

ELECTION OFFICIALS’ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **Q. How is the position of Majority Inspector and Minority Inspector determined?**
A. The positions are elected for a term of four years. The person receiving the highest number of votes shall be the Majority Inspector and the person receiving the second highest number of votes shall be the Minority Inspector. The individual’s party affiliation does **not** determine the position.
2. **Q. How do I know if our machines have been delivered to the polling location so that I can check to see if the correct machines have been delivered?**
A. Call the polling place, if possible. If you cannot reach the polling place, call the Voting Machine Supervisor at 215-345-3970. He will check the delivery schedule.
3. **Q. May I open the machines the day before the election?**
A. No. The Pennsylvania Election Code prohibits preparing the machines early.
4. **Q. May we use one machine for Republican voters and one machine for Democrat voters?**
A. No. Voters become very upset when they are inconvenienced if they have to wait in line when it is obvious that another machine is not being used.
5. **Q. Who assigns the duties of the Election Board?**
A. The Judge of Elections designates who will be assigned to the various duties.
6. **Q. If the Constable does not show, may we select someone to work as Constable?**
A. No. The Election Day Constable must be selected by the duly elected Constable and then appointed by the Court of Common Pleas.
7. **Q. How far away must campaign workers stand from the polling room and where may they place posters and other election-related material?**
A. Campaign workers must stand at least 10 feet away from the entrance to the polling room. Posters and other election-related material must also be 10 feet away from the entrance to the polling room. In addition, certain polling places may ask workers not to place posters where they could result in damage to property.
8. **Q. May we open the Absentee Ballots prior to the close of the polls?**
A. No. Not under any circumstances!!
9. **Q. Why can’t we open the ballots early?**
A. You cannot open the ballots early because an Absentee Voter is required by law to vote in person at their polling place if their plans change and they are within the municipality on Election Day. Their Absentee Ballot envelope must be marked “Void” and returned to the Courthouse unopened. If the Absentee Ballots have already been opened, you will no longer be able to determine which ballot to void.

10. **Q. Must I allow a child to accompany an adult into the voting machine?**
A. Yes, an elector may permit a minor child (less than 18 years of age) to accompany him/her into the voting booth. However, the voter must be warned that if a child presses the green VOTE button, that will cast their vote.
11. **Q. Must we announce the voter's name?**
A. Yes, so that it may be heard by all members of the Election Board and by all watchers present in the polling place.
12. **Q. If a watcher requests to look at the "List of Voters" tablet, are we required to show it to him/her?**
A. Yes, a watcher is permitted to look at the tablet when you are not busy. However, a watcher may not hinder the election process.
13. **Q. Who may assist a voter who is entitled to receive assistance?**
A. The voter may select a person of their choice. The people who may **not** render assistance are the Judge of Elections, the voter's employer or an agent of the employer or an officer or agent of the voter's union.
14. **Q. Since the "Motor Voter" law allows a voter to return to their old polling place one last time, "What is the "timeframe/cutoff" for allowing the voter to return?**
A. There are no restrictions. It does not matter if it was 6 months or 6 years ago. However, they must sign an Affirmation of Elector before they are permitted to vote.