



# Poll Worker Recruitment Toolkit

The Pennsylvania Department of State would like your help recruiting poll workers to serve on Election Day. PA counties need dependable workers who reflect the diversity of the communities they serve to step up to the plate. You can help by recruiting members of your community on social media, with print posters and flyers, and via electronic communications.

The materials included in this toolkit direct voters to submit their information using an online form at [VotesPA.com/getinvolved](https://VotesPA.com/getinvolved), but they can also reach out to their counties directly. The contact information for county election offices can be found at [VotesPA.com/county](https://VotesPA.com/county). Contact Rachel Boss at [rboss@pa.gov](mailto:rboss@pa.gov) if you have questions about what you can do to help.

## Timeline

Poll worker recruitment messages are most helpful 4-10 weeks ahead of an election.

- The 2020 PA primary will be held on April 28, 2020. A good window for poll worker recruitment ahead of the primary election is from late February to the beginning of April.
- The 2020 general election will be held on November 3, 2020. A good window for poll worker recruitment ahead of the general election is from mid-August to early October.

## Social Media

Create your own posts using the samples below, follow the PA Department of State and share poll worker posts when you see them.

- Twitter: @PAStateDept
- Facebook: @PADepartmentofState

## Hashtags

- #getinvolved
- #ReadyToVotePA
- #votesPA

## Sample posts

1. Elections in Pennsylvania depend on thousands of regular citizens serving as poll workers. We need you to #getinvolved and help Pennsylvania get #ReadyToVotePA.
2. Many counties need bilingual poll workers to help serve Pennsylvania voters whose first language is not English. Find out how you can help at [VotesPA.com/getinvolved](https://VotesPA.com/getinvolved). #ReadytoVotePA

3. Voters with disabilities depend on poll workers to ensure their right to vote. If you have a disability or if you have experience working with people with disabilities, consider serving as a poll worker in Pennsylvania. #ReadytoVotePA #getinvolved

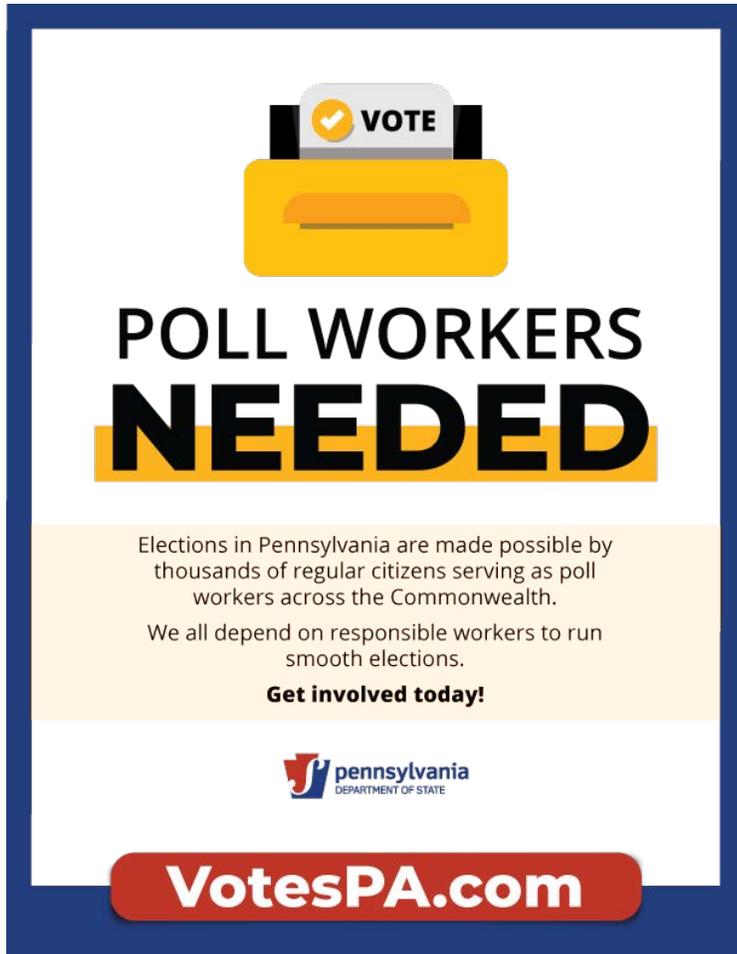


These images are available for download at [votesPA.com/getinvolved](https://votesPA.com/getinvolved).

## Printable posters

You can print posters on 8.5x11" and 11x17" paper stock to post in public areas.

Download the file from [votesPA.com/getinvolved](https://votesPA.com/getinvolved).



## Newsletters and mailings

You can attach the pdf pictured below to email outreach messages. It can also be printed and included in mailings, or inserted into printed newsletters such as church bulletins and circulars. You can also include the content in your electronic newsletters, or use a portion of it if you are limited on space. (For example, you could use just the “Be a Champion of Democracy!” section and the first paragraph under “How to Become a Poll Worker.”) You can also draft your own content inspired by what’s included here. Just be sure to direct voters to [VotesPA.com/getinvolved](https://votesPA.com/getinvolved).

The pdf is available for download at [votesPA.com/getinvolved](https://votesPA.com/getinvolved).

# Be a champion of democracy! Become a poll worker.

Every year, elections in Pennsylvania are made possible by thousands of regular citizens who serve as poll workers. These are the people who do the important work of checking in voters at polling places and setting them up at voting machines. At the end of the night, poll workers deliver the returns to county election officials. We depend on these workers to run fair and secure elections.

## An Ongoing Need

Although the polls are busiest during presidential election years when voter turnout is high, the number of polling places open on Election Day does not change from year to year. *This means more than 40,000 poll workers are needed at least twice a year, every year, to staff the polls across Pennsylvania.* While this has always been the case, in recent years, county officials have found it increasingly difficult to fill these positions.

## How to Become a Poll Worker

If you are interested in becoming a poll worker in your community, complete the poll worker interest form at [www.votesPA.com/getinvolved](http://www.votesPA.com/getinvolved). You can also contact your county election office. Visit [www.votesPA.com/county](http://www.votesPA.com/county) to find your county's contact information. County officials will determine where and for what position you are most needed.

In addition, some poll workers are elected to their positions. If you want to run for an elected

poll worker position, the next opportunity will be in the spring of 2021. Check with your county election office to find out how to be elected as a poll worker.

## Requirements

Poll workers generally work all day on Election Day, from before the polls open at 7 a.m. until after the polls close at 8 p.m. In addition, they may be asked to attend a training session before the election. They can also watch [training videos](#) on the Pennsylvania Department of State website at [www.VotesPA.com](http://www.VotesPA.com). The good news is that poll workers are paid for their time on Election Day. Some counties also pay poll workers for attending training.

## Spread the Word

Do you know someone who sounds perfect for this kind of job? Perhaps you would like to involve members of your church, club or civic organization in this important work. You can direct interested candidates to [www.votesPA.com/getinvolved](http://www.votesPA.com/getinvolved). To find out what else you can do to help recruit poll workers, talk to your county election office.



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