

Frequently Asked Questions about Being a Precinct Election Official

Who can be a precinct election official?

Any registered voter in Hocking County who enjoys working with people. Seventeen year-old students are eligible to work the polls without being a registered voter.

Why am I needed?

Without PEO's, elections cannot be held. PEO's identify the voters as eligible, assist voters when necessary and assure that the election laws of the state are followed.

Do I need to declare my politics?

No. In Hocking County you may be a Democrat, Republican or Independent (unaffiliated) to work the polls. However, no more than two Democrats or two Republicans can work in a single precinct.

Where will I work?

There are 16 polling locations for 26 precincts throughout Hocking County. We prefer you be willing and able to go to any precinct. However, efforts are made to place you at a convenient location whenever possible. You may be placed in your home precinct if there is a vacancy.

Will I be trained?

Yes. All new workers are trained and renewal training is offered for current PEO's. We now have on-line training in addition to our in-person training. On-line training provides a general overview of election procedures, and is used to supplement the in-person training. Training sessions last 2 ½ to 3 hours.

What are the working hours?

All precincts set up their equipment on Monday before the election. Times for this vary depending upon the availability of the facility, and the schedules of the PEO's. On Election Day, you will report to the polling place at 5:45 a.m. to finish setting up the precinct for voting. The polls open at 6:30 a.m. You will be given specific instructions for the duties assigned to you. You are not permitted to leave the premises during the election. Meals are coordinated by the PEO's. The polls close at 7:30 p.m. **All workers must stay to help close the precinct.**

How much will I be paid?

The pay for a PEO is \$113.40 for the day. The Voting Location Manager, the person responsible for picking up the supplies used on Election Day, receives \$133.40 plus mileage. PEO's receive \$24.30 for attending the training class. Alternates, who are not called to work, will receive their training pay if applicable.

Will I work every election?

Not necessarily. PEO's who are alternates are on "stand by" to fill any vacancies throughout the county. We try and give as much notice as possible, but there is always a chance you may be called election morning to work the polls due to illness or family emergencies. If all of the positions are filled for an election, some alternates will not work.