



Voter Registration Script

And Common Responses

This is a sample script to help guide your interactions with constituents. Make sure to keep these things in mind: 1) keep in positive 2) be interactive – get up from behind the table 3) make it personal

Sample Script

Voter Registration Ask: Hi. Can I help you register to vote for the (November election)? We're trying to make sure everyone in our community is registered to vote for the November election.

If yes, I'm registered: That's great! Have you moved or changed your name since you last voted?

If yes, I've moved: I can help you update your registration so you can vote. This will only take a few minutes - and I can save you time by returning the form for you.
(Register the person and move to closing.)

If registration up to date: Thanks! Please remind your friends and family to register to vote too.

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If no, not registered: I can help you get registered to vote right now. This will only take a few minutes - and I can save you time by returning the form for you.
(Register the person and move to closing.)

If no, don't have time, not interested, etc: - *See common responses below*

Closing: Thanks so much for registering to vote with me! I'll submit this right away to our local elections office and you should be all set for the upcoming election. (Get a postcard in the mail)



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Common Responses

1. “I don’t have time.”

I understand you are really busy. Filling out this form only takes a couple minutes and I can make sure it gets turned in for you. You can save time by registering with me today.

2. “I’m not interested in registering” or “I don’t care about voting.”

Respect their hesitancy. Be ready with reasons to register. Use a reason from your own personal experience. *For example-*

- Our ability to provide services and receive funds depends on the support of elected officials. It helps when they know our community members are registered to vote - OR
- Cite an example of an important upcoming issue or important election. - OR
- Add your reason to register here _____.

3. “I don’t know the candidates.”

(Mention some important races.) We’re a nonpartisan organization and can’t tell you who to vote for. The best way to get information is either to ask friends or family. You can also get a sample ballot from your local election office or from another nonpartisan source.

4. “I can’t register to vote. / I don’t think I am eligible.”

May I ask why not? I am trained in eligibility issues and may be able to help.

- *Not a citizen:* I understand. You can make a difference by making sure friends and family members are registered.
- *Have a felony conviction:* In many states you can vote as soon as you leave prison or finish your sentence. Look up your state’s rules at www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-as-an-ex-offender/
- *Not old enough:* Will you be 18 by Election Day? If so, you can vote. I can register you today.

5. “I don’t want to be called for jury duty.”

States get jury pools from a variety of lists (e.g. motor vehicles or other state programs)