

SHE PRAYS SHE VOTES

2023

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

Conducting a Voter Registration Drive

Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee

Election laws are governed at the state level. Refer to your state's Secretary of State website for all rules governing voter registration drives and to ensure your state permits registration drives. [Click here](#) (ConcernedWomen.link/sos) to find your state's Secretary of State website.

[Go here](#) (ConcernedWomen.link/spsv) to download the voter registration drive resources listed in the instructions below.

Option #1 – Registration Drives at Your* Church

Step One: PREPARATION

- **Get Permission.** Talk to your pastor or ministry leader about conducting a non-partisan voter registration drive at your church consisting of a voter registration table and/or distributing voter registration forms. Provide the days you wish to hold the registration drive. If you request to do a table, be sure to get permission to use balloons, flags, or signs to draw attention to the table. Ask if they will be willing to announce the voter registration drive in the church program and/or from the podium.
- **Pastor Resources**
Church voter registration and get-out-the-vote activities are among the allowable activities under law. Resources that clarify the legality include:
 - [Political Guidelines for Churches and Pastors](#) (ConcernedWomen.link/politicalguidelines)
 - [Election Legal Guide for Churches](#) (ConcernedWomen.link/churchelectionguide)

Consider providing a copy of the [sample pastor letter](#) and CWA's *Political Guidelines for Churches and Pastors* document to your pastor or church ministry leader.

*You are not limited to doing a voter registration drive at just your church. If you have a relationship with a pastor(s) of another church, you can approach them about setting up a registration drive at their church.

Step Two: PLANNING (Timing, Materials, and Help)

Reminder: Refer to your state's Secretary of State website for guidelines on conducting voter registration drives. Some states have a page dedicated to voter drives. Read the information thoroughly before holding a registration drive.

- **Voter Registration Dates.** Consider the registration requirements and deadlines for your state and the time needed to receive a sample ballot when making your decision. This will help guide you in determining which worship days to have your voter registration drive.

Voter registration requirements and deadlines will vary by state, and due to some lingering COVID-19 restrictions; registration dates and deadlines may be very different than previous election cycles.

Consider using the following sources for important registration dates and deadlines.

- [iVoterGuide](#) - Scroll to the *Voting Information by State* section and select your state on the map. Note the *Important Dates*.
 - [Secretary of State Website](#) (ConcernedWomen.link/sos) – Refer to the elections section of the website for deadline dates for your state.
- **Voter Registration Methods** – You can register people online or by using the voter registration application card/form.

Online:

- Direct people to use their phone or mobile device to register online. Locate the online registration page on your state’s Secretary of State website. Print off copies of the URL and have it handy on your voter registration table.
- Consider having a mobile device(s) at your table for online registration. Bookmark the online registration site for ease of access. Be sure to test the Wi-Fi in advance of your registration drive.

Registration forms:

- Determine how many voter registration application cards/forms you will need.
- Order the voter card/forms through local county election offices. You can also download the registration form from your state’s Secretary of State website.

- **Get Help.** Enlist volunteers to help set up your registration table(s) and answer questions.

Step Three: THE DRIVE

- **Announce.** Remind the pastor/church leader to announce the voter registration drive.
- **Set up.** Set up at the pre-approved location. Everything should be set and ready to go at least 15 minutes before the start of the registration drive.
 - **Table Materials.** Review the voter registration drive information page on your state’s Secretary of State website. Print and read the Voter Registration Rules and Procedures for required/recommended items for the registration table. Other materials for your table: CWA-designed table signs, pens, stapler, clipboard, large envelope for registrants to place their card/form (provides a means of confidentiality), registration card/forms. **DO NOT place CWA informational publications, push cards, party platform comparisons, or voter guides on the table. The purpose of the table is voter registration only.**

- **Mail or Deliver Application Forms?** Depending on your state’s guidelines, you may have the option of either delivering the completed applications to your local county election office or having the registrant mail/deliver the registration form. The registrants always have the right to mail the application themselves. Refer to your state’s Secretary of State website page governing voter registration drives. It will outline the guidelines on how application forms are to be returned. If you can hand deliver the applications and you printed the applications from the Internet, be sure to have on hand a stapler as a means of sealing the document. Once the applicant has completed the application, fold the document and staple one time if this is the procedure for your state.

Complete any state-required voter registration transmittal forms and then deliver them to your county election office. Be sure you deliver before the deadline date outlined on the Secretary of State page.

Note: You must return the registration card/form to the respective county election office of the registrant. This might require you to do more than one delivery of registration cards/forms.

- **Helpful Tips/FYIs:**
 - A registrant does not have to submit a copy of a photo ID with their application to register to vote. Depending on your state, a person might or might not have to provide an accepted form of a photo ID when they vote.
 - Familiarize yourself with the registration card/form in case you are asked a question.
 - Ensure the registrant has completed ALL required sections of the application and signed the application. According to county election offices, the primary hold-up of the registration process is an unsigned application.
 - Be on the lookout for college students, encourage them to register to vote, and let them know where to go to vote.

Option #2 – Voter Registration Link on Your Church’s Website

This option can be done in addition to a registration drive at your church or in place of one. Speak to your pastor or other church leadership, and ask if the church would allow and promote voter registration on the church website. It could be as simple as putting an announcement on the home page that includes a link to the online registration form on your state’s Secretary of State website. Encourage church leadership to mention the voter registration link from the pulpit and/or note it in the church program.

Option #3 – Additional Registration Drive Options

Consider locations that are open and where you could register people *who share your values*. Here are some ideas:

1. Christian colleges (be sure to vet them carefully)
2. Christian schools (K-12)
3. Christian-owned businesses

Some additional online options might be as follows:

1. Websites of all the above
2. State and/or home school websites
3. State and/or local Christian radio websites

Once you have secured permission, follow steps two and three under option one above.