

ELECTIONS

70-00-00

Elections



MISSION

The mission of the Department of Elections is to provide a standardized, secure and accurate election system for the residents of Delaware. The department provides residents with the information access and structure needed to participate, as well as access to fair and accurate campaign finance reports.

KEY OBJECTIVES

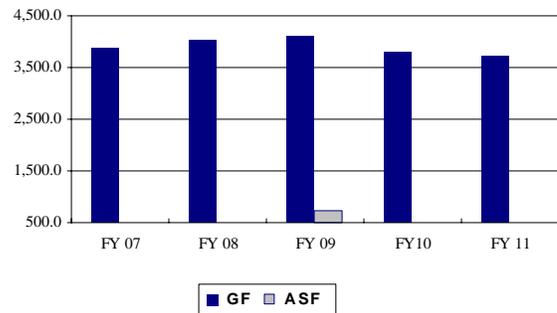
- Ensure the standard administration of Delaware election laws.
- Use technology to improve services to Delaware residents here and abroad.
- Conduct elections for Delaware residents from presidential primaries to school and municipal elections.
- Accurately track and post campaign finance reports.

BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The department has led the nation in developing the first statewide electronic voting system. Elections have been successfully conducted on all regional levels. In addition, voting machines have audio modules, which make them accessible to persons with visual disabilities.

Delaware successfully maintained a statewide voter registration database long before it became a federal mandate.

Five-Year Appropriation History



FUNDING

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	4,041.6	3,727.0	3,865.8
ASF	3.9	--	--
TOTAL	4,045.5	3,727.0	3,865.8

POSITIONS

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	44.0	43.0	42.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
TOTAL	44.0	43.0	42.0

FY 2012 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

OPERATING BUDGET:

- ◆ Recommend (\$4.3) in Travel, (\$3.0) in Contractual Services, (\$6.5) in Supplies and Materials, (\$1.0) in Mobile Registration and (\$15.0) in School Elections to reflect reductions in operating expenditures.

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STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER 70-01-01

MISSION

To coordinate statewide activities, standardize election policies and practices. The office also oversees campaign finance reporting and federal programs, including the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Maintain a statewide voter registration system.
- Coordinate with each county to conduct all mandated elections.
- Educate and assist municipalities in the conduct of their elections.
- Accurately track and post campaign finance reports.

BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The office provides services to all residents as required by state and federal laws to ensure uniform access to the electoral process.

Campaign finance reporting is available through our online program, Campaign Finance Information System, providing 24/7 availability.

The office provides training and support to state agencies that are mandated by the National Voter Registration Act to conduct voter registration. Training and support are also provided to third party registration groups.

The office participates in Student/Parent Mock Elections, in cooperation with the Departments of Technology and Information, State and Education and the League of Women Voters.

The office updates its website with information including a polling place locator, provisional ballot locator, an online voter registration and electronic signature registration.

As the Chief State Election Official, the Commissioner administers HAVA funding. HAVA mandates federal standards for voting machines, voter registration and access for Delaware voters. These funds have been used to upgrade our voting machines, make our polling places accessible and use technology to improve our processes.

Delaware has received national recognition for the Electronic Signature project, which uses technology to create a seamless, paperless connection between DMV and the Department of Elections.

FUNDING

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	1,349.4	980.8	1,008.6
ASF	--	--	--
TOTAL	1,349.4	980.8	1,008.6

POSITIONS

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	14.0	13.0	12.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
TOTAL	14.0	13.0	12.0

ACTIVITIES

- Administer the Organized Voter Registrar program, which involves training voter registrars throughout the state.
- Administer HAVA, which sets guidelines for election improvements.
- Collaborate with the Department of Elections in each county to ensure uniformity.
- Maintain the statewide voter registration file.
- Collect and report unofficial results of presidential primaries, state primaries, general and special elections in a timely manner.
- Provide support and assistance to candidates and committees regarding campaign finance laws.
- Work with other state agencies to ensure accuracy regarding the restoration of felon voting rights.
- Implement programs and systems that enable access to information during non-business hours.
- Support municipalities regarding election and campaign finance laws.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Gov. Rec.
# of candidate committees	2,300	2,100	1,800
# of requests for campaign finance assistance	3,000	4,000	3,500
# of referenda elections	10	10	10
# of school board elections	16	16	16

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DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY
70-02-01

MISSION

The Department of Elections for New Castle County provides first-class service to residents by registering them to vote and conducting fair and impartial elections.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Provide quality service to all customers.
- Register Delaware residents who apply and are eligible to register to vote.
- Remove ineligible voters from the voter registration system.
- Conduct elections in an efficient and impartial manner, as mandated by 14 and 15 Del. C.
- Educate the public regarding the elections process and the use of the State's electronic voting machine.
- Enhance efficiency by streamlining operational procedures.

BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The department has focused on broadening the recruitment of election officers, enhancing election officer training, partnering with the State Election Commissioner to improve the election process, using technology and staff-initiated innovations to improve efficiency and reducing costs in a challenging fiscal climate.

