

State of California
County of Kern
Legal Requirements

The following requirements must be complied with by all persons and/or organizations to whom registration cards are issued. Non-compliance may result in referral to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Receipt – A person who assumes responsibility for returning another person’s completed registration card to the elections official, must complete the green box section of the Voter Registration Card by signing, dating and listing their name, address and telephone number on the card itself and on the receipt portion of the card. (Elections Code § 2158.)

Return of Cards – Persons distributing voter registration cards must return all completed cards in their possession within three working days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays. Retaining completed cards for more than three days, or denying the voter’s right to return his or her completed card is a misdemeanor. All blank cards must be returned to the elections official immediately after the 15th day preceding a statewide primary or general election, and whenever instructed to do so by the elections official. (Election Code §§ 2138, 2139, 18103.)

Unsolicited Mailing – Any mailing of a registration card to a person who did not request one must be accompanied by a cover letter or other notice with each card, instructing the recipient to disregard the card if he or she is currently registered to vote. (Elections Code § 2158.)

Note: Organizations receiving completed cards for delivery to the elections official must ensure that all cards completed in whole or in part by prospective registrants are promptly forwarded to the elections official. This includes cards containing irregularities or minimal information, i.e. a name and address.

The elections officials, not the organization distributing or receiving cards, will determine the validity of the registration.

If you choose to mail the completed registration forms, they must be **folded and sealed** prior to placing them in the mail, or they must be placed in a mailing envelope.