

# Voter Registration & Elections

**Voter Registration & Election Office**  
**210 Penn Street, Suite 1, Edgefield, SC 29824**

Edgefield, South Carolina 29824  
Telephone: 803-637-4072 or 803-637-7154  
Fax: 803-637-4134

The Edgefield County Voter Registration and Elections Office processes and updates all information related for our voters. The County's files are part of an internal interactive statewide computerized voter registration database. This database serves as one source for selection of jurors in the city and county; it further provides the information used for all elections.

The department trains all election personnel, provides election materials, and performs all technical functions on the electronic voting machines for Edgefield County elections. These elections include federal, state, county-wide offices, school district trustees, municipal and special elections. The department educates the public about the election process and encourages the public to participate in all elections.

We also coordinate the activities of the County Board of Voter Registration and Election Commission members. Our office is dedicated to the principle and the importance of each citizen's right to register, and once registered, their right to vote in a fair and unbiased process.

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## VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION



You are qualified to vote in Edgefield County if you meet the following requirements:

- You are a US citizen.
- You are eighteen (18) years old.
- You are a legal resident of Edgefield County.
- You have not been declared mentally incompetent by a court of law.
- You are not currently serving a sentence for a felony conviction.
- You have not been convicted of a felony or offense against the election laws, or if previously convicted, have served the entire sentence, including probation or parole, or have received a pardon for the conviction.

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**YOU MAY REGISTER TO VOTE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

- The Edgefield Voter Registration Office, 210 Penn Street, Suite 1, Edgefield, SC 29824.
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Public Health
- A mail form can be obtained at the following link: [Click here.](http://www.state.sc.us)  
www.state.sc.us.
- You may also call the Voter Registration Office at 803-637-4072 and we will mail you the proper form.

You can register at any time. You must be registered at least thirty (30) days prior to any election in order to vote in that election. Mail applications must be postmarked at least thirty (30) days prior to an election to qualify to vote in that election.

Once a person has registered to vote, they do not have to re-register. However, if you fail to vote in two (2) general election cycles, the state may make your registration inactive.

Should you lose, misplace, or accidentally destroy your voter registration card, a duplicate card is available upon request at no charge.

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## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

If a voter moves to this county from another county in South Carolina, they must re-register.

If a voter moves from one precinct to another precinct within Edgefield County, they must change their address with the Voter Registration Office. This may be accomplished by using any one of the following options:

- Fill in the back of your voter registration card with the new information and mail it to us at the address listed on this.
- 210 Penn Street, Suite 1, Edgefield, SC 29824
- Call our office at 803-637-4072 and we will mail you a change of address form.
- You may also fill out the necessary forms at the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Social Services, or the Department of Public Health.

**WE DO NOT REGISTER BY POLITICAL PARTY IN SOUTH CAROLINA.**

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## ELECTION INFORMATION

There are 13 Voting Precincts within the County. Below listing of the precincts and their physical addresses.

<b>Edgefield County Voting Precincts</b>			
<b>Precincts</b>		<b>Address</b>	<b>Location</b>
001	Edgefield 1	325 Crest Road	Parker School
002	Edgefield 2	314 Penn Street	American Legion Hut
004	Johnston 1	28 Sertoma Drive	Sertoma Lodge
005	Johnston 2	514 Lee Street	Johnston Elementary School
006	Trenton	215 Diggs Road	Douglas School
007	Merriwether	430 Murrah Rd	Merriwether Middle School
008	Westside	Martintown Road	Colliers Community Center
009	Harmony	17 Parr Drive	STHS Vocational Center
010	Northside	565 Highway 378	Mckendree Life Center
011	Brunson	745 N. Martintown Rd	Brunson Community Center
012	Merriwether 2	430 Murrah Rd	Merriwether Middle School
013	Trenton 2	76 Nicolson Rd	Science Building, Bettis Academy Campus
014	Absentee	210 Penn Street	Voter Registration Office

Your precinct and the location are listed on your voter registration card. If you lose your card, call us and we can tell you what precinct you are assigned to.

The polls are open from 7AM to 7PM on Election Day.

Voters must present one of the following forms of identification in order to vote:

- Edgefield SC issued voter registration card
  - Valid South Carolina driver's license (correct address)
  - Picture identification card issued by the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles, (DMV).
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## **HANDICAPPED VOTERS**

Assistance in marking a ballot is allowed, if the voter is blind, illiterate, physically handicapped, or because of age. If you need assistance, you may choose anyone, except an employer, an agent of an employer, or an officer or agent of your union.

