



Election Terms

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-A-

Active (status): A voter is “active” if he or she (1) voted in the last general election, (2) recently registered to vote, or (3) updated his or her voter information since the last election. Active voters have no restrictions on the ability to vote or to receive election mailings. Many statistical counts (such as voter participation) and voter lists include only active voters.

Active-20 day (status): When a person first applies for voter registration, his or her status is “Active—20 day.” The County Clerk and Recorder must send the applicant a Voter Information Card (VIC). If the card is returned as undeliverable within 20 days after the application, the applicant is deemed “not registered” and the record is marked “Failed 20-day”. Otherwise, after 20 days, the applicant is deemed registered and the record becomes “Active”.

Address Confidentiality Program (ACP): A program, run by the State of Colorado that safeguards victims of domestic violence, sexual offenses, stalking and harassment by keeping their addresses confidential. The ACP provides its participants with a substitute mailing address, and forwards mail from that address to a participant’s actual mailing address.

Affiliation: An elector’s decision to affiliate (that is, officially align him or herself) with a political party, such as the Democrat, Green, Reform, or Republican parties. Colorado has a “closed primary” where only electors affiliated with the particular party are allowed to cast a vote. Not all voters declare a party affiliation, and those who choose not to are considered “unaffiliated.”

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): A federal law passed in 1991 that pertains to the rights of disabled Americans. The ADA outlines requirements and guidelines for, among other things, accessibility and accommodations in facilities used for voting.

Assembly: A meeting of delegates of a political party, organized in accordance with the rules and regulations of the political party, held for the purpose of designating candidates for nominations to the ballot.

Audio ballot: Ballots recorded in an audible voice for the use of voters with visual disabilities. Audio ballots are prerecorded with ballot language and can be accessed at polls which use Direct Recording Electronic devices (DREs). Persons with visual disabilities can use headphones to listen to all contests on a ballot. The voter may then select his or her choice using knobs or buttons on the DRE.

-B-

Ballot: A pre-printed list of all candidates, ballot issues, and ballot questions upon which an eligible elector is entitled to vote at an election. A ballot may be paper or electronic, as in the case of a DRE.

Ballot access: The process by which a candidate, measure, question or issue gets on the ballot.

Ballot box: The locked and sealed container in which ballots are deposited by electors after the ballots are cast. The term includes the container in which ballots are transferred from a polling place to the office of the County Clerk and Recorder or other designated election official, as well as the transfer case in which electronic ballot cards and paper tapes and any electronic tabulation device are sealed by election judges for transfer to the central counting location.

Ballot card: The card, tape, or other device on which an elector's vote is recorded in an electronic or electromechanical voting system. Sometimes referred to as a "memory card" or "memory pack."

Ballot issue: Defined under article X, section 20 of the Colorado Constitution as "a non-recall petition or referred measure in an election." The definition is synonymous with *ballot question*, but only used in the context of matters arising under the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR).

Ballot on Demand: A printer that is configured to produce scanner-readable ballots in on-demand quantities in the elections office, polling place/vote center, or service center.

Ballot Removal: Refers to the secure process of removing a ballot from its envelope in order for the ballot to be counted. This term can also refer to the process of a Roundup Team securely removing a ballot box containing live, voted ballots from a VSPC.

Ballot question: Any measure on the ballot that does not arise under the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR). It may be citizen-initiated or referred to the ballot by a governing body.

Ballot style: A ballot that contains questions, issues, and contests relating to a specific voter's districts. Counties may have from one to dozens of different ballot styles, depending on the entities that are participating in the election. Ballot styles are generally numbered to differentiate the unique combination of questions.

-C-

Campaign Finance: A term that relates to the management of a candidate's or political, issue, or party committee's required paperwork regarding contributions and expenditures.

Campaign Finance filing: Documentation that candidates and political, issue, or party committees are required to file regarding contributions and expenditures.

Cancelled (status): Refers to a voter whose eligibility to vote has been revoked as a result of certain circumstances such as death, a request for cancellation, incarceration or parole for a felony, relocation to a different state, or in two consecutive general elections after becoming inactive due to undeliverable mail. Cancelled voters must re-register before they can vote again.

Candidate: A person who has appropriately filed the necessary paperwork to run for an elected office, or a person who has declared that he or she wishes to run for an office and has accepted a contribution.

Candidate filings: Paper or electronic documents that candidates file with their designated election official or the Secretary of State's office during the election cycle. Candidate filings may include affidavits declaring the candidate's desire to run for office or filings regarding the candidate's personal financial status.

Canvass: The process of reconciling ballots cast to ballots counted. A designated election official appoints the canvass board to reconcile these counts and to certify election results.

