

# 2017 NASS IDEAS AWARD APPLICATION

**NOMINATING OFFICIAL:**

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted  
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**POC FOR FOLLOW-UP:**

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**TITLE OF PROGRAM/PROJECT:**

Day for Democracy

**PROJECT LEADS:**

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**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM/PROJECT:**

Day for Democracy is a statewide program launched by Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted in 2015 that seeks to help county boards of elections recruit poll workers by partnering with businesses, nonprofits and other organizations. The program specifically asks partners to help by distributing information to their employees and members about dedicating a “day for democracy” by volunteering to become a poll worker on Election Day.

**SUBJECT AREA:**

Elections

“FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ARE RIGHTS WE ENJOY AS AMERICANS, BUT THEY ARE NOT WITHOUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. IN ORDER TO BE SUCCESSFUL, WE NEED A BIPARTISAN ARMY OF DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS TO SIGN UP TO MAKE A DAY FOR DEMOCRACY BY VOLUNTEERING TO BE A POLL WORKER ON ELECTION DAY AND IT'S TIME TO ENLIST.”

— JON HUSTED, OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### HISTORY

Each Election Day, it takes roughly 35,000 Ohioans to serve as poll workers to ensure a well-run election. The importance of finding qualified individuals to serve cannot be understated, especially in a presidential election. For this reason, Secretary Husted expanded his office's poll worker recruiting efforts in 2015 to create partnerships with businesses and nonprofits around the state to help.

Since taking office in 2012, Secretary Husted has worked tirelessly to assist county boards of elections in recruiting poll workers. Each year, the secretary of state's office encourages Ohioans to serve by producing public service announcements, sending out a letters to the editor and distributing other promotional materials at schools and through government websites.

In 2015, Secretary Husted expanded these efforts to encourage working professionals and volunteers to make a "Day for Democracy" by serving as poll workers. The office encouraged corporations around the state to expand their "Corporate Days of Service" programs to allow their employees to take time off to serve and encourage non-profit volunteers to donate the pay they received as a poll worker to the charities of their choice. The Secretary of State's Office asked major corporations and non-profits to help raise awareness for the program and to commit to getting the word out to their employees and members. Between large corporations and nonprofit, the office's ability to reach qualified applicants grew significantly.

### SIGNIFICANCE

Ohio being one of the most important and watched swing states in the nation, it is important for each polling location to be appropriately staffed so voters have a great experience on Election Day. The Secretary of State's staff began traveling around Ohio in December 2015 meeting with various organizations, specifically asking them to become a partner by distributing information to members and employees on how they can dedicate a day for democracy by serving as a poll worker.

The meetings with various organizations resulted in nearly 100 partners, reaching more than 200,000 individuals. The Secretary's office partnered with several charities, distributed materials to hundreds of churches and designed, printed and distributed bookmarks with information about the need for poll workers through the Ohio Library Council to libraries around the state. We also partnered with eight major corporations whose reach spanned multiple counties and held a press conference with some of the participants to encourage more corporations to partner before the November election. The office even partnered with Starbucks to place posters about the program in all of their 180 Ohio locations. Secretary Husted also traveled to several schools around the state to encourage young adults to register to vote, cast their ballot and serve the community as a poll worker. The office reached state employees through advertisements on the Ohio Administrative Knowledge System. The Secretary of State's regional staff also engaged in grassroots efforts by presenting to service organizations and local chambers about the program.

## IMPACT

On Election Day, thousands of Ohioans played an important role in our democracy by helping to operate neighborhood polling places. Ohio's poll workers worked hard to ensure their neighbors had a positive experience when casting a ballot. These individuals helped safeguard the process so all Ohioans could have confidence in the results. The Day for Democracy program and our partners contributed to the success of the 2016 Presidential Election and the success of administering it by each county board of elections. Partner support helped ensure that Ohio's nearly 9,000 precincts were fully staffed and that voters had a great experience.

This program was administered at no cost to the boards of elections or partners and only required staffing costs for the Secretary of State's office.

## SUPPORTING MATERIALS

### STARBUCKS POSTER

# GET INVOLVED IN DEMOCRACY



## OHIO

SECRETARY OF STATE

## BE A VOTER

VOTE EARLY IN-PERSON, BY  
MAIL OR ON ELECTION DAY





### TurboVote

GO TO **TURBOVOTE.ORG**  
NEVER MISS AN ELECTION



## BE A POLL WORKER

HELP DEMOCRACY WORK BY MAKING SURE  
EVERY ELIGIBLE VOTER CAN VOTE



# WWW.MYOHIOVOTE.COM

# A Day For DEMOCRACY

 Be a Precinct Election Official

## As a Precinct Election Official

- Get a front row seat to democracy on Election Day by staffing a polling place
- Do your part for your country, state and local community
  - Earn extra spending money in the process

[www.DayforDemocracy.com](http://www.DayforDemocracy.com)

\*Disclaimer: County boards of elections are responsible for hiring precinct election officials for their own counties, determining the hours precinct election officials will work on Election Day and the compensation they will receive.

