



BUNCOMBE VOTES

2024



Election Day Poll Worker 101

Thank you for your interest in being a poll worker. Make an impact and some money.

Poll workers are the hands, eyes, and ears that make elections happen. Without our team of dedicated, civic-minded individuals, we could not run smooth and transparent elections. Poll workers are needed now more than ever and your interest and willingness to contribute to our democracy is greatly appreciated.

First things first. Please read this document completely. There's a lot of important material here that we hope will make your decision easier.

Please note: Election Day poll working is not the same as Early Voting poll working. The work is similar but there are some important differences in the two systems of voting. As a result, there are different training sessions, workdays and hours, and different compensation. For those people with stamina and energy, it is possible to work Early Voting and Election Day, but you must apply to each separately.

DATES & TIME COMMITMENT



· The Primary Election is **Tuesday, March 5, 2024**, and the General Election is **Tuesday, November 5, 2024**. If you would like to be an Election Day poll worker for these important elections, please put the dates in your calendar now! You will need to be free all day.

· There are three components to working as an Election Day poll worker and you must do all three to be paid – yes, poll workers are paid!

1. You will need to attend training. See more below.
2. Meet your team in the afternoon or early evening on the Monday before the election at the precinct to set everything up. This is arranged by the precinct supervisor, known as the chief judge, and it should take no more than two hours.
3. Work on Election Day from 6 a.m. until approximately 8:30-9 p.m. This is a statutory requirement, and you must remain at the precinct for the entire day unless there is a medical or other emergency. You will need to bring your own meals.



COMPENSATION

It surprises some people to learn that poll workers are not volunteers. Compensation for Election Day poll workers depends on their position. Polling places (precincts) are staffed with a chief judge, two party judges and assistants. Pay is a flat rate of \$300 for chief judge, \$225 for party judge, and \$200 for assistants. Unless you are informed otherwise, your position will be an assistant. The chief judge is responsible for managing the site including voting location access, site setup/take down, managing workers, end of night audit, equipment troubleshooting, and familiarity with the voting process and election law.





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SKILLS

- Confident and comfortable using a laptop
- Ability to work as part of team
- Stamina to work a long day
- Reliable and dependable



NO POLITICS

Poll workers serve all eligible voters in Buncombe County with respect, efficiency, and fairness. There is no room for politics inside the precinct: this means no partisan conversations, wearing of any partisan clothing or buttons, or other activities such as bringing a book or magazine to read which is political in nature. If you would be unable to do this, please consider working as a poll greeter (campaigner) rather than a poll worker. Contact the party of your choosing to talk to them about campaigning.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

A national employment agency handles onboarding/hiring. They run background checks on all poll workers, verify US citizenship, and handle compensation. It will be necessary to share information such as your bank account details and social security number.



TRAINING

In-person training is mandatory for every election. Poll workers receive a link to sign up for a training session that lasts 3-4 hours. Training sessions are offered on various days and times to suit everyone's schedule, including evenings and weekends. There is an additional one hour training for all judges.

Again, thank you for your interest in serving the voters of Buncombe County. We look forward to working with you. If you have not already completed the poll worker application and are interested in becoming a poll worker, please do so now. If you already completed an application, we will be contacting you shortly to discuss the next steps.

ADDITIONAL POLLWORKER RESOURCES:

buncombecounty.org/pollworker
buncombecounty.org/vote

