

## Glossary of Terms

Abstract of Votes	The official statements of votes cast at an election or primary as prepared by the County Auditor. A preliminary abstract must be prepared prior to certification, corrected and presented to the canvassing board at certification of the election.
ACP	<b>Address Confidentiality Program;</b> program implemented by the Secretary of State. Two election administrators in each county maintain the county program for these voters.
Adjudication	Electronic determination of voter intent on a digital scan tabulation system, similar to ballot duplication.
AVU	<b>Accessibility Voting Unit</b> (preferred term rather than DAU). Any voting device that complies with the American Disability Act and Help America Vote Act and is certified at the state and federal level to provide independent voting to persons visually and/or manually challenged. Also see DRE or DAU.
Ballot Accountability Sheet	A form completed by election workers at a voting center recording the number of ballots issued (including provisional ballots).
Ballot Counter	A system or machine used to tally votes.
Ballot Counter or Tabulator Programming	The programming of software used to tell a ballot counter the marking codes and responses in the voting response area equating votes cast for a candidate or issue response.
Ballot Counter Log	A log produced by the ballot counter showing the activity of the counter and the operator; used to verify all activity during counting.
Ballot Deposit Site	A location that only receives ballots. A site may be staffed by two people or unstaffed.

Ballot Box	A box provided by the county for voters to deposit ballots and is secured using seals and seal logs. An unstaffed ballot box is secured in such a way that allow return envelopes, once deposited, to only be removed by authorized staff. If located outdoors, must be constructed of durable material able to withstand inclement weather and be sufficiently secured to the ground or another structure to prevent removal. Unstaffed boxes are available 18 days prior to Election Day.
Ballot Duplication	The process of transferring votes to a blank ballot from a ballot unread by the ballot counter. Duplicated ballots need to be marked as to indicate a relationship between the original ballot and the copy of the original. A signed duplication log must be retained as part of this record.
Ballot Marking Code	The coded patterns printed on the ballot intended to identify the ballot style to the ballot counting system.
Ballot Path	The process ballots follow from the ballot box until final storage upon certification of the election.
Ballot Tabulator	A system or machine used to tally votes from ballots.
Canvass, Canvassing	The process of examining ballots or groups of ballots, subtotals, and cumulative totals in order to determine the official returns of a primary or general election. This process included the tabulation of any voters that were not tabulated at the precinct or counting center on the day of the primary or election.
Canvassing Board	The County Auditor, the County Prosecutor, and the Chair of the County Legislative Authority or their designee. The Board is responsible for canvassing ballots and certifying elections. Some duties may be delegated.
Canvassing Board Designee	A person designated by the Canvassing Board to carry out one or more of the statutory responsibilities the Canvassing Board is allowed to delegate.

Class C Felony	The classification of crime one is guilty of if he/she falsely signs an affidavit of absentee voter or affidavit of voter registration; 5 years in jail, \$10,000 fine, or both such fine and imprisonment.
Counting Center	The location where ballots are processed and counted.
Counting System	See Voting System.
DAU	<b>Disability Access Unit</b> ( obsolete term) See AVU.
DRE	<b>Direct Recording Electronic</b> voting device; also know as an AVU; any voting device that complies with the American Disability Act and Help America Vote Act and is certified at the state and federal level as a DAU by providing independent voting to persons visually and/or manually challenged. Any voting unit that records a vote electronically, does not use a paper ballot, and creates a paper record verifiable by the voter.
Digital Scan System	A voting system that scans the voted paper ballot, but the validity of votes is determined by reviewing the scanned image and voter intent issues are resolved digitally.
Duplication	Making a true copy of valid votes from ballots that may not be counted by the vote tally system as the voter intends. Ballots may be duplicated on blank ballots or by making changes to an electronic image (resolving). The original ballot may not be altered in any manner.
Duplication Log	A numerical record of the relationship between original ballots and the duplicate ballots. The log representing the number assigned to a duplicated set.
EAC	<b>Election Assistance Commission</b> ; federal commission charged with the responsibility of developing voting system guidelines, providing a national program for testing, certification, and decertification of voting systems; maintaining federal registration information; reporting to Congress the affect of the NVRA; administering HAVA funds at the federal level; and studying best practices and other matters relevant to the effective administration of federal elections.

EMS	<b>Election Management System.</b> The system used by a county to manage voter records. This system sends data to the VRDB.
Election Observer	A person officially designated by a major political party to observe election procedures.
Final Processing	The reading of ballots by an electronic vote tallying system for the purposes of producing returns of voters cast, but does not include tabulation.
FPCA	Federal Post Card Application; a postage-free postcard printed and distributed by the FVAP for use by absentee voters covered by UOCAVA.
FVAP	Federal Voting Assistance Program; provides information for US citizens covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA). The FVAP website is <a href="http://www.fvap.gov">http://www.fvap.gov</a> .
Gross Misdemeanor	The classification of crime committed when a person divulges the vote count prior to 8:00 PM on election night; 1 year in jail, \$5000 fine or both fine and imprisonment.
HAVA	Help America Vote Act; federal legislation enacted in 2002.
Header Card	A card fed into a ballot counter indicating the beginning of a batch of ballots; used to tell the ballot counter the precinct or batch that is being counted.
Initial Processing	The preparation of ballots for tally which includes verification of signatures and postmarks, separation of ballots from envelopes, manual inspection, scanning, and resolution/adjudication or duplication of ballots.
L&A Test	Logic and Accuracy Test; an official test to verify that the ballot counter and programming is correctly counting each style of ballot and correctly producing cumulative totals. L&A tests are required prior to every election and maybe observed and certified by the Secretary of State's Office for each primary and general election.

