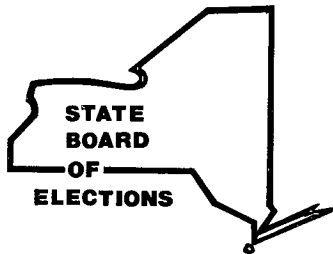


NEW YORK'S ELECTION SYSTEM



99 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12210

The government of New York State, its counties and local municipalities, begins with the task of implementing New York's election laws - from the registration of the State's nearly 7 million voters, to the election day process in which these citizens actually cast their ballots at over 14,000 polling places throughout the State of New York.

Implementation of the Election Law and administration of elections in New York is the responsibility of the State Board of Elections and the 58 Boards of Elections serving each of the counties in New York State and the City of New York.

At the state level the State Board of Elections has primary responsibility for the administration and enforcement of all election laws including a broad and comprehensive financial disclosure law which was created along with the State Board in 1974.

The State Board is composed of four commissioners appointed by the Governor from recommendations made by the chairman of each of the two major parties represented in the State Legislature. State Board members are appointed for two-year staggered terms.

Most of the administrative functions previously carried out by the Secretary of State and the enforcement powers formerly held by the Attorney General were transferred to the State Board upon its creation in 1974.

The State Board of Elections designs and prescribes voter registration forms, including mail registration forms, and, if legislation it has proposed is adopted by the State Legislature, it will provide these forms to all county boards of elections.

The State Board has extensive administrative oversight functions over the operation of county boards of elections, and can direct modification of their procedures and activities if necessary.

The State Board is also charged under the Election Law with encouraging the broadest possible voter participation. It can recommend legislation designed to stimulate registration and voting, to improve the administration of elections, and to better regulate campaign financial disclosure requirements.

The State Board certifies for the ballot candidates for statewide office, Justices of the Supreme Court and all congressional and state legislative seats where the district contains more than a single county. It also approves the form, content and wording of statewide ballot questions.

The State Board has extensive powers and responsibilities with regard to administration of campaign financial disclosure. It designs forms for the reporting of receipts and expenditures of all candidates for public office as well as political committees supporting candidates. The State Board and the county boards receive these financial statements, carry out appropriate audits and make reports available for public inspection. The State Board and county boards are responsible for identification of delinquent

filers and refer violators to appropriate District Attorneys for criminal prosecution and/or obtain fines through civil court proceedings.

In addition to the development of procedures and the design of forms, the State Board provides formal advisory opinions interpreting provisions of the Election Law.

The State Board looks into alleged violations of the Election Law, utilizing a team of investigators. In carrying out its investigatory responsibilities the Board may subpoena witnesses and grant immunity.

If the State Board, following its investigation, finds reasonable cause to believe that a violation warranting criminal prosecution has occurred, it refers the case to the District Attorney of the county in which the violation took place.

Primary responsibility for administration of voter registration, conduct of elections and the maintenance of voter records rests with the county boards of elections.

Outside New York City, each county board is headed by two commissioners, one Republican and the other Democratic. These commissioners are appointed by the county legislative body on the recommendation of their respective county committees. The terms of county commissioners range from a minimum of two years to a maximum of four years. At the county level, the Board's staff of deputies, clerks and other employees is appointed in equal political proportions and because of this bi-partisan arrangement, no one party controls the Board

County Boards of Elections are responsible for the certification of names of candidates for various offices and the printing of official ballots, forms, supplies and other printed material used in conjunction with primary, special and general elections.

County Boards have responsibility for the maintenance of voting machines and setting up all polling places within the county.

County Boards oversee the processing of absentee registrations, absentee ballot applications and the printing, mailing and canvassing of absentee ballots.

In order to properly staff each polling place on primary day, general election day and on special election days, county boards are responsible for teaching and training the numerous inspectors who man polling places.

The canvass of all voting machines and absentee ballots in each election is the responsibility of the county boards. Upon the conclusion of this canvass, results are made available to the public and in the case of statewide and multi-county contest, the county board forwards these figures to the State Board of Elections for tabulation and certification by the State Board of Canvassers.

The State and County Boards of Elections share a unique and important responsibility for the administration of elections in the State of New York.

