



## Selective Service Registration: Answers to Common Questions

### **[Q] Who must register?**

[A] Federal law requires that almost *all* men living in the United States between the ages of 18 and 26 register with the Selective Service System. This includes individuals who are noncitizens and dual nationals, regardless of their immigration status. Only noncitizens who are on a student or visitor visa, or are part of a diplomatic or trade mission, are exempt from registration.

### **[Q] When do men need to register?**

[A] Any man who resides in the United States for more than 30 days while between the ages of 18 and 26 are required to register. If a man turns 18 while in the United States, he is required to register within 30 days of his birthday. Late registrations are accepted until a man reaches his 26th birthday.

### **[Q] Is citizenship eligibility connected to Selective Service registration?**

[A] Immigrant men wishing to become citizens must be registered with the Selective Service System if they lived in the United States for more than 30 days between the ages of 18 and 26. After a man reaches age 31, Selective Service registration is no longer a requirement for citizenship. However, numerous other important opportunities are linked to registration.

### **[Q] What other opportunities are linked to registration?**

[A] Men who are required to do so but do not register are NOT eligible for certain opportunities. These include:

- ✓ Federal student loans;
- ✓ Placement in federally funded job training programs;
- ✓ Jobs with the Federal government, many state and local government agencies, and some private employers; and
- ✓ Getting or renewing a driver's licenses in most states.

Men who fail to register by their 26<sup>th</sup> birthday can be **permanently prevented** from receiving these opportunities. The law also says men who do not register could face a fine of up to \$250,000, as well as a prison term of up to five years.

### **[Q] How can men register?**

[A] Men who have a Social Security number can register online at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov). Men who do not have a Social Security Number, or do not have access to a computer, can register by filling out a registration form at any U.S. post office.

### **[Q] Is the Selective Service System part of the military?**

[A] No. The Selective Service System is a civilian agency. Men who register are **not** signing up to be a member of the military.

### **[Q] Where can I learn more?**

[A] More information about Selective Service Registration is available at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov).