



# **A Guide to Creating a Voting Transportation Program**

**Developed by the Kansas Silver Haired  
Legislature - 2026**

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## ***A Message from the Kansas Silver Haired Legislature***

The Kansas Silver Haired Legislature believes that access to voting is a fundamental right for every Kansan. This guide was created to help community organizations—whether neighborhood groups, senior centers, or congregations—develop a transportation program that ensures older adults and others can reach the polls.

We know many older Kansans want to exercise their right to vote but may face barriers such as mobility challenges, lack of transportation, or health concerns on Election Day. By organizing rides, community groups can empower residents to remain active in civic life and make sure their voices are heard.

Because finding reliable information about voting requirements can sometimes be difficult, this guide also includes resources on what identification is needed, how to locate polling places, and how to access advanced ballots.

The Silver Haired Legislature was created nationally by an Act of Congress in 1969, and in Kansas in 1982 through Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1649. Its purpose is to identify the priority concerns of Kansans age 60 and older, develop resolutions and bills to address those concerns, and present them to the Kansas Legislature and Governor as recommendations for state policy.

All Silver Haired Legislatures are nonpartisan. Our only focus is ensuring the voices and needs of older adults are represented and respected.

For more information about the Silver Haired Legislature:

[Kansas Silver Haired Legislature](http://www.kansas-shl.org)

# Chapter 1: Laying the Groundwork

## Leadership & Team Formation

- Secure leadership approval (pastor, board, or director, etc.).
- Stress that the program must be nonpartisan.
- Form a leadership team (3–6 members) with skills in organization, communication, scheduling, outreach, and logistics.
- Assign roles: Suggestions: Program Director, Volunteer Coordinator, Communications Lead, Logistics Lead.

# Chapter 2: Building a Timeline

## 6–8 Months Before

- Get approval from leadership.
- Review the state website to learn about elections. <https://sos.ks.gov/elections/elections.html>
- Contact your local election office for information about your county. [https://www.sos.ks.gov/elections/county\\_election\\_officers.aspx](https://www.sos.ks.gov/elections/county_election_officers.aspx) This officer is sometime the County Clerk in some counties.

## 4–6 Months Before

- Form the leadership team and plan and strategize.
- Begin recruiting volunteer drivers.
- Collect information on polling locations and early voting sites, and <https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/voterview>. Be sure to check with your county for the dates and locations for early in-person voting.

## 2–3 Months Before

- Set up a rider request system (phone, office, or online).
- Create a voter information sheet (or an online form) to gather voter information. Request voter to confirm their name, address, phone number, polling place, and time of preferred pick up. Ask them to double-check their voter registration at [ksvotes.org](https://ksvotes.org).
- Announce the program internally.
- Begin outreach to the broader community.

## 1 Month Before

- Finalize driver roster, time available, and collect license/insurance info.

- Train volunteers and drivers on the election day process and the rules for voting in Kansas (see the last few pages of this pamphlet). Go over information on how to handle special requests (See the last section of this pamphlet).
- Match early rider requests with drivers.

## 2 Weeks Before

- Increase outreach: flyers, social media, community partnerships, press release.
- Confirm polling hours and locations (these could change for some precincts at the last minute). <https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/voterview>
- Prepare ride scheduling charts.
- Make sure drivers have voter contact information to confirm pickup for early voting and election day.

## Election Day / Early Voting

- Run a command center to manage rides.
- Keep backup drivers available.
- Check in regularly with drivers.

## Post-Election

- Thank the volunteers publicly.
- Collect stories and testimonies.
- Evaluate the program and plan for the future.

# Chapter 3: Polling Places & Rules

## Key Considerations

- Look up polling locations via your Secretary of State's website. <https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/voterview>
- Understand mail-in ballot vs early in-person voting vs. Election Day rules. (See last section of this pamphlet)
- Confirm ADA accessibility (ramps, parking, entrances) at polling site if needed.
- Remind riders of the voter ID requirements in your state that they must have in their possession.
- Ensure drivers know no electioneering is allowed within restricted zones near polling sites.

# Chapter 4: Recruiting and Training Volunteers

## Volunteer Essentials

- Announce opportunities to the community.
- Look for drivers with safe records, valid licenses, and current auto insurance.
- Seek volunteers who are dependable, patient, and respectful.
- For senior centers and churches: ensure some drivers have accessible vehicles (wheelchair vans, etc.).

## Training Topics

- Stay neutral – no political discussions.
- Safety first – seat belts, assist seniors or disabled riders.
- Confirm rider details before departure.
- Have emergency contacts and backup plans ready.
- Explain the special exceptions (see below) and make sure the voter requesting a ride understands the requirements. Make driver's aware that mail ballots may be taken to a voter's polling place on Election Day. **Also, a voter's mail ballot may be returned by another person IF both the voter and the person assisting sign the outside of the ballot envelope.**
- Encourage mail-in ballots be dropped directly at the a voter box or mailed 2 weeks prior to the election.

# Chapter 5: Community Outreach

## Outreach Strategies

- Post flyers in community areas (church, senior center, grocery stores, clinics).
- Partner with other nonprofits, civic groups, or neighborhood associations.
- Use newsletters, social media, and word of mouth.
- Issue press releases to local papers or radio.
- For senior centers: share during meal programs and with housing partners.

# Chapter 6: Election Day Operations

## Execution

- Assign a coordinator(s) at a command center (church office or senior center front desk).

- Maintain a live ride schedule.
- Confirm drivers check in before and after rides.
- Respond quickly to last-minute requests and problems.
- Again, mail ballots may be taken to the voter's polling place on Election Day. ***Also, a voter's mail ballot may be returned by another person IF both the voter and the person assisting sign the outside of the ballot envelope.***
- Keep extra drivers available as backup.

