



Georgia

- **Chief election official:** Secretary of State
- **Who runs elections locally:** Board of Elections and Registration, Probate Judge, Board of Registrars, Election Supervisor and Registrar
- **Number of jurisdictions:** 159
- **State website:** <https://sos.ga.gov/elections-division-georgia-secretary-states-office>

| 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; six states use bottom-up; eight states use a hybrid system |
| Pre-registration | 17.5-year-olds may preregister | 23 states and D.C. permit pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds |
| Election Day/same-day registration | Not provided | 24 states and D.C. have same-day registration |
| Registration deadline | 29 days before Election Day | National average is 19 days before Election Day |
| VOTING | | |
| Voter ID for in-person voting | ID required | 36 states require ID to vote in person |
| Early in-person voting | Begins on the 4th Monday before Election Day | 47 states and D.C. allow early in-person voting; national average is 21 days |
| Vote centers for Election Day voting | Not used | 21 states and D.C. allow vote centers for Election Day voting |
| No-excuse absentee voting | Permitted | 36 states permit no-excuse absentee voting |
| Mails ballots to all registered voters (aka "mostly mail elections") | Ballots are not mailed to all registered voters statewide | Eight states and D.C. mail ballots to all active registered voters |
| Deadline for absentee/mail ballot return | Close of polls on Election Day | 36 states require ballots returned by Election Day* |
| Laws governing who can return a voted ballot | Family members, household members or caregivers | 38 states have laws governing ballot collection |
| Ballot drop boxes | Permitted | 12 states prohibit; 28 states permit; other states are silent |
| Ballot cure process | Ballot cure process offered statewide | 33 states and D.C. have a ballot cure process |
| When absentee/mail ballot processing begins | ID verification upon receipt, all other processing on third Monday before Election Day | 43 states and D.C. begin processing before Election Day |
| Electronic ballot return | Not permitted | 32 states and D.C. allow for military and overseas voters; 13 states and D.C. allow for voters with disabilities |
| OTHER | | |
| Automatic recount threshold | Automatic recount threshold not used | 25 states and D.C. have automatic recount thresholds |
| Post-election tabulation audits | Uses post-election audits | 49 states and D.C. require post-election audits |
| State primary type | Open | Primaries range from fully open to fully closed |

*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.



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

