

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 the 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 Governance Structure and Staff

- ERIC is an independent non-profit organization 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 his or her designee.
- ERIC has three full-time employees: an Executive Director to provide strategic management and oversee operations and growth; a Systems Engineer and Technical Liaison to guide states throughout the data upload and report access process, and to manage the data matching process; and, a Systems and Data Specialist to further aid the states and provide additional capacity for data analysis, report preparation, and quality assurance.

Membership Costs

- Members pay a one-time membership fee of \$25,000. These funds are held in reserve to pay for future infrastructure upgrades and other one-time or periodic expenses.
- ERIC's annual operating expenses are covered through annual dues spread equitably between the member states, as determined by the Board. Annual dues for the 2021-22 Fiscal Year range from about \$15,000 to \$74,000.
- Dues are calculated using the citizen voting age population of each member state and the total number of states in ERIC. States with larger populations pay more than states with smaller populations. As more states join, dues decrease because there are more members to contribute to ERIC's operating costs.

Membership Requirements

- 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) or applicable state law.
- Members will attend all ERIC Board meetings, as applicable. There is an annual Membership meeting, as required by the bylaws, and a separate annual Board of Directors meeting. Other meetings are held as needed, at the discretion of the Board. Special meetings are held via conference call.