

**VOLUME I: GENERAL GOVERNMENT
AND QUASI-PUBLIC AGENCIES**

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Agency Summary

Board of Elections

Agency Mission

To protect the integrity of the electoral process and to effectively and efficiently administer the provisions of United States and Rhode Island election laws.

Agency Description

The Board of Elections (Board) supervises all elections and state and local referenda. The Board supervises the maintenance, preparation, and delivery of voting equipment, election return forms, and other supplies used at polling places. It instructs and certifies all election officials assigned to polls and prepares and distributes poll worker guides and related materials. The Board also appoints, trains, and assigns bipartisan pairs of supervisors for the mail ballot program for institutionally confined persons. It certifies the results of all elections under its jurisdiction, including tabulating machine and mail ballot votes cast; conducts recounts; certifies results to the Secretary of State; issues certificates of election to candidates; and provides an official tabulation of returns. The Board oversees voter registration and public education activities and provides all registration materials used in the state. It also trains and supervises all individuals who serve as statewide voter registration agents. The Board conducts voter registration drives throughout the State and at each institution of higher education in Rhode Island. It oversees and coordinates the registration of voters at other state agencies and departments as part of the National Voter Registration Act. The Board carries out the mandates of the Rhode Island Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act (the "Act"). The Board oversees and monitors the campaign finance activities of candidates, political action committees, and state vendors. The Board's responsibilities also include the development, printing and distribution of forms required for candidate, committee, and vendor reports. It is also responsible for the publication of manuals describing and explaining the requirements set forth in the statutes. It reviews and makes available for inspection all reports filed, prepares summaries and an annual report, and is authorized to investigate suspected violations of the Act. The Board also oversees and administers the public financing of campaigns program for each of the State's five general offices.

Statutory History

Chapter 825 of the Public Laws of 1901 created the State Returning Board. Chapter 1040 of the Public Laws of 1941 created the Board of Elections as a partisan board, replacing the State Returning Board. Chapter 312 of the Public Laws of 1979 amended the law to establish the Board of Elections as a nonpartisan board. R.I. General Laws § 17-7 sets forth its duties and powers, § 17-25 sets out the mandates of the Rhode Island Campaign Contributions and Expenditure Reporting Act (public financing of campaigns) and § 17-27 provides for reporting requirements and monitoring of political contributions by state vendors.

Budget

Board of Elections

	2022 Actuals	2023 Actuals	2024 Enacted Budget	2024 Revised Budget	2025 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Central Management	2,591,770	5,855,517	3,981,728	4,679,018	5,156,957
Total Expenditures	2,591,770	5,855,517	3,981,728	4,679,018	5,156,957
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	1,614,743	1,966,297	2,143,252	2,152,820	2,194,009
Contract Professional Services	63,935	296,198	313,550	385,000	1,075,651
Operating Supplies and Expenses	913,091	1,261,745	1,516,926	2,139,198	1,885,297
Assistance and Grants	0	2,288,862	0	0	0
Subtotal: Operating	2,591,770	5,813,102	3,973,728	4,677,018	5,154,957
Capital Purchases and Equipment	0	42,415	8,000	2,000	2,000
Subtotal: Other	0	42,415	8,000	2,000	2,000
Total Expenditures	2,591,770	5,855,517	3,981,728	4,679,018	5,156,957
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	2,591,770	5,861,156	3,981,728	4,679,018	5,156,957
Federal Funds	0	(5,639)	0	0	0
Total Expenditures	2,591,770	5,855,517	3,981,728	4,679,018	5,156,957
FTE Authorization	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0

Personnel Agency Summary

Board of Elections

	FY 2024		FY 2025	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Unclassified	13.0	1,037,150	13.0	1,045,346
Subtotal	13.0	1,037,150	13.0	1,045,346
Overtime		8,446		8,446
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages		347,172		375,000
Turnover		(8,242)		(18,557)
Total Salaries		1,384,526		1,410,235
Benefits				
FICA		104,671		107,114
Health Benefits		275,312		299,157
Payroll Accrual		5,810		5,757
Retiree Health		44,923		39,075
Retirement		298,319		293,495
Subtotal		729,035		744,598
Total Salaries and Benefits	13.0	2,113,561	13.0	2,154,833
Cost Per FTE Position		162,582		165,756
Statewide Benefit Assessment		39,259		39,176
Payroll Costs	13.0	2,152,820	13.0	2,194,009
Purchased Services				
Legal Services		150,000		175,000
Other Contracts		235,000		900,651
Subtotal		385,000		1,075,651
Total Personnel	13.0	2,537,820	13.0	3,269,660
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue	13.0	2,537,820	13.0	3,269,660
Total All Funds	13.0	2,537,820	13.0	3,269,660

Personnel

Board of Elections

Central Management

		FY 2024		FY 2025	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Unclassified					
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	0823 A	1.0	65,437	1.0	65,437
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	0835 A	1.0	109,165	1.0	109,165
CLERK/MACHINE DEMONSTRATOR/ASSISTANT BALLOT COORDINATOR	0313 A	1.0	45,625	1.0	46,732
COMMISSIONER-BOARD OF ELECTIONS	0510 F	0.0	35,000	0.0	35,000
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	0832 A	1.0	104,578	1.0	104,578
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	0844 A	1.0	169,822	1.0	169,822
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	4423 A	1.0	61,703	1.0	64,468
PLANNING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST	0320 A	3.0	174,987	3.0	174,987
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	J317 A	1.0	52,712	1.0	54,289
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE/TRAINING SPECIALIST	0319 A	1.0	56,151	1.0	56,151
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR	0829 A	2.0	161,970	2.0	164,717
Subtotal Unclassified		13.0	1,037,150	13.0	1,045,346
Subtotal		13.0	1,037,150	13.0	1,045,346
Overtime			8,446		8,446
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