What is Valid Proof of Citizenship?

Effective January 1, 2013, any person registering to vote in Kansas for the first time must provide satisfactory evidence of United States citizenship. The following documents are acceptable as proof of U.S. citizenship for voter registration purposes:

- Birth certificate that verifies U.S. citizenship
- U.S. passport
- U.S. naturalization documents or the number of the certificate of naturalization
- U.S. military record of service showing the applicant’s place of birth in the U.S.
- Bureau of Indian Affairs card number, tribal treaty card number or tribal enrollment number
- Certificate of citizenship issued by the U.S.
- Citizenship and Immigration Services
- Certification of report of birth issued by the U.S. Department of State
- Consular report of birth abroad of a citizen of the U.S.
- Other documents or methods of proof of U.S. citizenship issued by the federal government pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952
- American Indian card, with KIC classification, issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Final adoption decree showing the applicant’s name and U.S. birthplace
- Extract from a U.S. hospital record of birth created at the time of the applicant’s birth indicating the applicant’s place of birth in the U.S.
- Only if the agency indicates on the applicant’s driver’s license or nondriver’s identification card that the person has provided satisfactory proof of United States citizenship, then a driver’s license or nondriver’s identification card issued by the Kansas Division of Vehicles or the equivalent governmental agency of another state within the United States

For more information regarding the Safe at Home program contact:
Safe at Home Coordinator
Kansas Secretary of State
P.O. Box 798
Topeka, KS 66601-0798
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www.sos.ks.gov/safeathome
safeathome@sos.ks.gov

Paid for with taxes or public funds
Safe at Home (SaH) participants may exercise their right to vote without disclosing their physical locations.

Are you eligible to vote?
The qualifications to vote through the SaH program are:
(a) be 18 years of age or older
(b) be a U.S. citizen
(c) be a resident of Kansas
(d) be an active participant in the SaH program

There is no length of residency requirement in Kansas, but a person must be registered 21 days prior to the election and must be a resident at the time of registration.

A person who is 17 years old but will be 18 before the next election may register to vote. No person may vote in any election before turning 18.

How do you register to vote as a SaH participant?
You may register to vote at the same time you complete your SaH program application. If you choose not to register when applying to SaH, you can still register to vote at any time while you are a program participant.

Whenever you register to vote, remember to submit all documents to the SaH program coordinator. Voter registration forms can be obtained online at www.sos.ks.gov/safeathome or through the program coordinator or enrolling assistant.

To complete the form: Read and carefully answer all required questions. Once the voter registration form has been completed and signed, mail it to the SaH program coordinator at PO Box 798, Topeka, KS 66601.

If you are registering for the first time in Kansas, or your previous registration has been removed from the voter registration list, you MUST provide proof of U.S. citizenship. See the list of valid proof of citizenship documents in this brochure.

The deadline to register to vote for any election is 21 days prior to that election. (Example: To vote on Nov. 4, you must be registered by Oct. 14.)

Is your registration address up to date?
When moving to a different location, you must notify SaH of your address change at least seven days prior to the move. At that time, you will also need to submit a new voter registration card with your new address to the program coordinator to ensure that you remain qualified to vote.

What about photo identification?
State law requires each voter to show photographic identification each election, with certain exceptions. One of these exceptions applies to SaH voters.

SaH voters are considered permanent advanced voters. Photo ID requirements do not apply to voters who qualify, apply and are accepted to the permanent advance voting list, as long as they remain on the permanent advance voting list.

How do you vote?
As a SaH voter, you will always vote an advance ballot by mail. The program coordinator will request a ballot from the appropriate county election officer for you in every election in which you are eligible to vote. The ballot will be mailed to the program coordinator and then forwarded to you.

Once you receive the ballot, review all enclosed instructions and in a timely manner make your selections in each race. You may also write in the name of an individual if a blank line is provided and if the individual’s name is not printed on the ballot.

When finished, check your ballot to ensure that you have voted in all the races and questions in which you intend to vote. Also, make sure that you didn’t vote for more selections than allowed in each race or question.

Insert the completed ballot into the security envelope, seal it and sign on the appropriate line. Make sure to follow all instructions included with the ballot and printed on the envelopes.

Return your completed ballot to the program coordinator. The program coordinator will check to ensure you have completed the signature requirement on the outside of the security envelope. At no time will the program coordinator look at your voted ballot. Your ballot will then be forwarded to the appropriate county election office without any identifying features that would disclose your identity or location.

When do you vote?
Primary elections are held on the first Tuesday in August of even-numbered years for the nomination of Democratic and Republican candidates. Minor party candidates are nominated at state party conventions, and independent candidates file by petition. The general election is held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of even-numbered years.

Local elections, county, city and school board positions, are usually held in the spring and vary by location.

How to make certain your vote counts?
If you have any questions as to the validity of your ballot, or any other concerns about voting, please contact the SaH program coordinator.