

The Election Connection

March 2024

ELECTION JUDGE TRAININGS

HAVE BEGUN!

Participation in Election Judge training is by invitation. If you received a training link and have not yet responded, please do so as soon as possible. Classes are size limited.

If you have not submitted your Election Judge Application, Rules of Security Behavior & Oath, Form W-4, and Maryland Form MW507, please do so BEFORE coming to training if at all possible. If not, please be prepared to arrive a few minutes prior to your scheduled training so that you can complete the packet.



IMPORTANT DATES



2024 Presidential Primary
Early Voting

May 2-9, 2024

2024 Presidential Primary
Election Day

May 14, 2024

2024 Presidential General
Early Voting

October 24-31, 2024

2024 Presidential General
Election Day

November 5, 2024

Talbot County Board of Elections
215 Bay Street, Suite 7
Easton, MD 21601

Phone: 410-770-8099
www.talbotcountymd.gov/election_board
Email: Talbot.Elections@maryland.gov

Judges for the 2024 Presidential Election Cycle

We have reached our target goal of judges needed for the 2024 Presidential Primary. However, we are maintaining an active Waiting List. If you know of anyone who may be interested, particularly if their party affiliation is Republican, please have them contact us at Talbot.Elections@maryland.gov to request an interest form or have them visit www.talbotcountymd.gov/election_board to complete the form online.



JUDGES' ASSIGNMENTS

Assigning Election Judges for an election is quite a feat! Staff work hard to ensure that polling places are well staffed with properly trained judges. Staff try to ensure that new judges are working with experienced ones. Other considerations include maintaining party balance (as best as possible given the pool of judges) and trying to assign judges as close to their home precincts as possible. Talbot County tends to attract a large percentage of judges from Easton; this means that we must have judges willing to travel to other polling places in the county. We thank you all for your flexibility!

NEW BMD LANGUAGE FOR THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CYCLE

Any voter can use the ballot marking device (BMD). The election judge who gives a ballot to a voter will tell each voter:

“Would you prefer to mark your ballot using the ballot marking device, or by hand using a pen?”

Do You Have a Voting Plan?

If you are serving as an Election Judge on Election Day, start thinking about your voting plan. You may not be scheduled to serve at your home polling place and you will not be able to leave your post to go vote. So, what are your options?

- 1) You may go vote during Early Voting. Early Voting for the 2024 Presidential Primary will be May 2-9, 2024, from 7 am- 8 pm at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department.
- 2) You may request a Mail-in Ballot. Visit <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineMailinRequest/InstructionsStep1>
You may also complete a hardcopy request in our office or have it mailed to you.
- 3) If you are assigned to your HOME PRECINCT you may vote during your assigned break.
- 4) If you are not assigned to your home precinct and you choose to vote at the polling place where you are serving, you must vote a provisional ballot.

ARE YOU A STATE EMPLOYEE?

If you are a State of Maryland employee working during the election, be sure to complete the State Employee Election Judge Service Form to request administrative leave.

EXEMPTION FROM FICA TAXES & W-2 FORMS

The exemption from FICA taxes level is \$2000 (visit https://www.ssa.gov/slge/election_workers.htm for more information.

W-2s will be generated for any election worker that receives pay of more than \$600 in the relevant reporting year.

Please consult with your tax preparer if you have any questions.

TRAINING PAY FOR 2024 ELECTION CYCLE

\$50 for IN PERSON training attendance

An additional \$50 for your service on ELECTION DAY



ELECTION DAY CHECKLIST FOR POLL WORKERS



- 1 Confirm that you have your assignment** and know when and where you are supposed to show up on Election Day! If you're assigned to a location you haven't been to before, make sure you know how to get there. Take into account that your shift will likely start very early in the morning, which may affect how you can get there.
- 2 Set your alarm and don't hit the snooze button!** Make a plan to arrive at your assigned polling location early. If you're late, that could mean your polling doesn't open on time, causing issues for voters, so be sure you set an extra alarm.
- 3 Pack for a full day!** Make sure you've got everything you need for the day - whether that's snacks, water, medications, phone charger, comfortable shoes, an extra layer of clothes, a book to read when it's slow - or all of the above.
- 4 Save any important phone numbers and other contact information provided by your local elections office.** This will help if you have trouble arriving for your assignment (like showing up late or at an incorrect location) or if problems arise throughout the day. Be ready to report problems at your polling location through the proper chain of command.
- 5 Local election protection numbers may be busy.** Here is a list of back-up numbers to keep handy from the national, nonpartisan Election Protection coalition.
 - ENGLISH: 866-OUR-VOTE (866) 687-8683
 - SPANISH/ENGLISH: 888-VE-Y-VOTA (888) 839-8682
 - ASIAN LANGUAGES/ENGLISH: 888-API-VOTE (888) 274-8683
 - ARABIC/ENGLISH: 844-YALLA-US (844) 925-5287
- 6 Brush up on your official training** resources so you are as prepared as you can be. If you were given written materials, it can't hurt to bring them with you either printed out or saved on your phone.
- 7 You'll be in contact with lots of people throughout the day,** so make sure you're ready to ensure your safety and the safety of voters by reviewing your local election office's COVID-19 safety information.



www.powerthepolls.org

Note: These are supplemental resources and are not intended to take the place of any official poll worker training or resources that your elections office provides. Rules and laws vary from place to place, so for any specific questions related to your service as a poll worker or the rules and resources in your jurisdiction, always defer to your local elections office.

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