
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 FY13 Operating Budget for the Montgomery County Board of Elections is \$6,175,309, an increase of \$1,284,149 or 26.3 percent from the FY12 Approved Budget of \$4,891,160. Personnel Costs comprise 45.1 percent of the budget for 28 full-time positions for 31.35 FTEs. Operating Expenses account for the remaining 54.9 percent of the FY13 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, with multi-program measures displayed at the front of this section and program-specific measures shown with the relevant program. The FY12 estimates reflect funding based on the FY12 approved budget. The FY13 and FY14 figures are performance targets based on the FY13 approved budget and funding for comparable service levels in FY14.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND INITIATIVES

- ❖ ***Productivity Improvements***
 - ***Election Judge Module: Currently in the final stages of production; adding an interactive election judge manual. Staff continues to work diligently with DTS to ensure that the Election Judge Module will provide the flexibility needed in the current election environment with minimal staff time. The SEQUEL based module tracks election judge assignments, work history, and payments as well as providing on-line access for election judges to register for training classes and tracking participation of high school students and parents in the Future Vote Initiative. The inclusion of an interactive election judge manual will provide additional access to election judges enhancing their training experience and improving their work performance in the polling places on Election Day. Once the module is fully implemented the result will be a reduction in the number of temporaries required to handle phone calls, mailings, and filing of paperwork.***
 - ***Election Judge Payment Automation: Staff is working with DTS and the ERP Team to develop a mechanism that, beginning with the 2012 elections, will interface with the Election Worker Module and ORACLE HR to enable information to transfer between the programs to ensure efficient and accurate distribution of W2s. This interface will result in the reduction of four weeks of data entry per election.***
 - ***Relocation to Gaithersburg: The 2010 Gubernatorial Elections were the first elections conducted from the new Gaithersburg facility. The design of the building provided more parking and easier access to the voters of the County. Whether registering to vote or requesting an absentee ballot the building provided sufficient counter space to complete paperwork and room to vote the ballot. Election Judge training was conducted on-site in comfortable, accessible training rooms reducing the rental cost for training facilities as well as transportation costs for staff to travel to and from outside facilities. The layout of the rear parking area and lower warehouses created an efficiency for the return of election materials decreasing the wait time for election judges as well the number of employees required to work (at overtime rates) to receive the materials.***

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Margaret A. Jurgensen of the Montgomery County Board of Elections at 240.777.8523 or Adam Damin of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2794 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 and maintains the currency of information in the official registry. Currently, 606,831 registered voters are on file and the expected growth rate is 6 percent. 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 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.

The increase in funding is due to restoration of temporary personnel services.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Estimated FY12	Target FY13	Target FY14
Number of Active Registered Voters (000s)	570	575	580	580	580
Number of Voter Registration Transactions (000s)	240	300	250	250	250
Number of provisional ballots issued on election day(s) (Active registered voters)	NA	4,000	5,000	6,000	6,000
Number of absentee ballots requested (000s) (Active registered voters)	NA	35	25	60	60
Number of absentee ballots voted/returned (000s)	NA	15	12	40	40

FY13 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY12 Approved	1,156,140	14.50
Increase Cost: Temporary Personnel for Election Cycle	336,467	0.00
Increase Cost: Overtime for Election Cycle	80,474	0.00
Increase Cost: Absentee and Provisional Canvass Expenses	1,800	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. Other large variances are related to the transition from the previous mainframe budgeting system to Hyperion.	173,293	-4.00
FY13 Approved	1,748,174	10.50

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; provides information, guidance, and monitoring of required campaign committee filings and financial report submissions; 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 2010, the State of Maryland mandated the implementation of early voting in all jurisdictions. Montgomery County is required to provide staffing and supplies for five early voting centers, open ten hours per day, for seven days prior to each election.

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

Year One: Federal Primary Elections (FY12)
 Year Two: Federal General Elections (FY13)
 Year Three: Federal, State and County Primary Elections (FY14)
 Year Four: Federal, State and County General Elections (FY15)

The decrease in funding is due to information technology costs associated with the preparation and maintenance of the voting equipment being shifted to Administration.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Estimated FY12	Target FY13	Target FY14
Number of designated polling places per general election.	NA	248	248	248	248
Number of election judges recruited, trained, and placed per general election	NA	2,700	5,000	3,000	2,700

FY13 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY12 Approved	2,743,750	18.80
Increase Cost: Mandated Costs From State Board of Elections	412,336	0.00
Increase Cost: Election Judge Stipends	79,710	0.00
Increase Cost: Election Judge Module Maintenance	15,520	0.00
Increase Cost: Ballot and Supply Expenses	10,000	0.00
Increase Cost: Metropolitan Travel for Voter Outreach	550	0.00
Decrease Cost: Short Term Furniture Rentals	-1,000	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. Other large variances are related to the transition from the previous mainframe budgeting system to Hyperion.	-839,988	-3.95
FY13 Approved	2,420,878	14.85

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 3,120 Touchscreen voting machines, 850 express poll books, and 800 printers and required peripheral equipment for deployment to 238 polling places and 5 early voting centers located within Montgomery County.

