

PARTY INVOLVEMENT IN ELECTION OPERATIONS

Precinct Delegate Apportionment

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Election Inspector Recruitment, Nomination & Challenges

Poll Challenger Recruitment, Training & Credentialling

Facilitation of Citizen Election Protection

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PRECINCT DELEGATE APPORTIONMENT

MCL 168.623a: On or before April 1 in even numbered years, the chairperson of the county committee... shall forward by mail or otherwise deliver to the board of election commissioners in that county a certificate showing the number of delegates to the county convention to which each precinct of the county is entitled.

The allotment of delegates to all precincts in the state shall be made to insure, as near as is practicable, **equal apportionment based upon the total vote cast for the candidate of each political party for either president of the United States or secretary of state at the last general November election** when elections for those offices were held, whichever is later. However, each precinct shall have at least 1 delegate.

As many **delegates in each precinct** as a political party is entitled to according to the certificate authorized by the chairperson of the county committee or the board of election commissioners **shall be elected at the August primary in even numbered years by direct vote of the registered electors** of each political party in the county.

PRECINCT
DELEGATE
APPORTIONMENT
(continued)

DIVISOR OF 500...

Precinct 1	1,500 votes	3 delegates
Precinct 2	1,000 votes	2 delegates
Precinct 3	500 votes	1 delegate

DIVISOR OF 250...

Precinct 1	1,500 votes	6 delegates
Precinct 2	1,000 votes	4 delegates
Precinct 3	500 votes	2 delegates

BOARD OF CANVASSER NOMINATIONS

County Board of Canvassers

MCL 168.24a (1) A 4-member board of county canvassers is established in every county in this state. All of the powers granted to and duties required by law to be performed by all boards of canvassers established by law...are granted to and required to be performed by the board of county canvassers. (2) The board of county canvassers shall conduct all recounts of elections in cities, townships, villages, school districts... **(7)** Members of the board of county canvassers shall be appointed for terms of 4 years beginning on November 1 following their appointment.

MCL 168.24c (1) Selection of the members of the board of county canvassers shall be made from each of the 2 political parties casting the greatest number of votes for secretary of state at the preceding general November election in that county. **(2) The county committee of each political party...not later than September 1 of each odd numbered year ...shall submit to the county clerk the names of 3 interested persons for each position to which the party is entitled.** **(3)** The county board of commissioners, within 10 days after convening for their annual meeting, shall elect by ballot to each position 1 of the 3 nominees for the position, and the board shall appoint the person to the position.

Find the Manual for Boards of County Canvassers and Recount Process Info at [Michigan.gov/sos/elections](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections).

BOARD OF CANVASSER NOMINATIONS

(continued)

State Board of Canvassers

MCL 168.22 (3) ...board of state canvassers consists of the 4 members appointed by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate. The board of state canvassers shall consist of 2 members from each major political party appointed in the manner provided in section 22a.

MCL 168.22a (1) On or before the fifteenth day of January in an odd numbered year, both of the following must occur: **(a) The state central committee of each major political party shall submit to the governor the names of 3 individuals as nominees for each position that is up for reappointment that the major political party is entitled to on the board of state canvassers.** **(b)** The senate majority leader, senate minority leader, speaker of the house of representatives, and house minority leader shall each submit the name of 1 individual as a nominee for each position that is up for reappointment that the major political party is entitled to on the board of state canvassers. **(2)** On or before the twentieth day of January in an odd numbered year, the governor shall appoint 1 individual from the 5 individuals nominated to each position of the political party on the board of state canvassers.

MCL 168.22b The term of office of a member of the board of state canvassers...is 4 years, which term begins on the February 1 immediately following the appointment.

ELECTION INSPECTOR RECRUITMENT, NOMINATIONS & CHALLENGES

MCL 168.673a Not later than May 15 of each year, **the county chair of a major political party** may submit to the city or township clerks in that county a list of individuals who are interested in serving as an election inspector in that county. The county chair may designate in the list the city or township in which each individual on the list wishes to serve.

The party committee's election inspector recruitment and nomination goal is 2 - 4 per precinct.

MCL 168.674 (1) ...the city and township board of election commissioners, at least 21 days before each election, but in no case less than 5 days before the date set for holding schools of instruction, shall appoint for each election precinct and early voting site at least 3 election inspectors and as many more as in the board's opinion is required for the efficient, speedy, and proper conduct of the election. **The board of election commissioners may appoint as election inspector an individual on the list submitted by a major political party** under section 673a who is qualified to serve under section 677.

ELECTION INSPECTOR RECRUITMENT, NOMINATIONS & CHALLENGES (continued)

The municipal board of election commissioners may or may not appoint the party's election inspector nominees, but they legally must appoint an equal number from each major political party.

