

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR SIGNATURE ON AN I-187 PETITION IS REJECTED:

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Your name must appear in Montana's statewide electronic voter registration database for your signature on an I-187 petition to be counted. If your signature on I-187 was rejected, you can rectify that. Several stated reasons for rejection exist. Each will be discussed individually below.

After following the relevant procedure below, please go to www.MTCares.org and click the "How to Sign" tab for updated instructions on resigning I-187 (they are changing because of COVID-19 restrictions).

Are you a registered Montana voter?

First, please go to the secretary of state's website <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/> (and enter your first and last name and birthdate) to verify:

1. that you are a currently registered Montana voter;
2. if you are registered, that the address and county you are registered in is current; and
3. whether you have been a currently registered Montana voter since before you signed I-187.

If you are currently registered as a Montana voter, your signature on I-187 may have been rejected because:

1. You registered to vote after you signed I-187 or shortly before you signed I-187 and your registration was not entered in the computer before your signature was submitted to your county to be counted. So, the election worker did not realize you were registered.
2. You signed on an I-187 petition sheet for a county other than the county where you are registered to vote. For example, you signed on a Missoula, or Gallatin County sheet while attending college or visiting and you are registered in Cascade County. This is noted as a "**not registered in the county or district**" rejection. It is the most common reason for disqualifying a signature. As of March 26, 2020, 978 of our signatures were rejected for this reason.
3. Your signature on the I-187 petition was not like the signature on your voter registration. This is noted as a "**signature no-match**" rejection. As of 3/26/2020, 499 of our signatures were rejected for this reason.
4. Your signature and other information on the I-187 petition could not be read by the election worker. This is noted as an "**illegible**" rejection. As of 3/26/2020, 57 of our illegible signatures were rejected.
5. You signed more than once. This is noted as a "**duplicate**" rejection. As of 3/26/2020, 950 of our signatures were rejected for this reason. If this happened, your first signature counts and you do not need to do anything further. The county and state just ignore your additional signatures.

The easiest **way to resolve issues 1, 2 & 4** is for you to sign I-187 again, printing carefully (except for your signature).

To resolve issue 3, just sign I-187 again making sure the signature you used to sign I-187 is like the one you used to sign your voter registration card. Many signatures are not legible, but if both are like each other, your signature on I-187 will get counted. It is hard to determine what signature format you used on your voter registration card without going to the county and looking at your card. That is not safe at this time, so please do not do it. Instead you may want to check to see how you signed your drivers' license and if you believe that is how you usually sign things, use that signature. Consistency is important here to prevent fraud—if you always scribble your signature, continue signing like that. If you always sign so folks can tell your name, then do that.

1. **Learn how to sign again** by going to www.MTCares.org and click the "How to Sign" tab. No matter where you are when you sign, be sure you sign the sheet for the county where you're registered to vote.
2. **If you have permanently moved** from the place where you are registered to vote, prior to signing I-187 again, please change your voter registration address by completing and mailing the form at <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Documents/Officials/Voter-Registration-Application.pdf?dt=1479758482688&dt=1480373213375&dt=1484082866442&dt=1485880549473&dt=1489072712018&dt=1523468489458>. Then the address on the I-187 form should be the same as the current address in your voter registration file in the Montana computer system and you can resign I-187.

If you are not currently registered to vote and were not registered in Montana previously, continue through the process at the <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/> link to get registered. Then resign I-187.

If your registration lapsed: You may have been registered at one time but dropped from the voting rolls for reasons explained in the following link. In that case you will want to reregister by following instructions at that link: <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Documents/Info-Inactive-Voters.pdf?dt=1479758482688&dt=1480373213375&dt=1484082866442&dt=1485880549473&dt=1489072712018&dt=1523468489458> Then resign I-187 by going to www.MTCares.org and clicking the "How to Sign" tab.