

National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

For Applicants/Participants:

Questions	Answers
1. What is the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA)?	1. The NVRA is a requirement of state governments to allow for registration when people renew their driver's license or apply for social services. The intention of this law was to give greater access to voter registration for citizens who needed further assistance registering to vote.
2. How does the NRVA affect me?	2. The NRVA allows you to complete a Voter Registration Declaration (VRD) form and a Louisiana Voter Registration Application (LA-VRA) which is used for registering to vote.
3. Why were these forms sent to me?	3. When you apply for services with our agency, or when a re-assessment is made, or when you change your name or address, we must give you the opportunity to register to vote.
4. What if I don't want to fill out the forms?	4. You do not have to fill out the forms. If you do not fill out the forms, your services will not change.
5. What if I can't sign my name?	5. You may make a mark and have someone print your name. You must have two (2) witnesses that saw you make the mark and they BOTH need to sign their names.
6. What if I am not "qualified" to vote?	6. You may fill out the Louisiana Voter Registration Application (LA-VRA) form. The Registrar of Voter's office will decide if you are qualified to vote.
7. Who makes the decision that I am qualified to vote?	7. The Registrar of Voter's office will decide if you are able to register to vote. This LA-VRA form will help them start the process.
8. I have completed the Louisiana Voter Registration Application (LA-VRA). What should I do with it?	8. Give the completed LA-VRA form to the person who gave it to you, or mail the ORIGINAL form to the Registrar of Voters' office in the parish where you live.

(For Agencies (Providers, Contractors, etc.) :

Questions	Answers
1. When are the forms to be sent (given) to the applicant/participant?	1. They are to be sent (given) at the time of the initial contact for services, at a re-assessment visit, and at the time of any name or address changes.
2. If a family member calls for assistance on behalf of an applicant/ participant is it allowable to get permission verbally from the participant?	2. Applicants/participants may give verbal permission for a person present with them to speak to the Help Line personnel.
a. Can the Help Line staff assist the family member under these conditions?	a. When verbal permission is given by an applicant/participant, the Help Line personnel may assist this person in completing the form(s).
3. Where should the completed NVRA forms be mailed?	3. Agencies need to refer to the OAAS NVRA Manual for specific instructions as it relates to their office/program.
4. What if the applicant/participant does not know all of the information requested on the LA-VRA form i.e., place of birth or mother's maiden name?	4. The applicant/participant should complete as much information as possible but the form MUST contain his/her name, address and signature.
a. What if the LA-VRA form are returned without the requested information or are otherwise incomplete?	a. The staff person of the agency MUST review the LA-VRA form for name, address and ORIGINAL signature. If one of those items are not filled out, the agency must mail an "Incomplete Voter Application" letter along with a new LA-VRA form.
5. If a call is received to change an applicant/participant's address to an out of state location, should the NVRA forms be sent to the applicant/participant?	5. Yes.
6. What happens to the NVRA forms when the applicant/participant returns them?	6. Agencies need to refer to the OAAS NVRA Manual for specific instructions as it relates to their office/program.
7. What if the applicant/participant cannot sign the forms?	7. He/she can may make a mark and you need to print his/her name (on the VRD form). Also, two (2) witnesses are required to sign that they saw the applicant/participant make the mark.
8. If the person is in a nursing facility in a temporary stay, what mailing address should be used?	8. The address for his/her permanent place of residence should be used.
9. What if the applicant/participant is cognitively impaired and his/her family member(s) request that agency personnel assist in completing the LA-VRA form?	9. The agency should give assistance in completing the LA-VRA form.