Canvassing Board: A bi-partisan panel of individuals appointed by the County Clerk and Recorder or designated election official to verify that election results are accurate and then to certify those results.

Caucus: A meeting held by members of a political party to elect representatives from each precinct to the party's assembly.

CDPHE List: The file maintained by the Department of Public Health and Environment listing individuals who have died in the State of Colorado.

Central Count: The process of counting all ballots at a polling place election by transporting the voted ballots to a central location, usually the County Clerk and Recorder's office. With a central count, ballots are not tabulated at polling places.

Certification of Ballot: The process of transmitting to the designated election official the approved races, candidates, and contests in an election. Ballot certification allows the clerk or other official to design and order ballots for an election.

Certification of Equipment: The process of analyzing and approving voting equipment. The Secretary of State's office must certify that equipment meets certain standards before anyone can use the equipment in the state. Examples of voting equipment that require certification include optical scan tabulation machines, DREs, and all related software, hardware, or firmware.

Colorado Open Records Act (CORA): Similar to the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) makes it the public policy of the State of Colorado that public records “shall be open for inspection by any person at reasonable times.” Documents that fall under CORA include communications by government employees and documents in government possession. However, work product, personnel files, and various other types of confidential data are not subject to disclosure.

Composite Sample Ballot: For each election, individual precincts, districts or municipalities may have an issue on the ballot of which other precincts, districts or municipalities will not. For example, a voter residing in Castle Rock would not vote on a Parker issue. A composite sample ballot is a single ballot used for informational purposes only, that displays all races and contests that were on each of the ballot types throughout the county.

Confidential information: Data or other information that is not considered public record. For example, social security numbers are considered confidential and must never be released to the public. Under certain circumstances, a county may release confidential information to law enforcement, or in response to a court order or other judicial directive.

Confirmation Card: A mailing sent to voters who either become inactive by failing to vote in a General Election, or when the county receives information from the United States Postal Service that the voter has moved. The confirmation card is sent by forwardable mail with pre-paid return postage. The confirmation card includes a voter registration application in order to allow the voter to confirm or update his or her information.

Congressional Vacancy Election: An election held to elect a successor for a United States Representative, who has vacated his or her office prior to the completion of his/her term.

Contest: Refers to a measure, question, issue or candidate race on a ballot.

Contribution: A political donation of any kind. Contributions are subject to statutory limits as well as disclosure requirements under state and federal campaign finance laws. See *Campaign Finance*.

Convention: A meeting of delegates of a political party held for the purpose of selecting delegates to other political conventions, including state and national conventions, and making nominations for presidential electors or nominating candidates to fill vacancies in unexpired terms of representatives in Congress.

Coordinated Election: If more than one political subdivision (state, county, municipality, school district, or special district) holds an election on the same day in November and the eligible electors for each election are the same or the boundaries of the jurisdictions overlap, the county clerk coordinates and conducts the elections on behalf of all political subdivisions. Jurisdictions that choose not to coordinate but still hold the election, must conduct it by mail ballot. In an odd-year, the county clerk may decide to conduct the election by mail ballot.

County Clerk & Recorder: An elected official in charge of a myriad of duties, including serving as the county designated election official and registrar of voters.

County Code: A unique tracking number assigned alphabetically, with the exception of Broomfield, to each county in Colorado. There are 64 counties, and county numbers begin at 1 (Adams) and end at 64 (Broomfield).

Covered Jurisdiction: A jurisdiction that under federal law must submit any proposed changes in its election laws or rules to the U.S. Department of Justice for review prior to adopting the change. Jurisdictions are covered under the Voting Rights Act because of past history of discriminatory practices. Under this process, the changes must be “precleared” before the jurisdiction can implement them. A list of covered jurisdictions is available on the Department of Justice’s website; there are no covered jurisdictions in Colorado. See *Preclearance* and *Voting Rights Act*.

Cure: Term referring to the rectification of an issue.

-D-

Designated Election Official (DEO): The member of a governing board, secretary of the board, county clerk, or other person designated by the governing body to run an election. The DEO may be the county clerk, municipal clerk, or a representative of a special district or school district. In coordinated elections, the DEO for each participating entity is responsible for working with the county clerk.

Direct Recording Electronic Device (DRE): A voting system that records votes by means of a ballot display provided for the voter on a screen. DREs are sometimes referred to as “touch screens” although not all DREs employ the use of an interactive screen. Some DREs require the voter to use the dials, buttons, or knobs to cast their ballot.

Duplication Team: During an active election cycle, is the team comprised of bipartisan election judges who, for any number of reasons, attempt to recreate a voter’s ballot in order to count the ballot. Potential issues which may cause the use of a Duplication Team include (but is not limited to) soiled ballots which cause the marks to be unreadable and torn ballots. The Duplication Team acts in collaboration with and as a result of the Resolution Team’s findings, with regard to each individual problematic ballot.

