



# Minnesota

- **Chief election official:** Secretary of State
- **Who runs elections locally:** County Auditor, City or Township Clerk
- **Number of jurisdictions:** 87
- **State website:** [www.mnvotes.gov](http://www.mnvotes.gov)

| ELECTION POLICY                                                      | STATUS                                                                            | NATIONAL COMPARISON                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>VOTER REGISTRATION*</b>                                           |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                  |
| 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                                                     | 16 and 17-year-olds may preregister                                               | 23 states and D.C. permit pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds                                              |
| Election Day/same-day registration                                   | Permitted                                                                         | 24 states and D.C. have same-day registration                                                                    |
| Registration deadline                                                | 21 days before Election Day                                                       | National average is 19 days before Election Day                                                                  |
| <b>VOTING</b>                                                        |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                  |
| 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 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 if returned by mail, 5 p.m. if delivered in-person | 36 states require ballots returned by Election Day**                                                             |
| Laws governing who can return a voted ballot                         | Voter's designee                                                                  | 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                          | After close of business on the 19th day 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 |
| <b>OTHER</b>                                                         |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                  |
| 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                                                                  |

\*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](mailto:elections-info@ncsl.org) or 303-364-7700. For information on federal grants see [www.eac.gov/grants](http://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.



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