## Chapter 7: Celebrate and Reflect

### After the Election

- Thank volunteers and staff publicly.
- Share stories of impact during services, meetings, or newsletters.
- Recognize drivers with certificates or acknowledgments.
- Evaluate lessons learned and prepare for future elections.

## Closing Reflections

**Removing barriers to participation is one of the simplest ways we can strengthen both our neighbors and our nation.**

**By giving a ride, volunteers give more than transportation — they give dignity, belonging, and a voice in shaping the future.**

# Voting Requirements in Kansas

## In-Person Voting

You **must** present a **valid photographic ID** when voting at the polls. If the ID has an expiration date, it must be unexpired at the time of voting, unless you're age 65 or older, in which case an expired photo ID is acceptable.

### Acceptable Photo IDs:

You may use any one of the following (must be current unless you're 65+):

- Driver's license or ID card issued by Kansas or another state
- U.S. Passport
- U.S. Military ID
- ID card issued by a Native American tribe
- Employee badge or ID issued by a government office
- Student ID card from an accredited postsecondary education institution in Kansas
- Concealed carry license issued by Kansas or another state
- Public assistance ID card issued by a government office

The address on your photo ID does not have to match the address on your voter registration.

Election officials use the photo and name on the ID to confirm your identity, not the address.

***What matters is that your voter registration itself has your current voting address.*** If you've moved, you'll need to update your voter registration with your new address before the registration deadline, but your ID can still show your old address and will be accepted as long as it's a valid form of photo ID.

## Can't Show ID? No Problem—You Can Still Vote However...

You'll be given a **provisional ballot** at the polling station. To ensure that your vote counts, you must later present an acceptable photo ID to your **County Election Office**—in person, by mail, or electronically—within the timeframe set by your county's canvassing schedule (usually within a few days after the election).

## Voting by Mail (Advance Voting) - <https://www.sos.ks.gov/forms//elections/AV1.pdf>

- If you're voting by mail, you must either:
  - Include your Kansas driver's license or non-driver ID number on your ballot application, **OR**
  - Submit a copy of an acceptable photo ID (as listed above) with your application

- Be aware that the mail delivery in your area may be slow for ballot delivery. *Test the delivery time for your area early by having a member of your committee request a mail-in ballot, vote on that ballot, return it by US Mail, and track when the ballot is received by your County Election Office.*
- **Kansas [Senate Bill 4](#) was passed during the state's 2025 legislative session, requiring advance voting ballots to be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day. The 3-day period is no longer valid. However, that law is currently being challenged in court, so be sure to see if that law is currently valid prior to any election.**

## Special Exceptions

Exemptions from photo ID requirements exist for: permanent advance voters (voters with illness or disabilities); military and overseas voters and their spouses and dependents; and voters with a religious objection who sign a Declaration of Religious Objection (Form DRO).

Voters age 65 or older may use an expired photo ID. <https://sos.ks.gov/forms/elections/DRO.pdf>

It is possible to apply for a permanent Advanced Ballot for elections. Go to the Secretary of State's website at this address for the application: <https://sos.ks.gov/forms/Elections/AV2.pdf>

## Summary: What Voters Need When Voting in Person in Kansas

Condition	Required Item / Alternative
Standard voter	Valid (unexpired) photo ID
Age 65 or older	Expired acceptable photo ID is OK
No acceptable ID	Provisional ballot + later verification
Religious objection to photos	Signed Declaration of Religions Objection Form submitted
Permanent disability	Permanent advance voter status (no ID required if approved). Go to <a href="https://www.drckansas.org/resource-center/voting/register-to-vote">https://www.drckansas.org/resource-center/voting/register-to-vote</a> to learn how.

## How to Register to Vote in Kansas

**In Kansas, you can register online or by paper.**

- For online registration, go to this link: <https://www.kdor.ks.gov/Apps/VoterReg/Registration/Index>
- For paper registration, go to this link or your local Elections Commission office: <https://www.sos.ks.gov/forms/elections/voterregistration.pdf>
- Find information for your local Elections Commission Office: [https://www.sos.ks.gov/elections/county\\_election\\_officers.aspx](https://www.sos.ks.gov/elections/county_election_officers.aspx)

# How to Update Your Voter Registration

## 1. Go Online

- Use the Kansas Secretary of State's voter portal: Kansas VoterView: <https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/VoterView>
- You'll need your **Kansas driver's license or non-driver ID** to complete the update online.

## 2. By Mail

- Fill out an Advanced Vote Application with updates: <https://www.sos.ks.gov/forms/elections/AV1.pdf>
- Mail it to your **County Election Office** (addresses are listed on the form or at [https://sos.ks.gov/elections/county\\_election\\_officers.aspx](https://sos.ks.gov/elections/county_election_officers.aspx)) (2-weeks before election is recommended.)

## 3. In Person

- Visit your **County Election Office**, DMV, or other voter registration sites (like some public libraries).

## What Can Be Updated

When you update your registration, you can:

- Change your **address** (most common).
- Update your **name** (if it changed due to marriage, divorce, etc.).
- Change your **party affiliation** (if you want to vote in a different party's primary).

👉 Tip: Even if your **driver's license has your old address**, it's fine for voting, as long as your voter registration record is updated with your new address.

## Deadlines

- You must update your registration **21 days before Election Day** for the change to be valid for that election.
- If you miss the deadline, you can still vote at your **old polling place** (where you were last registered), **but only if you still live in that county**. If you moved to a new county, you'll need to re-register there before the deadline.

**All information on voting in the state of Kansas can be found at the Secretary of State's website:**

<https://sos.ks.gov/elections/elections.html>