-E-

Early Voting: The process of casting a ballot in person prior to Election Day. Counties conduct early voting, during regular office hours, for 15 days prior to every general or coordinated election and during regular office hours for 10 days prior to primary and congressional vacancy elections. Early voting is not required for recall elections. Because statutes provide that counties hold early voting during “regular business hours,” counties may choose whether to open early voting on weekends.

Election Assistance Commission (EAC): Created as a result of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), the EAC is a federally-appointed commission that oversees HAVA implementation as well as other election-related matters.

Election Calendar: A calendar created and issued by the state Elections Division that includes a comprehensive list of election related dates.

Election Fraud: A broad category of criminal acts that undermine the integrity of the voting process. Election fraud includes, but is not limited to: illegal registration (e.g., the registration of a non-citizen), voter intimidation, vote buying, voter impersonation, multiple voting, and tampering with ballots or ballot-counting devices. Election fraud is also called *voter fraud*.

Election Judge: An election judge is an eligible elector, who assists with the conduct of elections. Election judges may be assigned to specific duties or may serve as a specific type of election judge such as a supply judge or ballot judge. Synonymous with *Election Worker* and *Poll Worker*.

Election mailing: Refers collectively to election-related documents sent to voters. Election mailings include confirmation cards and voter information cards.

Election Management System (EMS): A system that includes applications for managing election activities including, but not limited to, poll worker management, ballot assignment, and petition verification.

Election Manager/Director: The individual who is directly responsible for overseeing election processes in a county. Generally, this person is not the county clerk, but rather a senior staff member who manages election functions in the county.

Election Official: Any County Clerk and Recorder, election judge, member of a canvassing board, member of a board of county commissioners, member or secretary of a board of directors authorized to conduct public elections, representative of a governing body or other person contracting for or engaged in the performance of election duties.

Election Worker: See *Election Judge*.

Electioneering: The act of attempting to influence a person's or committee's views regarding a candidate or contest on the ballot. Electioneering may include distribution of printed material, verbal endorsement, or signage. Electioneering is lawful, but cannot be conducted within 100 feet of a polling place. The term "Electioneering" should not be confused with "Electioneering Communications" as defined in Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution.

Electioneering Communications: Any communication that refers a candidate and targets the electorate. As defined in Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution, the communication may be broadcast on TV or the internet, printed in newspapers or on a billboard, mailed directly or hand-distributed. Moreover, electioneering communications occur within 30 days of a primary election or 60 days of a general

election. Lastly, electioneering communications include both “express advocacy” (advocating the election or defeat of a candidate) and “issue advocacy” (advertisements using a candidate’s name regarding a particular issue, but not advocating election or defeat). The Supreme Court, in *Federal Elections Commission v. Wisconsin Right to Life, Inc.*, decided that only “express advocacy” may be regulated by federal campaign finance laws.

Elections Division: The division of the Department of State that oversees election matters, including SCORE, HAVA, and Campaign Finance.

Elector: A person legally qualified to vote in the State of Colorado.

Elector (Presidential): In presidential elections, voters vote for presidential electors rather than the president directly. The electors (collectively, the “electoral college”) then cast votes for their designated candidate. Each state has a number of electors equal to its United States Representatives and Senators, for a total of 535 electors nationwide. After the 2010 census, Colorado has nine electors.

ERIC: Electronic Registration Information Center. This is a combined effort among ten states, of which Colorado is a part, that shares voter registration data such as deceased lists, moves, cancellations, withdrawals, and returned ballots.

Evaluation Team: During an active election cycle, is the team designated with attempting to cure a rejected ballot envelope to see if requirements can be satisfied to accept the ballot envelope.

-F-

Fair Campaign Practices Act: The laws enacted by the Colorado Legislature relating to Campaign Finance. These laws are referred to as CPF/FCPA or Campaign and Political Finance/Fair Campaign Practices Act.

Federal election: An election where one or more candidates for a federal office are included on the ballot. Federal elections are generally held in even-numbered years. The primary and the general election are considered federal elections.

Federal Election Commission (FEC): Created by Congress in 1975 to administer and enforce the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA), which is the statute that governs the financing of federal elections.

Flat Ballot: Refers to a paper ballot that has not been folded.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA): A federal law that gives individuals the right to access information from the government. However, not all documents are required to be accessible.

-G-

General Election: An election conducted by the County Clerk and Recorder in an even numbered year. General elections are held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. General elections are partisan elections, meaning that some candidates listed on the ballot will have their political party's name associated with the candidate's names.

