



OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
SUZANNE BUMP

2020 Early Voting Cost Certification Survey Webinar

Division of Local Mandates

March 8, 2021

Making government work better

Agenda

- 45 min – 1h session
- Introduction of DLM staff

What we'll be covering:

- 2020 Early Voting cost certification survey overview
- Full run-through of online Early Voting survey
- Questions and Answers



What elections are we looking into?

- Postponed Spring 2020 local elections
 - Postponed Spring 2020 state special elections
 - Vote-by-mail and in-person early voting for the September 2020 state primary
 - Vote-by-mail and in-person early voting for the November 2020 general election
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**Session laws expanded
voting options in 2020
due to the COVID-19
pandemic.**

Handling Reimbursements

DLM has data on:

- CARES Act reimbursements for most communities
- Recipients of Center for Tech and Civic Life grants
- Partial postage reimbursements for November mail ballots

We will compare your input with our figures and call with questions.

How is this different from other surveys?

- Expansion of voting options allow for more questions to be asked compared to the 2018 Early Voting survey
 - Additional funding pools (federal, state, nonprofit) available due to the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Many of the survey answers are optional; based on each community's experience with the 2020 elections
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**What information do you need to
fill out the Early Voting survey?**

Postponed Local Elections - Expenses

- Notification costs for rescheduled elections (ex. TV ads, reverse-911 calls)
 - Number of ballots that were mailed/returned
 - Postage expenses for mailed-in ballots
 - Costs for private rental space to process ballot applications and returned ballots
 - Additional personnel that managed ballot applications and mailed/processed returned ballots
 - **Only input costs for regular staff if they earned overtime rates of pay**
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Postponed Local Elections - Reimbursements

- CARES Act funding for expenses incurred by vote-by-mail requirements
 - COVID-19 assistance and/or reimbursement from the Secretary of State's office
 - Reimbursements from other miscellaneous sources (Center for Tech and Civic Life)
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Postponed State Special Elections - Expenses

- Notification costs for rescheduled elections (ex. TV ads, reverse-911 calls)
 - Number of ballots that were mailed/returned
 - Postage expenses for mailed-in ballots
 - Costs for private rental space to process ballot applications and returned ballots
 - Additional personnel that managed ballot applications and mailed/processed returned ballots
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Postponed State Special Elections - Reimbursements

- CARES Act funding for expenses incurred by vote-by-mail requirements
 - COVID-19 assistance and/or reimbursement from the Secretary of State's office
 - Reimbursements from other miscellaneous sources (Center for Tech and Civic Life)
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September 2020 Primary – Expenses for Mail-in Ballots

- Number of ballots that were mailed/returned
 - Postage expenses for mailed-in ballots
 - Costs for private rental space to process ballot applications and returned ballots
 - Expenses to purchase drop boxes
 - Additional personnel that managed ballot applications and mailed/processed returned ballots
 - Additional personnel required to data-enter mailed-in ballots into the VRIS database
 - Only input costs for regular staff if they earned overtime rates of pay
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September 2020 Primary – Reimbursements for Mail-in Ballots

- CARES Act funding for expenses incurred by vote-by-mail requirements
 - COVID-19 assistance and/or reimbursement from the Secretary of State's office
 - Reimbursements from other miscellaneous sources (Center for Tech and Civic Life)
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September 2020 Primary – Expenses for In-Person Early Voting

- Costs for private rental space to hold mandated in-person early voting
 - Costs to set up and take down in-person early voting areas
 - Costs to modify polling places (ex. erecting barriers) and/or purchasing PPE
 - Additional personnel that processed in-person early voters
 - Additional personnel required to data-enter early voting information into the VRIS database
 - **Only input costs for regular staff if they earned overtime rates of pay**
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September 2020 Primary – Reimbursements for In-Person Early Voting

- CARES Act funding for expenses incurred by in-person early voting
 - COVID-19 assistance and/or reimbursement from the Secretary of State's office
 - Reimbursements from other miscellaneous sources (Center for Tech and Civic Life)
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November 2020 Election – Expenses for Mail-in Ballots

- Number of ballots that were mailed/returned
 - Postage expenses for mailed-in ballots
 - Costs for private rental space to process ballot applications and returned ballots
 - Expenses to purchase drop boxes
 - Additional personnel that managed ballot applications and mailed/processed returned ballots
 - Additional personnel required to data-enter mailed-in ballots into the VRIS database
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November 2020 Election – Reimbursements for Mail-in Ballots

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**You are more than welcome to give us any
other information you would like us to
consider for this survey!**

Questions?
