



## COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA - 2022 HAVA ELECTION SECURITY GRANT - PROGRAM NARRATIVE

### *Program Description*

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is very pleased to receive the funds authorized under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-93), to “make payments to states for activities to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, including to enhance election technology and make election security improvements, as authorized under sections 101, 103, and 104 of [HAVA].” Specifically, we intend to use these funds and our matching funds for Communication to provide continued information on Voting Procedures, Rights, and Technology; Voter Registration Systems and Management, and Improving the Administration of Elections for Pennsylvania voters.

Because these measures are important at both the state and the local levels, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will equally share these funds with county election offices. Funds retained and spent directly will benefit the entire state while the remaining funds will be distributed as subgrants to the counties. With the implementation of Act 77 of 2019, the Commonwealth continues to provide outreach to all Pennsylvanians on valuable information surrounding election reform. Additionally, as part of election modernization, these funds will continue to assist the Commonwealth in its process of implementing the new SUREVote IT system that replaces the current aging statewide voter registration database (SURE). Continued changes and customization may be needed as this project moves forward. County subgrant awards will provide funding for needed hardware and equipment to accompany the new system.

### *Background and Approach*

The PA Department of State (Department) continues to push election modernization efforts around the state. The initial election security funds received in 2018 were provided in its entirety to all Pennsylvania counties to assist with the cost of procuring new voting systems that

meet current security standards, including affording a voter-verifiable paper ballot. In 2020, the Department awarded \$7 million of the Commonwealth's funds towards items such as:

- Increased personnel, equipment, and/or other approved expenditures related to expansion of the provision and administration of election services and opportunities granted to Pennsylvania voters under Act 77 of 2019 (Act 77), historic bipartisan legislation providing the most comprehensive improvements to Pennsylvania's elections in more than 80 years;
- Ransomware, DDOS Protections, and other cyber security measures;
- Increased security of voting systems and ballots; and/or
- Increased expenditures to expand vote by mail and other voter services.

The Department continues to use the remaining award for statewide efforts including:

- Post-Election Audit implementation;
- Election security and technology enhancements for the counties and the Commonwealth, for Voter Registration and other cyber systems;
- Expanded Training and support for election officials;
- Communications to voters and other voting information related to the changes in voting and elections that have been signed into law under Act 77 and related measures, including the ability for all voters to vote by mail; and
- Other technological enhancements to improve statewide election administration and security consistent with this Act.

The 2022 Election Security award will allow the Department to distribute over \$1.1 million of Pennsylvania's funds as subgrants to the counties, divided proportionally based on numbers of registered voters in each county as of May 2, 2022. Counties will be required to submit documentation of their acceptance of the subgrants and proof of use for approved purposes, to receive their funds. Due to the ongoing modernization efforts, the Department will direct counties to use the grant funding to either prepare for the implementation of the SUREVote system or enhance their election security posture this year by using grant funds for the following:

- Personal computers that meet the required specifications to access SUREVote

- Mobile devices or other tokens necessary to conform to the Commonwealth's Multi-factor Authentication standard.
- Physical security devices to protect critical election infrastructure
- Monitoring and detection tools to identify and/or mitigate threats to the counties' elections infrastructure

It is anticipated most subaward dollars will be spent in the current calendar year due to the new system going live at the end of 2022, however, funds will be available for county use through December 31, 2023.

With the fifty percent of funds retained by the Commonwealth, it will be important for the Department to continue to provide voter outreach as it pertains to voting procedures, rights, and technology. Information for voters on election procedures will occur through a media campaign using television, radio, social and digital media on content surrounding how to apply for a mail-in ballot, mail-in ballot returns, assistance on determining a voter polling place, and all available voting options in Pennsylvania will occur as a lead up to the 2022 general and 2024 election cycle. Another anticipated use will be to ensure that there are adequate funds available to make any necessary changes needed to the newly implemented SUREVote system to support additional election reform measures and/or to support the security and integrity of the data contained in SUREVote. The system is used by both state and county election officials to administer voter registration and elections.

### *Budget, Timeframes, and Progress Reporting*

Pennsylvania will use the funds provided under the Notice of Grant Award, Agreement #EAC-ELSEC18PA, for activities consistent with the laws described in Section 906 of HAVA and will not use the funds in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA. It is our intent to spend down Pennsylvania's \$2,205,840 grant award as the authorized expenditures are made and funds utilized. Pennsylvania will also contribute its twenty percent match of \$442,348 by FY 2022-2023, which will be used for continuation of upgrading the Commonwealth's Voter Registration systems and management. The Department will submit any required financial and program narrative reports that track the Commonwealth's and counties'

progress as required by the grant.