Gerrymandering: The use of redistricting to enhance a group's political power, often by forming unusually-shaped districts. Gerrymandering can be classified as "partisan" or "racial." In partisan gerrymandering, for example, a district may be drawn to include as many traditionally Republican voters as possible, thereby ensuring the election of a Republican from that district in every election cycle. In racial gerrymandering, districts may be drawn to empower or exclude minority groups. For example, a "majority-minority" district might be drawn so that Latino voters form a majority and therefore elect a candidate of their choice in every election cycle.

Group Residential Facility: Refers to a health care facility (HCF), halfway house, or any other type of assisted living which, pertaining to the interest of the Elections Office, utilizes private mailboxes.

-H-

Hand Count: The process of counting ballots by hand rather than processing ballots through a counting machine.

Hatch Act: Congress passed the Hatch Act in 1939 in order to prohibit federal executive employees (except the President and Vice President) from engaging in some types of partisan political activity. In 1940, this prohibition extended to state and local employees whose positions are primarily funded by the federal government.

Health Care Facility (HCF): Refers to a facility where persons reside who require living care assistance.

HCF Judge: Term used for an elections staff member who is deployed to an HCF for the purpose of helping conduct an "in-house" VSPC and aid HCF residents in the voting process.

Help America Vote Act (HAVA): HAVA is a 2002 federal law passed in the wake of the controversial 2000 presidential election. HAVA mandated the replacement of punch card voting machines, the creation of provisional ballots, the requirement for statewide voter registration system and easier access for disabled voters.

-I-

Identification: See *Valid Identification*.

Inactive (status): Inactive voters are considered registered voters and may vote in all Colorado elections, but they are not entitled to receive all election mailings. A voter is designated as inactive if he or she fails

to vote in a general election (Inactive—Failed to Vote) or if a ballot or mailing sent to the voter by the County Clerk and Recorder is returned by the post office (Inactive—Returned Mail or Inactive—Undeliverable Ballot).

Incomplete (status): People who provide some, but not all, of the required information on their voter registration forms are deemed “incomplete” in SCORE. Once the necessary information is provided, the person is registered from the date he or she initially submitted the voter registration form, not the date when the form was updated.

Independent Expenditure: Any purchase or payment advocating for the election or defeat of a candidate that is not coordinated with any candidate, candidate’s committee, or political party. Independent expenditures, whether by persons, corporations, or unions, receive substantial protection under the First Amendment. As such, they are not subject to spending limits or reporting requirements.

Initiative: A ballot question or issue initiated by citizen action. A ballot initiative is created when citizens circulate petitions in order to have a question or issue placed on the ballot.

Intake Team: is a team of election workers based at Elections HQ who, during the course of an active voting period, receive the secured ballots who are returned by the Roundup Team. The Intake Team is the first contact the ballots encounter in the chain of command when they are returned to the building. The Intake Team accepts the secured ballots and faces them to ensure efficient processing in the next phase of ballot processing.

Interested Party: Defined by C.R.S. 1-10.5-106(1), means the candidate who lost the election, the political party or political organization of such candidate, any petition representative identified pursuant to section 1-40-113 for a ballot issue or ballot question that did not pass at the election, the governing body that referred a ballot question or ballot issue to the electorate if such ballot question or ballot issue did not pass at the election, or the agent of an issue committee that is required to report contributions pursuant to the Fair Campaign Practices Act, article 45 of this title, that either supported a ballot question or ballot issue that did not pass at the election or opposed a ballot question or ballot issue that passed at the election.

-J- -K-

-L-

Language Minority: Refers to communities that may face barriers in the political process due to speaking a language other than English. Under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act (VRA), certain jurisdictions are required to accommodate language minorities by providing election materials in both English and the minority language. In Colorado, Costilla, Denver, and Rio Grande Counties are required to provide election materials in Spanish.

List Maintenance: The process of transferring, consolidating, and cancelling voter registration records so that they are up-to-date and as accurate as possible.

-M-

Mail Ballot: A ballot that is sent to and returned by the voter via mail. If an election is designated as a mail ballot election, ballots are automatically mailed to all active voters. However, in a polling place/vote center election, mail ballots are sent only by request. In a general election, ballots are only mailed to Active voters, but in a mail ballot primary election, they are sent to all affiliated Active and Inactive—Failed to Vote (I-FTV) voters.

Mail Ballot election: An election designated as and conducted entirely by mail. During a Mail Ballot Election, the DEO mails ballots to all active registered voters. Those ballots may be returned by mail or can be dropped off at the DEO's office or designated drop-off sites. Voters who do not receive a mail ballot or need a replacement ballot may request a ballot at the DEO's office. Special procedures and requirements are set for mail ballot elections.

Mail-in precinct: A precinct containing no more than 150 registered voters officially designated as "mailin." If the county clerk designates a precinct as a mail-in precinct, the county clerk will mail out applications for mail-in ballots to all voters in the precinct. A mail-in precinct does not have a regular polling place.

