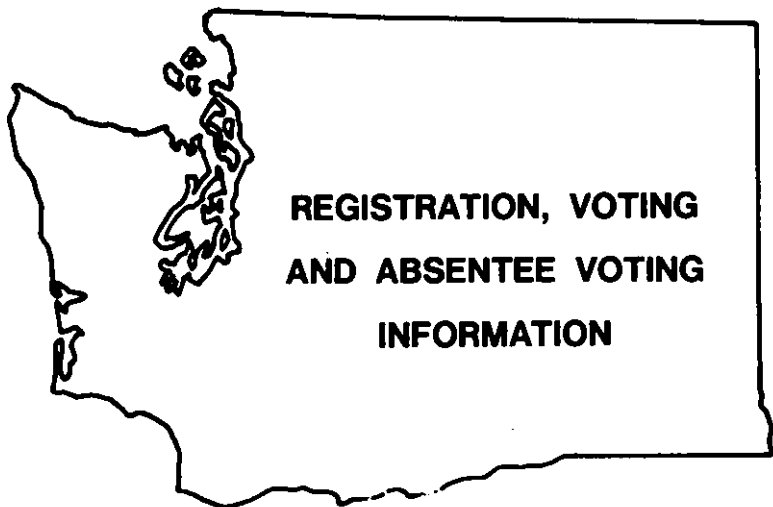


Date Printed: 06/16/2009

JTS Box Number: IFES_77
Tab Number: 67
Document Title: Registration, Voting and Absentee Voting
Information
Document Date: 1979
Document Country: United States --
Washington
Document Language: English
IFES ID: CE02648



* 4 6 7 2 E 9 F 1 - A B 3 5 - 4 1 8 0 - A C 0 3 - C 5 1 1 2 B 5 0 0 B 0 7 *



Qualifications for Registration and Voting

To register and vote in Washington State you must:

- 1) Be a citizen of the United States, by birth or naturalization; and
- 2) Be 18 years of age or within 30 days of majority at the time of registration; and
- 3) Be registered 30 days before an election.

Determining Your Residence for Voting Purposes

State law (RCW 29.01.140) defines residence for the purposes of registering and voting as a person's permanent address where he or she physically resides and maintains his or her abode. Place of business may not be used as your voting residence unless the business is in your home.

You may establish residence in one county and subsequently move to another location either within or outside the state without changing your residence for voting purposes if:

- 1) You intend to return to your initial residence; and
- 2) Your move is for a temporary period, regardless of duration; and
- 3) You do not intend to establish residence and do not register to vote in your new location.

New Registration or Transfer?

If you are registered and have moved from one county to another or into Washington from another state, you must register anew. If you move within a county, you must transfer your registration.

New Registration

Registration must be done in person at the county auditor's office,* at your city or town clerk's office, or with a deputy registrar close to your new residence. Call the county auditor's office* to locate a deputy registrar near you. If you have moved from one Washington county to another and you were registered at your former residence, you will be asked to sign a form authorizing your former county auditor to cancel your registration.

* In King County: Department of Records and Elections.

Transfers

Transferring your registration is very easy. Just send a letter requesting the transfer to the county auditor.* The request must include your old and new addresses, and your old and new precincts if known, and it must be signed as your name appears on your voter registration record (use "Mary Ann Jones," not "Mrs. John Jones" for example). If a wife and husband request transfers, both must sign the letter. You also may transfer your registration in person at the county auditor's* office or at your city or town clerk's office.

Absentee Voting

Any registered voter unable to go to his or her polling place on election day may vote by absentee ballot.

You must submit a written request to your county auditor* for an absentee ballot during the 45 day period ending the day before an election. The request must include the address to which your ballot should be sent and the request must include your signature as it appears on registration records.

When you receive your ballot, mark it and return it to your county auditor* as directed in the accompanying instructions. Place no extra marks on your ballot or on the plain envelope. The form on the outer envelope must be completed, the oath must be signed, and the envelope must be postmarked no later than the date of the election in order to be counted.

When to Request an Absentee Ballot

Election	Absentee Request Period
1979 Primary	August 4-September 17
1979 General	September 21-November 5
1980 Primary	August 1-September 15
1980 General	September 19-November 3

* In King County: Department of Records and Elections.

When to Register and Vote

You may register to vote or transfer your registration at any time. However, to be eligible to vote in your new precinct you must register or transfer thirty or more days before an election. The registration deadlines for 1979 and 1980 are as follows:

Election	Deadline	Election Date
1979 Primary	August 18	September 18
1979 General	October 6	November 6
1980 Primary	August 16	September 16
1980 General	October 4	November 4

Special elections may be called during late winter or spring. The times for these elections are:

- (1) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in February;
- (2) The second Tuesday in March;
- (3) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in April;
- (4) The third Tuesday in May.

Recall elections and other special elections may be held at other times. Notice of all elections will appear in a newspaper of general circulation within your county.

Maintaining Your Registration Record

Any voter, who either has not voted at least once during the previous 24 months **or** in the last presidential election will have his or her registration cancelled. If your registration is cancelled, you are unable to vote until you reregister.



Published By:
Bruce Chapman
Secretary of State
July 1979