Voter Registration Literacy Test in Alabama, 1964

Sample Sample Sample

Application for Registration, Questionnaire and Oaths

Part I
(This is to be filled in by a member of the Board of Registrars or a duly authorized clerk of the board. If applicant is a married woman, she must state given name by which she is known. Maiden surname, and married surname, which shall be recorded as her full name.

Full Name: _________________________________________________________

Last First Middle

Date of Birth: _________ Sex____________ Race_________________________

Residence Address: _________________________________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________________

Voting Place: Precinct ________ Ward ____________ District ________________

Length of Residence: In State ___________ County ________________________

Precinct, ward of district___________________________________________

Are you a member of the Armed Forces? _________________________________

Are you the wife of a member of the Armed Forces? _______________________

Are you a college student? ____________ If so, where ______________________

Have you ever been registered to vote in any other state or in any other county in Alabama?

_____________ If so, when and in what state and County and, if Alabama, at what place did you vote
in such county? ________________________________

Highest grade, 1 to 12, completed ________ where _______________________

Years College completed ___________________ where_____________________

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Part II
(To be filled in by the applicant in the presence of the Board of Registrars without assistance.)

I, ______________, do hereby apply to the Board of Registrars of __________ County, State of Alabama, to register as an elector under the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama and do herewith submit my answers to the interrogatories propounded to me by the board.

________________________
(Signature of Applicant)

Are you a citizen of the United States ________________________________

Where were you born? ________________________________

If you are a naturalized citizen, give number appearing on your naturalization papers and date issuance ________________________________

Have you ever been married? _______ If so, give the name, residence and place of birth of your husband or wife ________________________________

Are you divorced? ________________________________

List the places you have lived the past five years, giving town or county and state ________________________________

Have you ever been known by any name other than the one appearing on this application? _______ If so, state what name ________________________________

Are you employed? ______ If so, state by whom. (If you are self-employed, state this.)

Give the address of your present place of employment ________________________________

If, in the past five years, you have been employed by an employer other than your present employer, give name of all employers and cities and states in which you worked ________________________________

Has your name ever been stricken for any reason from any list of persons registered to vote? _____ If so, where, when and why? ________________________________

Have you previously applied for and been denied registration as a voter? ______

If so, when and where? ________________________________

Have you ever served in the Armed Forces? _____ If so, give dates, branch of service, and serial number ________________________________

Have you ever been dishonorably discharged from military service? __________

Have you ever been declared legally insane? ____ If so, give details _________
Give names and addresses of two persons who know you and can verify the statements made above by you relative to your residence in this state, county and precinct, ward or district.

Have you ever seen a copy of this registration application form before receiving this copy today? ______

If so, when and where? _________________________

Have you ever been convicted of any offense or paid any fine for violation of the law? ______ (Yes or No)

If so, give the following information concerning each fine or conviction; charge, in what court tried, fine imposed, sentence, and, if paroled, state when, and if pardoned, state when. (If fine is for traffic violation only, you need write below only the words “traffic violation only.”)

(Remember of this form is to be filled out only as directed by an individual member of the Board of Registrars.)

Part III

Part III of this questionnaire shall consist of one of the forms which are Insert Part III as herein below set out. The insert shall be fastened to the questionnaire. The questions set out on the insert shall be answered according to the instructions therein set out. Each applicant shall demonstrate ability to read and write as required by the Constitution of Alabama, as amended, and no person shall be considered to have completed this application, nor shall the name of any applicant be entered upon the list of registered voters of any county until after such Insert Part III of the questionnaire has been satisfactory completed and signed by the applicant.

Insert Part III (1)

Instructions “A”
The applicant will complete the remainder of this questionnaire before a Board member and at his instructions. The Board member shall have the applicant read any one of more of the following excerpts from the U.S. Constitution using a duplicate form of this Insert Part III. The Board member shall keep in his possession the application with its inserted Part III and shall mark thereon the words missed in reading by applicant.

Excerpts From the Constitution
“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, for prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.”

“The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state.”

“Representative shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, continue the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed.”

“The congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes or incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration.”
Instruction “B”
The Board member shall then have the applicant write several words, or more if necessary to make a judicial determination of his ability to write. The writing shall be placed below so that it becomes a part of the application. If the writing is illegible, the Board member shall write in parentheses beneath the writing the words the applicant was asked to write.

HAVE APPLICANT WRITE HERE, DICTATING WORDS FROM THE CONSTITUTION.

Signature of Applicant: