

ERIC: Summary of Membership Guidelines and Procedures

Participation in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) will improve the integrity of voter rolls and promote voter confidence in the electoral process. In order to benefit from ERIC, member states agree to a number of policy guidelines and technical protocols designed to facilitate organizational operations, maximize the accuracy and inclusivity of voter lists, and maintain the privacy and security of data.

Prerequisites to ERIC Membership

- States must be able to procure a full voter roll as well as records from your state licensing/identification agency (typically, this is the state motor vehicle agency) for all residents with active records—not just registered voters. States must have the capacity to upload both their voter list and their licensing/identification records every 60 days. The records must include predetermined data fields, as defined in Exhibit B of the ERIC Bylaws.

ERIC Governing Structure

- ERIC is an independent non-profit organization owned, managed, and funded by participating state members. ERIC is managed by a Board of Directors comprised of a representative from each member state – either its chief election official or their designee. Board positions are currently held on a first come first serve basis, with a maximum fifteen sitting members at one time. After ERIC’s membership exceeds fifteen states, positions on the board will be on a rotating basis.
- ERIC currently has two full-time employees: an Executive Director to manage and oversee administrative and technical operations; and Systems Engineer and Technology Adviser to guide states throughout the upload and data matching process.

Membership Requirements

- Members pay a one-time membership fee of \$25,000. ERIC’s annual operating expenses are covered through annual dues spread equitably between the member states, as determined by the Board. Dues for most states are expected to be between \$25,000 and \$50,000 a year, depending on the population size of a state. As more states join ERIC, the per-state share of the annual operating costs will decrease.
- Members commit to contacting eligible but unregistered residents identified by ERIC, educating them on the most efficient means to register to vote.
- Members also commit to contacting voters whose registration information is identified by ERIC as inaccurate or outdated, educating voters on how to update their record.
- All voter registration list maintenance activity based on information provided by ERIC must be conducted under the strict guidelines of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA).
- Members will attend all ERIC Board meetings, as applicable. An annual meeting of the Board is required by the Bylaws, other meetings are held as needed, at the discretion of the Board. Meetings are most often held via conference call.
- Members agree to submit performance evaluation data to ERIC as defined in the Exhibits of the Bylaws.