



FY 2025 Municipal (Local) Election Early Voting Cost Certification Survey

Office of the State Auditor, Division of Local Mandates

March 12, 2025

Information as of March 12, 2025, and subject to change. For
general informational purposes only; it does not constitute
legal or other professional advice.

Status: Early Voting Cost Certification Survey for Fall 2024 State Elections

- **Thank you to everyone who has submitted!**
- Ongoing follow-ups with clerks on submissions
- Certifications are underway

FY 2025 Local Election Early Voting Cost Certification Survey Information

- Covers vote-by-mail and in-person early voting expenses for **non-coinciding** local elections held **July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025**
- Covers early voting expenses **exclusive** to local elections **coinciding** with Fall 2024 state elections and FY 2025 special state elections

Estimated Launch Date:
April 2025

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Deadlines for Survey Submissions

- **For completed local elections:**
 - 2 weeks after survey launch
- **For local elections after survey launch through April 30, 2025:**
 - 2 weeks after scheduled election
- **For May 2025 local elections:**
 - 1 week after scheduled election
- **For June 2025 elections:**
 - Please contact DLM to coordinate a timely submission.

Survey Structure

- **Identifying Information**
- **Qualifying Questions**
- **Vote-by-Mail Expenses**
 - General Information
 - Postage Expenses
 - Rental Expenses
 - Election Worker Expenses
- **In-Person Early Voting: General Information, Ballots, and Location**
- **In-Person Early Voting: Election Worker Expenses**
- **Consumable Supplies and Durable Equipment**
- **Certification Clause**

Note on Local Elections Held Concurrently with Fall 2024 State Elections

- Only report expenses that are *exclusively attributable* to your local election in this survey
 - E.g., production and postage costs for local ballots

Note on Ballot Production Expenses

- The costs of producing and mailing early voting ballots for local elections will be certified to the extent the costs are not allocable to absentee ballots.
- Municipalities will be asked to allocate local election ballot production costs between early voting and absentee ballots.
- **Costs to produce vote-by-mail applications are not eligible for certification.**

In-Person Early Voting Expenses for Local Elections

- Generally, in-person early voting for non-coinciding local elections is **not mandated**.
- However, DLM will certify certain in-person early voting expenses for non-coinciding local elections during a municipality's **regular business hours** based on current budget language if in-person early voting was authorized by vote of the municipality.

Early Voting Cost Certification FAQS

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/early-voting-cost-certification-faqs>

Next Webinar

Please join us:

**Wednesday, April 9, 2025,
12PM – 12:45PM**

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Contact Us

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