

Selective Service: Who Must Register?

Almost all male U.S. citizens, regardless of where they live, and male immigrant aliens residing in the United States are required to be registered with Selective Service if they are at least 18 years old but not yet 26 years old. Men who are 26 years old and older are too old to register. Refer to the chart below to determine who is required by law to register for Selective Service:

Category	Required to register?
<i>Military-related</i>	
Active military duty	
Men attending service academies, like the U.S. Air Force Academy	
Men attending the U.S. Coast Guard Academy	
Men attending the Merchant Marine Academy	
Men in military officer procurement programs	
Members of the National Guard or Reserves not on duty	
Delayed Entry Program enlistees	
Men who separate from active military duty before they turn 26	
Men rejected for enlistment for any reason before turning 26	
<i>Aliens**</i>	
Lawful non-immigrants on visas	
Permanent resident aliens	
Special (seasonal) agricultural workers (Form I-688)	
Special agricultural workers (Form I-688A)	
Refugee, parolee aliens	
Undocumented (illegal) aliens	
<i>Confined</i>	
Incarcerated, hospitalized, or institutionalized for medical reasons	
<i>Handicapped physically or mentally</i>	
Able to function in public with or without assistance	
Continually confined to a residence, hospital, or institution	

**Must register within 30 days of release unless already age 26, already registered when released, or exempt during entire period age 18 through 25.*

***Immigrants who did not enter the United States or maintained their lawful non-immigrant status by continually remaining on a valid visa until after they were 26 years old were never required to register. Also, immigrants born before 1960 who did not enter the United States or maintained their lawful non-immigrant status by continually remaining on a valid visa until after March 29, 1975 were never required to register.*

Note: Residents of Puerto Rico, Guam, Virgin Islands, and Northern Mariana Islands are U.S. citizens. Citizens of American Samoa are nationals and must register when their permanent address is in the U.S.

(Source: Selective Service Systems)

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