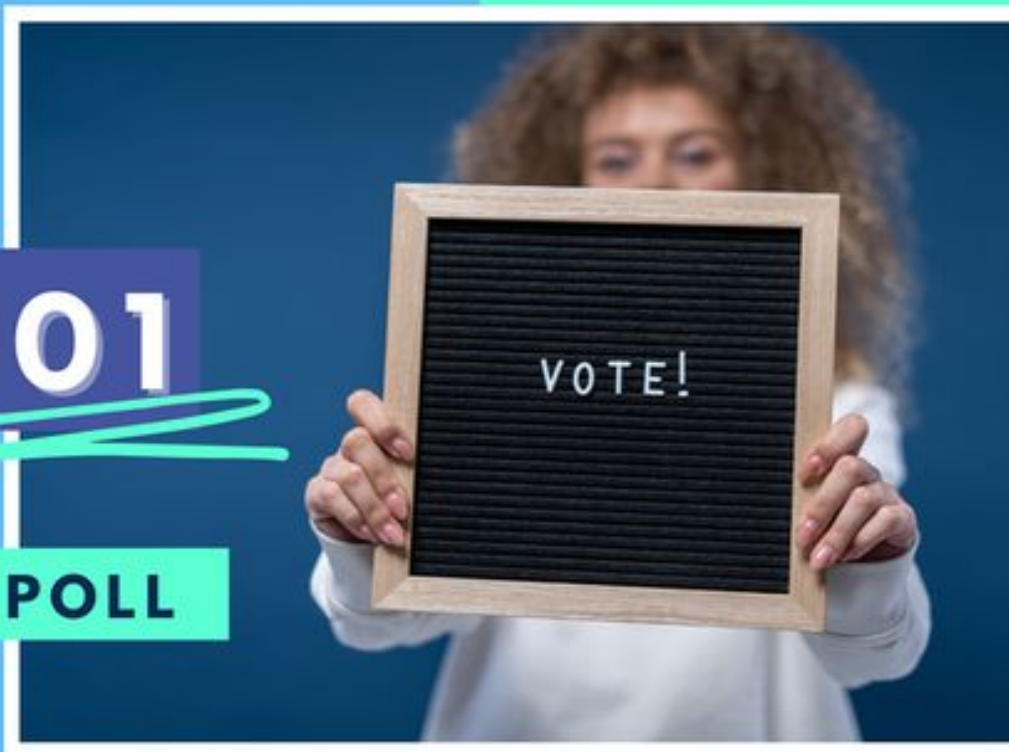


INFO SESSION

POLL

WORKER 101

SO YOU WANT TO BE A POLL  
WORKER?



# Objectives

- Get a feel for the job
- Ask any questions you'd like
- Decide if this is right for you

we  
vote

THE VOTER  
LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF PHILADELPHIA

Who are we?

**We're the Committee of Seventy & the League of Women Voters of Philadelphia.**

**We're voters.** Combined, we're 218 years old, and we believe that when more people vote, and are better informed, democracy wins. Since 1904, C70 has led the effort in Philadelphia (and now, beyond the city) to make our government more representative, transparent, and accountable. The LWV started shortly before the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920.

Both orgs have been—and continue to be—nonpartisan civic leaders, and together with our partners, we're here to provide citizens with everything they need to vote in 2022, and every year after.

# The Basics

- Poll workers are Democracy's essential workers
- Thank you for exploring ways to ensure that your community's voice is heard

# Poll Worker FAQ

- What is a poll worker?
- What do poll workers do?
- How do I know if I'm qualified?
- Do I get paid?
- Why do we need poll workers?
- How can I learn more and sign up to be a poll worker in Philadelphia?
- What if I live in New Jersey or a Philadelphia suburb and want to volunteer?

Visit [seventy.org/become-a-poll-worker](https://seventy.org/become-a-poll-worker) for these answers and more!

# Divisions and Polling Locations

- **1,703** voting divisions in Philly (aka precincts)
- Approx. **700-800** polling locations
- Some buildings may house multiple divisions, but the divisions will remain as separate entities within the building, serving only the voters within that division.
- **1700 divisions x 5 workers= 8,500 workers**
- **1700 divisions x 4 workers= 6,800 workers**

# Election Board

Ideally **five people** on an election board:

- Judge of Elections
- Majority inspector
- Minority inspector
- Clerk
- Machine inspector (1-2)

# Compensation

- Can take several months to receive payment.
- Small amount for attending a training session.
- Current Rate is \$130. (It was increased in 2020 as a temporary measure.)



# Filling Vacancies

- Board of Elections typically makes nearly **8,000 confirmation calls** to current workers
- They are determining vacancies that need to be filled as they make these calls
- When will they call me back? Can I request my own division? Can I be placed with a friend? Can I request a particular position?

# Who Can Be A Poll Worker?

[WeVote Poll Worker FAQ](#)

- You can only be a poll worker in the county where you are registered to vote
- Cannot be a federal, state, or city employee (**this includes school district employees**)
- Committee people can be poll workers **but must remain politically neutral on election day** (even what you are wearing!)
- All poll workers must be able to remain politically neutral on Election Day

# The Law

## Ideal - PA Law

- Judge of Elections and Inspectors are elected positions.
- Poll workers must live in the division where they work.

## Real - Legal Procedures for Workarounds

- You can and will work the polls without being elected.
- Happens all of the time.
- Counties officially approve poll workers to vacancies 5 days before the election (per state law)
- Happens behind the scenes, you will not participate in this.

# What Do Poll Workers Do?

## Beginning of day

- Arrive by 6:30am
- Set up tables, flow of the space, hang required signage and posters
- Unpack and account for materials
- Set up voting machines
- Mark off social distancing
- Receive instructions from Judge of Elections and clarify roles for the day

# Who Will Teach Me All of This?

## Board of Elections Training

- Required 1 hour virtual training video with short assessment at the end.
- Sign up at [training.philadelphiavotes.com](https://training.philadelphiavotes.com)

## Committee of Seventy and The Voter Project - Two Additional Trainings

- Session 1: General election law, election protection, and COVID safety
- Session 2: Details of the day - Common scenarios, reviewing set up, helpful checklists

## Other Poll Workers

- [Poll Worker Caucus](#)
- On the job learning on Election Day!

# Throughout the Day

Polls open from 7 AM - 8 PM

- Greet voters at check-in table
- Verify voters names in the poll book
- Help voters with specific questions and needs
- Explain how the machine works
- Manage social distancing

# End of the Day

Closing the polls - Could be a late night!

- Polls do not close until the last person who was in line by 8pm has voted.
- Follow checklist procedures for shutting down machines.
- Complete paperwork, including payroll.
- Prepare and give materials to BoE workers and police.
- Take down tables, tidy polling location.
- Organize materials and deliver to Delaware and Spring Garden Ave.

# How To Sign Up

**To be a poll worker, sign up at:**

- **City Commissioners:**

[www.philadelphiavotes.com/en/election-board-officials/pollworker](http://www.philadelphiavotes.com/en/election-board-officials/pollworker)

- **For all other PA Counties, visit VotesPA.com**

[expressforms.pa.gov/apps/pa/DOS-VotesPA/County](http://expressforms.pa.gov/apps/pa/DOS-VotesPA/County)



# Additional Trainings

- Poll Worker Q&A with the City Commissioners
  - Thursday, October 28th at 6:30PM
  - Friday, October 29th at 12PM

# Thank You!

## **Sponsored by:**

Committee of Seventy

Fairmount Votes

League of Women Voters of Philadelphia

Philly Youth Vote

Young Involved Philadelphia