Mailing address: The address designated by a voter to receive mail. Voters may have a separate residence and mailing address. A mailing address does not have to be in Colorado.

Major Political Party: Any political party that, in the last gubernatorial election, fielded a candidate for office who received at least 10% of the votes cast is considered a major party under Colorado law.

Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act: A federal law passed in 2009 that amends the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) by requiring, among other things, that ballots must be sent out to military and overseas citizens no later than 45 days before an election.

Minor Political Party: Any political party, other than a major political party, that either petitions for minor party status by obtaining the signatures of 10,000 registered voters, fields a candidate who receives at least 5% of the votes cast for any statewide office in the last two general elections, or has at least 1,000 affiliated voters by July 1 of the election year where the political party nominates candidates.

-N-

National Association of State Election Directors (NASSED): NASSED is an organization of state election directors formed to exchange best practices and ideas.

National Voter Registration Act (NVRA): Passed in 1993 to boost voter registration numbers, the NVRA required that voter registration applications be made available at any state or federally funded agency that assists the public. The NVRA also created “Motor-Voter” procedures and requires that the state report voter registration numbers.

No excuse mail-in: Describes an elector’s ability to request and receive a mail-in ballot for any reason. The elector does not have to meet approved criteria such as being ill or temporarily out of state.

Non-partisan election: An election where the candidates’ party affiliations are not printed on the ballot. Coordinated elections are non-partisan elections, and primary elections are not held prior to nonpartisan elections. Non-Partisan elections include biennial school district elections and regular municipal elections.

-O-

Odd-year election: See *Coordinated Election, Non-Partisan Election*.

OpScan (Optical Scan Machine): Typically refers to a ballot counting device where ballots are processed through a machine that reads a voter’s ballot marks.

Overvote: Occurs when a voter marks too many choices on the ballot. As an example, if a voter indicates both “yes” and “no” on a ballot question, the vote is considered an overvote. Electronic counting machines, such as optical scan machines, are programmed to reject a ballot containing an overvote. Election Judges may then issue a replacement ballot to the voter. DREs do not allow voters to overvote.

-P-

Paper Ballot: Refers to a paper ballot as opposed to an electronic ballot utilizing a machine.

Partisan election: An election where each candidate’s party affiliation is listed with her name on the ballot. Partisan elections require that a primary election be held first to narrow the field of candidates. General elections are partisan elections.

Permanent Mail-in Voter (PMIV): In 2007, the Colorado legislature passed a bill that allowed voters to join the permanent mail-in voter list. This allows voters to receive a mail ballot for every election coordinated by the County Clerk and Recorder without having to reapply for a mail ballot every election.

Petition: A document circulated throughout a jurisdiction to obtain electors’ signatures in order to have a question or candidate placed on a ballot. After petitions are circulated, they must be filed with the appropriate office (Secretary of State, municipal clerk, etc.), so that the signatures may be verified and counted.

Pick and Pull (PNP): Refers to the process of an election judge retrieving a voter’s specific paper ballot by “picking” their ballot using the voter’s precinct number, and “pulling” the chosen ballot from among many other ballots.

Poll Book: A list of the names and addresses of eligible voters within a certain jurisdiction or precinct. The poll book is used by election workers to validate a voter’s eligibility. After an election worker verifies eligibility, the voter must sign the poll book. Some counties use signature cards instead of a poll book. Poll books can be in electronic form, but when electronic, the voters must sign a separate signature card.

Poll Tax: A requirement that a voter pay money in order to cast a vote. The United States Supreme Court, in the case of *Harper v. Virginia* (1966), ruled that poll taxes are unconstitutional.

Poll Worker: See *Election Judge*.

Polling location: A building where the electors of one or more voting precincts are assigned to vote. In a polling place election, voters choosing to vote in person on Election Day must do so at their polling location. Vote centers are also polling locations, but vote centers allow voters to vote at any vote center in the specific county. Synonymous with *Polling Place*.

Precinct: An established, bounded area within a county used to form election districts. Precincts have set maximum numbers of active voters. Voters are assigned to precincts depending on the residence address where they are registered to vote.

Preclearance: A requirement applied to covered jurisdictions under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. Covered jurisdictions wishing to change any voting qualification, procedure, standard, or practice must seek approval or preclearance from the United States Attorney General or the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

Primary Election: An election held to narrow the number of same-party candidates to one person for each contest. Winners of the Primary Election have their names placed on the General Election ballot to run against candidates of other parties and unaffiliated candidates. A candidate who loses at a Primary Election may not have her name listed on a general Election ballot. (Note: some party candidates choose not to participate in a party’s caucus/assembly process and may circulate a petition to have their name placed directly on the Primary Election ballot.) Unaffiliated candidates do not participate in Primary Elections.

