



YMCA CENTER FOR YOUTH VOICE

STUDENT ELECTION JUDGE NETWORK

Election Official Toolkit

Sample 2026 Student Election Judge Program Timeline

May	<p>Recruit students for the August primary before the school year ends.</p> <p>Communicate relevant deadlines for the primary and training process for students. This is the best time to reach students while they still have school support. Invite graduating seniors who have worked with you to return as team judges.</p>
June - July	<p>Conduct training of student election judges prior to the primary. Make sure students know deadlines and requirements for being able to serve.</p>
Early Aug.	<p>Send all your approved student judges reminders by email and text about the details of their polling place assignments. Although your head judge may be calling them as well, more communication is better. Make sure head judges know whom to contact if a student is late or doesn't make it.</p>
Aug. 11	<p>Primary</p>
Aug. 12 -19	<p>Send students an online post-election survey about their experience. Report student attendance at the polls for the primary. (Even when school is not in session, schools like to know when their students are participating in civic events.)</p>
Sept.	<p>Confirm which students will return to work for the November election and recruit additional students if needed. Distribute promotional materials to schools and partner organizations. Be sure educators and students are aware of deadlines for applying, returning permission forms, and training.</p>
Sept. - Oct.	<p>Conduct election judge training for student judges who need it, and make polling place assignments. Send reminders about deadlines and required permissions. Provide school partners with the list of their students who are participating, their polling place assignment, and scheduled hours.</p>
Nov. 3	<p>General Election</p>
Nov. 4 - 11	<p>Report student attendance at the polls on Election Day and send students the post-election survey to complete.</p>
Dec.	<p>Post-election celebration/discussions with students and educators.</p>