
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 non-partisan board. R.I.G.L. 17-7 sets forth its duties and powers. R.I.G.L. 17-25 sets out the mandates of the Rhode Island Campaign Contributions and Expenditure Reporting Act (public financing of campaigns). R.I.G.L. 17-27 provides for reporting requirements and monitoring of political contributions by state vendors.

Budget

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

	2017 Actuals	2018 Actuals	2019 Enacted Budget	2019 Revised Budget	2020 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Central Management	1,969,669	1,505,698	5,252,516	4,654,527	2,462,583
Total Expenditures	1,969,669	1,505,698	5,252,516	4,654,527	2,462,583
Expenditures by Object					
Salary And Benefits	1,279,169	1,088,309	1,673,584	1,612,977	1,678,429
Contract Professional Services	136,733	147,418	135,788	190,982	208,688
Operating Supplies And Expenses	444,256	259,621	800,688	987,970	567,466
Assistance And Grants	0	0	2,620,856	1,830,998	0
Subtotal: Operating	1,860,158	1,495,348	5,230,916	4,622,927	2,454,583
Capital Purchases And Equipment	109,511	10,350	21,600	31,600	8,000
Subtotal: Other	109,511	10,350	21,600	31,600	8,000
Total Expenditures	1,969,669	1,505,698	5,252,516	4,654,527	2,462,583
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	1,969,669	1,505,698	5,252,516	4,654,527	2,462,583
Total Expenditures	1,969,669	1,505,698	5,252,516	4,654,527	2,462,583
FTE Authorization	12.0	12.0	13.0	13.0	13.0

Personnel

Agency: BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Central Management

		FY 2019		FY 2020	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Unclassified					
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	00312A	1.0	37,476	1.0	39,590
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	00823A	1.0	51,903	1.0	55,596
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR/FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	00835A	1.0	88,050	1.0	95,424
COMMISSIONER-BOARD OF ELECTIONS	40510F	0.0	21,000	0.0	21,000
CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY	00817A	1.0	44,182	1.0	45,851
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	00832A	1.0	83,470	1.0	88,103
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS	00830A	1.0	66,278	0.0	0
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	00844A	1.0	138,829	1.0	149,496
PLANNING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST	00320A	3.0	135,976	3.0	143,870
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE/TRAINING SPECIALIST	00319A	1.0	44,896	1.0	47,724
SENIOR RECEPTIONIST	00312A	1.0	42,014	1.0	43,600
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR	00829A	1.0	68,182	2.0	140,625
Subtotal Unclassified		13.0	822,256	13.0	870,879
Subtotal		13.0	822,256	13.0	870,879
Overtime (1.5)			12,000		8,000
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages			360,000		175,000
Turnover			(161,545)		0
Total Salaries			1,032,711		1,053,879
Benefits					
FICA			85,746		79,091
Health Benefits			200,824		215,239
Holiday			6,001		0
Payroll Accrual			4,310		4,926
Retiree Health			47,148		59,075
Retirement			203,274		232,648
Subtotal			547,303		590,979
Total Salaries and Benefits		13.0	1,580,014	13.0	1,644,858
Cost Per FTE Position			121,540		126,528
Statewide Benefit Assessment			32,963		33,571
Payroll Costs		13.0	1,612,977	13.0	1,678,429
Purchased Services					
Clerical and Temporary Services			3,000		3,000
Legal Services			140,000		150,000

Personnel

Agency: BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Central Management

	FY 2019		FY 2020	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Purchased Services				
Management & Consultant Services		6,900		0
Other Contracts		41,082		55,688
Subtotal		190,982		208,688
Total Personnel	13.0	1,803,959	13.0	1,887,117
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue		1,803,959		1,887,117
Total All Funds		1,803,959		1,887,117