Property owner: A voter who owns a piece of taxable real property within a certain jurisdiction. Under Colorado law, in certain circumstances, voters who own property in a special district but are registered to vote elsewhere in Colorado, may be eligible to vote on tax related issues. Property Owner voters have special forms and procedures for elections.

Provisional ballot: A type of ballot issued to a voter whose eligibility to vote cannot be immediately verified. After Election Day, the DEO will research the voter’s information and if he or she can verify the

voter's eligibility, the provisional ballot is counted. If the DEO cannot verify the voter's eligibility, the provisional ballot is not counted. Provisional ballots are issued for many reasons, such as: the voter's name cannot be found in the poll book or signature cards, the voter did not bring approved identification, the voter has moved and not notified the county clerk, or the voter is not registered to vote.

-Q-

-R-

Recall Election: An election held to determine if the current officeholder should be removed from office and, if so, to name the successor to the recalled individual.

Recall petition: Petition circulated in order to gather sufficient signatures to require that a recall election be held.

Recount: The process of counting the votes again. Mandatory recounts occur when the margin between the winner and the runner-up is within one-half of one percent (0.5%). Recounts may also be requested by interested parties or ordered by the Department of State.

Redistricting: The process of redrawing geographical boundaries of congressional districts. Redistricting is conducted by the state legislature. Once new districts are approved, county clerks must update their street address records to reflect any changes.

Referred measure: A question placed on the ballot by the direction of a governing body such as the Colorado General Assembly or the Board of County Commissioners.

Residence: A voter's primary and permanent home. For registration and voting purposes, establishing residency means a voter manifests the intent to make a particular location within the state his or her primary and permanent home. A voter remains a Colorado resident even if he or she leaves the state for an extended period of time, provided that the voter intends to return at some point.

Residential address: The physical address where a voter maintains his or her primary and permanent home. A residential address may be different than a mailing address. For the purposes of voter registration, a homeless individual may designate any physical location (including a shelter, an empty lot, or a street corner) as his or her residential address.

Resolution Team – is a team comprised of bipartisan election judges who deal solely with resolving problematic paper ballots by attempting to determine the intent of the vote cast by the voter. Examples of problematic ballots which could require a Resolution Team to be summoned include (but is not limited to) ballots with an overvote, undervote, or some other type of marking issue which flags the ballot as being problematic. The Resolution Team's goal is to cure the ballot in a bipartisan environment

in order to ensure the voter's ballot is counted as well as to alleviate any concerns of fraud involved with the process.

Roundup: Performed by the "Roundup Team", this refers to the process of a team of bipartisan persons who, during an active election voting period, travel to the various VSPCs to securely collect the ballots that have been cast and bring them back to the central processing facility (or Elections Headquarters) in order to be counted.

-S-

Sample ballot: A sample or example of what an Official Ballot will look like. Sample ballots contain information such as candidate's name and wording for contests that will be on the Official Ballot. Sample ballots are published in newspapers, on county websites, available at libraries and posted on Election Day.

Scanning Team: A designated team that scans ballots into secure computers to be stored on memory cards.

Second chance voting: Refers to a voter's right to review her voted ballot and correct any mistakes prior to officially casting that ballot. Second chance voting is a requirement established by HAVA.

Secret ballot: A vote cast so that the voter's identity remains anonymous. The right to cast a secret ballot is enshrined within Article VII, Section 8 of the Colorado Constitution.

Secretary of State: The chief elections official of the State of Colorado. In addition to the Elections Division, the Secretary of State's Office contains a Business and Licensing Division, Administration Division, and Information Technology Division. The Secretary of State is a statewide elected position. Secretaries serve for a term of four years.

Sorting Team: The team, during an active election cycle, that is tasked with sorting ballot envelopes as they are received into the central processing facility (Elections Headquarters); the sorting process utilizes the Agilis machine which sorts the ballot envelopes according to specifications input by the elections office (example: ID Required, Signature Discrepancy, etc.).

Special District: A special district is a type of local government, operating under Title 32 of the Colorado Revised Statutes that provides quasi-municipal services. Examples of special districts include fire protection districts, health service districts, water districts, and sanitation districts.

Spoiled ballot: A ballot that has been damaged or marked incorrectly and must be duplicated or replaced in order to be counted.

Statewide Voter Registration System (SCORE): The statewide voter registration and election management system used in Colorado. The system links counties, voters and agencies such as CDOR,

CDOC and CDPHE together in order to streamline many processes and reduce the potential for voter fraud. The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and Colorado Revised Statutes require this system.

Student Election Judge: Refers to a high school student who is used as an election judge during an election's voting period.