The increase in funding is due to information technology costs associated with the preparation and maintenance of the voting equipment being shifted to Administration.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Estimated FY12	Target FY13	Target FY14
Number of electronic poll books prepared and used on election days	250	1,900	860	860	860
Number of voting units prepared and used on election days	500	5,800	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total ballots cast (000s) (Active registered voters)	NA	330	150	560	560

FY13 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY12 Approved	991,270	7.00
Increase Cost: State Board of Elections Program Management	110,280	0.00
Increase Cost: Legal Services	35,000	0.00
Enhance: Sample Ballot Printing Contract	30,710	0.00
Add: Sample Ballot Postage	30,400	0.00
Enhance: Maintenance Cost - Electronic Poll Books	17,360	0.00
Increase Cost: Local Telephone Service Charge	5,450	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. Other large variances are related to the transition from the previous mainframe budgeting system to Hyperion.	785,787	-1.00
FY13 Approved	2,006,257	6.00

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY11	Budget FY12	Estimated FY12	Approved FY13	% Chg Bud/App
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	3,042,826	2,077,620	2,189,071	2,204,338	6.1%
Employee Benefits	593,834	482,570	505,256	580,418	20.3%
County General Fund Personnel Costs	3,636,660	2,560,190	2,694,327	2,784,756	8.8%
Operating Expenses	3,752,726	2,330,970	2,256,130	3,390,553	45.5%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	—
County General Fund Expenditures	7,389,386	4,891,160	4,950,457	6,175,309	26.3%
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	28	28	28	28	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	43.90	40.30	40.30	31.35	-22.2%
REVENUES					
Other Charges/Fees	28,827	2,500	2,500	2,500	—
County General Fund Revenues	28,827	2,500	2,500	2,500	—

FY13 APPROVED CHANGES

	Expenditures	FTEs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
FY12 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	4,891,160	40.30
Changes (with service impacts)		
Enhance: Sample Ballot Printing Contract [Administration]	30,710	0.00
Add: Sample Ballot Postage [Administration]	30,400	0.00
Enhance: Maintenance Cost - Electronic Poll Books [Administration]	17,360	0.00
Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)		
Increase Cost: Mandated Costs From State Board of Elections [Election Operations]	412,336	0.00
Increase Cost: Temporary Personnel for Election Cycle [Voter Registration Services]	336,467	0.00
Increase Cost: State Board of Elections Program Management [Administration]	110,280	0.00
Increase Cost: Overtime for Election Cycle [Voter Registration Services]	80,474	0.00
Increase Cost: Election Judge Stipends [Election Operations]	79,710	0.00
Increase Cost: Lump Sum Wage Adjustment	55,714	0.00
Increase Cost: Retirement Adjustment	51,073	0.00
Increase Cost: Group Insurance Adjustment	37,305	0.00
Increase Cost: Legal Services [Administration]	35,000	0.00
Increase Cost: Election Judge Module Maintenance [Election Operations]	15,520	0.00
Increase Cost: Ballot and Supply Expenses [Election Operations]	10,000	0.00
Increase Cost: Local Telephone Service Charge [Administration]	5,450	0.00
Increase Cost: Absentee and Provisional Canvass Expenses [Voter Registration Services]	1,800	0.00
Increase Cost: Motor Pool Rate Adjustment	990	0.00
Increase Cost: Metropolitan Travel for Voter Outreach [Election Operations]	550	0.00
Technical Adj: Personnel Complement Change from BPS to Hyperion Conversion	0	-9.00
Technical Adj: Technical Adjustment for Rounding FTE's by Increase of .05	0	0.05
Shift: Help Desk - Desk Side Support to the Desktop Computer Modernization NDA	-800	0.00
Decrease Cost: Short Term Furniture Rentals [Election Operations]	-1,000	0.00
Decrease Cost: Printing and Mail Adjustment	-25,190	0.00
FY13 APPROVED:	6,175,309	31.35

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Name	FY12 Approved		FY13 Approved	
	Expenditures	FTEs	Expenditures	FTEs
Voter Registration Services	1,156,140	14.50	1,748,174	10.50
Election Operations	2,743,750	18.80	2,420,878	14.85
Administration	991,270	7.00	2,006,257	6.00
Total	4,891,160	40.30	6,175,309	31.35

