Indiana State University
Guidelines for University-Sponsored Voter Registration Drives

The following guidelines are in effect for voter registration drives that are organized and/or funded by a University department or organization that is acting on behalf of Indiana State University. Examples of groups that should abide by these guidelines include Student Government Association, Residence Hall Association, academic departments and administrative departments and programs (i.e. Office of Campus Life, Center for Community Engagement, American Democracy Project).

1. Your voter-registration drive must be nonpartisan. You cannot endorse a party or candidate while registering voters, this includes posting or distributing printed campaign material or verbally endorsing a candidate while registering voters.
2. Registering voters must be provided blank registration forms. Registration drive workers cannot complete registration forms for the voter.
3. College students may register as a permanent resident at the address that they travelled from to attend school OR the address at their educational institution. There is no rule on legal residence that applies to all college students. It is a violation of election law to challenge a voter on the basis that the voter is enrolled at an educational institution or the voter’s address on the registration record is an address which is housing provided by the educational institution. You cannot provide instructions regarding the student’s selection of permanent residence.
4. Incentives, including giveaways, cannot be provided to entice individuals to register to vote.
5. If possible, voter registration forms should be returned to the County Clerk’s Office the same day as the drive. If your drive is scheduled for multiple days, you should plan on submitting forms to the Clerk’s office each day of the drive. If this is not possible, completed registration forms must be kept in a secure location.
6. The last day to register to vote in Indiana is Monday, April 6 for the May primary and Monday, October 5 for the general election. You MUST return voter registration forms to the County Clerk’s Office by those days.
7. Organizations should reserve appropriate space to conduct their drive. HMSU provides tabling space in the Main Vestibule and Commons Area for Registered Student Organizations and ISU departments/faculty/staff. Table registration forms are available at the HMSU Information Desk. Other space should be reserved through Conference and Event Services. Registered student organizations may utilize campus facilities free of charge to conduct voter registration drives. Organizations that are external to Indiana State University are strongly encouraged to work with a registered student organization to organize the drive.
8. Organizations should refer to the Voter Information section of the Indiana Secretary of State’s website for information regarding Indiana’s voter registration policies.