Through regional and statewide meetings and seminars held several times during the year, the state and county boards work together in partnership to carry out their mission of insuring honest and efficient elections throughout New York State.

FOR INFORMATION
CALL YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LOCATION/ZIP</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>
ALBANY	ALBANY 12207	(518) 445-7591
ALLEGANY	BELMONT 14813	(716) 268-7612
BROOME	BINGHAMTON 13902	(607) 772-2172
CATTARAUGUS	LITTLE VALLEY 14755	(716) 938-9111
CAYUGA	AUBURN 13021	(315) AL3-1285
CHAUTAUQUA	MAYVILLE 14757	(716) 753-7111
CHEMUNG	ELMIRA 14901	(607) 737-2840
CHENANGO	NORWICH 13815	(607) 335-4504
CLINTON	PLATTSBURGH 12901	(518) 561-8800
COLUMBIA	HUDSON 12534	(518) TA8-3115
CORTLAND	CORTLAND 13045	(607) 756-5512
DELAWARE	DELHI 13753	(607) 746-2315
DUTCHESS	POUGHKEEPSIE 12601	(914) 485-9893
ERIE	BUFFALO 14202	(716) 846-8891
ESSEX	ELIZABETHTOWN 12932	(518) 873-6301
FRANKLIN	MALONE 12953	(518) 483-6767
FULTON	JOHNSTOWN 12095	(518) 762-8683
GENESEE	BATAVIA 14020	(716) 344-2550
GREENE	CATSKILL 12414	(518) 943-4191
HAMILTON	LAKE PLEASANT 12108	(518) 548-4684
HERKIMER	HERKIMER 13350	(315) 867-1002
JEFFERSON	WATERTOWN 13601	(315) 785-3027
LEWIS	LOWVILLE 13367	(315) 376-3561
LIVINGSTON	GENESEO 14454	(716) 243-4200
MADISON	WAMPVILLE 13163	(315) 366-2231
MONROE	ROCHESTER 14614	(716) 428-4550
MONTGOMERY	FONDA 12068	(518) 853-3431
NASSAU	MINEOLA 11501	(516) 535-2411
NEW YORK CITY	N.Y.C. 10013	(212) 924-1860
NIAGARA	LOCKPORT 14094	(716) 439-6122
ONEIDA	UTICA 13501	(315) 798-5762
ONONDAGA	SYRACUSE 13202	(315) 425-3312
ONTARIO	CANANDAIGUA 14424	(716) 394-7070
ORANGE	GOSHEN 10924	(914) 294-5488
ORLEANS	ALBION 14411	(716) 589-5673
OSWEGO	OSWEGO 13126	(315) 349-3455
OTSEGO	COOPERSTOWN 13326	(607) 547-4247
PUTNAM	MAHOPAC 10541	(914) 628-0498
RENSSELAER	TROY 12180	(518) 270-5205
ROCKLAND	NEW CITY 10956	(914) 425-5172
ST. LAWRENCE	CANTON 13617	(315) 379-2202
SARATOGA	BALLSTON SPA 12020	(518) 885-5381
SCHENECTADY	SCHENECTADY 12307	(518) 382-3236
SCHOHARIE	SCHOHARIE 12157	(518) AX5-7188
SCHUYLER	WATKINS GLEN 14891	(607) 535-2590
SENECA	WATERLOO 13165	(315) 539-9285
STEUBEN	BATH 14810	(607) 776-7111
SUFFOLK	YAPHANK 11980	(516) 924-4300
SULLIVAN	MONTICELLO 12701	(914) 794-3000
TIOGA	OWEGO 13827	(607) 687-3140
TOMPKINS	ITHACA 14850	(607) 274-5259
ULSTER	KINGSTON 12401	(914) 331-9300
WARREN	LAKE GEORGE 12845	(518) 792-9951
WASHINGTON	FORT EDWARD 12828	(518) RH7-5122
WAYNE	LYONS 14489	(315) 946-9747
WESTCHESTER	WHITE PLAINS 10606	(914) 682-2394
WYOMING	WARSAW 14569	(716) 786-2295
YATES	PENN YAN 14527	(315) 536-4043