Additionally, the Department is requesting to realign budgeted funds from the 2020 Election Security grant for the following changes:

- \$2 million previously listed under Voting Equipment to be reallocated to the Cyber Security category. These changes are to reclassify expenditures used to procure security equipment for county election offices.
- \$69,000 previously listed under Voting Equipment to be reallocated the Voter Registration System category. This change is needed to continue to cover expenses associated with Pennsylvania's new SUREVote IT System.
- \$23,000 previously listed under Voting Equipment and \$111,000 listed under Election Auditing to the Other "Miscellaneous" Election Administration category. As part of the new SUREVote IT system, the Department is required to increase staffing and expand physical workspace for new election staff to assist counties with the implementation of the new system.

### *Conclusion*

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is pleased to accept the funds authorized under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-93), to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, by expanding and improving measures related to use these funds and our matching funds for Communication to provide continued information on Voting Procedures, Rights, and Technology; Voter Registration Systems and Management, and Improving the Administration of Elections for Pennsylvania voters.

**EAC HAVA GRANT - BUDGET WORKSHEET**

<b>GRANTEE NAME:</b>	Pennsylvania Department of State		
<b>AWARD TYPE:</b>	FORMULA	<b>MATCH %:</b>	20%
<b>PROJECT PERIOD START DATE:</b>	3/16/2022	<b>INDIRECT COST % (IF APPLIED):</b>	
<b>PROJECT PERIOD END DATE:</b>		<b>INDIRECT COST TYPE:</b>	

<b>SECTION A: GRANT BUDGET</b>	<b>YEAR ONE</b>	<b>YEAR TWO</b>	<b>YEAR THREE</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>
FEDERAL AMOUNT	\$ 13,476,156.00	\$ 15,175,567.00	\$ 2,205,840.00	\$ 30,857,563.00
NON FEDERAL MATCH	\$ 673,808.00	\$ 3,035,114.00	\$ 442,348.00	\$ 4,151,270.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 14,149,964.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,210,681.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,648,188.00</b>	<b>\$ 35,008,833.00</b>

<b>SECTION B: BUDGET CATEGORIES (Federal Only)</b>	<b>Voting Equipment</b>	<b>Voting Processes</b>	<b>Voter Registration Systems</b>	<b>Election Auditing</b>	<b>Cyber and Physical Security</b>	<b>Voter Education</b>	<b>Accessibility</b>	<b>Other (Election Administration Improvements)</b>	<b>Other (County Block Grants)</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>% Fed Total</b>
PERSONNEL										\$ -	0%
FRINGE RELATED TO SALARY										\$ -	0%
EQUIPMENT	\$ 525,000.00				\$ 2,000,000.00					\$ 2,525,000.00	8%
TRAINING				\$ 189,000.00						\$ 189,000.00	1%
CONTRACTUAL										\$ -	0%
OTHER (Describe)			\$ 5,779,920.00			\$ 600,000.00		\$ 184,567.00		\$ 6,564,487.00	21%
OTHER (Describe)										\$ -	0%
SUBGRANTS	\$ 13,476,156.00		\$ 1,102,920.00						\$ 7,000,000.00	\$ 21,579,076.00	70%
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	\$ 14,001,156.00	\$ -	\$ 6,882,840.00	\$ 189,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	\$ 184,567.00	\$ 7,000,000.00	\$ 30,857,563.00	100%
INDIRECT COSTS (if applied)										\$ -	0%
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 14,001,156.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 6,882,840.00</b>	<b>\$ 189,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 600,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 184,567.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 30,857,563.00</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE BY CATEGORY</b>	45%	0%	22%	1%	6%	2%	0%	1%	23%		

<b>SECTION C: NON FEDERAL MATCH RESOURCES</b>	<b>STATE FUNDS</b>	<b>OTHER</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>
Voting Equipment	\$ 673,808.00		\$ 673,808.00
Voter Registration Systems	\$ 3,477,462.00		\$ 3,477,462.00
		\$ -	\$ -
		\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 4,151,270.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,151,270.00</b>