-T-

Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR): Passed as a constitutional amendment by Colorado voters in 1992, TABOR imposes spending and revenue limits on the state government. Since the passage of TABOR, these limits have been softened through various initiatives and referenda (notably Referendum C) and a number of Colorado Supreme Court decisions. TABOR also contains various election provisions, which dictate when voters should be provided with advanced notice, govern the particular language that appears on notices and ballots, and identify what sort of tax policy changes trigger an election. TABOR is found in Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution.

-U-

Unaffiliated: An elector who is registered to vote but has not chosen a political party with which to affiliate. Unaffiliated voters are often referred to as independent voters, in Colorado, though it should be noted that some other states have an actual Independent Party.

Undervote: Occurs when a voter chooses not to cast a vote for a particular race or contest on a ballot, or if a voter chooses not to vote for the maximum number of allowable candidates. Undervotes are tracked for audit purposes.

Uniform Military and Overseas Voter Act (UMOVA): Colorado adopted UMOVA in 2011 in order to improve the absentee voting process for military and overseas voters. UMOVA, consolidated all statutes relating to military and overseas voters into a single article, and applied the same processes and procedures to all UOCAVA voters.

Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA): Originally enacted in 1986 and amended and updated several times. UOCAVA was created to assist uniformed military and overseas citizens with voter registration and the absentee ballot process.

-V-

Valid Identification: Voters must show form of valid identification, i.e. certain information and/or documents, when voting in person. Any voter who fails to produce ID when voting in person must be issued a provisional ballot. A first-time voter who registered to vote by mail may also be required to provide a copy of valid ID the first time he or she votes by mail. The Secretary of State's website contains a list of approved forms of identification.

Verifiable Ballot Option (VBO): Verifiable Ballot Option is a physical record of a voter's choices, which is displayed for the voter to confirm and see that the machine has correctly identified their selections on a given ballot. For our use, the VBO is the roll of paper on the E-Slates that prints a copy of the voter's choices from their ballot. These choices can be verified by the voter at the time they cast their electronic ballot, and this record can be verified for accuracy during the Post-Election Audit.

Vote Dilution: The degradation of the value of an individual's vote. For example, if a rural district with 100 voters elects one representative, and an urban district with 10,000 voters also elects one representative, the value of an urban voter's vote is only 1/100 of the value of a rural voter's vote. An entire group's vote can be diluted as well. For example, an area containing a concentration of African American voters can be divided into many districts, so that no one district has a majority of African Americans (and, consequently, the ability of the African American community to elect a candidate of their choice is eliminated). Vote dilution violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and is thus unconstitutional.

Voter fraud: See *Election Fraud*.

Voter Registration Application: The form an individual uses to register to vote. Voter registration applications can be found in many locations, including the county clerk's office, Secretary of State's office, DMV, and the internet. Completed voter registration applications are submitted to the county clerk for processing. The county clerk will ensure all required information is provided and enter the application into the statewide voter registration system.

Voter Registration Drive (VRD): Often conducted by groups of citizens who wish to recruit new electors. Many new requirements and procedures were established in 2005, with legislation and rules concerning the process of distributing and collecting applications for voter registration in conjunction with VRDs.

Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC): Is a designated building used during an active election cycle and is capable of performing all voter functions; any VSPC can serve any resident of Douglas County.

Voter status: The registration status of an elector, including active, inactive, cancelled, incomplete, and pending. An elector's status may enable or restrict the elector from certain processes. For example, active and inactive voters are eligible to cast a regular ballot during an election. Cancelled voters are not eligible to cast a regular ballot.

Voter turnout: The percentage of eligible voters who participate in a particular election. In Colorado, voter turnout is based upon the percentage of active voters who participate.

Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT): Produced by a DRE indicating in a readable format the voter's choices. The voter can choose to cast the ballot after reviewing the VVPAT or may choose to make changes before casting the ballot. The VVPAT unit is generally attached directly to the DRE and, although the voter can view the VVPAT, it may not be physically accessed. *Also known as VVPAR, VBO.*

Voting system: The electronic devices, including hardware and software, used to cast, record, and tabulate votes in an election.

VRD Code: A numeric code provided to VRD organizers by the Secretary of State's office. This code is used to identify forms from specific VRDs.

Voting System Testing Laboratory (VSTL): A voting system testing laboratory that provides engineering, testing, or evaluation services, and is qualified by the EAC to conduct qualification testing on a voting system.

