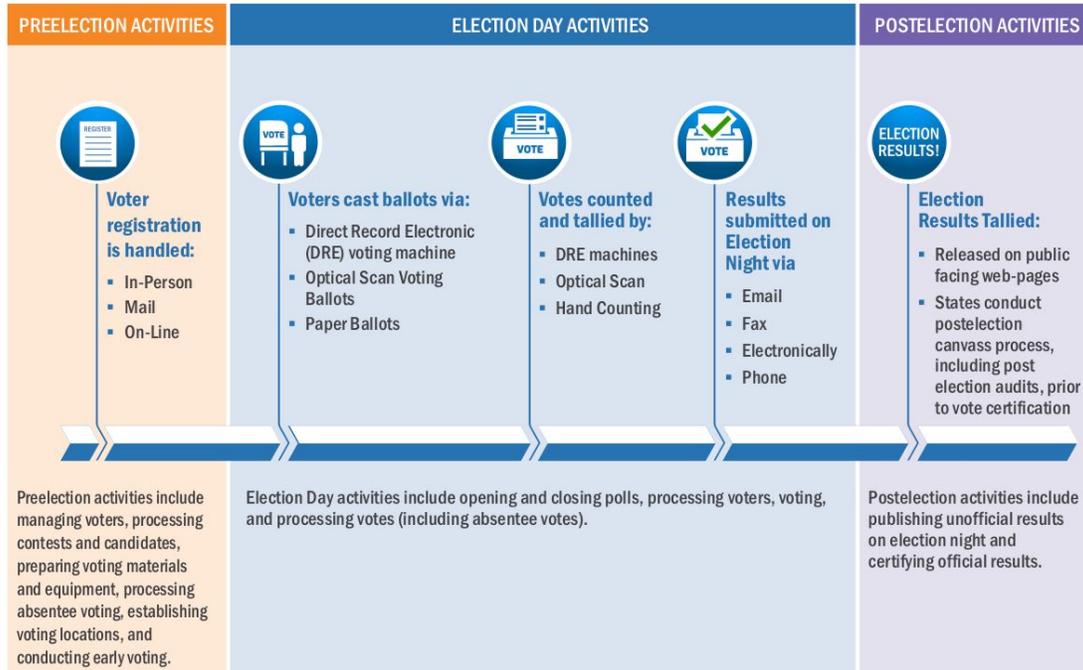


Infosec Toolkit for Election Volunteering

From federal data breaches to foreign governments phishing political campaigns to malware shutting down city services, our nation is under attack. You can help – starting right in your own community. Local and state officials are working to build a more resilient electoral process, but their capacity is limited. They need civic-minded infosec professionals to combine their knowledge and talents as technical volunteers for Election Day and beyond. The information below will help you understand the election process and provide tips on how you can get involved.

Election Process Overview



Source: DHS NPPD

Volunteer Roles

Volunteers come from all parts of the community. They are typically as diverse as the community in which they live, but share the common belief that voting is a right that everyone should be able to exercise with confidence.

Traditional volunteer	Technical volunteer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Setup equipment ● Check-in voters ● Monitor compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Provide in-person tech support at polling location</i> ● <i>Assist with network security</i> ● <i>Monitor social media</i> ● <i>Network/website vulnerability scanning and remediation</i> ● <i>Identification of rogue WiFi/RF signals</i> ● <i>Physical security audit</i>

Requirements for Vetting Volunteers

Volunteering for elections requires some planning and understanding that volunteers will be vetted and trained to ensure a smooth election process. Below are some of the considerations that you should be aware of:

- Register to vote in your jurisdiction
- Basic background check
- Professional reference
- Available for 1-day training 6-8 weeks prior to Election Day

Sample Introduction Email to Local Election Official

Interested in Election Volunteering

I am a voter in [insert jurisdiction] and I am concerned about what I am hearing in the news about the security of our elections. I would like to volunteer because I believe that I can help make a difference. I have [insert technical skills or IT background] that I believe can be useful on Election Day assisting voters and other poll workers.

Depending on your needs, I may even be able to help out on more technical tasks before or after Election Day.

I would be happy to discuss traditional or more technical volunteer opportunities in-person or by phone. I can also provide my resume and professional reference to give you a better sense of my technical skills. [I know that some of my colleagues may also be interested in volunteering, especially if they can apply their technical skills.] I look forward to being able to volunteer in the upcoming election in any role that is most helpful.

Election Security Resources

Local election officials have a growing number of resources available to them. You can help by becoming familiar with those resources to find areas where local election officials may need help translating the technical jargon or executing the recommended procedures.

- [Department of Homeland Security - The Election Security Resources Guide](#)
- [Harvard Belfer Center - The State and Local Election Cybersecurity Playbook](#)
- [Center for Internet Security - Handbook for Elections Infrastructure Security](#)
- [Center for Democracy & Technology - Cybersecurity 101 Field Guides](#)
- [Verified Voting](#)

For more information, please contact Maurice Turner, CDT Senior Technologist, at maurice@cdt.org, and Joseph Lorenzo Hall, CDT Chief Technologist, at joe@cdt.org.