

Colorado's voter registration list maintenance activities

National Voter Registration Act (NVRA)

Colorado and its counties must follow the NVRA's list-maintenance guidelines when determining whether to remove names from the voter rolls. A county may not remove a voter from the rolls unless it receives written notice from that voter, or:

- 1) The county receives other information that that voter's residence has changed;
- 2) The voter fails to respond to a notice from the county regarding the change in residence; and
- 3) The voter fails to vote in two consecutive general elections after the county's notice.¹

Canceling due to death or felony conviction

Minimum matching criteria for canceling voter records

A county may not cancel a voter's record without matching the voter's name, date of birth, and any one of the following: 1) Colorado driver's license number; 2) last four digits of the Social Security Number; or 3) residential address.²

Canceling due to death

Counties may cancel a voter's record upon receiving information that the voter has died.³ In Colorado, the Department of Public Health and Environment provides the Secretary of State with a monthly list of people who died. Our office imports that list into SCORE and counties cancel all voters who meet minimum matching criteria. The Secretary of State has also recently gained access to the Social Security Death Index, which we import into SCORE monthly for counties to review and cancel as necessary.

Canceling convicted felons

Counties must cancel registration records of voters who are currently serving sentences of incarceration or parole for a felony conviction.⁴ Each month the Colorado Department of Corrections provides the Secretary of State with a list of people currently incarcerated or on parole for felony convictions. In addition, the Colorado U.S. Attorney's office sends the Secretary quarterly notices of individuals who have been convicted of a felony. Our office makes this information available in SCORE and counties cancel based on minimum matching criteria.

Updating records based on address changes

National Change of Address

Colorado counties proactively update voter's registration information based on information in the National Change of Address database (NCOA).⁵ On a monthly basis our office compares voter registration data for eligible records with NCOA data to identify electors who have moved. Counties use the monthly data to update the records of voters who have moved within the state. If the county receives information from NCOA that a voter has moved out of state, the county marks the voter's record "inactive" so he or she won't receive a ballot in the mail.

Information from the Department of Revenue

The Secretary of State receives a nightly file from the Colorado Department of Revenue showing all people who either received a new driver's license or updated their current address information. The Secretary of State imports that information into SCORE and counties use the information to register voters or update existing voters' records.⁶

¹ 52 U.S.C. § 20507(d); Section 1-2-605(7), C.R.S.

² Sections 1-2-603 and 1-2-604, C.R.S.; Election Rule 2.5.1.

³ Section 1-2-302(3.5)(a), C.R.S.

⁴ 52 U.S.C. § 20507(g); Sections 1-2-302(3.5)(b) and 1-2-606, C.R.S.; Election Rule 2.9.

⁵ Section 1-2-302.5, C.R.S.

⁶ Section 1-2-213, C.R.S.