**Jon Husted**  
Ohio Secretary of State 

12/2015



Follow OhioSOSHusted:



# A Day For DEMOCRACY



Be a Precinct Election Official

Apply to be a  
Precinct Election  
Official in Ohio

- Get a front row seat to democracy on Election Day by staffing a polling place
- Do your part for your country, state and local community
- Earn extra spending money in the process

## Who can participate?

You can serve as a precinct election official (P.E.O.) in Ohio if you:

- Are a U.S. citizen
- Are at least 18 years old and registered to vote
- Are a resident of the county in which you plan to serve
- Are not running as a candidate for the election in which you are working
- Have not been convicted of a felony

## Why participate?

- Earn more than \$100 for the day in most counties.
- Gain a better understanding of the election and voting process.
- Serve your community and help democracy work by making sure every eligible voter can vote.

## Find out more on [www.DayforDemocracy.com](http://www.DayforDemocracy.com)

Sign up to receive more information, or contact your county board of elections (a complete directory is posted on this site).

*\*Disclaimer: County boards of elections are responsible for hiring precinct election officials for their own counties, determining the hours precinct election officials will work on Election Day and the compensation they will receive.*

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR GETTING INVOLVED

Ohio Secretary of State | [www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov](http://www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov)



Follow OhioSOSHusted:



Jon Husted  
Ohio Secretary of State



01/2016

## DAY FOR DEMOCRACY RECRUITMENT CARD (FRONT)

**Jon Husted**  
Ohio Secretary of State 

# A Day For DEMOCRACY

 Be a Precinct Election Official

- Get a front row seat to democracy on Election Day by staffing a polling place
- Do your part for your country, state and local community
- Earn extra spending money in the process

Every Election Day, thousands of Ohioans play an important role in our democracy by helping to operate polling places. Ohio's precinct election officials (P.E.O.s) work hard to ensure their neighbors can vote with ease on Election Day, while helping to safeguard the process so all Ohioans can have confidence in the results.

### Want to join Ohio's P.E.O. ranks?

Simply review the requirements on the flip side of this card and sign up online at [www.DayforDemocracy.com](http://www.DayforDemocracy.com) OR complete the postcard below and return it to the Ohio Secretary of State's office. Someone from your county board of elections will be in touch soon.

### Thank you for your interest in being a P.E.O. in O-HI-O!

Name (please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

County where I am registered to vote: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Party Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am fluent in a language other than English

Language: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the P.E.O. program? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please check this box if you would like to receive information and P.E.O. updates from the Secretary of State's office

## DAY FOR DEMOCRACY RECRUITMENT CARD (BACK)

### You can serve as a P.E.O. in Ohio if you: \_\_\_\_\_

- Are a U.S. citizen
- Are at least 18 years of age and registered to vote
- Are a resident of the county in which you plan to serve
- Are not running as a candidate for the election in which you are working
- Have not been convicted of a felony

### Keep in mind: \_\_\_\_\_

- All P.E.O.s are required to attend a training session scheduled by their county board of elections prior to the election.
- You can expect to work from about 5:30 a.m. (polls are open at 6:30) until 8:30 p.m. (polls close at 7:30), though working hours vary from county to county.

For more information, visit [www.DayforDemocracy.com](http://www.DayforDemocracy.com), contact your county board of elections (a complete directory is posted at [www.DayforDemocracy.com](http://www.DayforDemocracy.com)), or complete the attached postcard below and mail it back to the Secretary of State's office.



SOS 2202 (01/2016)

*Disclaimer: County boards of elections are responsible for hiring precinct election officials for their own counties, determining the hours precinct election officials will work on Election Day and the compensation they will receive. After completing this postcard, you will be contacted directly by your local board of elections regarding next steps.*



NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES

### BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO.5496 COLUMBUS OH

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

ELECTIONS DIVISION  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
180 E BROAD ST FL 15  
COLUMBUS OH 43215-9875



**JON HUSTED**  
Ohio Secretary of State



**WWW.DAYFORDEMOCRACY.COM**



ON ELECTION DAY  
MORE THAN  
**35,000**  
POLL WORKERS ARE NEEDED

EARN MORE THAN

**\$100**

FOR THE DAY IN MOST COUNTIES



EACH PRECINCT NEEDS  
POLL WORKERS

**4**



POLL WORKERS  
TYPICALLY WORK

**15 HOURS**

ON ELECTION DAY - 5:30 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.  
AND ATTEND A TRAINING SESSION BEFORE SERVING



