



Secretary of State

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Future Voter Registration Sign Up

Elections Clearinghouse Notice

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This Clearinghouse is issued to reflect legislative changes in House Bill 1513 and replaces Clearinghouse #09-01, Underage Voter Registration.

House Bill 1513 created a Future Voter Program to allow preregistration of 16 and 17 year-olds. Legislative changes are in effect starting July 1, 2019.

House Bill 1513 Future Voter Sign-up Program Requirements

Preregistration of 16 and 17 year-olds occurs by mail, online, or through the Department of Licensing. These registrations are pended as a future voter until they are 18 years old for the next election.

A future voter affirmatively acknowledges they will not vote until 18 years old. The voter registration form has an option to make a mark affirming they are at least 16 years old and will vote only after reaching the age of 18. While this was included in the bill, marking the box is not required for registering under the Future Voter Program. If the box is not marked and they are 16 or 17 years old according to their date of birth, treat it as a future voter registration.

Preregistered individuals become registered voters only when the person will be at least 18 by the next election. Until then, information on preregistrants is exempt from public disclosure and cannot be released or included on any official lists of registered voters.

To protect future voter personal information, do not send a future voter any correspondence or notices. Do not send an acknowledgement notice until the future voter becomes officially registered.

If you receive a change of address for a future voter, it is recommended that you apply it to the pended registration.

A future voter may request to remove their preregistration at any time. They can voluntarily withdraw their preregistration by submitting the request in writing similar to the voluntary cancellation process outlined in WAC 434-324-111.

Temperance and Good Citizenship Day—January 16

House Bill 1513 also requires Temperance and Good Citizenship Day registration opportunities for high school seniors. The bill directs the OSOS to provide voter registration forms (materials) to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). OSPI must disseminate the materials to schools by December 1.

The bill also directs social studies teachers to coordinate a Temperance and Good Citizenship Day event for high school seniors as part of the Future Voter Sign-up Program. County Auditors may, as resources allow, help coordinate the annual event.

On Temperance and Good Citizenship Day, the legislation requires online and paper registration forms must be available to students in the classroom. The online form may be used if students have a state driver's license, state ID card, or other identification required for online registration. Paper registrations must be available for students without required ID.

Best Practice: Create a Future Voters brochure and provide to DOL locations, schools, and for Temperance and Good Citizenship Day. Refer to the [#Future Voter FAQ](#) available on the Secretary of State's website for messaging and information.