

# **ELECTION OFFICIAL 2024 RESOURCE GUIDE**

EVERY VOTER SHOULD BE CONFIDENT THAT NO MATTER HOW THEY VOTE, THEIR VOTE, WILL COUNT. Over the past several election cycles, officials have had to administer elections under threats of violence and in a climate of immense political and social scrutiny. In order to support the work of election officials throughout the county, All Voting is Local has put together a publiclyavailable electronic guide of resources from trusted partners, voting rights advocates, and elected officials themselves.

## This guide serves as a resource hub for election officials and their staff by compiling technical, legal, mental health and security resources, as well as information on relevant federal programs.

This guide features resources from trusted partners working toward the goal of ensuring that every voter can be confident that no matter how they vote, their vote will count. We know that this is not a comprehensive list, but we believe that it is responsive to the needs of election officials across the country. All Voting is Local will continue to update our website with additional content in support of election officials.



**OFFICIALS** 

#### CONTACT:

hello@allvotingislocal.org allvotingislocal.org

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Technical Resources: resources from trusted partners who are2focused on making the administration of elections moreefficient and effective.

**Legal and Communications Resources:** guidance on existing resources for legal advice and representation for election officials, as well as support for media relations and public engagement.

3

3

4

5

Mental Health Resources: resources for resilience and sustainability in the midst of extreme pressures facing elections in the 2024 election cycle.

Security for Election Officials: a variety of security resources as election officials face increased threats.

Federal Programs: in addition to the resources noted above, the federal government provides a number of resources for election officials.

#### **Technical Resources**

RESOURCE	DESCRIPTION
<u>All Voting is Local and Brennan Center for Justice</u>	This series of state-level guides highlights safeguards in place that protect voters and our election system from attempted interference by election deniers. Resources include state level guides for Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin that list applicable state law, along with further actions officials can take to block threats to fair and secure election administration.
<u>Voting Technology Project</u>	This website from the Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project offers tools based on the expertise of election administrators, business managers, and social science researchers to help election administrators plan and conduct elections. Resources include a polling place calculator that assesses the number of voting machines needed to keep wait times down at the polls.
<u>Center for Civic Design</u>	This website offers research- and experience-based workbooks, toolkits, and stand-alone tools that can be used and adapted by election offices nationwide. Resources include ballot design guidance, making materials accessible for voters with disabilities, and field guides for poll worker training.

#### The Elections Group

The Elections Group partners with state and local election jurisdictions, as well as nonprofit organizations, who are looking to implement new programs or improve processes for voters and stakeholders. Resources include tabletop exercise guides, and media relations tips.

#### Fair Elections Center NALEO and AAJC

<u>Election Officials' Guide to Providing Language Access in Elections</u>: best practices in language assistance, drawn from the collective organizational experience of Fair Elections Center, NALEO and AAJC, voters' and election officials' feedback, and the detailed action plans adopted by jurisdictions after falling short in their efforts to provide services to voters who are not fully fluent in English.

### National Conference of State Legislatures Election Resources

NCSL provides many resources on election issues, including 50-state surveys on state laws, legislation databases, a monthly elections newsletter, enactment summaries, podcasts and webinars. This resource includes links to NCSL's most popular election resources and databases.

## **Legal and Communications Resources**

RESOURCE	DESCRIPTION
<u>Election Official Legal</u> <u>Defense Network</u>	Connecting Election Officials with Pro Bono Attorneys & Communications Professionals:
	<u>Request Legal help</u> help@eoldn.org or call (877) 313-5210
	<u>Request Communications help</u> help@eoldn.org or call (877) 313-5210
<u>Public Rights Project:</u> <u>Election Hub</u>	In order to protect local elections officials, guarantee the rights of voters, and preserve our democracy, PRP's Election Protection Hub is live and ready to help hundreds of 2024 elections officials.

#### **Mental Health Resources**

#### DESCRIPTION

<u>Taking Care of Yourself to</u> <u>Serve Others: A Well-being</u> <u>Resource Guide for Election</u> <u>Officials</u> In 2022, the Carter Center Health and Peace Programs put together a resource guide for election officials to help support their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of their colleagues and teams. The report focuses on:

- → The Signs and Impacts of Trauma
- → Techniques for Promoting Resiliency and Recovery
- -> Mental Health Support Near You
- → Online Security Tips and Toolkits

Webinar from The Elections Group, April 2023: <u>Mental</u> <u>Health Matters: Taking Care</u> <u>of Yourself and Your Team</u> The Elections Group convenes a group of elections officials to discuss strategies and best practices for combatting unexpected levels of stress while administering elections and prioritizing their mental health in a complicated environment.

