

Election Terms

Affidavit - A sworn statement presented in support of a person's qualifications to vote.

Application for Ballot (Form 14) - The form a voter signs to apply for a ballot, which contains the signature of the voter and information relating to the identity of the voter. The Form 14 will also include information on whether a voter voted prior to election day.

Assistance - The act of helping a person to vote. Only voters with a physical disability or voters, who cannot speak, read or write English are entitled to request assistance.

Audio Ballot with Headphones - Visually impaired voters can vote privately and independently by using the audio ballot and headphones on the touchscreen voting unit. The judges will activate a voter card with the audio ballot. Voters who use a sip and puff device can also use the audio ballot and headphones.

Ballot Box - The ballot scanner will sit atop a ballot box, which will store the voted ballots. The ballot box consists of three parts; top, bottom and collapsible body and will need to be assembled by the judges. The ballot box has two sections, the front section for ballots with write-in votes and the back section for ballots without write-in votes. The ballot scanner will automatically separate ballots into the front and back sections of the ballot box.

Ballot Scanner - The unit used to record the votes cast on the ballots. The ballot scanner will reject ballots that are not initialed by a judge, overvoted or blank.

Ballot Style - The three digit number that determines which ballot a voter should be issued. The ballot style can be found on the voter's pre-printed Application for Ballot (Form 14).

Ballot Viewer - A plastic magnifier that enlarges the print on the ballot scan ballots.

Blank Ballot - A ballot with no votes cast on it or marks that cannot be read by the ballot scanner.

Campaign Free Zone - The area outside the polling place room where electioneering is prohibited. This area must be marked off by the two blue cones.

Certificate of Results (Form 80) - The form used to record the number of votes cast. A copy of the Official Election Results Report from the card activator must be attached to each Form 80.

Challenge - An objection made to the election judges concerning a person's identity or qualifications to vote.

Credential - An official document presented by all pollwatchers in order to remain in the polling place.

Curbside Voting - A method of voting used by a voter who is unable to enter an inaccessible polling place. Two judges, one

from each political party, will bring the voting materials to the voter at a point where forward motion is no longer possible, but in no case shall the judges go beyond 50 feet from the entrance of the polling place.

Disabled Voting Booth - A voting booth that is designed for voters in wheelchairs. Voters who utilize the disabled voting booth will vote on the ballot. The disabled voting booth also has a chair for voters who cannot stand for long periods of time. When not in use by a disabled voter, the booth can be used by non-disabled voters.

Early Voting - From the 22nd day through the 5th day before the election, voters can vote at Early Voting sites designated by the Board of Elections. A voter does not need a reason to early vote, but must provide a government issued photo ID when requesting an early voting ballot. Persons who cast early voting ballots **cannot** vote in the polling place on election day.

Electioneering - The urging of a vote for or against a candidate, political party or referendum. This includes the wearing of campaign buttons, badges or signs, distribution of campaign literature or verbal communication.

Election Supply Carrier (ESC) - The big blue box that is delivered to the polling place prior to election day and contains all the equipment, supplies and materials.

Memory Pack - The device that will record the votes cast on the ballot scanner. The memory pack will be in the ballot scanner when delivered to the polling place. After all ballots have been processed, the judges will remove the memory pack and consolidate the results (with the results cartridge) in the voter card activator.

Official Ballots - The paper ballot that will contain the names of the candidates, offices and referenda. The voters will use a ballot marker to complete the arrows for the candidates of their choice.

Official Election Results Report - The tape which is printed by the voter card activator that contains the consolidated results from the touchscreen unit and the ballot scanner.

Override Button - The #3 button on the ballot scanner keypad, which, at the voter's discretion, can be used to override ballots that contain overvotes or are blank.

Overvoted Ballot - A ballot that contains more votes than allowed for an office.

Plastic Pointers - Device given to voters who use the touchscreen voting unit.

Pollwatcher - A representative of a candidate, political party or civic organization who is allowed, by law, to be in the precinct and observe the election process. All pollwatchers must surrender a credential to the judges.

Precinct Poll Sheet - List of registered voters within a precinct. List is arranged by street addresses.

Provisional Ballot - A ballot that is cast by certain categories of voters, but is not counted on election day. The Board of Elections has 14 days after the election to process provisional ballots. A provisional voter can contact the Board to find out if the provisional ballot was accepted or rejected.

Results Cartridge - The device that will record the votes cast on the touchscreen voting unit. The results cartridge will be in the touchscreen unit when delivered to the polling place. After the polls close, the judges will remove the results cartridge and consolidate the results (with the memory pack) in the voter card activator.

Spoiled Ballot - An ballot scan ballot on which a voter has made a mistake. The ballot scan ballot must be returned to the judges and a new ballot scan ballot will be issued.

Touchscreen Printer - The touchscreen unit contains a printer which will create a paper record of every vote cast on the unit.

Touchscreen Voting Unit - The voting unit specifically designed for voters with disabilities. Visually impaired voters can vote privately and independently by using the audio ballot and headphones. Voters who use a sip and puff device also can use the audio ballot on the touchscreen.

Transfer Case - The large blue case (with a handle and wheels) that is used to return materials to the receiving station on election night. The list of materials required to be returned will be contained in the plastic window on the outside of the transfer case.

Undervoted Ballot - A ballot where there are no votes cast for Statewide Constitutional Offices (Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Comptroller and Treasurer).

Voter Card - The card used to activate the touchscreen voting unit. The voter card will be activated with the ballot style of the voter. The voter card also is used to activate a provisional ballot and an audio ballot. The voter card will not contain any other information regarding the voter.

Voter Card Activator (Card Activator) - The device used to 1) activate voter cards for the touchscreen; 2) consolidate the votes cast from the results cartridge (touchscreen unit) and memory pack (ballot scanner); and 3) print Official Election Results Reports and transmit the results to the Board's central computer.