

UTAH COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS AND VOTER REGISTRATION

Frequently Asked Questions | 2022

CAN HEALTH CENTERS REGISTER VOTERS?

Yes, health centers can register voters. However, these voter registration efforts must be **non-partisan**, meaning that there can be no discussion regarding political ideology, candidates, party preference, policies, etc. Voter registration is not considered lobbying or political activity if it is a non-partisan effort.

WHO CAN REGISTER TO VOTE IN UTAH?

To register to vote in Utah, an applicant must:

- be a citizen of the United States
- have resided in Utah for 30 days immediately before the next election
- be at least 18 years old on or before the next election
- not be convicted of a felony **and** not currently incarcerated for commission of a felony

To complete the voter registration process online, an applicant must have a Utah ID. If an applicant does not have a Utah ID, they may register to vote by mail using a [Utah voter registration form](#).

HOW CAN MY HEALTH CENTER REGISTER VOTERS?

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) has partnered with VotER to send each interested health center location two window clings with QR and text codes that lead directly to Utah's voter registration portal. Health centers should have already received these window clings. Health centers may choose to expand on this effort by purchasing more window clings [HERE](#).

Many health center patients may not have the technology necessary to register to vote via these QR/text codes and/or are not eligible to vote online. Health centers should have printed Utah voter registration forms available for patients. Health centers may collect these registration forms and turn them into their County Clerk's office in bulk, or patients may choose to mail in their applications to their County Clerk's office on their own. Health centers should be careful to make sure that all forms have a registered address that is from the same County when they are delivered. A list of all Utah County Clerk addresses can be found [HERE](#).

WHAT IF A PATIENT DOES NOT HAVE A PERMANENT RESIDENCE/MAILING ADDRESS?

Some health center patients may not have to have a permanent residence and/or mailing address. In Utah, voters do not have a permanent residence and/or mailing address to register to vote. Patients experiencing homelessness may use a street corner or shelter as their residential address, but may not have access to a secure mailing address. If health centers are willing, they may allow patients experiencing homelessness to list the health center's mailing address as their mailing address and receive patients' mail-in ballots. However, health centers are not required to act as a mailing address for patients.

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

The deadline to register to vote online is October 28, 2022 by 5:00 PM MST. If an applicant is using a paper form, the form must be received by the County Clerk's office by October 28, 2022 at 5:00 PM MST. AUCH recommends that health centers cut off online voter registration and remove their VotER window clings on October 27, 2022. If health centers plan to hand-deliver paper voter registration forms to the County Clerk's office, they should end paper voter registration by October 26, 2022 and drop off all forms at their County Clerk's office by October 27, 2022. If health centers plan to mail their paper voter registration forms to their County Clerk's office, they should plan to end paper voter registration by October 17, 2020 and postmark and mail paper forms no later than October 18, 2020.

Please note that the later someone registers to vote, the later they will receive their mail-in ballot.

Same day voter registration is also available for those that are voting in-person on Election Day.

CAN MY HEALTH CENTER RECEIVE COMPLETED MAIL-IN BALLOTS?

No, health centers may not receive completed ballots from patients, and health center staff should make clear that clinics are **not** a ballot drop-off site. However, voters have multiple options for returning their completed ballots:

- Voters may mail their completed ballot through USPS, but the ballot must be **postmarked** by November 7, 2022.
- Voters may drop off their completed ballot at Official Ballot Drop Boxes across the state until 8 PM on Election Day.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR HEALTH CENTERS

[UTAH ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION PORTAL](#)

[NACHC VOTER REGISTRATION BEST PRACTICES](#)

[NACHC LEGAL Q&A FOR VOTER ENGAGEMENT](#)

[VotER WEBSITE](#)

[UTAH COUNTY CLERK ADDRESSES](#)

[BALLOT DROP BOX LOCATIONS](#)



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