

THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CLE CREDIT FOR ATTORNEYS WHO SERVE AS POLL WORKERS DURING THE MAY 4, 2021 PRIMARY ELECTION

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is an extreme shortage of precinct election officials (poll workers) across the country. In light of the dire need for new poll workers, upon the request of the Ohio Secretary of State, the Supreme Court of Ohio will award CLE credit to any Ohio attorney who serves as a poll worker during the May 4, 2021 Primary Election.

By [order](#) dated March 17, 2021, the Supreme Court is permitting attorneys to earn CLE credit for training and serving as a precinct election official on Primary Election Day 2021.

1. How do I get CLE credit for serving as a precinct election official (“PEO”), commonly referred to as a poll worker ?

To earn four (4) hours of general CLE credit, an attorney must do the following:

- i. Complete the County Board of Elections PEO Training **and**
- ii. Serve as a PEO for their county board of elections on Election Day.

2. Who is eligible to serve as a poll worker?

Attorneys may serve as poll workers and receive CLE credit for their service. Pursuant to [Jud.Cond. R. 3.4](#), judges and magistrates cannot work as poll workers.

3. Will I receive CLE credit if I only attend the Precinct Election Official Training?

No. The order specifies that an attorney must take the training and serve for a full day as a PEO to receive CLE credit.

4. If I already attended the Precinct Election Official Training for the November 2020 General Election, do I have to attend again to receive the credit?

No, not unless the local county board of election or the Secretary of State’s Office requires additional training due to changes/updates to the process or equipment at the polling location you will be working on election day.

5. Do I have to serve for a full day as a PEO?

Yes. Generally, PEOs are expected to be at the polls at 5:30 am and remain on duty until after the close of polls at 7:30 pm.

6. How will I receive the CLE credit?

As with any CLE program, attorneys are expected to sign in and provide their attorney registration number at the training and at the polling location. The [County Board of Elections](#) will submit to the Secretary of State a list of attorneys who completed the training and served as a PEO on Election Day. The Secretary of State will then submit the CLE hours within 30 days to the Supreme Court of Ohio.

7. How do I sign up to be a Precinct Election Official (Poll Worker)?

Please visit the [PEO Sign Up Page](#) on the Ohio Secretary of State website to sign up to be a Precinct Election Official.

8. Who do I contact if have further questions regarding receiving CLE credit for working the polls?

Any questions regarding receiving CLE credit for serving as a poll worker should be sent to the Secretary of State at hbarber@ohiosos.gov.