Manual Count	A process requested jointly by election observers representing each major party requiring manual tally of an office or issue on a single precinct's ballots prior to mechanical tally. The results are then compared to a mechanical tabulation of the same ballots.
Manual Inspection	The process of inspecting each voter response position on each voted ballot. Inspection is performed as part of the initial processing.
Mail Ballot Processing	The administrative handling of mail ballots, including signature checking, assigning voting credit, the opening and inspecting of ballots, and the feeding of ballots into the ballot counter. Mail ballot processing excludes any action that produces election returns or vote tallies.
MyVote	Web lookup for voters with election-specific information customized to match the voter using precinct information provided by the county EMS.
NVRA	<b>National Voter Registration Act</b> ; federal legislation enacted in 1993. Motor voter registration was created by this act, the act is also known as the "Motor Voter" act.
OLVR	<b>Online Voter Registration</b> voters may register and make addresses online in a secure manner. The system integrates the DOL driver license record web service for information sources and validation.
Online Candidate Filing	A web accessible system allowing candidates to file online provided the filing officer is managing offices open for filing through WEI Admin. Candidates and offices are matched using the VRDB.
Optical Scan System	Mechanical tabulation system utilizing optical scan of response areas on printed ballots.
Precinct	A geographical subdivision for voting purposes established by a county legislative authority.

Provisional Ballots	Provisional ballots are issued when there is a question regarding a voter's eligibility to vote. Provisional ballot may be issued by a voting center, or by election officials at the Auditor's Office for any reason deemed necessary. Validity of provisional ballots is researched using a voter's registration information and is subject to final decision by the county canvassing board.
Receiving Board	A group of election workers that receive the ballots at the counting center on Election Night.
Recount	The process for confirming the tabulated votes for a specific office or issue. Only ballots tallied in the certified results for that office/issue will be recounted.
Replacement Ballot	A ballot replacing the voter's original mail ballot. Requests for replacement ballot are acceptable over the phone, in person or by mail, but such requests must be documented.
Resolution	Using a scanned image to resolve questionable votes. After each session, a log of the resolutions must be printed and signed by the team that resolved those ballots.
Seal	Numbered seal used to secure containers of ballots. The seal, once applied to the container, must be destroyed to access the contents
Seal Log	A list recording the seal numbers used, the two people applying or breaking a seal, the date applied and removed, the reason for removing the seal.
Service Voters	Voters (or electors) who are members of the armed forces, a US Military Academy, a group officially attached to the armed forces, or an ACP voter. Depending on the election type, service voters are issued ballots 45 days or 30 days before each election. Service voters are not held to the postmark requirement; the date of signature is used to validate the ballot.
Signature Checking	On a ballot envelope: 1) a signature verified against the signature of a registered voter eligible to vote in the election or 2) a mark with two signatures of witnesses.

Tabulation	The compilation of votes cast for races or issues a form that can be read by a person, whether as precinct totals, partial cumulative totals, or final cumulative totals. Tabulation may not begin until after 8:00 PM on the day of the election.
Tally	See tabulation
Test Deck	The group of ballots used to verify the accuracy of the vote tallying system during the Logic and Accuracy test.
UOCAVA	<b>Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act</b> ; the act specifically defines voting services to U.S. citizens who reside outside the United States and U.S. citizens who are members of the Uniformed Services and their family members. The term UOCAVA is used to reference these citizens, or any special service provided to these citizens.
Uniformed Services	U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard), merchant marine, commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Also known as service voters
Valid Signature	On a ballot envelope: 1) a signature verified against the signature of a registered voter eligible to vote in the election or 2) a mark with two signatures of witnesses.
VVPAT	Voter verified paperis intended as an independent verification system for direct recording electronic voting machines (DREs) designed to allow voters to verify that their vote was cast correctly, to detect possible election fraud or malfunction, and to provide a means to audit the stored electronic results.
VRDB	<b>Voter Registration Database</b> is the official state record of voters maintained by the state.
Voting Center	A county location that provides voter registration materials, ballots, provisional ballots, accessible voting units, sample ballots, instructions on how to properly vote the ballot, a ballot drop box and voters' pamphlets, if available.

Voting Response Area	The area on an optical scan ballot, as specified in the instructions to the voter in which the voter may place a mark indicating a vote.
Voting System	Total combination in a county of all tabulation equipment including DRE/DAU. This includes all software, firmware and documentation required to program, control, and support the equipment.
WEI Admin	Application for SOS and county WEI users to manage the office information, election results, and <i>data</i> displaying on web.
WEI Web	Washington Election Information; state-supported web service for County Auditors and county election departments. WEI Web allows county to display template pages with the county look and feel, and to add, remove or edit pages on the website.