

LOUISIANA	STATUS	ASSESSMENT
1. States should adopt online voter registration (“OLVR”).	Online voter registration adopted.	Satisfactory
2. Interstate exchanges of voter information should be expanded.	Louisiana is a member of the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck (IVRC) and the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC).	Mixed
3. States should seamlessly integrate voter data acquired through DMVs with their statewide voter registration lists.	Louisiana has fully implemented electronic voter registration systems with election officials, such that the entire process of sharing information between DMVs and election administrators is digital.	Satisfactory
4. Schools should be used as polling places; to address any related security concerns, Election Day should be an in-service day.	Louisiana does not have statutory language regarding use of schools as polling places, but does for public buildings in general.	Mixed
5. States should consider establishing vote centers to achieve economies of scale in polling place management while also facilitating voting at convenient locations.	Louisiana has not adopted legislation establishing vote centers, but they are being considered as a part of a study on voter technology.	Mixed
6. Jurisdictions should develop models and tools to assist them in effectively allocating resources across polling places.	No statewide rule in place. However, state law sets the number of voting machines allocated to municipalities. We encourage jurisdictions to utilize the tools made available by the Commission. In 2012, voters waited an average of 20.2 minutes in line.	Mixed
7. Jurisdictions should transition to electronic pollbooks.	No jurisdictions in Louisiana use electronic pollbooks, but they are being considered as part of a study on voter technology.	Mixed
8. Jurisdictions should recruit public and private sector employees, as well as high school and college students, to become poll workers	In Louisiana, student poll workers must be 17 years old and in the 12th grade. This could limit the pool of available volunteers. We encourage election officials to establish robust programs to recruit public and private sector employees as well.	Mixed
9. States should institute poll worker training standards.	Louisiana has some statutory language prescribing training for poll workers; its Secretary of State’s website provides two training videos, but no manuals.	Mixed
10. Election authorities should establish advisory groups for voters with disabilities and for those with limited English proficiency.	No statewide statutory policy in place. However, it does have an Election Assistance for Disabilities Advisory Board to provide guidance on disability issues. Louisiana is encouraged to fully adopt this recommendation of the Commission.	Mixed
11. States and localities must adopt comprehensive management practices to assure accessible polling places.	Louisiana uses a DOJ-issued accessibility checklist, and has a comprehensive guidebook and instructive video that include accessibility issues.	Satisfactory
12. States should survey and audit polling places to determine their accessibility.	Louisiana requires an accessibility checklist to be completed for each polling location prior to an election.	Satisfactory

13. Jurisdictions should provide bilingual poll workers to any polling place with a significant number of voters who do not speak English.	Louisiana (not covered by Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act) statutes provide that in jurisdictions with significant limited-English proficient persons, assistance will be provided; there is no across-the-board requirement for bilingual poll workers. We recommend further instructions regarding determinations of “significant” populations.	Satisfactory
14. Jurisdictions should test all election materials for plain language and usability.	No statewide statutory policy in place to test for plain language and usability.	Unsatisfactory
15. States should expand opportunities to vote before Election Day.	Louisiana allows early voting, but not no-fault absentee voting.	Mixed
16. States should provide ballots and registration materials to military and overseas voters via their websites.	A link to the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) is provided directly on Louisiana’s website, as is a link to the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB). Moreover, Louisiana provides for online completion of the FPCA.	Satisfactory
17. The standard-setting and certification process for voting machines must be reformed.	N/A; a federal question.	N/A
18. Audits of voting equipment must be conducted after each election as part of a comprehensive audit program, and data concerning machine performance must be publicly disclosed in a common data format.	Louisiana has no state requirements for post-election audits.	Unsatisfactory
19. Local jurisdictions should gather and report voting-related transaction data for the purpose of improving the voter experience.	Louisiana keeps detailed registration statistics, but it could do more by way of data on wait times, frequent polling place problems, etc.	Mixed