



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
OFFICE OF THE CLERK-RECORDER

Elaina Cano - County Clerk Recorder

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY ADOPT-A-POLL PROGRAM

Support Your Community. Raise Funds. Serve Democracy.

The **Adopt-A-Poll (AAP) Program** is a unique and rewarding opportunity for non-partisan community organizations to play a vital role in the democratic process—while earning funds to support their mission. Through the AAP Program, your organization can “adopt” a polling place on Election Day and provide trained volunteers to operate the site.

Whether you're a school club, church group, nonprofit, or civic association, this program offers a fun, team-oriented experience that promotes civic engagement and community spirit.

Why Get Involved?

- **Strengthen Democracy:** Help voters have a smooth, safe, and welcoming experience at the polls.
- **Earning for Your Cause:** Organizations earn money by staffing polling locations.
- **Unite Your Team:** Working together at the polls creates a shared sense of purpose, builds relationships, and enhances group morale.
- **Visibility & Recognition:** Promote your organization's values and community involvement by sharing your participation.

Organizations with ample volunteers are welcome to adopt more than one precinct!

Who Can Participate?

Any community group that is **non-partisan** and **not affiliated with a political party, candidate, or ballot measure** is welcome to apply. Previous participants have included:

- High school and college clubs
- Parent-teacher associations
- Service organizations (e.g., Lions Club, Rotary)
- Cultural and faith-based groups

Program Requirements

Volunteers must be **registered California voters** or **permanent legal residents**.

Application Process

- Submit a completed **Organizational Application** and a current **W-9 form**.
- Ensure each individual volunteer also completes and submits an **AAP Precinct Worker Application**, or fills out the **online precinct worker application** and indicates they are part of your Adopt a Poll organization.

Training & Open Lab

- **Inspectors** must attend mandatory training.
- **Clerks** are highly encouraged to attend Clerk Training.
- **ePollbooks** new technology to assist roster clerks. Open lab time will provide hands-on training ahead of Election Day.

Shift & Staffing Requirements

- Each precinct must have **1 Inspector (all day)** and **at least 4 Clerks** working on-site at all times. **If location has Drive up Drop Off VBM ballot box, then 2 additional clerks are required.**
- Each clerk volunteer must serve a **minimum of 3 hours**, though **5 hours is preferred**.

Compensation – Approximately \$600 per Precinct

Your organization will earn \$500 by providing 1 AAP Inspector and 4 AAP Precinct Workers (Clerks), plus the \$100 training bonus, awarded for those clerks that attend training class and also serve on Election Day. (Training stipend is \$20 per person, caps at max of 5)

Compensation is fixed. Scheduling and rotating more than 4 clerks through the same precinct will not increase pay but can ease the workload per person.

Please ensure your organization's mailing address is accurate to avoid payment delays.

Important Reminders

- **Signing-in** is required at both training and on Election Day for all workers.
- Wear **neat, comfortable clothing** and feel free to represent your organization—just avoid any **political message, especially anything that could be perceived as electioneering**.
- No political discussion or materials are allowed at polling places.

On Election Day, volunteers should prepare for a full day, including:

- Bring snacks, water, and any necessary medications
 - Dressing in layers for variable weather
 - Being respectful, courteous, and professional throughout the day
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Timeline & What to Expect

1. **Apply:** Submit your completed forms **ASAP but no later than July 31, 2026**.
 2. **Assign:** Create the Election Day shift schedule that works for you and your volunteers. **Submit a tentative volunteer list with your application**, and a final list of your volunteers by August 14, 2026.
 3. **Receive:** You'll get your polling location details and training schedule in September.
 4. **Train:** Training will take place between **October 12-23**. Make-up class on Oct 31.
 5. **Set Up Monday Before Election:** Inspectors and workers may meet on Monday before Election Day to prepare the polling place.
 6. **Serve:** Work together to ensure a smooth Election Day experience.
 7. **Get Paid:** Compensation checks will be mailed to your organization within **four to six weeks after the election**.
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Ready to Make a Difference?

Being an Adopt-A-Poll participant is a fulfilling way to support your community and raise funds with a purpose. We are deeply grateful for your dedication and partnership in making elections successful and accessible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at (805) 781-4989 or email precinctworker@co.slo.ca.us. We're happy to assist you. While we do our best to respond promptly, please note that response times may vary during busy periods.

Thank you for your commitment and service!



Application for your Organization to Participate in the Adopt-A-Poll (AAP) Program

Please include current W-9 form and a tentative list of individuals who will be staffing the polling place along with your application. This helps us ensure that no one is accidentally scheduled both as an individual poll worker and as part of your Adopt-A-Poll team.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: _____

CHAPTER/CITY: _____

EIN: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

ORGANIZATION MAILING ADDRESS:

Organization _____

C/O _____

Mailing address _____

City _____, CA Zip Code _____

Preferred polling location or area _____

We will do our best to assign you to your preferred location.

Do you want more than one precinct? Yes ☐ No ☐ How many? _____

I have read the guidelines for the Adopt-A-Poll Program, and I am an authorized representative of the organization listed above.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Once your organization commits to participating, we rely on your support for Election Day operations. If circumstances change and your group is no longer able to participate, please notify us immediately by calling (805) 781-4989.

Please return this application by email to precinctworker@co.slo.ca.us or mail it to SLO County Elections, 1055 Monterey St., Ste. D120, SLO, CA 93408.

Make sure your volunteers submit their own individual application or apply online at [Precinct Worker Application - County of San Luis Obispo](#) and indicate they are part of your Adopt a Poll organization.



Application to be an Adopt-A-Poll Precinct Worker

To be completed by each individual participating

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Organization you will be working with: _____

Contact person for the organization: _____

Contact person telephone: _____

Contact person email: _____

AAP PRECINCT WORKER INFORMATION

Name: _____

Please use the name that you used on your voter registration and not a nickname.

Address: _____

Mailing address, if different: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

If you do not check your email frequently, please indicate that here. ☐

Are you a registered voter in the State of California or a permanent legal resident of the United States? Yes ☐ No ☐ If registered to vote, in what county? _____

Please list your political party affiliation (as reflected in your voter registration) for tracking and reporting, per Elections Code: _____

(This information is reported without your name.)

Other than English, list languages that you speak fluently: _____

Are you willing to attend training session? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are you willing to help set up precinct day before election? Yes ☐ No ☐

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Please return this application by email to precinctworker@co.slo.ca.us or mail it to SLO County Elections, 1055 Monterey St., Ste. D120, SLO, CA 93408.

Any voter who has filed an application for the position of and been appointed as a precinct board member and who, without being excused by the county elections official, knowingly fails to act as a precinct board member, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100 (E.C. 18700).