



Board of Elections

Mission Statement



The mission of the Board of Elections is to register voters, conduct elections, assist persons seeking elective office with candidate filings and campaign fund reports, assist citizens seeking to place questions on the ballot, and preserve election data.

Budget Overview

The total approved FY17 Operating Budget for the Montgomery County Board of Elections is \$7,851,602, an increase of \$1,295,251 or 19.76 percent from the FY16 Approved Budget of \$6,556,351. Personnel Costs comprise 49.49 percent of the budget for 28 full-time position(s) and three part-time position(s), and a total of 54.88 FTEs. Total FTEs may include seasonal or temporary positions and may also reflect workforce charged to or from other departments or funds. Operating Expenses account for the remaining 50.51 percent of the FY17 budget.

Linkage to County Result Areas

While this program area supports all eight of the County Result Areas, the following are emphasized:

-  **A Responsive, Accountable County Government**
-  **Vital Living for All of Our Residents**

Department Performance Measures

Performance measures for this department are included below (where applicable), with multi-program measures displayed at the front of this section and program-specific measures shown with the relevant program. The FY16 estimates reflect funding based on the FY16 approved budget. The FY17 and FY18 figures are performance targets based on the FY17 approved budget and funding for comparable service levels in FY18.

Accomplishments

- SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION:** The Maryland Legislature expanded Early Voting for the 2016 Presidential General Election and added same day voter registration for both 2016 elections.
- EARLY VOTING:** The State Board of Elections added an additional Early Voting Center for 2016 at the Potomac Community Center. All ten Early Voting Centers were open for eight days, 12 hours each day, including Saturday and Sunday.
- RECYCLING EFFORTS:** The Board of Elections partnered with the Division of Solid Waste Services to minimize the amount of recycling materials that are left at the Early Voting Centers and Election Day polling places. Additional recycling containers were provided at Early Voting Centers and Polling Places on Election Day to encourage paper recycling.

Program Contacts

Contact Margaret A. Jurgensen of the Montgomery County Board of Elections at 240.777.8523 or Helen P. Vallone of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2755 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

Program Descriptions

Voter Registration Services

The Voter Registration Services program provides clerical and administrative support to register new voters, maintains the currency of information in the official registry and provides clerical and administrative support to process requests for absentee ballots. The Federal Help

America Vote Act mandated the establishment of a statewide voter registration database (MDVOTERS) that occurred in 2006 moving the County voter registration database to a statewide platform under the aegis of the State Board of Elections. In addition, this program processes all changes of name, address, and party affiliation and maintains a delete file, removing voters for reasons of death, felony conviction, ineligibility for jury duty, moving out of the jurisdiction, and other valid legal reasons. The program provides legally-required training for volunteer registrars; responds to various voter and candidate requests for voter registration applications, listings, and CDs of registered voters; verifies nominating or referenda petitions submitted; and issues and canvasses absentee and provisional ballots. Implementation of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, on January 1, 1995, requires all motor vehicle and State social service agencies to solicit voter registration applications and information changes from every client or customer resulting in an increase in the number of applications and changes received for processing, many of which require research to clarify inaccurate or incomplete information. The program also tracks returned mail and sends a second mailing in order to accurately maintain the database.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY14	Actual FY15	Estimated FY16	Target FY17	Target FY18
Number of active registered voters (000s)	630	635	640	645	650
Number of voter registration transactions (000s)	620	650	680	700	720
Number of provisional ballots issued on election day(s)	2,460	6,554	9,000	18,000	3,000
Number of absentee ballots requested (000s)	8	17	30	60	12
Number of absentee ballots voted/returned (000s)	6	14	20	40	10

FY17 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY16 Approved	1,838,717	18.10
Increase Cost: Convert 3 Temporary Positions to Permanent Merit Positions	73,610	0.10
Increase Cost: Postage	52,500	0.00
Decrease Cost: Imaging	(25,380)	0.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	(475,415)	0.00
FY17 Approved	1,464,032	18.20

Election Operations

The Election Operations program provides administrative, clerical, and technical support for the conduct of local, State, and Federal elections. The Election Operations program assists individuals seeking elective office with candidate filings; delineates and maintains accurate precinct boundaries; prepares and produces various district and precinct maps; administers the results of redistricting; acquires and maintains required polling places; surveys and monitors compliance of handicapped accessibility at all polling places; obtains and provides all polling place supplies and logistics to properly equip the polling places for voting; and develops training materials, recruits, and trains election judges to staff the polling places. In 2016, a tenth Early Voting Center is added. Early Voting Centers will be open for eight days, 12 hours each day, including Saturday and Sunday.

An example of a four-year election cycle, is shown below.

