



# Kentucky

- **Chief election official:** Secretary of State Michael Adams; elected in 2019 for a 4-year term.
- **State election director:** Karen Sellers
- **Who runs elections locally:** County Board of Elections
- **State website:** [www.kentucky.gov](http://www.kentucky.gov)

| ELECTION POLICY                                                      | STATUS                                          | NATIONAL COMPARISON                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>VOTER REGISTRATION</b>                                            |                                                 |                                                                                                |
| Online voter registration                                            | OVR permitted                                   | 42 states and D.C. have online voter registration                                              |
| Automatic/automated voter registration                               | Not provided                                    | 42 states and D.C. have automatic voter registration                                           |
| Pre-registration                                                     | Must be 18 by Election Day                      | 19 states permit pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds                                     |
| Election Day/same-day registration                                   | Not provided                                    | 22 states and D.C. have same-day registration                                                  |
| Registration deadline                                                | 29 days before Election Day                     | National average is 20 days before Election Day                                                |
| <b>VOTING</b>                                                        |                                                 |                                                                                                |
| Voter ID                                                             | ID required                                     | 35 states require ID                                                                           |
| Early in-person voting                                               | Begins the Thursday before Election Day         | 47 states allow; national average is 26 days                                                   |
| Vote centers                                                         | Vote centers are used                           | 29 states allow vote centers                                                                   |
| No-excuse absentee voting                                            | Not permitted                                   | 27 states permit no-excuse absentee voting                                                     |
| Mails ballots to all registered voters (aka “mostly mail elections”) | Ballots are not mailed to all registered voters | Eight states and D.C. mail ballots to all registered voters                                    |
| Deadline for absentee/mail ballot return                             | Close of polls on Election Day                  | 30 states require ballots returned by Election Day*                                            |
| Ballot collection laws                                               | Family, household member or caregiver           | 31 states have ballot collection laws                                                          |
| Ballot drop boxes                                                    | Permits drop boxes                              | Four states prohibit; 23 states permit; other states are silent                                |
| Ballot cure process                                                  | Ballot cure process offered statewide           | 25 states have a ballot cure process                                                           |
| When absentee/mail ballot processing begins                          | 14 days before Election Day                     | 32 states and D.C. begin processing before Election Day                                        |
| Electronic ballot return                                             | Not permitted                                   | 33 states allow for military and overseas voters; 13 states allow for voters with disabilities |
| <b>OTHER</b>                                                         |                                                 |                                                                                                |
| Prohibits private funding of elections                               | Private funding is prohibited                   | 24 states prohibit; 26 states are silent                                                       |
| Pre-election audits (logic and accuracy testing)                     | Uses pre-election audit                         | 47 states have pre-election audits                                                             |
| Post-election tabulation audits                                      | Uses a post-election tabulation audit           | 46 states require post-election audits                                                         |
| State primary type                                                   | Closed                                          | Primaries range from fully open to fully closed                                                |
| Member of Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC)          | Yes                                             | 25 states and D.C. are members of ERIC                                                         |
| Use jury lists for list maintenance                                  | Not specified                                   | Seven states use jury lists; other states are silent                                           |

\*Other states accept ballots postmarked by Election Day.

**Note:** Neither NCSL nor the U.S. Election Assistance Commission advocate for or against any election policies.

**For more information, contact NCSL at [elections-info@ncsl.org](mailto:elections-info@ncsl.org) or 303-364-7700. For information on federal grants see [www.eac.gov/grants](http://www.eac.gov/grants).**



Use this QR code to access links to NCSL's elections pages with details.



Use this QR code to access links to the EAC's election resources.



Sept. | 2023