

Third-Party Voter Registration FAQs

What is a Third-Party Voter Registration Organization?

A third-party voter registration organization (3PVRO) means any person, entity, or organization that solicits or collects any voter registration application, but does **not** include:

- a person who seeks only to register to vote or collect a voter registration application from that person's spouse, parent, or child

or

- a person engaged in registering to vote or collecting voter registration applications as an employee or agent of the Division of Elections, supervisor of elections, DHSMV, or an official voter registration agency.

Any organization that only distributes, but does not collect voter registration applications, is not a 3PVRO and need not comply with 3PVRO requirements. Before engaging in any voter registration activities, a third party voter registration organization must register and provide the information outlined in Florida Statutes [97.0575](#).

What are the responsibilities of a 3PVRO?

A third-party voter registration organization must comply with all statutory (see s. [97.0575](#), Fla. Stat.) and regulatory requirements. See the Third-Party Voter Registration Organization Summary included in this packet. 3PVROs must register with the Division of Elections, timely submit all voter registration applications it collects to the Supervisor of Elections, place its assigned ID number on any applications it delivers, and keep its registration information updated.

Should I register as a third-party voter registration organization if I am only handing out Voter Registration Applications?

Distributing voter registration applications **by itself** does not make a person a 3PVRO. A person (or an organization) must only register when it solicits a person to return voter registration applications to that person (or organization) or if the person (or organization) collects the voter registration applications from the applicants.

Are Candidates, Political Committees, or Political Parties Exempt from Registering as a 3PVRO?

No. If a candidate, political committee, or political party solicits for collection or collects voter registration applications from Florida voter registration applicants, the candidate or entity must register as a 3PVRO.

How do I register?

Before engaging in any voter registration activities (defined in Rule 1S-2.042 as meaning when an organization solicits for collection or collects voter registration applications from Florida applicants), a third-party voter registration organization must register by submitting Form DS-DE 119 as an e-mail attachment in pdf format to

3PVRO@dos.myflorida.com or transmitting it to the Division's facsimile machine at 850-245-6291. The Division must approve the registration and assign the third-party voter registration organization an ID # before the third-party voter registration organization is considered registered to conduct voter registration activities.

Must each person "helping" a third-party voter registration organization also register as a 3PVRO?

No, but if the person satisfies the definition of being a registration agent (any individual who is employed by or volunteers for a third-party voter registration organization and who solicits for collection or who collects voter registration applications from Florida voter registration applicants).

Must affiliates or subsidiaries of a 3PVRO register?

Each subsidiary or affiliate of a registered 3PVRO that also solicits for collection or collects voter registration applications must also register as a 3PVRO. Affiliate organization means any person, group, or entity associated with the 3PVRO as a subordinate, subsidiary, member, branch, chapter, as a central or parent organization, or through direct or indirect ownership or control. Ownership or control means substantial and effective, though not necessarily predominant, ownership or control.

Is a Registered Agent required and what is a Registered Agent?

3PVROs must designate on Form DS-DE 119 and DS-DE 41 an agent (person or entity) authorized to accept service of legal process for the 3PVRO. The registered agent must sign Form DS-DE 119 to accept the appointment. The "registered agent" is considered to be an individual resident in the state or a domestic or foreign corporation or a not-for-profit corporation authorized to transact business in the state with such person or corporation being authorized to accept legal service of process for the 3PVRO.

A 3PVRO "registered" agent and a 3PVRO "*registration*" agent are not the same thing. The *registration agent* is any person who is employed by, or volunteers for, the 3PVRO, who collects voter registration application on behalf of the 3PVRO. A person may be a *registration agent* for more than one 3PVRO.

What does a Third-Party Voter Registration Organization have to file?

Prior to engaging in any voter registration activities, a third-party voter registration organization must register by submitting Form DS-DE 119 as an e-mail attachment in pdf format to 3PVRO@dos.state.fl.us or transmitting it to the Division's facsimile machine at 850-245-6291. The Division must approve the registration and assign the third-party voter registration organization an ID # before the third-party voter registration organization can conduct voter registration activities. Also, before any of its registration agents engages in voter registration activities, the registration agent must complete Form DE-DE 41.

What Are the Penalties for a 3PVRO Not Promptly Delivering Voter Registration Applications?

A 3PVRO which collects voter registration applications serves as a fiduciary to the applicant, ensuring that any application entrusted to the 3PVRO shall be promptly delivered to the Division or the Supervisor of Elections. If a voter registration application collected by any 3PVRO (including any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf) is not promptly delivered to the Division or the Supervisor of Elections, only the 3PVRO itself is liable for the following fines:

Activity	Fine per Application	Willful Act per Application
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application not received until more than 10 days from date of collection Application postmarked more than 10 days from date of collection 	\$50	\$250
Application collected <i>before</i> book closing for any given election for federal or state office but received <i>after</i> the book closing deadline.	\$100	\$500
Application never submitted	\$500	\$1000

The maximum aggregate fine that can be assessed against a 3PVRO, including affiliate organizations, for violations committed in a calendar year is \$1,000.

The date the applicant signed the voter registration application is presumed to be the date the 3PVRO received or collected the application. The 3PVRO is responsible for printing the date and time the applicant completed the application in a conspicuous space on the bottom portion of the reverse side of any voter registration application in a manner that does not obscure any of other entry.

Are there any exceptions that would not require registering as a 3PVRO?

You are not required to register as a 3PVRO to register to vote or collect a voter registration application from your spouse, child, or parent.

The following official agencies (or agent or employee of such agencies) do not need to register as 3PVRO as they operate under a different status: Division of Elections, Supervisor of Elections, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, or a Voter Registration agency as defined by Florida Voter Registration Act (public library, public assistance office, center for independent living, or office that serves persons with disabilities).

What organizations are currently registered?

To view a list of all active and withdrawn third party voter registration organizations, please go to <http://tpvr.election.myflorida.com/>

Who do I contact for more information?

Florida Department of State, Division of Elections;
Phone: 850-245-6286 or 850-245-6290;

Fax: 850-245-6291.

Email: 3PVRO@dos.myflorida.com;

Website: <http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voter-registration/third-party-voter-registration-organizations/>