Year One: Federal Primary Elections (FY16)

Year Two: Federal General Elections (FY17)

Year Three: Federal, State and County Primary Elections (FY18)

Year Four: Federal, State and County General Elections (FY19)

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY14	Actual FY15	Estimated FY16	Target FY17	Target FY18
Number of designated polling place equivalents per election	291	291	303	303	303
Percent of polling places opening on time	100	100	100	100	100
Percent of provisional ballots that were issued because of a clerical error	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Percent of election judge compliance with chain of custody procedure	100	100	100	100	100
Number of election judges recruited, trained, and placed per election	2,253	2,416	2,900	3,200	2,500

FY17 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY16 Approved	2,634,656	20.23

FY17 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
Increase Cost: Increase the number of Election Judges per precinct and Early Voting Center	154,461	0.00
Enhance: Tenth Early Voting Site	25,600	0.00
Increase Cost: Rental and custodial fees at Wheaton Rescue Squad Early Voting Site	9,985	0.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	(3)	0.00
FY17 Approved	2,824,699	20.23

Administration

The Administration program of the Board of Elections includes budget development; fiscal control; administration of personnel and contractual issues; procurement; program planning and evaluation; and coordination and cooperation with Federal, State, and local government agencies, elected officials, and political organizations. This includes ensuring that the requirements of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act are met by providing all election related materials in both English and Spanish languages. The program is also responsible for providing accessible voting for all registered voters and coordinating all technology needs and activities with the State and County technology systems. Finally, the program is responsible for programming and coordinating resources for a voting system comprised of voting machines, express poll books, and printers and required peripheral equipment for deployment to polling places and early voting centers within Montgomery County.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY14	Actual FY15	Estimated FY16	Target FY17	Target FY18
Percent of required voting units per precinct that were operable on election day	100	100	100	100	100
Number of electronic poll books prepared and used on election days	943	995	1,042	1,042	995
Number of voting booths prepared and used on election days	2,948	2,762	3,683	3,683	3,683
Total ballots cast (000s)	111	247	300	500	130

FY17 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY16 Approved	2,082,978	16.45
Increase Cost: Voting System	1,000,000	0.00
Increase Cost: Operating Expenses associated with printing, mailing, and delivery of ballots	93,481	0.00
Decrease Cost: Charges for Facility Maintenance	(6,148)	0.00
Decrease Cost: Equipment Rentals - MDVoters	(99,600)	0.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	492,160	0.00
FY17 Approved	3,562,871	16.45

Budget Summary

	Actual FY15	Budget FY16	Estimate FY16	Approved FY17	%Chg Bud/App
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	2,803,061	3,031,835	3,022,590	3,123,158	3.0 %
Employee Benefits	674,813	698,737	719,365	762,912	9.2 %
County General Fund Personnel Costs	3,477,874	3,730,572	3,741,955	3,886,070	4.2 %
Operating Expenses	3,168,576	2,825,779	4,104,779	3,965,532	40.3 %
County General Fund Expenditures	6,646,450	6,556,351	7,846,734	7,851,602	19.8 %
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	28	28	28	28	---
Part-Time	0	0	0	3	---
FTEs	50.98	54.78	54.78	54.88	0.2 %
REVENUES					
Other Charges/Fees	6,523	10,000	10,000	10,000	---
County General Fund Revenues	6,523	10,000	10,000	10,000	---

FY17 Approved Changes

	Expenditures	FTEs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
FY16 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	6,556,351	54.78
<u>Changes (with service impacts)</u>		
Enhance: Tenth Early Voting Site [Election Operations]	25,600	0.00
<u>Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)</u>		
Increase Cost: Voting System [Administration]	1,000,000	0.00
Increase Cost: Increase the number of Election Judges per precinct and Early Voting Center [Election Operations]	154,461	0.00
Increase Cost: Operating Expenses associated with printing, mailing, and delivery of ballots [Administration]	93,481	0.00
Increase Cost: Convert 3 Temporary Positions to Permanent Merit Positions [Voter Registration Services]	73,610	0.10
Increase Cost: Postage [Voter Registration Services]	52,500	0.00
Increase Cost: FY17 Compensation Adjustment	50,765	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY16 Personnel Costs	21,711	0.00
Increase Cost: Group Insurance Adjustment	17,500	0.00
Increase Cost: Rental and custodial fees at Wheaton Rescue Squad Early Voting Site [Election Operations]	9,985	0.00
Increase Cost: Printing and Mail	450	0.00
Increase Cost: Motor Pool Adjustment	133	0.00
Decrease Cost: Charges for Facility Maintenance [Administration]	(6,148)	0.00
Decrease Cost: Retirement Adjustment	(8,088)	0.00
Decrease Cost: Imaging [Voter Registration Services]	(25,380)	0.00
Shift: Telecommunications to the Telecommunications Non-Departmental Account	(65,729)	0.00
Decrease Cost: Equipment Rentals - MDVoters [Administration]	(99,600)	0.00
FY17 APPROVED	7,851,602	54.88

Program Summary

Program Name	FY16 APPR		FY17 APPR	
	Expenditures	FTEs	Expenditures	FTEs
Voter Registration Services	1,838,717	18.10	1,464,032	18.20
Election Operations	2,634,656	20.23	2,824,699	20.23
Administration	2,082,978	16.45	3,562,871	16.45
Total	6,556,351	54.78	7,851,602	54.88

Future Fiscal Impacts

Title	CC APPROVED (\$000s)					
	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
COUNTY GENERAL FUND						
EXPENDITURES						
FY17 Approved	7,852	7,852	7,852	7,852	7,852	7,852
No inflation or compensation change is included in outyear projections.						
Labor Contracts	0	32	32	32	32	32
These figures represent the estimated annualized cost of general wage adjustments, service increments, and other negotiated items.						
Subtotal Expenditures	7,852	7,884	7,884	7,884	7,884	7,884

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