WELCOME!

ACLU of Georgia Poll Worker Program: Update and Important Points

September 10, 2020
Working as a committed, competent poll worker is one of the most impactful ways to effect change in the 2020 election cycle.

Thank you!
Recap: The Three Ss

The ACLU of Georgia is soliciting, shepherding and supporting poll workers to secure elections in Georgia

1. Solicit
   • Get prospective poll workers to submit the ACLU-GA form: adopt a poll orgs, lawyers, those who are skilled in IT, overall younger.

2. Shepherd
   • Ensure that those who have submitted the form get officially signed up, trained, and scheduled with the county. Liaise with county so program is executed.

3. Support
   • Be a resource, build a community, continue to liaise on behalf of poll workers with county to ensure communication gaps are addressed.

acluga.org/pollworkers
What is the hiring timeline?

- Most counties will begin notifying selected poll workers in mid-September. Please make sure to submit any applications or forms you have been asked to complete as soon as possible.

- ACLU-GA does not guarantee placement as a poll worker, but works to ensure a smooth training and selection process.
  - For most counties, you will have to be selected and placed as a poll worker (including for stand-by) before you get trained

- Fulton timeline and training schedule

- Timeline for other counties
Skills Needed to be a Poll Worker

- Organizational
- Technological
- Logistical
- Problem Solving
- Strong Voice

*Everyone in the state is dealing with new machines and processes. Don’t think of yourself as “inexperienced” compared to anyone else*
Prepare to walk in and take a leadership role, even as a first-time poll worker.

There is no time for passivity in this record turnout election.
What to expect when you’re expecting...

...to go through county poll worker training?
What is covered in County Poll Worker Training?

- Set up/Opening/Closing Procedures
  - Lots of forms, some extremely essential (scanner vote recap, poll pad recap)
- Supplies that will be delivered
  - Provisional ballot bag and materials, sample ballots, voter certificates, backup electors list, etc.
- Different positions at the polls
  - Managers, assistant managers, clerks, line monitors, election technicians
- Equipment Processes
What is covered in County Poll Worker Training (cont’d)

• Check-in Processes
• Handling Absentee/Early Voters, Assisted Voters, Interpreters
• Provisional Ballot Stations
• Maybe: PPE procedures? Social distancing guidelines?

Please note, our brief training enhancements and informational sessions are not substitutes for the mandatory (by law) poll worker training you will complete with your county.
What equipment is used on Election Day?

- Ballot Marking Devices
- Poll Pads
- Scanners
- Printers
- CyberPower UPS (Battery System)
Types of NonStandard Voters You Will Encounter

• Those who have requested absentee ballots
  • Returned ballots - accounted for
  • Returned ballots - unaccounted for
  • Have not returned their ballot
    • Brought ballot with them
    • Did not bring their ballot
• Those who have already voted early
  • Note: They will show up as “absentee in person.” You will be responsible for catching this.
• Out of precinct, correct county
• Out of county
  • Provisional ballot won’t count
• In correct precinct or county, but not on voter rolls
Absentee Ballot Cancellation Process

For voters who have requested absentee ballots and show up to vote in person
• If they have the ballot with them
  • “Spoil the ballot”, check them in, send them to vote on a BMD
• If they don’t have the ballot, must call the central office/registrar for ballot cancellation
  • Check if the ballot has been returned and accounted for. If it has, tell the voter their vote has been counted absentee, send them away.
  • If the ballot has not been returned yet, Absentee ballot must be “canceled” and verified as canceled.
  • Then the voter must fill out an affidavit form before being checked in to vote in person.
Absentee Ballot Cancellation Affidavit

AFFIDAVIT

I, ______________________________ an elector of Fulton County, did apply for an absentee ballot, by mail, for the General Primary Runoff and Nonpartisan Election to be held on August 11, 2020. I do swear or affirm that as of the date of this Affidavit, I have not received/spoiled the aforementioned absentee ballot. I hereby request that the original absentee ballot be canceled and I be permitted to vote an in person ballot at the poll on Election Day.

