

YOU SIGNED UP TO POWER THE POLLS – NOW WHAT?

You've signed up to be a poll worker through Power the Polls—hurray and thank you!

Your journey to becoming a poll worker has just begun. Here's what to expect as you continue the process and get ready to serve during early voting and/or on Election Day.

- 1 You must complete your official application!** When you sign up on Power the Polls, we send you the link to your local election office's website and all the information you need to apply directly there. You must complete your official application with your local or state elections office to be a poll worker.
- 2** Once you've completed your application, **be on the lookout for communication from your local elections office.** You may not receive confirmation immediately that your application has been received. Election administrators also work on different timelines, so it may be some time before you hear back. If your service is needed, you will hear from your elections administrator—usually via phone call or email—when they start to review applications.
- 3** Your local elections office will handle your **poll worker training**, which may be in person or online. If you're confirmed to be a poll worker, but haven't heard the details about your training, give your elections office another call! Training is often mandatory (and sometimes paid!).
- 4** If you are **given a poll worker assignment**, your local elections administrator will provide information about the requirements, what polling location you will serve at, and any other information to prepare you to work the polls.
- 5** Don't forget to **make your plan to vote** either early or by mail because you might be too busy working at the polls to vote on Election Day! Ask your elections office if you'll be able to vote on Election Day during your training.
- 6** **Be patient, persistent, and proactive.** Your local elections administrators are working hard to prepare for voting, and their office likely has limited staff. Reach out to them, but understand sometimes they may not be able to respond to you right away. Like you, election administrators are doing their civic duty and your patience and kindness will go a long way.
- 7** If you usually work during the time you'll be serving as a poll worker, speak with your manager about **how to approach time off.** Some companies will offer flexibility to those who opt to serve as poll workers, provide paid time off, or have other volunteer time allowances since you are serving your community.

- 8 **It's possible that you may not be selected this time** if your local jurisdiction already has enough poll workers. Let them know if you're interested in serving on a waitlist. Your local elections office will likely keep you on a back-up list in case they have last minute poll worker cancellations leading up to or on Election Day.
- 9 If you are selected, **make sure you're ready to serve!** Your neighbors are counting on you to help when they come to cast their ballot. You can check out our [Election Day Checklist](#) for more information to get you ready before your shift begins!

Thank you for signing up to Power the Polls and for being a democracy hero!

www.powerthepolls.org / www.allvotingislocal.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.