

Who can become an election judge?

Anyone who is a registered voter in Pueblo County can become an election judge. You must never have been convicted of an election related offense, such as election fraud, and you must be physically and mentally able to perform the duties of an election judge. Candidates and family members of candidates appearing on the ballot may not serve as election judges.

How do I become an election judge?

If you are a Pueblo County registered voter, you may become an election judge by contacting your local political party or by contacting the Pueblo County Election Department. Colorado law states that the number of election judges serving should be balanced, as closely as possible, between the two major political parties (Democrat and Republican). However, voters who are unaffiliated or who are affiliated with a minor political party (such as Libertarian, etc.) may also serve as election judges. Call us for further information.

What are the duties of an election judge?

All election judges assure that the election is conducted in a fair and impartial manner. They are required to take an oath of office prior to serving. All judges must attend a class of instruction as to their specific duties. There are different jobs that election judges perform. Some of those jobs are:

Supply judges oversee the judge team, and assure that all facets of the polling place are running smoothly for the voters and judges. Supply judges must be available the day before the election to pick up their supplies and must return the supplies after the election. Supply judges usually work from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

DRE judges oversee the electronic voting machine. With training they set up the machines, verify security of machine, assist voters throughout the day, and tear down the machine at the close of the election. DRE judges with the supply judge will complete all necessary paperwork.

Insight judges oversee the optical scanner and assist voters. They are responsible for set up and tear down of the machine and work with the supply judge to ensure that all necessary paperwork is completed.

All other judges work as a team to verify voter's eligibility, issue ballots or DRE card to vote electronically, and assist voters who have any questions or difficulties during the voting process. Judges work in various polling places throughout the county on Election Day from approximately 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and later if necessary.

Early Voting judges work during the early voting period provided by law prior to each Election Day. They work at early voting locations in the county to verify voter's eligibility, issue a voter access card to each voter, and perform other functions related to early voting. Early Voting is provided for a one-week period prior to polling place Primary Elections and for a two-week period prior to General Elections from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mail-In Processing judges work anywhere from 5 to 15 days before the election. They work at the Pueblo County election warehouse and are responsible for verifying signatures on mail/mail-in ballots, deconstruction of ballots, and maintaining an accurate count of ballots received and counted.

***Please note - All eligible voters that sign up to be election judges during their precinct Caucus or are recommended by a major party chairperson will be assigned first, voters recommended by minor political parties and unaffiliated voters that give notice in writing before the last Tuesday in April will then be assigned.

Will I be paid for working as an Election Judge?

Yes. The amount of pay varies depending on the job description as outlined above. Pay ranges from \$100.00 and \$125.00 a day.

You will also have the opportunity to meet many of your neighbors if you work at a polling place on Election Day. And you will make a great contribution to democracy for your community, county and state!

Who can be a Student Election Judge and how can I volunteer for that?

Student Election judges must meet the following qualifications:

United States citizen

Mentally and physically able to perform assigned tasks

Free of any conviction for fraud or election offenses

Not a member of the family of a current candidate

16 or 17 years old and either a junior or senior in good standing in a public or private school or home schooled

Parent or guardian, and school official must give consent

Attend required instruction class

Student Election judge certification forms for completion by the school and parent/guardian are available through the Pueblo County Election Office.