

## Election Security FAQs

- Q: What is the Idaho Secretary of State's office doing to make sure our elections are secure from cyberattacks?**
- A: We have taken several precautions to help keep Idaho's elections secure.** First and foremost, Idaho is—and will continue to be—a 100% paper ballot state. We do NOT use voting machines connected to the internet. By using paper ballots, we create a verifiable paper trail that allows us to audit the machine tabulated results. The office of the Secretary of State also employs computer security staff, consults regularly with security experts, and collaborates with other agencies to help keep our election system secure.
- Q: How secure are the electronic tabulating machines used by the various counties or precincts in Idaho?**
- A: It is important to know the counting machines used in Idaho to tabulate the paper ballots are only used to calculate the results and are NOT connected to the internet.** Every tabulating machine is tested to verify the accuracy of the counts immediately before and after each election. This is done by preparing a test set of ballots and then comparing the totals provided by the machine to a hand count of the same set.
- Q: What safeguards are in place to prevent someone from changing the outcome of an election?**
- A: Election laws and procedures are in place to help prevent and protect against human error and dishonesty.** There are several ways we guard against the possibility of election fraud and manipulation. One of the most important protections is offered by the private citizens who serve as poll workers on Election Day. For more information on what poll workers do, or to learn how you can become a poll worker, please visit the Poll Worker page of IdahoVotes.gov. **Idaho law also allows political parties and candidates to select representatives to act as poll watchers on Election Day.** Poll watchers can be assigned to polling places throughout Idaho to monitor poll workers and observe voters. While poll watchers are not expected to have an active role in the voting process, they do report any suspected violations or possible irregularities to election officials.
- Q: What if someone tries to vote more than once in an election?**
- A: The Office of the Secretary of State has taken several steps to prevent and identify voter fraud.** Cases of voter impersonation, non-citizen voting, double voting, and other types of voter fraud are rare. In Idaho, nearly all incidents of suspected voter fraud turn out to be mistakes rather than cases of intentional fraud. **We will be alerted of any duplicate votes because each voter can only have one active record in the voter database.** Intentionally voting more than once in an election is considered to be voter fraud and is a felony offense punishable by a fine of up to \$50,000, up to fourteen years in prison, or both. Any incidents of voter fraud are reported to the attorney general for prosecution.
- Q: What can I do to help prevent voter fraud?**
- A: One of the best ways to prevent voter fraud is for you to vote regularly and to update your voter registration information every time you move.** By visiting us online at [IdahoVotes.gov](https://IdahoVotes.gov), you can [register to vote](#), check your [voter registration status](#), and find the location of your [polling place](#). To report suspected voter fraud, please email us at [elections@sos.idaho.gov](mailto:elections@sos.idaho.gov).
- Q: I checked my voter registration status online and my information is wrong or is missing. It's already past the deadline to register online for this election, but I still want to vote.**
- A: Keep calm and vote on. Idaho law allows voters to register in-person—even on the day of an election.** If you have missed the online or mail-in voter registration deadline, you can still register to vote and cast a ballot on Election Day. Simply go to your regular polling place or early voting site to register and vote. To find out about Idaho's [identification requirements](#), please visit [IdahoVotes.gov](https://IdahoVotes.gov). Contact your local [County Clerk](#) if you have any questions about how to vote on Election Day.