

Voter Advocate Guide - Kansas

What You Need

Basics:

In order to vote in Kansas, you will need to bring ONE (1) of the following documents to your polling place:

- A driver's license or nondriver's identification card issued by Kansas or by another state or district of the United States
- A concealed carry of handgun license issued by Kansas or a concealed carry of handgun or weapon license issued by another state or district of the United States
- A United States passport
- An employee badge or identification document issued by a municipal, county, state, or federal government office
- A military identification document issued by the United States
- A student identification card issued by an accredited postsecondary institution of education in the state of Kansas
- A public assistance identification card issued by a municipal, county, state or federal government office
- An identification card issued by an Indian tribe

If the photo ID has an expiration date on it, the ID must not have expired at the time of voting. An acceptable photo ID does not have to have an expiration date on the document in order to be valid. Persons age 65 or older may use expired photo ID documents.

If you are a first-time voter, you must provide proof of citizenship with your voter registration application or at a later time before the election. Documents accepted as proof of United States citizenship for purposes of voter registration include a birth certificate, U.S. passport, U.S. naturalization documents or number, Bureau of Indian Affairs card/enrollment number, Certificate of Citizenship issued by the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, certificate of report of birth issued by the Department of State, final adoption decree, U.S. military record of service and extract from a U.S. hospital record of birth. The full list of acceptable documents can be found here: <http://www.gotvoterid.com/proof-of-citizenship.html>.

Exemptions:

- Persons 65 years of age or older may use expired photo ID documents
- Military and overseas citizens who vote under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act
- Any person voting in mail ballot elections (Mail ballot elections are limited to local jurisdictions holding special question-submitted elections.)
- Any voters who qualify for and remain on the permanent advance voting list
- Any person whose religious beliefs prohibit photographic identification (form needed)

Name, Signature and Photo Matching:

- The Kansas voter ID law requires that first-time voters whose name or address on their ID and registration aren't "consistent" cast provisional ballots after updating their voter registration. Provisional ballots are counted only if the county canvassing board chooses to include them. The poll worker has the authority to decide if the two names are "consistent."
- Your photo should reflect the way you look now (Hair color, glasses, facial hair, age, weight, etc. will be taken into account when comparing you to your photo.)
- See http://kansasstatutes.lesterama.org/Chapter_25/Article_29/#25-2908 for more information.

"Cure" Period:

- If you vote by provisional ballot, you must submit identification to the County Elections Office sometime before the county canvass. By law counties may canvass on the Monday following the election or on the following Thursday. The canvass date varies depending on the county, so check with the Office to determine the date for your county.

Advance Voting:

- With advance/absentee voting, any registered voter can vote by mail or in person before Election Day.
- Complete an application to receive an advance ballot by mail, or to vote in person at the County Elections Office before election day (Application available here: http://www.longdistancevoter.org/files/voter_forms/Kansas_absentee_english.pdf)
- Ballots will be mailed to you 20 days before the election, or you can vote in-person either the Tuesday before election day or 20 days before the election, depending on the county
- For information about your County Elections Officer, please visit https://www.kssos.org/elections/elections_registration_ceo.asp?
- If voting in-person, you must provide the same identification information as a regular voter
- If voting by mail, you must write your driver's license number or Kansas nondriver's identification card number on the application form or submit a copy of your identification information with the application

Federal Law:

Federal law, the Help America Vote Act, requires ID for first-time voters (defined as: registering to vote by mail; did not vote in a previous Federal election, or never voted in your county of residence in a Federal election). Visit the VoteRiders website for more detailed identification requirements: http://www.voteriders.org/sites/default/files/VoteRiders-site-HAVA-1st-Time-Voters-03-2014_0.pdf

How To Get It

– Driver’s License/Non-Driver’s License Renewal:

You must visit the Kansas Department of Revenue’s (DOR) Division of Vehicles to renew either a driver’s license or non-driver’s license.

To renew a Kansas Driver’s license, you must:

1. Present proof of identity and proof of residence (see acceptable forms of proof here: <http://www.ksrevenue.org/dmvproof.html>)
2. Provide a Social Security number
3. Pass a vision exam
4. Have a new photo and signature captured
5. Pay the appropriate fee for your vehicle

To renew, extend or replace your Kansas Driver's License when you are out of the state, please see <http://www.ksrevenue.org/dmvoutofstate.html>.

If instead you want to renew a Kansas identification card (non-driver identification card), you must bring the following documents as originals or certified copies. (Note that the DOR will not accept photocopies.):

- Your current Kansas ID card
- Proof of Kansas residency (e.g., utility bill, W-2 form, or school tuition invoice)
- Your Social Security number or a document proving your lawful presence in the U.S. (e.g., passport with I-94, I-551 Resident Alien card, or photo employment authorization)
- Valid payment for the renewal fee

See <http://www.dmv.org/ks-kansas/id-cards.php#Renew-Your-Kansas-ID-Card>.

