

Qualifications for Election Judges

- You must be a registered voter in the State of Missouri.
- You must declare your political party preference.
- You must be able to speak, read and write the English language and be of good repute and character.
- You must be able to lift moderate sized objects.
- You must be able to learn and operate voting equipment.
- Not appear on the current ballot or have a relative within the second degree appear on the current ballot.
- Not hold elective office at the time of service as a poll worker. (Exceptions: Political Party Committee, Township Office, Board or Commission Member of a Political Subdivision or Special District unless an issue or candidate relevant to that entity is on the ballot where you are working)
- You must be able to work a minimum, 14 – hour day.
- You must attend a training session prior to working at the polls. Attendance does not guarantee that you will work, only that you will be placed on the “prospective” list. Trainings run from 2 to 3 hours depending on the election type and job assignment.
- You must have reliable transportation to attend a training session and arrive at the polls by 5:00 a.m. on Election Day. Other Election Judges should not be expected to transport Election Judges to the training session or to the polling location.

Guidelines for Election Judges

- Election Judge assignments are based on experience, party balance, work history from prior elections and your ability to work in future elections. The number of workers needed is based on the expected turnout for each election; “regulars” may become “standbys” for a particular election which does not require a large number of judges.
- An Election Judge who is assigned to work an election, but is going to be out of town or unavailable to work in an upcoming election should assist in finding their replacement.
- It is very important you respond to your Election Judge Assignment Notices as soon as you receive them so we will know if you will be available to work.
- If you are working outside your home voting precinct, or are a “standby” election judge, you should vote an absentee ballot at one of our office locations:
 - County Satellite Office, 2311 Bloomfield Rd, Suite 102, Cape Girardeau, MO
 - County Administration Building, 1 Barton Square, Suite 301, Jackson, MOYou can vote absentee beginning six weeks prior to each election until 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the election. Both office locations are open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon the Saturday prior to each election.
- If there is a change in your phone number or address, please notify our office in writing as soon as possible.
- The polls are open for voting from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Election Judge’s hours are from 5:00 a.m. until the last voter has voted and the polling place has been closed by the Supervisory Election Judges. All Election Judges are required to assist with important procedural duties until the election is closed that night. Supervisory Judges are responsible for transporting the results and required supplies to the Election Center in Jackson.
- Election Judges are paid \$100.00 and Supervisory Judges are paid \$120.00 for their service on Election Day. Election Judges are paid \$20.00 to attend a training session approximately 2 to 4 weeks prior to each election.
- If interested in serving as an Election Judge please complete the enclosed application and return it to Cape Girardeau County Clerk’s Office by email at amseabaugh@capecounty.us by fax at (573)204-2418 or mail at 1 Barton Square, Suite 301, Jackson, MO 63755.

TEAMWORK AMONG POLL WORKERS ON ELECTION DAY IS IMPORTANT TO BOTH THE ELECTION JUDGES AND VOTERS. BEING A TEAM MEMBER INVOLVES ASSISTING IN THE SET UP AND CLOSING OF THE POLLS, COOPERATION, FLEXIBILITY, AND HAVING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE THROUGHOUT ELECTION DAY!