Furthermore, I do swear or affirm that should I receive the original ballot applied for, that I will return it without voting to the Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections.
Provisional Ballots

• Learn about all of the different types of provisional ballot voters

- [ ] Voter not found on the ExpressPoll (Elector’s List). **CODE PR**
- [ ] Voter has IDR next to his/her name on the ExpressPoll (Elector’s List) and **DOES NOT** have one of the 10 forms of acceptable photo identification. **CODE IDR**
- [ ] Poll hour has been extended and the voter must vote a Provisional Ballot. **CODE EH**
- [ ] Voter is being issued an Emergency Ballot because voting has been delayed due to problems with all touch screen voting units or encoders. **CODE EM**
- [ ] Registered voter does not have one of the 6 forms of acceptable identification. **CODE PI**
- [ ] Voter not registered in your precinct, but is registered at another precinct. **CODE OP**
- [ ] Registered voter does not have **any** forms of acceptable identification. **CODE V**
- [ ] Registered voter did not provide proof of citizenship prior to Election Day. **CODE X**
Provisional Ballots

Dear Provisional Voter: You have been permitted to vote a Provisional Ballot for one or more of the following reasons:

1. We were not immediately able to confirm that you registered to vote before the deadline date.
2. You are a first-time Georgia voter who registered to vote by mail and did not provide proper identification at the time you mailed in your voter registration application AND you did not present the proper identification for voting at your precinct.
3. You were required to vote a Provisional Ballot because the time period for voting was extended by a court order.
4. You were required to vote a Provisional Ballot because of a delay in voting on the touch screen voting units.
5. You are a voter who has moved outside of a City that is having an election in which you are not eligible to vote.
6. You are eligible to vote, but do not have an acceptable form of identification. (3 days to provide ID)
7. You are not on the registered list of electors for this precinct (Not at your precinct, but are registered).
8. You are registered for the first time in Georgia and is pending verification. There is a mismatch between your identification and what DDS has on file. (3 days to provide ID)
9. Voter who did not provide proof of Citizenship. (3 days Challenged Voter)

The following explains what will happen with your ballot:
Other issues

- Use of identification
  - Used only to prove identity! Address on the ID does not matter (out-of-state IDs are valid)
  - You will ask voters to verify birth year and residence as registered
- Card programmer for poll pad
  - Can get easily dislodged because of how the power supply plugs in, make sure the card reader is plugged in correctly so time isn’t wasted with cards that never got programmed
  - Familiarize yourself with how to “spoil” ballots and reprogram cards
- Voters and campaign materials
Poll Watcher vs. Nonpartisan Poll Observer

- **Poll watchers**
  - Registered with county political parties, allowed into enclosed space, wear tags
- **Nonpartisan poll observers (public, Lawyers Committee, etc.)**
  - Can observe the election from publicly accessible places, cannot go into enclosed space
- **Public right to observe during opening and closing**
  - Very important to understand the nuances of this (observation v. being in the enclosed space, etc.)
What challenges have poll workers faced in the past?

- Inconsistent training across counties
  - We are trying to help, using these sessions and our program
- Lack of hands-on training with equipment
- Resource shortages
- Grueling 14-hour shifts
- No food provided
How we will continue supporting

• Providing clear and informative poll worker info sessions and sending guides/materials.
• Answering all questions that come to voting@acluga.org
• In-person event? re: hands-on training
• Advocating for adoption of election day procedures that will solve key challenges across counties
  • Shifts
  • “Overstaffing”
  • Increased quota of provisionals
  • Smoother absentee ballot cancellation process
  • Establishing channels for poll workers to share feedback
Preparing to be a Poll Worker

• Train thoroughly with your county materials and our materials

• Familiarize yourself with the ballot

• Follow up with your county to ensure you’re actually hired (even if you’ve received confirmation that you are in their database)

• Treat any optional site set-up as mandatory, it will help you get the lay of the land before Election Day (usually on Sunday or Monday)
Planning for Election Day

- Make arrangements for child-care, pet-care, etc. for a two-day period. Expect to stay until at least midnight on Election Day.
  - Make arrangements for work well in advance so your place of work is aware that you will not be reachable.
- Dress: business casual. No political messaging
- VOTE EARLY -- request your absentee ballot NOW or make a plan to show up and vote during early voting
  - Voting early in person can help in familiarizing yourself with the equipment
  - ballotrequest.sos.ga.gov -- anyone with a GA license or ID
  - acluga.org/georgiavotes -- for anyone else
Preparing for Election Day

- Bring your own food and water.
- Bring your own PPE (masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, etc.)
- Recommended attire is “business casual” - but comfortable clothes and shoes are a must!
- Expect to not be able to use your phone.
What if I am not selected to be a poll worker?

- Many other opportunities exist for volunteers to support elections in Georgia.
  - State Election Corps
  - Dominion Voting Technician
  - Absentee Ballot Processing
  - Line Monitors
Reminders:

• Submit any applications or forms that your county or the ACLU-GA has asked you to complete as soon as possible.

• If/when you are selected as a poll worker, please notify us of your training date and assigned polling location by emailing Voting@acluga.org
Q&A

Use the chat to ask us questions!
On behalf of ACLU-GA, thank you for your commitment to protecting the right to vote for every Georgian.
Please email voting@acluga.org with any additional questions.