– U.S. Passport Renewal:

You can renew your U.S. Passport by mail if your passport is undamaged, was issued within the last 15 years, when you were 16 or older, and was issued in your current name or you can legally document your name change with original or certified copy of your marriage certificate or the government-issued document evidencing your legal name change. You must submit Form DS-82, Application for a *U.S. Passport by Mail*. You can either complete the form by hand or use the online guide to fill it out. See

<http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/passports/renew.html#step1>.

– Concealed Carry License Renewal:

- Licensees will receive a renewal notice, instructions and an application form by mail 90 days prior to expiration.
- The application form must be filled out, notarized and mailed by certified mail or hand delivered to the Attorney General’s Office (Topeka).
- The completed renewal application must include a current 2x2 inch color photo of the licensee and a check in the amount of \$25.00 made payable to the Kansas Attorney General.

- License renewals do not require training and licensees will not have to submit their applications through the County Sheriff or provide another set of fingerprints.
- Licensees will be subjected to an electronic criminal history background check prior to renewal.
- When approved, licensees will be mailed a notice of approval to renew their license. The notice of approval must be taken to a Kansas Driver's License Station for issuance. Licenses will be renewed for 4 years from the date of expiration.

See <http://ag.ks.gov/public-safety/concealedcarry/license-renewal-information>.

– **Replacement Citizenship Certificate:**

A copy of a birth certificate costs \$15 for the first one plus \$15 for each additional copy. If ordering through the Internet or by telephone, each additional copy costs an additional \$11 for an expedited service fee. You may request a birth certificate from the Office of Vital Statistics in five ways:

1. Walk-in: Curtis State Office Bldg.
1000 SW Jackson Ste. 120
Topeka, KS 66612
9 am - 4pm
2. Internet: Visit <https://www.vitalchek.com> to obtain a copy
3. Telephone: (785) 296-3253 between 8 am – 4pm
4. Regular mail: Send request and check by mail
5. Priority mail: Send request by any type of priority mail service with check

– **If no current, valid, acceptable form of voter ID, how to get FREE voter ID**

Kansas identification card (<http://www.dmv.org/ks-kansas/id-cards.php>)

In order to obtain a fee waiver for a Kansas identification card, you must sign a form containing an affidavit stating, among other things, that you:

- Are registered to vote in Kansas
- Do not possess a photographic identification document that is valid for voting purposes
- Have provided evidence of current Kansas voting registration status (such as a voter registration card)

In addition, you must fill out a Certification Requesting Fee Waiver for Non-Driver Identification Card (Form De-VID1), which you can download at <http://www.ksrevenue.org/pdf/DE-VID1.pdf>.

Kansas Birth Certificate (to obtain free photographic identification)

You will need to obtain proof of identity in order to apply for a free non-driver identification card. The most common proof of identity is a birth certificate, which you can obtain from the Kansas Office of Vital statistics at no cost if you meet the following qualifications:

- You do not possess any valid photographic identification documents under Kansas law
- You lack any of the documents necessary to prove identity
- You sign an affidavit attesting to the first two items above
- You are registered to vote in Kansas

- You were born in Kansas

To obtain a free birth certificate, all three of the following forms must be submitted to the Kansas Office of Vital Statistics

(http://www.kdheks.gov/vital/birth_cert_voter_ID_guidance.htm):

1. Form VS-235 10/09 (Application for Certified Copy of Kansas Birth Certificate) - http://www.kdheks.gov/vital/birth_howto.html
2. Form BCA (Affidavit of Person Requesting Free Certified Copy of Birth Certificate)
3. Form DE-VID1 (Certification Requesting Fee Waiver for Non-driver Identification Card) - <http://www.ksrevenue.org/pdf/DE-VID1.pdf>

State Voter Identification Document

If you do not have proof of identity and do not wish to pay for it, you may apply for a State Voter Identification Document at no cost. This document is valid only for the purpose of voting in Kansas. To qualify, you must either:

- Have been born outside of the state of Kansas
- Have been born in the State of Kansas, asked the Office of Vital Statistics for a copy of your birth certificate and received a "No Certificate Found" letter, and provided a copy of the application and letter to the Secretary of State

If you qualify under one of the above, you must also:

- Not possess any valid photographic identification documents under Kansas law
- Lack any of the documents necessary to prove identity
- Sign an affidavit attesting to items 1 and 2
- Be registered to vote in Kansas

Didn't find what you were looking for?

Try these websites:

<http://www.voteks.org/>

<http://www.gotvoterid.com/main.html>

https://www.kssos.org/elections/elections_registration.html

https://www.kssos.org/resources/resources_faqs_elections.html

Problem when trying to vote? Call 1 (866) OUR-VOTE