## **Security for Election Officials**

RESOURCE	DESCRIPTION
<u>The Center for Technology</u> and Civic Life	Cybersecurity courses are available in a self-paced online format, allowing you to complete the training at your own pace, on your own time. With support from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, over 1,000 election officials have participated in these courses so far. Join them in taking these cybersecurity training at no cost!. Learn more and register
<u>Committee for Safe and</u> <u>Secure Elections</u>	This organization provides the nation's election workers and law enforcement officers with the resources they need to keep elections safe. This platform includes resources like videos and state reference guides from government agencies and other trusted partners.
<u>US Election Assistance</u> <u>Commision: Security</u> <u>Resources for Election</u> <u>Officials</u>	<ul> <li>Election Mail Handling Procedures to Protect Against Hazardous Materials</li> <li>Election Security Resources and Grant Funding from Other Federal Agencies</li> </ul>
<u>US Election Assistance</u> <u>Commision: Security</u> <u>Resources for Election</u>	EAC's 60-Second Security Series, a series of checklists with information about securing different elections assets and processes:

→ <u>Personal Security</u>

**Officials** 

- **Building Access** -->
- **Deploying Assets** -->
- Non-Confrontational Techniques for Election Workers Training -->
- Personal Security for Election Officials Checklist -->

#### About Byrne JAG Funds

On January 26, 2022, the DOJ issued <u>auidance</u> that funds from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (Byrne JAG) may be used to protect election workers from violence and criminal threats of violence. This document provides information about the program and how state and local election officials can access or seek more information about these resources.

Institute for Constitutional **Advocacy and Protection** (ICAP) at Georgetown Law

Guidance Related to Elections and Polling Places including factsheets explaining the laws barring unauthorized private militia groups and what to do if groups of armed individuals are near a polling place or voter registration drive and information on how law enforcement can work with election officials to protect polling places.

#### **Federal Programs**

RESOURCE	DESCRIPTION
<u>Use of Federal Work-Study</u> <u>Funds for Voter Registration</u>	On February 26, 2024 the Department of Education issued clarification stating that federal work-study funds "may be used for employment by a Federal, State, local, or Tribal public agency for civic engagement work that is not associated with a particular interest or group, consistent with 34 CFR § 675.22(b)(5). This work can include supporting broad-based get-out-the-vote activities, voter registration, providing voter assistance at a polling place or through a voter hotline, or serving as a poll worker."
<u>U.S. Department of</u> <u>Education Toolkit for the</u> <u>Promotion of Voter</u> <u>Participation for</u> <u>Students</u>	The toolkit is a nonpartisan resource that could help more than 67 million students and their families learn about civic opportunities, and that would encourage institutions to identify additional opportunities to assist eligible students with voter registration.
Federal Executive Branch	This resource details the specific roles that Federal departments and

Agencies Roles and Responsibilities in United States Elections This resource details the specific roles that Federal departments and agencies take on in the US election administration process.

<u>US Department of</u> <u>Justice Voting and</u> <u>Elections Website</u> This resource provides voting and elections information for voters as well as state and local elections officials. This resource includes published two new informational guides on voting rights and updated five other guides from the Civil Rights Division..

All Voting is Local (All Voting) is a 501(c)(3), nonpartisan, multi-state organization that fights against state and local voting policies that silence Americans' voices, particularly for Black, Brown, Native American, and other historically marginalized communities — not just in election years, but every year. We were founded on the principle that the problems people face when trying to vote are solvable if state and local decision-makers are accountable to the communities they serve. All Voting is committed to working with our partners to advance fair, more inclusive rules on voter registration, remove barriers that make it more difficult for people to vote, and ensure every vote counts. All Voting is on the ground in eight states: Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. Within these states, we are active in more than 60 counties that are home to over 21 million people of color. During the 2022 cycle, All Voting programs expanded access for more than 635,000 voters.