

Qualifications to Apply to Register to Vote

Individuals applying to register to vote must be:

- **A citizen of the United States** for at least one month before the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.
- **A resident of Pennsylvania** and the election district in which the individual desires to register and vote for at least 30 days before the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.
- **At least 18 years of age** on or before the day of the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.

Important!

Qualification Information for Individuals Applying to Register to Vote!

- **Any intentional false statement made on an application for voter registration constitutes perjury and is punishable by law.**
- The Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania ruled on December 26, 2000 that the Pennsylvania law prohibiting convicted felons from registering to vote for five years after their release from prison is unconstitutional. Consequently, if completing an older version of the Voter Registration Mail Application (VRMA) form, a convicted felon who has been released from prison may make application to register to vote by striking through the felony conviction line at Section 9(2) on the VRMA and signing his or her name.

[Please note that convicted felons who are incarcerated on the date of a primary or election are not eligible to vote, irrespective of whether they are registered. However, pretrial detainees and misdemeanants are eligible to apply to register to vote and /or to vote by absentee ballot if they otherwise qualify to vote under law.]

Qualifications of Registered Voters at a Primary

- Individuals must be registered and enrolled in a political party to vote in that party's primary.
- **All** registered electors are entitled to vote on constitutional amendments and ballot questions and in all special elections that might be held concurrently with a primary.

(Credit goes to the Pennsylvania Department of State)