**4,000+**

POLLING LOCATIONS  
IN OHIO



## TO BECOME A PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIAL IN OHIO:

- You must be a U.S. citizen
- You must be at least 18 years of age and registered to vote
- You must be a registered voter in the county in which you plan to work as a P.E.O.
- You must not have been convicted of a felony
- You cannot be running as a candidate for the election in which you are working

# A Day For DEMOCRACY

 Be a Precinct Election Official

**JON HUSTED**  
Ohio Secretary of State



Each Election Day, it takes roughly 35,000 Ohioans to serve as Precinct Election Officials (P.E.O.) – or poll workers – to ensure a well-run election. The importance of finding qualified individuals to serve as P.E.O.s in 2016 cannot be understated. For this reason, Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted is looking to partner with businesses, nonprofits and other organizations around the state to help with recruiting efforts.

Our 88 partners listed below have committed to helping recruit P.E.O.s this year by encouraging their employees and members to sign-up to serve this November during what will be one of the highest voter turn-out days in one of the most influential states in a presidential election. Their support will help to ensure that Ohio's nearly 9,000 precincts are fully staffed on Election Day so voters have a positive experience.

## CORPORATIONS

American Electric Power Ohio  
Nationwide  
Sherwin-Williams Company  
Big Lots  
Starbucks  
State Auto Insurance Companies  
AT&T Ohio Employee  
Resource Groups

## NONPROFITS

Cleveland Clinic Akron General  
National Association of Women  
Business Owners Columbus  
National Federation of  
Independent Business Ohio  
Ohio Association of Nonprofit  
Organizations  
Ohio Grocers Association  
Ohio Library Council  
Ronald McDonald House  
Charities Central Ohio  
YWCA of Greater Cincinnati  
Ohio Insurance Institute  
FOP Lodge 9  
Ohio History Connection  
Ohio Society of CPAs

## CHAMBERS

African-American Chamber of Greater Cincinnati &  
Northern Kentucky  
Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce  
Aurora Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau  
Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce  
Brookville Area Chamber of Commerce  
Brown County Ohio Chamber of Commerce  
Cambridge Area Chamber of Commerce  
Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce  
Celina-Mercer County Chamber of Commerce  
Champaign County Chamber of Commerce  
Chillicothe Ross County Chamber of Commerce  
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber  
Columbiana Area Chamber of Commerce  
Coshocton County Chamber of Commerce  
Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce  
Dublin Chamber of Commerce  
Erie County Chamber of Commerce  
Fairfield Chamber of Commerce  
Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Akron Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Ashtabula Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Hamilton Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Powell Area Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce  
Hardin County Chamber & Business Alliance

Hilliard Area Chamber of Commerce  
Hocking Hills Chamber of Commerce  
Holmes County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau  
Huber Heights Chamber of Commerce  
Huron County Chamber of Commerce  
Indian Lake Area Chamber of Commerce  
Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce  
Kent Area Chamber of Commerce  
Kettering Moraine Oakwood Chamber of Commerce  
Knox County Chamber of Commerce  
Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber  
Lebanon Area Chamber of Commerce  
Logan County Chamber of Commerce  
Marion Area Chamber of Commerce  
Massillon Chamber of Commerce  
Monroe County Chamber of Commerce  
Mt. Washington Community Development Corporation  
North Canton Area Chamber of Commerce  
Perry County Chamber of Commerce  
Pike County Chamber of Commerce  
Piqua Area Chamber of Commerce  
Preble County Chamber of Commerce  
Richland Area Chamber of Commerce  
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce  
Southern Columbiana Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Southwestern Auglaize Chamber of Commerce  
Springboro Chamber of Commerce  
St. Clairsville Area Chamber of Commerce  
St. Marys Area Chamber of Commerce  
Streetsboro Area Chamber of Commerce  
The Chamber of Commerce serving Middletown, Monroe and Trenton  
Tipp City Chamber of Commerce  
Trotwood Chamber of Commerce  
Troy Area Chamber of Commerce  
Tuscarawas County Chamber of Commerce  
Twin City Chamber of Commerce  
Union County Chamber of Commerce  
Vandalia-Butler Chamber of Commerce  
Wadsworth Chamber of Commerce  
Wapakoneta Area Chamber of Commerce  
Wilmington-Clinton County Chamber of Commerce  
Worthington Area Chamber of Commerce  
Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber