

Cherokee County Elections & Registration Policy for Conducting Voter Registration Drives

August 26, 2008

There are two types of Voter Registration Drives: (1) **is a drive that is staffed by Deputy Registrars and sanctioned by the Cherokee County Elections and Voter Registration Office** and (2) is a drive that is **conducted by a third party entity**.

Regardless of which method you choose, the Cherokee County Elections and Voter Registration Office stands ready to assist you in your outreach effort. It's easier than ever to register to vote!

Deputy Registrar Staffed Drives require that Deputy Registrars be present. Deputy Registrars must be trained and deputized. Training is held as needed and requested. Deputy Registrar Staffed Drives must be approved in advance by this office and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Individuals or groups seeking to conduct a voter registration drive in this manner must be approved in advance by the Cherokee County Elections and Voter Registration Office and the United States Department of Justice in writing specifying the dates, time and location of the drive. A registration drive of this type must be advertised in the legal section of the county newspaper. The approval process typically takes three weeks. The dates, times, and location of drives cannot be changed once they are approved. Political campaigning and advocacy and door-to-door registration are not permitted during Deputy Registrar/Board of Elections sanctioned drive. All locations chosen must be open to the general public and no drive may take place where alcoholic beverages are sold and consumed on the same premises.

All applications for voter registration received by a Deputy Registrar during a Cherokee County Election Office sanctioned drive are treated as "in-person" registrations, just like those completed at public libraries, DDS, etc., and are considered officially received on the date of your drive.

Following training, but before the drive, Deputy Registrars will be provided with blank voter registration applications and all necessary supplies needed in order to conduct the drive. The supplies and application will be picked up from the Cherokee County Elections office located at 400 East Main Street Canton Georgia prior to the drive and must be returned to the Cherokee County Elections office by the close of business of the next business day following the drive

Deputy Registrar training classes are open to the public. Please call our office at: 770-479-0407 for more information.

Drive Conducted by Third Party Entities

This type of drive does not require the presence of a deputy registrar. No prior approval of the dates, times, and locations of your drive is required. Private individuals and groups may conduct voter registration drives at times and locations of their choosing, and may alter the times, dates, and locations of their drives as circumstances dictate. Drives conducted by third party entities may be sponsored by both nonpartisan and partisan groups and may be held at fixed sites or door-to-door.

Blank Voter Registration Applications will be provided by this office.

During your drive, you are permitted to assist individuals from any county in Georgia with registering to vote. You may also assist out-of-state residents with voter registration by using the National Mail-In Voter Registration Form, which is available from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission at:

<http://www.eac.gov/voter/Register to Vote>.

Applications collected during your drives are processed as “mail-in” registrations regardless of whether they are actually mailed or hand-delivered. They are only considered officially received when they are properly delivered to the Cherokee County Elections and Voter Registration office.

If you choose to collect completed voter registration application forms from the citizens, you must submit them (via mail or hand-delivered) no later than 10 days after the voter registration application is completed by the applicants prior to any registration cutoff deadline. Another option is to distribute the application forms for individuals to complete and either mail or personally deliver the application to the Cherokee County Elections and Voter Registration Office themselves. The forms are self addressed and postage paid.

Although no specific training is required, we recommend that you spend some time planning for your drives and training your volunteers and employees on the importance of ensuring that the voter registration applications are completed properly and neatly, handled securely, and submitted in a timely manner to this office or the appropriate state or local registrar.

Regardless of which drive best suits your needs, the Cherokee County Elections & Voter Registration Office stands ready to provide you with voter application forms and assistance to help make your outreach a success. The important thing is to get all eligible citizens registered to vote and encourage them to exercise that right.

Cherokee County Elections & Registration
400 East Main Street
Canton, GA 30114
770-479-0407
770-479-9791 fax
<http://voter.cherokeega.com>