

# Be a champion of democracy!

## Become a poll worker.

*Every year, elections in Pennsylvania are made possible by thousands of regular citizens who serve as poll workers. These are the people who do the important work of checking in voters at polling places and setting them up at voting machines. At the end of the night, poll workers deliver the returns to county election officials. We depend on these workers to run fair and secure elections.*

### An Ongoing Need

Although the polls are busiest during presidential election years when voter turnout is high, the number of polling places open on Election Day does not change from year to year. *This means more than 40,000 poll workers are needed at least twice a year, every year, to staff the polls across Pennsylvania.* While this has always been the case, in recent years, county officials have found it increasingly difficult to fill these positions.

### How to Become a Poll Worker

If you are interested in becoming a poll worker in your community, contact your county election office. Their [contact information](#) can be found at [www.VotesPA.com](http://www.VotesPA.com). County officials will determine where and for what position you are most needed.

Some poll workers are elected to their positions, but new workers are always needed to serve on Election Day. It may be the case that too few people ran for the elected positions, or a poll worker

may have resigned. Certain positions are only filled by appointment. If you want to run for an elected poll worker position, the next opportunity will be in the spring of 2021. Check with your county election office to find out how to be elected or appointed as a poll worker.

### Requirements

Poll workers generally work all day on Election Day, from before the polls open at 7 a.m. until after the polls close at 8 p.m. In addition, they may be asked to attend a training session before the election. They can also watch [training videos](#) on the Pennsylvania Department of State website at [www.VotesPA.com](http://www.VotesPA.com). The good news is that poll workers are paid for their time on Election Day. Some counties also pay poll workers for attending training.

### Spread the Word

Do you know someone who sounds perfect for this kind of job? Perhaps you would like to involve members of your church, club or civic organization in this important work. You can direct interested candidates to [www.votesPA.com/getinvolved](http://www.votesPA.com/getinvolved). To find out what else you can do to help recruit poll workers, talk to your county election office.

