Congratulations! You’re a poll worker!

As such, your elections officials will provide you with training on the applicable laws in your jurisdiction and procedures you need to follow. However, it is impossible for this training to cover every topic. Below is a list of important questions to ask and receive answers to during your poll worker training to ensure you know what to expect and are fully prepared to protect the rights of ALL eligible voters during your polling assignment.

1. What time do I arrive at the polls? What can I bring with me to make sure I’m ready for a long day at the frontlines of our democracy? (Can I bring snacks, water, my phone, a folding chair?)

2. What is the trickiest part of setting up the voting machines and other technology (like pollbooks) in the morning? Who do I call if we can’t figure something out? Who do I call if something breaks?

3. What type of assistance may I provide to voters, such as voters with disabilities or who need language assistance? What limitations are there on the assistance a poll worker can offer?

4. What do I do if a voter isn’t registered to vote? Does my state offer same day registration to voters who want to register at the polls?
5. What kind of identification, if any, is required in our community to vote? If my state requires voters to show an ID, what do I do if someone does not have the type of ID that’s required?

6. What do I do if someone brings their mail ballot to the polls, or the poll book says they were sent one?

7. What do I do if a voter is at the wrong precinct or polling location?

8. What is my state or county doing to keep poll workers and voters safe at the polls? How do I respond to a voter or other poll worker who does not abide by mask or social distance requirements?

9. What do I do if there is a long line, a shortage of critical supplies like ballots, voter intimidation, or other significant disruption to voting? What are the rules in my state for someone to challenge a voter’s eligibility?

10. Who’s in charge at my polling location? Who else is allowed at the polling location and what can they do? Is there a hotline or person I can call if there is an issue at my polling location that I don’t know how to solve?