FUNDING

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	1,266.9	1,356.2	1,424.5
ASF	3.9	--	--
TOTAL	1,270.8	1,356.2	1,424.5

POSITIONS

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	15.0	15.0	15.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
TOTAL	15.0	15.0	15.0

ACTIVITIES

- Register voters.
- Maintain an accurate voter registration database.
- Plan upcoming elections.
- Conduct elections in accordance with state and federal laws.
- Educate department staff and election officers.
- Produce printed materials and resources.
- Engage in public outreach and education initiatives.
- Maintain the election system infrastructure.
- Conduct elections for unions, student governments and other entities.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES Voter Registration Transactions

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Gov. Rec.
New voters	12,828	20,000	20,000
Address change	15,959	25,000	20,000
Name change	2,975	5,000	4,000
Party change	4,249	10,000	6,000

Cancelled Voter Registrations

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Gov. Rec.
Deceased	3,063	3,000	3,000
Verification programs	619	15,000	15,000
Moved out of state	115	3,000	3,000
Board action	7	20	20
Not a resident	1	20	20

Absentee Ballots*

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2012 Budget
Total ballots issued	362	1,411	2,500

*Presidential primary.

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR KENT COUNTY
70-03-01

MISSION

The Department of Elections for Kent County serves the residents of Kent County and the State of Delaware with the operation of voter registration programs and conducts all elections in accordance with state and federal laws.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Perform all duties related to conducting an election pursuant to state and federal laws.

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- Provide information to the public, candidates and political parties regarding election laws, rules, regulations and registration requirements.
- Conduct all elections mandated by 14 and 15 Del. C. in an efficient, fair and impartial manner.
- Notify, appoint and train election officers for all elections mandated by 14 and 15 Del. C. to perform uniform and non-partisan elections.

BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the past year, the department conducted primary and general elections and met filing and voter registration deadlines in a timely and professional manner. The department assisted with municipal elections pursuant to 15 Del. C., and five municipalities in Kent County are now using the Voter Registration system pursuant to 15 Del. C. § 7554(b). The department also performed many activities for voter education with the school districts and group functions, such as supplying voting machines, ballots, voter registrars, polling place information, absentee ballot information and promotional items to keep the public aware of the continuing changes in voting practices.

FUNDING

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	753.2	753.5	772.9
ASF	--	--	--
TOTAL	753.2	753.5	772.9

POSITIONS

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	8.0	8.0	8.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
TOTAL	8.0	8.0	8.0

ACTIVITIES

- Maintain voter registration files, analyze voter registration documents and keep statistical information.
- Maintain a felon database for the prothonotary reports and Criminal Justice Information System.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Voter Registration Transactions

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Gov. Rec.
New voters	4,350	4,785	5,025
Address change	4,477	4,924	5,170
Name change	780	858	900
Party change	1,096	1,205	1,266

Cancelled Voter Registrations

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Gov. Rec.
Deceased	899	925	950
Verification programs	36	50	60
Moved out of state	180	200	225

Absentee Ballots*

	FY 2003 *Actual	FY 2007 *Actual	FY 2011 *Budget
Total voted ballots	1,388	1,979	3,000

*Years are for non-presidential year elections.

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR SUSSEX COUNTY

70-04-01

MISSION

The Department of Elections for Sussex County serves the residents of Sussex County by registering voters and conducting primary, general, special and public school elections in accordance with state and federal laws.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Provide prompt and courteous service to all customers.
- Conduct all elections mandated by 14 and 15 Del. C. in an efficient, fair and impartial manner.
- Register all eligible permanent residents of the State of Delaware who submit a complete and accurate voter registration application to vote.
- Provide mobile registration by scheduled events or at the request of organizations.
- Provide information to the public, candidates and political parties regarding election laws, rules, regulations and registration requirements.
- Comply with the Sussex County 911 road naming project.
- Educate the public about the use of electronic voting machines and the election process.

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- Remove ineligible voters from the voting rolls in accordance with state and federal laws.
- Enhance the department's productivity through the application of technology and redesign of tasks.

BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The department continues to manage increasing numbers of new registration, change of address and name applications due to the Motor Voter Act. The act mandates the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Departments of Health and Social Services and Labor to register eligible residents.

During Fiscal Year 2011, the department will provide for the set up and delivery of voting machines for at least six student government elections, six school district elections and referenda, 26 municipal elections and referenda in Sussex County and the annual Delaware Electric Cooperative Board of Directors election.

FUNDING

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	672.1	636.5	659.8
ASF	--	--	--
TOTAL	672.1	636.5	659.8

POSITIONS

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	7.0	7.0	7.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
TOTAL	7.0	7.0	7.0

ACTIVITIES

- Register new voters by mail and mobile registration.
- Process applications received as a result of agency-based registration.
- Maintain voter registration files.
- Conduct school elections and referenda.
- Provide voting machines, training and support for municipal elections and referenda.
- Conduct the primary and general elections in Sussex County.
- Provide voter education.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Voter Registration Transactions

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Gov. Rec.
New voters	6,728	7,728	7,200
Address change	5,830	9,500	9,900
Name change	803	900	950
Party change	1,002	1,100	1,200

Cancelled Voter Registrations

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Gov. Rec.
Deceased	1,317	1,650	1,750
Moved out of state	685	2,122	2,320
Board action	5	10	15

Absentee Ballots*

	FY 2003 *Actual	FY 2007 *Actual	FY 2011 *Budget
Total voted ballots	2,357	2,722	3,960

*Years are for non-presidential year elections.