

Elect to become a judge!

Are you interested in helping to protect voters' rights, serving your community, earning extra money, and being part of a team that ensures fair and accurate elections? If you meet the following criteria, please consider sharing your time and talents as an election judge.

- Eligible to vote
- Ability to read, write, and speak English clearly
- Not a spouse, parent, child, or sibling of another election judge in the same precinct or of any candidate in the election
- Not a candidate in the election
- Ability to attend mandatory judge training at City Hall
- Must declare a party affiliation

In addition, it is beneficial to possess the following qualities:

- Physical, mental, and emotional stamina
- Excellent customer service skills and a positive attitude
- Attention to detail and simple math skills
- Comfortable and patient working with and serving a diverse population
- Impartial and fair

A high school or home-schooled student who is a U.S. citizen, resides in Hennepin County, and who is at least 16 years of age is eligible to be appointed as a trainee election judge without party affiliation. Such a student may be excused from school attendance during the hours that the student is serving as a trainee election judge if the student submits a written request signed and approved by the student's parent or guardian to be absent from school and a certificate from the city clerk stating the hours during which the student will serve as a trainee election judge to the principal of the school at least 10 days prior to the election. Students cannot serve past 10:00 p.m. The principal may approve a request to be absent conditioned on acceptable academic performance.

Election judges may choose a shift on August 14 and/or November 6 that best fits their schedule: opening the polls (6:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m.), closing the polls (2:00 p.m.-approximately 9:00 p.m.), or both. State law allows employees serving as election judges to be absent from work without penalty, provided the employee gives at least 20 days' written notice to the employer, along with a certification from the city clerk stating the compensation to be paid to the employee and the hours the employee will serve. The employer may reduce the salary of an employee by the amount paid by the City.

Election judge assignments are made by the city clerk's office and approved by the City Council. Election judges will receive a flat fee of \$20 to attend mandatory training. Head election judges are paid a total of \$40 to attend two sessions. In addition, judges are paid an hourly wage on election day, with election judges paid \$8.25/hour, head election judges paid \$11/hour, and trainee election judges paid \$8/hour.

For more information on becoming an election judge, visit the City's website or contact the city clerk at 763-531-1145 or chrissy.serres@crystalmn.gov. Returning election judges DO NOT need to contact the city clerk, as you will automatically receive an application in March.