

Field Registration Toolkit



30th April 2026





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What is National Voter Registration Day?

We are delighted to welcome you onboard the **National Voter Registration Day!** In this toolkit, you'll find important information you may need to navigate through this very important milestone in the Irish democratic process.

Unlike the United States, there isn't a specific "National Voter Registration Day" recognised in Ireland as of yet. However, with your help, we plan to change that! Voter registration and awareness campaigns are extremely important and a dedicated day to encourage citizens to register to vote and participate in elections can make all the difference.

National Voter Registration Day has been celebrated in the United States for over two decades and has garnered promising results. It is our ambition to emulate this initiative in Ireland which we have started on the 30th of April, 2024 and will continue going forward.





Minority group outreach

All Voices Need to Be Heard

Minority groups, such as migrants, refugees, disabled individuals, and the Traveller community, may face unique barriers to voter registration. These barriers can include language barriers, lack of access to information, physical disabilities, discrimination, or systemic obstacles. Outreach efforts can help identify and address these barriers to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to register and vote

Minority group outreach concerning voting registration is important for several reasons:



Inclusivity:

Outreach to minority groups promotes the principles of equality and inclusivity in a democratic society. It ensures that all members of society have an equal opportunity to participate in elections and have a say in the decisions that affect their lives.

Representation:

Every citizen, regardless of their background or identity, deserves to have their voice heard in the democratic process. Minority groups often face barriers to participation in the political process, including voter registration.

Integration:

Engaging minority communities in the electoral process can promote their integration into society. It helps people feel more connected to their community and empowers them to participate fully in civic life.

Diversity of Perspectives:

A diverse electorate enriches the democratic process by bringing a variety of perspectives and experiences to the table. By engaging minority groups in voter registration efforts, the democratic process becomes more robust and reflective of the entire population.



Voter registration 101

CHECK THE REGISTER!

You can register and update your details online at <https://www.checktheregister.ie/en-IE/>

The items needed to register online are your PPSN, Date of Birth and Eircode. An email address will also be needed if you register online.

FIRST TIME VOTER?

Choose 'Register to Vote for the First Time' option in this case:

- ◆ Have your PPSN, Eircode and Email Address
- ◆ Are aged 18 or over and living in Ireland
- ◆ Are aged 16 or 17 and want to pre-register

EIRCODE

If someone is unaware of their Eircode, they can check it online at Eircode.ie or by clicking this box! Enter a full address in the search bar. Click on the correct address. Or click on the map.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING TO VOTE

Your application must be received by the local authority at least 15 days before an election or referendum.

For someone to vote, they must be registered. When you help people register, you make democracy work! Thus it is important to ensure each step of the registration process is executed with care.

Voter registration 101

LOCAL AUTHORITY

When registering online via the link shared above you will be asked to select your local authority from the drop down menu. This is the City or County Council where you live.

You can also get registration forms from your local authorities.

CITIZENSHIP

A person's citizenship determines what elections they may vote in.

- ◆ *Irish Citizens – all elections and referenda*
- ◆ *British Citizens – Dáil and local elections*
- ◆ *British/EU Citizens – Dáil, European and local elections*
- ◆ *Non-EU Citizens – Local elections only*

PPS NUMBER

If someone is unaware of their Eircode, they can check it online at **Eircode.ie** or by clicking this box! Enter a full address in the search bar. Click on the correct address. Or click on the map.

ADDRESS

Ensure registration addresses are current. Direct Provision residents must update their address on **www.checktheregister.ie** upon leaving/moving.

What you may need for Voter Registration Day

BE PREPARED!

Before the day, make sure to post on your social media that you're planning to host a voter registration day on **30th of April**.

You can share the official flyer and mention in the caption the time and location of the registration centre. Feel free to share the flyer on all your social media and don't forget to tag us on IG, FB and LinkedIn!

- ◆ **Table and Chairs:** Set up a designated area with tables and chairs where volunteers can sit and assist registrants with the registration process.
- ◆ **Laptops/Computers:** Assure you have the devices necessary to register people to vote with convenient access to power outlets.
- ◆ **Volunteers:** Have 2/3 volunteers who can assist in the registration process. Assure they are familiar with the registration process and this toolkit.
- ◆ **Internet Access:** It is important to have access to a strong and reliable internet connection on registration day.
- ◆ **Printed Forms:** Ensure an ample supply of printed voter registration forms are acquired from the local authority and are made available for those without a PPSN.
- ◆ **Registration Process:** Along with the instructions above regarding the registration process, here is a video that further explains the process!

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

“Have your say: Engaging with Public Representatives”

National Voter Registration Day 2026 has two main objectives:

- ◆ Promote the theme of why and how to engage with public representatives
- ◆ Support communities to register to vote or update their details

Throughout the month of April, we will be sharing educational information on our platforms to help people learn how to contact and engage with their public representatives across all levels of government in Ireland. We encourage you to do the same. If you are hosting a registration drive, try to provide practical examples to communities on **why and how** to contact their public representatives.

We believe that by educating our communities, they will be more likely to reach out to their local authorities, access services they are entitled to, participate in initiatives promoted by local authorities, and hold their public representatives accountable.

How can you promote this year's theme?

- ◆ If you are hosting a registration drive, you could invite the Cathaoirleach, Leas - Chathaoirleach or any other local councillor to talk about the work they do.
- ◆ You could record a short video of the Mayor explaining how people can take part in decision-making spaces.
- ◆ You could visit local schools and speak about the theme. National Voter Registration Day is for everyone - you can be as creative as you want to be.

Resources

There are plenty of resources where you can learn about the roles of our Public Representatives and more, including:

[How to Engage with Public Representatives Online Book](#) <--- *Click here*

[How to Engage with Public Representatives Flyer](#)

[Political Roles in Ireland Printable Flyer](#)

[What is a Bye-Election? Online Book](#)

[Voting in a Bye-Election - Online Book](#)

[How the count works - Online Book](#)

[Voting Rights Printable Flyer](#)

[What constituency am I in? - Electoral Commission](#)

[Discover your local representatives](#)

All voting and politics information and resources can be found on DALC's website **[vote.ie/resources](https://www.vote.ie/resources)**

Important tips and insights!

Encouraging voter registration is vital for promoting democratic engagement. Consider these key points for a successful voter registration drive:

Neutrality:

Avoid conflicts of interest by ensuring that local councillor candidates (independent or party candidates) do not directly register individuals on the day. This maintains political neutrality and transparency in the process.

Accessibility:

Ensure that the registration process is carried out in a convenient and accessible manner. We want to cater to a wide range of people and thus accessibility ensures that all individuals, regardless of their physical abilities or disabilities, have equal access to the voter registration process.

Engagement and Outreach:

Engage with the community before the 30th of April via canvassing, phone banking, social media campaigns, and community meetings. This will promote a greater turnout on registration day.

