Age eligibility to register to vote (by state)

From the National Conference for State Legislators: Preregistration is an election procedure that allows individuals younger than 18 years of age to register to vote, so they are eligible to cast a ballot when they reach 18, the voting age for all state and federal elections. Typically, a pre-registrant will fill out an application and be added to the voter registration list with a “pending” or “preregistration” status. Upon turning 18, the individual is added to the voter registration list and able to cast a ballot.

Preregistration states vary in terms of their registration age limits. Some allow 16-year-olds to preregister, and others allow 17-year-olds to preregister. The remaining preregistration states do not establish a specific preregistration age limit. Instead, these states allow youth to register to vote before the age of 18, provided that they will be of voting age by the time of the next general election. See the section on Voter Registration Ages below for more information.

Some states also permit 17-year-olds to vote in primary elections, provided that they will turn 18 before the general election. FairVote provides information on states that permit 17-year-olds to vote in congressional primaries and presidential primaries or caucuses.

Bolded states represent current MENTOR Affiliate states

AGE 16 (preregistration)
  - California
  - Colorado
  - Delaware
  - DC
  - Florida
  - Hawaii
  - Louisiana
  - Maryland
  - Massachusetts
  - New York
  - North Carolina
  - Oregon
  - Rhode Island
  - Utah
  - Washington

AGE 17 (preregistration)
  - Maine
  - Nevada
  - New Jersey
  - West Virginia

Pre-18 years of age (preregistration)
  - Alaska: those under 18 may register anytime within 90 days before their 18th birthday
- **Georgia, Iowa, and Missouri**: permit registration of those who are 17.5 (if they turn 18 prior to next election)
- **Texas**: a person who is 17 years and 10 months can register

No set age for preregistration: These states do not specify an age for registration or preregistration and instead allow an individual to register *if they will be 18 by the next election (typically general election)*. Confirm with these state’s election officials for specifics:

- Alabama
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- **Connecticut**
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Montana
- Nebraska
- New Hampshire
- New Mexico
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming