

# STUDENT POLLWORKER PROGRAM

## A PARTNERSHIP OF YOUTH & DEMOCRACY

RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



### What is the Student Pollworker program?

In 1998 the California Legislature adopted new provisions which allow for the use of students meeting particular requirements, to work in the polls on Election Day. The authorizing code section cited (in part) below. Eligibility information may be found on the next page of this brochure.

### California Election Code (sec. 12302b)

“...In order to provide for a greater awareness of the elections process, the rights and responsibilities of voters and the importance of participating in the electoral process, as well as to provide additional members of precinct boards, an elections official may appoint not more than two students per precinct to serve under the direct supervision of precinct board members designated by the election officials. A student may be appointed, notwithstanding lack of eligibility to vote, subject to the approval of the board of the educational institution in which the student is enrolled...”



### What does a Student Pollworker Do?

Student Pollworkers perform all of the same tasks that adult Pollworkers do. Before attending Election Officer training, the Student Pollworker is assigned to a polling place and he/she receives an appointment letter indicating the name and location of the polling place and with whom he/she will be working. All



Election Officers are responsible for assisting with voting equipment set-up on Election Eve and must work all day on Election Day. On Election Day, all Election Officers must report to the polling place by 6:15 am. Lunch and other break times are coordinated throughout the day. Polls close at 8:00 pm and Election Officers are responsible for completing required paperwork, preparing ballot cartridges for transport, stowing voting equipment, and closing and securing the polling place facility. All Election Officers are dismissed upon completion of required tasks.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q. I meet the qualifications to serve as a Student Pollworker. Now what do I do?**

A. Contact your Social Studies teacher and ask for a Student Pollworker Nomination Form. Complete the form including all required signature and return it to the Registrar of Voters Office by mail, fax, or in person.

**Q. I don't have a Social Studies class (or my teacher doesn't have a Nomination Form). Can I still participate in the program?**

A. Yes, as long as you qualify and are nominated by a teacher or administrator at your school. Contact our office for a nomination form or visit our website at [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net). From the site you can download the form.

**Q. Will I be paid for working at the polls?**

A. Yes. Student Pollworkers are paid the Precinct Officer stipend (currently \$90.00) for the day.

**Q. When/where do I attend training?**

A. Upon selection, the Registrar of Voters will schedule all Student Pollworkers a training class which he/she is required to attend.

## STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to participate in Riverside County's Student Pollworker Program, a student must:



- Be at least 16 years old at the time of the election worked
- Be a United States citizen at the time of the election worked
- Have at least a 2.5 Grade Point Average
- Be a student attending a public or private secondary educational institution
- Have a completed Nomination Form on file with Registrar of Voters

**Riverside County Registrar of Voters**

2724 Gateway Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507-0918

Phone: 951-486-7341

Fax: 951-486-7320

Website: [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net)





Registrar of Voters • 2724 Gateway Dr. • Riverside, Ca. • 92507 • 951-486-7341 • fax 951-486-7320 • [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net)

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DEAR PARENTS,

In just a few short years of operation, the Student Pollworker Program in Riverside County has provided hundreds of students throughout the county with an opportunity to participate in the democratic process at its most fundamental level, the polling place. State law allows high school students age 16 years or older with a good academic standing, **2.5 GPA**, and are a citizen of the U.S. on or before Election Day, to serve as pollworkers. These students work alongside their adult Election Officer counterparts on an equal footing, putting in the same hours, receiving the same stipend, attending the same training, and performing the same functions.

All students participating in the program are **required** to attend a 2.5 hour training session prior to Election Day at convenient training locations throughout the county. Students will serve with 3 or 4 other members of an election board. The student is expected to be at the polling place on Election Day at 6:15 a.m. and may not be released until approximately 9:00 p.m. after the polls close. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to training and to their assigned polling place. While we cannot promise that your student will work within close proximity to their school or home, we will try to place your student as nearby as possible. Students are given a stipend the same as other pollworkers, \$90.00 for Election Day and \$20.00 for attending a 2.5 hour training session\*. Stipend checks are issued 4 to 6 weeks after the election.

In order for your student to be considered for this program, students must complete the attached nomination form, meet the requirements and deadline, and obtain signatures from their parents and nominating **Civics** or **Social Studies** teacher.

If your student would like to be considered for the Student Pollworker Program for the upcoming May 19, 2009 Consolidated Special Statewide Election, the nomination form must be completed and returned to the nominating **Civics** or **Social Studies** teacher for transmittal via fax or mail to the Registrar of Voters Office. Our deadline for accepting Student Pollworker Nomination forms for the May 19, 2009 Election is **April 19, 2009**.

Should you have any questions regarding participation in the Student Pollworker Program, feel free to call (951) 486-7341 or 1-877-663-9906 (toll free)

Sincerely,

Elections Officers and Polls Division

\*In order to receive the \$20.00 for attending the training session the student is required to work the election.

# Riverside County Registrar of Voters Student Pollworker Program Nomination form

**All information is required. Incomplete forms may result in rejection**

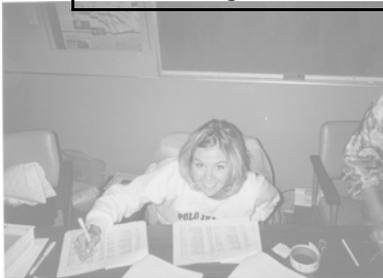
Please Print Clearly:

STUDENT	Name:	
	Home Address, City, Zip Code:	Home Phone:
	Mailing Address, City, Zip Code:	Cell Phone:
	Language(s) in addition to English spoken <i>Fluently</i>	If 18 years old by Election Day, student must register to vote.
	Transportation (Circle one)    Own            Parents	Date of Birth:
	Student's Signature:	Date:

PARENTS	Name:	
	Emergency Phone Number on Election Day:	
	Parent's Signature:	Date:

TEACHER	Nominating Teacher Name:	Current GPA : (Must be 2.5 or above, <b><u>IF NOT</u></b> application will be rejected)
	School Name:	Class in which student is taught:
	Contact Phone Number:	School Address:
	E-mail Address:	Fax Number:
	Teacher's Signature:	Date:

**Return completed Nomination Form to:  
Fax: 951-486-7320  
or  
Mail: Riverside County Registrar of Voters - EO/Polls Div.**



**For Office Use Only:**

ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Precinct: \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned Precinct: \_\_\_\_\_ Training Class: \_\_\_\_\_