution.

Election Day Registration

When a voter registers on Election Day, their registration will go through the same verification procedures as all registrations after the fact. If they are found to have provided inaccurate information, it will be turned over to the county attorney for investigation and possible prosecution.

During the 2024 general election, Minnesota had 296,287 election day registrations; 13,757 required additional review and 61 were turned over for investigation. This is 0.02% of registrations.

Database Check

The Department of Public Safety provides updated information on noncitizens and the Department of Corrections provides data on felony incarcerations that occurred during the election. This information is checked against the Statewide Voter Registration System to flag ineligible voters.

**LEARN MORE
ABOUT MINNESOTA'S
SECURE AND FAIR
ELECTION PROCESS**



mnvotes.gov/safeandsecure

VOTER REGISTRATION FRAUD IS RARE

Many studies have shown that voter registration fraud is exceptionally rare.

One notable study focused on one type of fraud (noncitizen voting), called *Needles in Haystacks*, was done in May of 2024. Professor Virgil Wiebe, law professor at the University of St. Thomas School of Law, collected data from over 20 years of elections to determine how prevalent voter fraud is in Minnesota. Professor Wiebe discovered "... a very small number of noncitizen voting [issues]." "These cases have resulted from confusion and individual error on the part of legal permanent residents and not from systemic efforts to undermine the vote."

Evidence from this study and others like it does not support that there has been any targeted attempt to impact elections by registering ineligible people.



Any incidents of potential fraud are turned over to the county attorney for further investigation and possible prosecution as a felony with up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.



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Information gathered from the Office of Minnesota Secretary of State and Minnesota Legislative Reference Library.

Design by: Blue Sun Designs - Mankato, MN - March 2026



HOW SECURE IS
VOTER?
REGISTRATION
in Minnesota

FIND OUT »



Minnesota leads the nation in voter turnout, voter registration, and election security. **Becoming a voter in Minnesota is a detailed, secure, and trusted process.**



» VERIFICATION

Every registration goes through **four steps** to make sure you are who you say you are, and you live where you say you live.

1 Every voter who fills out a voter registration application **swears under oath** that they are eligible to vote. Providing false information on your voter registration is a felony.

2 From there, the registration is entered into Minnesota's **Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS)** database so all state and local election officials have access to the most up-to-date information at all times. *If you're already registered, county auditors update your record.*

3 Your registration is **checked for eligibility** by multiple agencies: Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS), Minnesota Department of Health, Social Security Administration, and court records.

4 Once your registration is verified, you are sent a **postcard confirmation** in the mail. This is the final check. The U.S. Postal Service will only deliver the postcard to the correct person at the correct address. If it is undeliverable, the postcard will be returned to the elections office, and your voter's record will be challenged.

CHALLENGED REGISTRATIONS

If at any point in this process your registration cannot be verified, it will be challenged. You will need to answer questions under oath and may need to provide additional documentation before being allowed to vote. **Any incidents of potential fraud are turned over to the county attorney for further investigation and possible prosecution as a felony (up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.)**

DAILY UPDATES

The **Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) centralized database is updated daily.** Local election officials regularly check existing registrations for:

- » **Deaths:** The Minnesota Department of Health or Social Security Administration provide death notification.
- » **Felons:** The Court System or Department of Corrections provides notice of individuals who are incarcerated with felony convictions.
- » **Revoked Voting Rights:** The court system provides notice when a court has specifically revoked the voting rights of an individual.
- » **Noncitizens:** Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services provides a list of noncitizens here on temporary visas.
- » **Moves:** The records of voters who have moved are updated based upon National Change of Address data provided by the U.S. Postal Service, Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Service data, or information shared between state governments.

Records with discrepancies will be challenged. Also, once each year SVRS searches for voters who have not voted or updated their registration in four years and marks those records as inactive.

— REGISTER TO VOTE —

The Minnesota Secretary of State website has everything you need to know to register to vote, or to update or check your registration. You can also learn all about eligibility to vote, your options of how and where to register, and so much more.



SCAN ME

mnvotes.gov/register

I registered to vote... **NOW WHAT HAPPENS?**

Now the **REAL** work begins! You won't be eligible to vote until your registration goes through the verification process.

Let's get into it!