



PollWorker Post

City and County of San Francisco
Department of Elections

Spring 2017

Hello Spring!

Spring is in the air! We are doing some spring cleaning by checking that the contact information we have for our poll workers is complete and correct. Help us keep you updated on future election opportunities; let us know if you move, change your phone number, or your email address. Email us at Pollworker.Communication@sfgov.org or call us at 415-554-4395. We are always happy to hear from you!

High School Voter Education Weeks



High School students are invited to apply to the Elections Ambassador Program

High School Voter Education Weeks are around the corner!

Designated by the CA Education Code as the last two weeks in April and September, High School Voter Education weeks promote civic engagement at local high schools.

We invite high school students to join us as Elections Ambassadors from April 17 to 28. Ambassadors will help register voters, including pre-registering peers age 16 and older, promote awareness by displaying materials on campus, and organize a voter registration event at school or in the community. Throughout the process, students will gain an important understanding of our election system and the value of civic engagement, earn community service credit, and receive a Certificate of Honor from the Mayor upon completing the program! Visit sfelections.org/HSA for more info. Applications are due April 10.

Your Feedback: Post Election Survey and the Poll Worker Network

Thank you to everyone who completed the post-election survey, and to the members of our Poll Worker Network for participating in this year's first meeting.

Your feedback helps shape future training and procedures to make Election Day smooth, enjoyable, and memorable! Over 90% of you reported that your materials covered everything you needed to know on Election Day. Many survey responses and feedback from the Poll Worker Network also indicated that closing procedures need a simplified overview: we are happy to report that we are developing several flowcharts to help illustrate the process.



Poll Worker Network Meeting in session

The Poll Worker Network is a group of poll workers with diverse experience and shared goals, including providing feedback on poll worker recruitment, training, and Election Day materials and processes. If you are interested in contributing and becoming a part of the Poll Worker Network, please email: Pollworker.Communication@sfgov.org.

Spot the Difference

Look closely at the picture and based on your experience as a poll worker, find (1) thing missing from each picture.

1



2



3



4



Elections in Other Counties



A poll worker training session in Sonoma County

As part of continuously seeking to improve our processes, we had an opportunity to observe elections in several neighboring counties. Some of our staff attended poll worker training classes, and got a chance to observe poll workers in action on Election Day. We are planning to implement some of what we saw to help our training sessions be more engaging for you!

Did You Know?

You may recall hearing “One Voter, One Signature” in your training class. But why is a voter’s signature important? Every time a person votes, whether by mail, or in person on Election Day, their signature is required in order to count their ballot. A voter can only sign in one of these places:

Roster or Vote-by-Mail Envelope or Provisional Envelope

Why do you need voter’s signatures to count their vote? In most cases, a California voter is not required to show identification before casting a ballot. To be sure a person is who they say they are, we use the voter’s unique signature to confirm their identity.

How do you know that the signature really belongs to the voter? During the 30 days after the election, all signatures from the Roster, vote by mail envelopes and provisional envelopes are reviewed by the Department of Elections.

What if a voter’s signature changed over time? What happens if their signatures don’t match? Signatures change over time. If a voter would like to update their signature all they need to do is re-register to vote. This can be done online, via a paper form, or at the polling place. You can offer the voter a new registration card so that the new signature will be used for comparison in future elections.

If a voter is dropping off their vote-by-mail ballot, do they have to sign the roster? No. Remember: one vote, one signature. All they need to do is drop it in the red box!

