Registration Deadline Sunday for Primary Voting

Wednesday, 25 July 2012

{audio}/images/stories/mp3/120725.primary_registration_deadline.mp3{/audio}

Brianna Gibbs/KMXT

Sunday is the deadline to register to vote for the primary election on August 28. Gail Fenumiai is the director of division of elections for the state and said those who need to register, or update their status, should do so as soon as possible.

"July 29 is the 30th day before the election and that is the date that people need to be registered to vote by in order to vote in the primary election. So anyone who has not registered to vote in the state of Alaska can submit a voter registration form to the division of elections, or if you are registered and need to make updates to your registration, you need to do that by the 29th as well."

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Those changes include switching party affiliations, required when voting in the primary election. Fenumiai said residents can download registration forms online, and mail, fax or scan into an email them to any regional elections office. She said the forms must be printed, because a signature is required in order to register. She added that Kodiak voters can register at the borough clerk's office, but the office will be closed this weekend, so those needing to register will have to do so in the coming days. The deadline is only for eligibility in the primary election.

For those who are registered, Fenumiai said she wants people to be on the look out for new voter registration cards and important election information that will be coming sent out to registered voters in the beginning of August.

"And I also want people to be on the lookout the first part of August for new voter identification card which are being mailed. And that will have your new district and precinct number on there as well as some information as to the location of your new polling place."

The registration deadline for local elections is September 2, 30 days before the election on October 2. The general election deadline is October 7, but Alaska law says people can file same day registration when voting for the president and vice president. Fenumiai said that means someone could walk into a polling booth on Election Day, register to vote and then vote for a presidential candidate. They will not, however, be eligible to vote in state elections.