MCL 168.674 (2) The board of election commissioners shall designate 1 appointed election inspector as chairperson. **The board of election commissioners shall appoint at least 1 election inspector from each major political party and shall appoint an equal number, as nearly as possible, of election inspectors in each election precinct from each major political party...Not later than 2 business days following the appointment of election inspectors** under subsection (1) for elections in which a federal or state office appears, **the board of election commissioners shall notify** by certified mail, personal service, or electronic transmission capable of determining date of receipt **the county chair of each major political party of the names and political party affiliations of appointed election inspectors and the precincts to which those election inspectors were appointed.**

ELECTION INSPECTOR RECRUITMENT, NOMINATIONS & CHALLENGES (continued)

MCL 168.674 (3) **The county chair of a major political party may challenge the appointment of an election inspector** based on the qualifications of the election inspector, the legitimacy of the election inspector's political party affiliation, or whether there is a properly completed declaration of political party affiliation in the application for that election inspector on file in the clerk's office. The challenge must be in writing, specifically identify the reason for the challenge, and include any available documentation supporting the challenge. The county chair of the political party shall file a challenge under this subsection with the board of election commissioners **not later than 4 business days following receipt of the board of election commissioners' notice** of appointed election inspectors under subsection (2).

MCL 168.677, 168.680 and 168.683 set forth the qualifications, application, eligibility, appointment, oath of office, instruction and compensation of election inspectors.

Find information regarding Appointing & Training Election Inspectors, as well as the Election Inspectors' Procedure Manual and other related resources at Michigan.gov/sos/elections.

POLL CHALLENGER RECRUITMENT, TRAINING & CREDENTIALLING

The party committee's poll challenger recruitment goal is 2 per precinct polling location and 1 per 8 election inspectors at each election day vote center and absent voter counting board.

MCL 168.730 (1) At an election, a political party...may designate challengers as provided in this act. Except as otherwise provided in this act, a political party ...may designate not more than 2 challengers to serve in a precinct at any 1 time. A political party...may designate not more than 1 challenger to serve at each counting board. **(3)** A challenger may be designated to serve in more than 1 precinct. The political party...shall indicate which precincts the challenger will serve when designating challengers under subsection (1).

According to **MCL 168.523b and 168.765a**, a political party may have **1 challenger for every 8 election inspectors assigned to an election day vote center or an absent voter counting board.**

POLL CHALLENGER RECRUITMENT, TRAINING & CREDENTIALLING (continued)

Poll challengers must be qualified.

MCL 168.730 (2) A challenger shall be a registered elector of this state. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a candidate for nomination or election to an office shall not serve as a challenger at the election in which he or she is a candidate. A candidate for the office of delegate to a county convention may serve as a challenger in a precinct other than the 1 in which he or she is a candidate. A person who is appointed as an election inspector at an election shall not act as a challenger at any time during the election day.

MCL 168.727, 168.733 and 168.734 describe the rights and duties of poll challengers.

Find a manual describing the Appointment, Rights & Duties of Election Challengers and Poll Watchers at Michigan.gov/sos/elections.

POLL CHALLENGER RECRUITMENT, TRAINING & CREDENTIALLING (continued)

Poll challengers must be trained.

Credentialing organizations are responsible for the behavior and actions of challengers that they credential. So, challengers should be provided with training on both the basic aspects of election administration in Michigan and the rights and duties of challengers in Michigan. Providing challengers with a basic understanding of election administration will allow challengers to fully participate in the election process and to make informed challenges without disrupting or delaying election-related activities. Providing challengers with an explanation of their rights and duties will allow them to realize the full benefit of their status without violating the law.

Challengers should be provided training that is specific to the type of election-related location at which the challenger will be serving: polling place, early voting site, absent voter ballot processing facility or clerk's office.

Use the **Poll Challengers Course** in the Election Training Series at moveitchristian.com or create your own!

POLL CHALLENGER RECRUITMENT, TRAINING & CREDENTIALLING (continued)

Poll challengers must be credentialed.

Under Michigan law, each challenger present at a polling place, early voting site, or an absent voter ballot processing facility must possess an authority signed by the party chair.

The Challenger Credential Card Form is available at [Michigan.gov/sos/elections](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections) and must be completed entirely to be considered valid.

FACILITATION OF CITIZEN ELECTION PROTECTION

There are other powerful ways the party can fight for election integrity...

- Organize efforts to clean up the Qualified Voter File
- Coordinate the collection of tabulator tapes from precinct polling locations
- Obtain public records related to elections, such as voter registrations or video surveillance of ballot drop boxes

For more detail, review the **Citizen Election Protection Course** in the Election Training Series at moveitchristian.com.