

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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Franklin County Election Training Begins April 3

(Columbus) Training begins April 3 for hundreds of people to work the polls May 8 in Franklin County. The Franklin County Board of Elections will conduct 42 classes between now and Election Day for precinct election officials to learn the how to process voters, answer questions and solve potential problems at the polls.

"Our courses teach people all aspects of running a polling place," said Stan Wayne, training development coordinator for the Franklin County Board of Elections. "That includes how to open and close the polls, operate voting machines and verify identification to ensure that voters are eligible and voting in the correct precinct," Wayne added.

Trainees will attend a two or four hour course depending upon the work they'll be doing. Presiding judges, the officials who manage the polling places, attend the longer course. The remaining poll workers will attend the shorter version to learn how to sign in voters and help them through the machine voting process.

A relatively few number of poll workers, 480 as opposed to nearly 5,000 for a General Election, will be needed for May because many polling places will not open due to the absence of a countywide issue on Franklin County ballots. Nevertheless, election training will be critical as always due to the fact that many officials will be working as presiding judges for the first time. The influx of new managers is reflective of Democrat Party gains in 2006 and in keeping with Ohio law requiring that a presiding judge belong to the political party whose candidate carried the precinct in the most recent gubernatorial election.

Please call the Franklin County Board of Elections at (614) 462-3100 for the times and locations of election training sessions.

For more Information, contact::
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