Voting Rights

Congress enacted the language minority provisions because it found that citizens of language minorities have been effectively excluded from participation in the electoral process. To eliminate such discrimination, Congress adopted the language minority provision of Sections 4(f)(4) and 203 of the Voting Rights Act in 1975. Congress extended these provisions in 1982, 1992, and 2006. Section 4(f)(4) will expire in 2031, and Section 203 will expire in 2032.

It is the responsibility of the DuPage County Election Commission to conduct fair and accurate elections for our citizens. When we select you to serve as an election judge, we always expect you to represent us in a professional manner by giving prompt and professional service to each voter, always be courteous, follow the election laws and rules, and always remain unbiased with election day issues and candidates. Remember the average voter does not know as much about the election process as you.

Judges of Election are the backbone of the electoral process. They are responsible for the administration of election procedures in the polling place on election day in accordance with the law.

Their jobs are challenging, interesting and personally rewarding.

Election Judge Qualifications

To qualify, an applicant must:

- be a citizen of the United States;
- be a registered voter in DuPage County;
- be of good repute and character;
- be able to speak, read and write the English language;
- be skilled in the four fundamental rules of arithmetic (addition, subtraction, division and multiplication);
- be of good understanding and capable;
- not be a candidate for any office at the election; and
- not be an elected committeeman.

Illinois Statutes require bipartisan representation in the polling place. An individual must declare the party he/she wishes to represent.
**Election Judge Duties**

Election Judges duties include, but are not limited to the following:

- Set up polling location the night before Election Day.
- To be responsible for all election materials.
- To open and close polls.
- Ensuring voters are at the proper polling location.
- To maintain order in the polling place throughout the day.
- To ensure that only qualified voters are permitted to vote and that each qualified voter is permitted to vote once and only once.
- To ensure all votes are cast in secret.
- To give instructions in the method of voting when requested by a voter.
- To give assistance to illiterate and physically disabled voters.
- Use askED and/or Call the DuPage County Election Commission office to determine the eligibility of a voter.
- Have voters sign the precinct roster.
- Issue the proper ballot to voters.
- To tally the vote after the polls are closed; and to certify the election results in that precinct.
- Technical Judge and a judge of the opposite political party return required supplies to the Receiving Center on Election Night.

**Application to be a Judge**

In a constant effort to secure judges of election, we invite you to make application to serve as a judge for your political party in future county elections. If you wish to do so, please complete the form at: www.dupageco.org/election/judgeapplication.

Note: You must indicate your political affiliation.

**Section 203 Covered Jurisdictions**

Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act requires that, in covered jurisdictions, all election information available in English be made available in certain minority languages. Covered jurisdictions are determined by the Census Bureau based upon a formula in the Voter’s Rights Act. The 2010 Census determined DuPage County is subject to the Voter’s Rights Act requirements for Spanish language assistance.

The requirements of the law are straightforward: all election information that is available in English must also be available in the minority language so that all citizens will have an effective opportunity to register, learn the details of the elections, and cast a free and effective ballot.

**High School and College Judges of Elections**

Illinois Statutes provide the opportunity for college students, high school juniors and seniors, who are not otherwise entitled to vote, to be appointed as election judges if, as of the date of the election they meet the appropriate criterion.

Students appointed as election judges under this subsection shall not be counted as absent from school on the day they serve as judges.

Prior to appointment, a judge qualifying under this subsection must certify in writing to the Election Commission the political party the judge chooses to affiliate with.

Students are compensated for working on Election Day.

Students appointed as election judges under this subsection shall not be counted as absent from school on the day they serve as judges.

The Election Commission firmly believes this is a worthwhile endeavor for everyone involved, and one which undoubtedly enhances the student’s education in current events and justifies a one-day excused absence from class.

For more information about High School and College Judges go to: www.dupageco.org/election