

The Election Connection

September 2026

Training & General Assignments

Training links have been sent out multiple times and training begins after Labor Day. All judges, new, returning, and Standby, are required to attend an in-person training session before the General Election Cycle

Assignments for the 2026 Gubernatorial General Election Cycle will be emailed in the upcoming weeks. If you are unable to serve your assignment, please contact us IMMEDIATELY!

Reminder- \$50 will be paid for in person training attendance only if you work during the 2026 Gubernatorial General Election Cycle. An additional \$50 will be paid for service on Election Day, November 3, 2026.



IMPORTANT DATES



2026 Gubernatorial General
Early Voting

October 22-29, 2026

Election Day

November 3, 2026



Thank you Election Judges
for all that you do!

TRAINING TOOL BOX



Your 2026 Election Judge Manual is a great source to help you be prepared and feel confident working your assignment. Feel free to bring your manual with you when you serve!

Election Judge Pay Rates Reminders

Chiefs \$300 Provisional/SDR \$300 Check-In \$250

Voting \$ 250 Standby \$100* unless unavailable

To receive the Returner bonus of an additional \$100 per day, you must have worked as an Election Judge during the 2024 Election Cycle.



DIS-SPELLING THOSE RUMORS!

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS IS COMMITTED TO BEING YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE OF ELECTION INFORMATION? VISIT

[HTTPS://ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV/PRESS_ROOM/RUMOR_CONTROL.HTML](https://elections.maryland.gov/press_room/rumor_control.html)

HERE YOU WILL FIND ACCURATE INFORMATION ON A VARIETY OF ELECTION RELATED TOPICS. THERE ALSO IS A LINK WHERE YOU CAN REPORT ELECTION DIS/MISINFORMATION AND SBE WILL CORRECT THE RECORD.

ELECTION DIS/MISINFORMATION IS INCORRECT OR MISLEADING INFORMATION REGARDING THE TIME, PLACE, OR MANNER OF AN ELECTION, ELECTION RESULTS, OR VOTING RIGHTS.

FROM THE SBE WEBSITE:

Rumor: I voted for Candidate A, but my vote flipped to Candidate B.

Fact: Most voters in Maryland will use a paper ballot to vote. With paper ballots, a vote for Candidate A cannot "flip" to Candidate B.

Some voters will use the accessible ballot marking device to make selections and print a paper ballot. Each device is tested before election day, and the test includes checking that the device's screen is properly calibrated.

Rumor: You can mail-in your sample ballot with your selections instead of voting in person.

Fact: Voters in Maryland receive a sample ballot in the mail that allows voters to review what will be on their ballot when they go to vote in-person. Sample ballots are not real ballots and should not be treated as a mail-in ballot. Casting a sample ballot will not count as a vote. If you requested a mail-in ballot early, you may not receive a sample ballot. To see a sample of your ballot, you can use [this link](#) to see yours online.

THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS CONTINUES TO MONITOR THE PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS PERTAINING TO ELECTIONS. VISIT WWW.ELECTIONS.MARYLAND.GOV AND CLICK ON THE QUICK LINK: PRESS ROOM TO STAY INFORMED.

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 2026 Gubernatorial General will be October 22-29, 2026, 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.



“Service to
others leads to
greatness.”

- Jim Rohn, American
entrepreneur, author, and
motivational speaker

Important Reminder

An Election Judge may NOT be a candidate, hold a public or political office including a State, county, or party central committee or chairman, or serve as a campaign manager for a candidate or as the treasurer for a campaign finance entity.

Election Law §2-301

What flower is the most patriotic?

Answer: Yankee Doodle Dandy-lions!



We hope you had a safe and fun-filled summer!

Go Vote Maryland! App

The State Board of Elections has a voter resource phone app, **Go Vote Maryland!** This free app is available for download on the Google Play store and the Apple store. **Check it out!**

WORD SEARCH FOR FUN!

See if you can find these election related terms.

PARTY SERVICE BMD RIGHT CERTIFY CANVASS CANDIDATE DEMOCRACY
ELECTION BALLOT VOTER REGISTER POLLS CAMPAIGN

C	E	R	T	I	F	Y	B	Z	Q
A	D	E	M	O	C	R	A	C	Y
N	N	T	D	B	S	L	L	O	P
V	O	O	M	C	N	R	L	X	A
A	I	V	B	T	D	F	O	H	R
S	T	Q	R	I	G	H	T	V	T
S	C	A	M	P	A	I	G	N	Y
R	E	G	I	S	T	E	R	U	W
A	L	S	E	R	V	I	C	E	I
O	E	T	A	D	I	D	N	A	C

“Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you.”

-Anne Lamott, American Novelist



We are accepting new or gently used books and puzzles for Election Judges to use during “down time” when working during Early Voting. If you would like to donate an item, please bring it to your training session. Please make sure items are non-political in nature. The LBE reserves the right to reject items deemed not appropriate for the polls.



REMINDER

The Talbot County Board of Elections is recruiting Election Judges in an effort to ensure that our polling places are as party balanced as possible. In addition to assigning Election Judges at each polling place, we attempt to recruit a pool of STAND-BY Judges to fill unexpected vacancies and you may be asked to serve in this capacity if necessary. Also, while we try to assign Election Judges to their home polling places, this often is not possible. Election Judges may be asked to work at any polling place in Talbot County.

Interest in serving as an Election Judge during the 2026 Election Cycle may exceed our need. If you are not assigned, your information will be held for the next Election Cycle.

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