



Minnesota

- **Chief election official:** Secretary of State Steve Simon; elected in 2022 for a four-year term
- **Who runs elections locally:** County Auditor, City or Township Clerk
- **Number of jurisdictions:** 87
- **State website:** <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>

| ELECTION POLICY | STATUS | NATIONAL COMPARISON |
|--|---|--|
| VOTER REGISTRATION* | | |
| Online voter registration | OVR permitted | 42 states and D.C. have online voter registration |
| Automatic/automated voter registration | AVR permitted | 24 states and D.C. have automatic voter registration |
| Type of state voter registration database | Top-down | 36 states and D.C. use top-down; seven states use bottom-up; seven states use a hybrid system |
| Pre-registration | 16 and 17-year-olds may preregister | 22 states and D.C. permit pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds |
| Election Day/same-day registration | Permitted | 22 states and D.C. have same-day registration |
| Registration deadline | Election Day | National average is 20 days before Election Day |
| VOTING | | |
| Voter ID for in-person voting | ID not required if presented at the time of registration | 36 states require ID to vote in person |
| Early in-person voting | Begins 46 days before Election Day | 47 states and D.C. allow early in-person voting; national average is 26 days |
| Vote centers | Not used | 30 states and D.C. allow vote centers |
| No-excuse absentee voting | Permitted | 28 states permit no-excuse absentee voting |
| Mails ballots to all registered voters (aka "mostly mail elections") | Ballots are not mailed to all registered voters | Eight states and D.C. mail ballots to all registered voters |
| Deadline for absentee/mail ballot return | Close of polls on Election Day | 31 states require ballots returned by Election Day** |
| Laws governing who can return a voted ballot | Voter's designee | 32 states have laws governing ballot collection |
| Ballot drop boxes | Permitted | Six states prohibit; 23 states permit; other states are silent |
| Ballot cure process | Ballot cure process offered statewide | 30 states and D.C. have a ballot cure process |
| When absentee/mail ballot processing begins | After close of business on the 19 th day before Election Day | 34 states and D.C. begin processing before Election Day |
| Electronic ballot return | Not permitted | 33 states and D.C. allow for military and overseas voters; 13 states and D.C. allow for voters with disabilities |
| OTHER | | |
| Pre-election audits (logic and accuracy testing) | Uses pre-election audits | 47 states and D.C. have pre-election audits |
| Post-election tabulation audits | Uses post-election audits | 48 states and D.C. require post-election audits |
| State primary type | Open | Primaries range from fully open to fully closed |

*Minnesota is [NVRA](#) exempt.

**Other states accept ballots postmarked by Election Day.

Note: Neither NCSL nor the U.S. Election Assistance Commission advocate for or against any election policies.

For more information, contact NCSL at elections-info@ncsl.org or 303-364-7700. For information on federal grants see www.eac.gov/grants.



Use this QR code to access links to NCSL's elections pages with details.



Use this QR code to access links to the EAC's election resources.

