



## OFFICIAL ELECTION INFORMATION

April 26, 2016

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**TO:** County Registrars  
**FROM:** Chris Harvey, Director of Elections  
**RE:** Voter Registration Deadline; Processing VR Applications after the VR Deadline

### **VR Applications**

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224, Tuesday, April 26, 2016 is the voter registration deadline for the May 24, 2016 Primary Elections. If mail-in VR Applications (Site Codes 2, 9 and 14), **do not** have a legible postmark, then the Secretary of State's date stamp should be used to determine if the voter should be added or updated for the May 24, 2016 elections. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224(c) provides that the Secretary of State's date stamp on the application must be no later than Friday, April 29, 2016 for the individual to be eligible to vote in the May 24, 2016 Primary Elections (though if using the Secretary of State's postmark date, the date used for the individual's voter registration date should be the April 26, 2016 date.)

The voter registration date for applications from site codes 5, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 13 are based on the date written next to the voter's signature.

### **New Voter Registration Applications (IMPORTANT INFORMATION)**

Please do not delay processing any new voter registration applications and any subsequent follow up with regards to verifications, sending letters, etc.

The system allows counties **to add new voter registration applications at any time**. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224, such applications will still be subject to the April 26, 2016 registration deadline.

New voters added during the period between the day after the registration cut-off date and Election Day or until after any subsequent run-off date will be visible within all modules in eNet.

**THIS IS IMPORTANT.** Because all new applicants (including those who register after the registration deadline) will appear in Enet, it is imperative that the following step is taken during Absentee/Advance Voting:

**Your staff must double check the registration date of all voters before allowing a voter to cast a ballot during the absentee/advance voting period.**

## **Changes to Absentee Voter Information**

Any absentee voter who is added or whose information is changed after the ExpressPoll extract data is sent to KSU on May 12, 2016 must be updated and synchronized on each of the individual ExpressPoll units. Please do not change any voter information in the voter maintenance screen for an absentee voter until after Election Day or until after any subsequent run-off date.

## **Changes to Voter Address Information Within the County**

Counties ***should not*** enter within-county address changes to voter information postmarked during the period between the day after the registration cut-off date and Election Day. Therefore, voter registration applications for within-county address changes postmarked after April 26, 2016 should not be entered until credit for voting has been assigned.

## **County-to-County Transfers**

1. For county-to-county transfers of voters ***before the registration cut-off date***, the process has not changed. Counties may transfer voters before a registration cut-off date for an election without issue.
2. Counties ***should not*** process county-to-county transfers postmarked after the registration cut-off date until after credit for voting has been applied. Therefore, voter registration applications for county-to-county transfers postmarked after April 26, 2016 should not be entered until the state has notified you that credit for voting has been applied. ***Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in voters not appearing on the electors list or ExpressPoll when they should.***
3. Please be aware that the Secretary of State's My Voter Page (MVP) will show the voter's polling place for state & county elections as the most recent precinct entered into the VR system.

## **Changes to Voter Information Other Than Address Change**

Counties may not enter changes to voter information after the registration cut-off date except to update voters who are providing additional information as required in O.C.G.A. 21-2-220(d).

## **Voter List Maintenance (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-228(a))**

Counties must continue to conduct voter list maintenance efforts to ensure that ineligible voters are removed from the electors list in a timely manner. County list maintenance should be conducted as frequently as is practicable to ensure that ineligible individuals do not remain on the electors list. Keep in mind that if you remove a voter from the electors list after the ExpressPoll extract data is sent to KSU on May 12, 2016 you will need to go into each ExpressPoll unit and mark that voter with a "delete" status.

As you continue list maintenance processes leading up to the election, please keep in mind the limitations on list maintenance activities established under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA). Specifically, NVRA provides that any program to systematically remove the names of ineligible voters from the official list of electors must be completed no later than ninety

(90) days prior to the date of a primary or general election for federal office. See 42 U.S.C. § 1973gg-6(c)(2)(A).

Removal of ineligible voters for the following reasons is not subject to the 90-day limitation:

1. at the request of the registrant;
2. the felony conviction or judicial determination of mental incompetency of the registrant;
3. the death of the registrant;
4. correction of registration records pursuant to Subchapter I-H (“National Voter Registration”) of Chapter 20 (“Elective Franchise”) of Title 42 (“The Public Health and Welfare”) of NVRA; or
5. the verification process of determining the eligibility of a person applying to register to vote in accordance with any applicable court order and federal law. See 42 U.S.C. § 15483.

Registrars should continue with their list maintenance activities, so long as they fall into one of the above categories.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your Liaison.