2014 Election FAQs

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2014 Clerk and Recorder Convention
August 2014
Topic 1: Trainings, Election Forms, and Election Rules
* Where can we find **Trainings**?

* **Trainings** are at

http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Officials
Topic 1: **Trainings, Election Forms, and Election Rules**
Where can we find Election Forms?

Election forms are at http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Officials/Forms
Topic 1: Trainings, Election Forms, and Election Rules
Where can we find Election Rules?

Election rules are at http://www.mtrules.org/gateway/Department.asp?DeptNo=44
Topic 1: Trainings, Election Forms, and Election Rules
Topic 2: Provisional, Pending, and Late Registration
What is the difference between a **Provisional** registrant and a Pending registrant?

* **Provisional** registrants are people who did not provide an ID # (such as DLN or last 4 of SSN) when registering, or the number they provided was not verifiable

* They can resolve this and become an **Active** registrant by providing a verifiable ID #
Topic 2: Provisional Example
What is the difference between a **Pending** registrant and a **Provisional** registrant?

By contrast, **Pending** registrants are people who did not provide essential information on their voter registration application, such as name, DOB, or sufficient residence information to place them in the correct precinct.
Topic 2: **Pending Example**
What is the difference between a Pending registrant and a Provisional registrant?

* Pending registrants can be inputted into MT VOTES for tracking purposes, but they are not actually registered voters.

* A person who resolves the issue that made them Pending should be changed to Active.

  * Exception: even if they resolve the issue that made them Pending, if they did not provide a verifiable ID# (such as DLN or last 4 of SSN) when registering, they should be changed from Pending to being a Provisional registrant.
What **Vote Eligible** date do we use for people whose voter registration applications are not received by the close of regular registration (e.g., *Monday, October 6, 2014*), but are received within 3 days (or were not entered due to administrative error, such as MVD)?

* Use the **Monday**, October 6, 2014 close of regular registration date

* Only late registrants should be given the Sunday date before the close of regular registration (e.g., *Sunday, October 5, 2014*)
Topic 2: Three-Day Mailing Period Vote Eligible Date Example

[Image of a voter registration software interface with a highlighted date "10/06/2014"]
For people whose voter registration applications are received within 3 days of the close of regular registration (or whose applications were not entered by the close of regular registration due to administrative error such as MVD), make them an Active registrant and enter the Vote Eligible as the close of regular registration, such as Monday, October 6, 2014.
What if a person was Cancelled, and then comes in during late registration? Are they a new late registrant, or a transfer late registrant?

If when they come to your office they are a Cancelled voter, when you late register them you make them a New Late Registrant.
What if a person comes in for late registration, and does not have a verifiable DLN/last four of SSN? Are they registered as Provisional, Pending or as Late Registrant? Are they issued a provisional ballot?

* They are registered as a **Provisional** registrant and are given a provisional ballot. If they resolve the ID issue that made them a Provisional registrant, make them a **Late** Registrant
Topic 3: UOCAVA
If a UOCAVA registrant is mailed a ballot 46 days before the election, and then for example the registrant marks their ballot on the EAS system on the 25th day before the election and emails that ballot to you, how should you code their ballot in MT VOTES?
A county that receives a ballot from the EAS should, if applicable, **Void** the ballot previously issued in MT Votes, and then issue a **Replacement** ballot.

* Exception: if the ballot originally issued has already been returned **Undeliverable**, you may use the original ballot to transcribe the EAS ballot onto.

* Receipting the ballot into MT VOTES must be done within 3 days of receipt of an EAS ballot.
We see the term “FWAB” on surveys. What does it mean?

* A **FWAB** is a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. It is extremely rare, and is generated by a voter going online to find it and fill it out.

* It is not preprinted with any state-specific information, and is not sent by your office, the SOS, or through EAS.
Topic 3: FWAB Example

* FWAB:
Do we have to count certain UOCAVA ballots even if they are returned after election day? In what circumstances do we count them?

- Count **FWAB** ballots that are sent by the voter by election day that are received by the 6th day after the election
- If a ballot is transmitted *electronically* and received by the day after the election, it is counted
Topic 4: Ballot Issues
* What if we cannot get statewide petitions to the SOS by the deadline?

* If you are uncertain that you will meet a deadline to file statewide petitions in the SOS office, please notify the SOS ahead of time to work with you to ensure that you meet the deadline.
Topic 5: Write-In, Independent and Minor Party Candidates
A person was on the ballot as a party candidate in the Primary and lost. Can they file as a write-in candidate for the General election?

- People on the Primary ballot are not prohibited from filing as write-ins for the General election.
- However, General election write-in candidates cannot claim any partisan, nonpartisan, independent or minor party designation for the General election.
Candidate loses in the Primary

Candidate can file for the General election as a write-in with no designation

Candidate cannot claim any partisan, nonpartisan, independent or minor party designation as a write-in for the General election
What should we do with independent and minor party candidates who filed by their June deadline?

* Make sure to include them on the General election ballot, assuming they met all the requirements in law
* If you have not already entered them in MT VOTES, make sure to do so and mark them as “Certified”
Topic 6: Post Election Audits
Topic 6: Post Election Audits

* How do we know whether we have to do a Post-Election Audit of a Legislative district?

* The SOS posts the selections on the SOS website – check the offices and precincts that are highlighted in yellow
### List of Counties, Precincts and Offices Chosen for 2014 Primary Post Election Audit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Federal Office</th>
<th>State Office</th>
<th>Initial Precinct 1</th>
<th>Initial Precinct 2</th>
<th>Initial Precinct 3</th>
<th>Additional Precinct 1</th>
<th>Additional Precinct 2</th>
<th>Additional Precinct 3</th>
<th>Legislative District</th>
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<td>Big Horn</td>
<td>U.S. Representative</td>
<td>Supreme Court Justice #1</td>
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<td>HD 58</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>HD 58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What should we do if the Post Election Audit appears to be outside the acceptable discrepancy area?

* Contact the SOS office immediately
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