If your precinct is not handicapped accessible, you may vote curbside at your precinct. This service is available for voters who cannot stand in line because of a disability.

You may also vote by absentee ballot.

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## **ABSENTEE VOTING**

*THE CUT-OFF FOR ABSENTEE IN-OFFICE VOTING IS 5:00 PM THE DAY PRIOR TO ANY ELECTION.*

Any registered voter, who meets one of the fifteen (15) reasons that are allowed by law, can vote by absentee ballot. The most common reasons are:

- Persons age 65 or older
- Persons on vacation
- Physically disabled persons
- Members of the Armed Forces, Merchant Marines, American Red Cross, US Government employees, their spouses and dependents residing with them
- Students, their spouses, and dependents residing with them, who are away at school
- Employees who will be away because of employment on Election Day
- Persons attending the sick or physically disabled
- Certified poll workers, poll managers, and poll watchers

You may apply for absentee ballots as early as January 1st for any or all election(s) held during that same year.

Applications for absentee voting can be requested by the voter in person, via telephone, or email [tgordon@edgefieldcounty.sc.gov](mailto:tgordon@edgefieldcounty.sc.gov) or [vote@edgefieldcounty.sc.gov](mailto:vote@edgefieldcounty.sc.gov) you may also mail in a written request. However, all written requests must be in our office four (4) business days prior to an election.

Once the application is returned by the voter, and the ballot has been finalized, the ballot will be mailed.

If you come to the office to apply for an application, and the ballots are ready (normally 60 days before an election), you can vote at the same time, if you desire.

A voter's immediate family member, or an authorized representative of the voter, can request an absentee ballot application for the voter, at the request of the voter. Call the Edgefield County Voter Registration Office for further details.

Your completed ballot must be placed in the "Ballots Herein" envelope that will be in the packet you receive. The "Ballots Herein" envelope must be placed in the return envelope. *The return envelope must be signed by you and witnessed by someone else before it is returned.* **ANYONE CAN BE YOUR WITNESS. If the return envelope is not signed and witnessed, YOUR BALLOT WILL BE CHALLENGED AND ACCORDING TO SC LAW CANNOT BE COUNTED.** The ballot can then be mailed or delivered to the office.

If someone else returns a ballot to us, other than the voter, the absentee voter must complete the "Authorization to Return Absentee Ballot" form. The absentee voter will complete Part I, and the person returning the ballot will complete Part II. The form should not be sealed in the ballot envelope.

The absentee voter will complete Part I, and the person returning the ballot will complete Part II of the Form.

The ballot *MUST* be returned to the Edgefield County Voter Registration Office no later than the close of polls (7pm) on Election Day in order to be counted.

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## **FAILSAFE VOTING**

Failsafe voting is a terminology used when a voter has moved and not changed their address with the Voter Registration Office.

Failsafe voting can be conducted in two different ways.

During major elections, the voter can fill out a change of address form, at their old precinct, and vote a limited federal, statewide, and countywide ballot only.

If the voter would prefer to vote a full ballot, it will be necessary to come to our office, so we can change your address and establish your new election districts.

There are special failsafe regulations for each type of election that may exclude you from voting failsafe at the precinct. ***FAILSAFE VOTING IS ALLOWED AT OUR OFFICE FOR ALL ELECTIONS UNTIL 7:00 PM ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION.***

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## **Elected Offices in Edgefield County**

In addition to Federal and State elections, the County conducts/oversees elections for the following:

- Senate -4 year terms-Nov.-even years
- House of Representatives- -2 year terms-Nov.-even years
- Solicitor-4 year term-Nov. even years
- Probate Judge-4 year term-Nov.-even years
- Sheriff-4 year terms-Nov.-even years
- Clerk of Court-4 year term-even years
- Coroner-4 year term-Nov.-even years
- Edgefield County Council -5 districts -2 year terms-. even years.
- Edgefield Mayor & City Council
- Edgefield County School Board Commissioners 7 districts-2 year staggered terms-Nov. even years.
- Treasurer 4 year term-Nov. even years
- Auditor 4 year term-Nov. even years
- Johnston Mayor & City Council
- Trenton Mayor & City Council
- Soil and Water Commissioner-petition
- Watershed Directors