



## Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) Fact Sheet

### What is ERIC?

State election officials formed ERIC as a non-profit membership organization to use state-of-the-art data matching technology to improve the accuracy of their voter registration data and to identify individuals who are not yet registered to vote.

### How many states have joined ERIC?

Thirty states and the District of Columbia are currently members of ERIC. The list is here:

<https://ericstates.org/who-we-are/>

### How does the data matching work?

At least every 60 days each ERIC state submits their voter registration data and motor vehicle licensing data to ERIC. ERIC's technical staff matches that data against data from all the other member states and Social Security death data. ERIC uses the most sophisticated matching software available to identify voters who have moved, voters who have died, and voters with duplicate registrations within a state's database. States may request National Change of Address (NCOA) reports using official data from the US Postal Service and, after federal general elections, participate in a fraud check to see if voters cast ballots in more than one state. By matching voter data against motor vehicle licensing data, ERIC also identifies individuals who are not yet registered so election officials can provide information on how to register to vote.

### How is ERIC governed and how are costs covered?

ERIC is controlled and governed by the states. Each state has a seat on the Board of Directors. The Board is responsible for approving the annual budget and setting annual dues. ERIC is governed by a set of bylaws and a membership agreement each state must sign prior to joining. The bylaws and membership agreement are here: [https://ericstates.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/ERIC\\_Bylaws\\_01-2020.pdf](https://ericstates.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/ERIC_Bylaws_01-2020.pdf)

### What are the costs of joining ERIC?

New members pay a one-time membership fee of \$25,000, which is earmarked to help cover expenses of technology upgrades and expansion necessary to service a growing membership. Annual dues paid by the states cover operating costs and are based, in part, on the citizen voting age population in each state. Thus, large states pay more in annual dues than small states. Dues for the 2020-2021 fiscal year range from a low of about \$15,000 to a high of about \$64,000. ERIC staff can provide estimates of costs for states interested in joining, including the cost estimates for various mailings required by the ERIC Membership Agreement.

### What steps does ERIC take to keep its database secure?

ERIC follows an extensive set of security policies and procedures approved by the Board of Directors in its Information Security Management Plan. It also receives guidance from security experts who serve on the organization's Privacy and Technology Advisory Board. More details about ERIC's security program are here: [https://ericstates.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/ERIC\\_Tech\\_and\\_Security\\_Brief\\_v3.0-1.pdf](https://ericstates.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/ERIC_Tech_and_Security_Brief_v3.0-1.pdf)

### Have more questions about ERIC or ERIC membership?

Contact Shane Hamlin, Executive Director, at [shane.hamlin@ericstate.org](mailto:shane.hamlin@ericstate.org).