-W-

-X-

-Y-

-Z-

Election Acronyms

-A-

ACP	Address Confidentiality Program (Section 24-30-2101, C.R.S)
ACP	American Constitution Party
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.)
AG	Attorney General
AGO	Attorney General's Opinion
AUP	Acceptable Use Policy

-B-

BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BMP	Best Management Practice
BOCC	Board of County Commissioners
BPVC	Best Practices and Vision Commission (Election Rule 50)

-C-

CASB	Colorado Association of School Boards
CBI	Colorado Bureau of Investigation
CCCA	Colorado County Clerks Association
CCI	Colorado Counties Inc. www.ccionline.org
CCIC	Colorado Crime Information Center System
CCR/CAR	County Clerk and Recorder
CDOC	Colorado Department of Corrections (provides felons records for cancellation)
CDOR	Colorado Department of Revenue (provides voter registration with driver's license)
CDOS	Colorado Department of State
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and environment (provides death records for cancellation)
CDHS	Colorado Department of Human Services
CMCA	Colorado Municipal Clerks Association www.cmca.gen.co.us
CML	Colorado Municipal League www.cml.org
COE	Colorado Code of Ethics
COG	Council of Government—A name generally applied to sub-state multijurisdictional entities
COR	Certificate of Registration (Section 1020216.5(4), C.R.S.)
CORA	Colorado Open Records Act (Section 25-72-201, C.R.S.)
CPF	Campaign and Political Finance (Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution; Article 45 of Title 1, C.R.S.)
CRS	Colorado Revised Statutes

CTSI County Technical Services, Inc. www.ctsi.org

-D-

DA District Attorney
DAU Disabled Access Unit – the Accessible voting machines (*See also DRE*)
DEM Democratic

DEM Division of Emergency Management
DEO Designated Election Official
DHS Department of Human Services (Colorado)
DHS U.S. Department of Homeland Security
DL Driver’s License
DLA Driver’s License Administration
DLG Division of Local Government, Colorado Department of Local Affairs (*See also DOLA*)
DMV Division of Motor Vehicles
DOC Department of Corrections (*See also CDOC*)
DOD U.S. Department of Defense (*See also FVAP*)
DOJ U.S. Department of Justice www.justice.gov/crt/about/vot/
DOLA Colorado Department of Local Affairs (*See also CDOR*)
DOR Department of Revenue (*See also CDOR*)
DORA Colorado Department of Regulatory Affairs
DOT U.S. Department of Transportation
DPA Colorado Department of Personnel and Administration
DPPA Driver Privacy Protection Act (deals with the privacy of information from state motor vehicle records) (18 U.S.C. §§ 2721 et seq.)
DPS Colorado Department of Public Safety
DRE Direct Recording Electronic Device – the accessible voting machines (*See also DAU*)

-E-

EAC U.S. Election Assistance Commission www.eac.gov
EMS Emergency Medical Service
EO Executive Order – Issued by the president or by the governor
ERIC
ESRC Election Statute Review Committee

-F-

FAA Federal Aviation Administration
FAQ Frequently Asked Questions
FCPA Fair Campaign Practices Act (Article 45 of Title 1, C.R.S.)
FEC Federal Election Commission – The Federal agency that administers and enforces federal campaign finance laws www.fec.gov

FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552)
FPCA	Federal Post Card Application – A voter registration and mail ballot request for UOCAVA voters
FTP	File Transfer Protocol (e.g., FileZilla)
FVAP	Federal Voting Assistance Program, U.S. Department of Defense (military and overseas voters) www.fvap.gov
FY	Fiscal Year
FYI	For Your Information

-G-

GA	General Assembly – The full Colorado legislative body
GEN	Generic
GF	General Fund
GIS	Geographical Information System
GO	General Obligation (Bond)
GPS	Global Positioning System

-H-

HAVA	Help America Vote Act – A federal law enacted in 2002 that, among other things, requires one accessible voting machine in each polling place, mandated the creation of a statewide voter database, and instituted an identification requirement for people registering to vote by mail for the first time (42 U.S.C. §§ 15301 et seq.)
HB	House Bill
HCF	Health Care Facility (Sections 1-1-104(18.5) and 1-7-112, C.R.S.; Election Rule 13.11)
HCR	House Concurrent Resolution (Colorado)

-I-

IA	Impact Assistance
IACREOT	International Associate of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers
ICE	Immigration and Customs Enforcement—One of three successors to the immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)
ID	Identification (Section 1-1-104(19.5), C.R.S.; Election Rule 30)
IDS	Integrated Data System
IEC	Independent Ethics Commission
IFES	International Foundation for Elections Systems www.ifes.org

I-FTV Inactive – Failed to Vote Status

IGA Intergovernmental Agreement

IIMC International Institute of Municipal Clerks www.iimc.com

I-RM Inactive—Returned Mail status

IT Information Technology

I-UB Inactive—Undeliverable Ballot

-J-

JBC Joint Budget Committee – A joint legislative committee in Colorado which is charged with writing the state budget

JBC Judge’s Control Booth

-L-

LAN Local Area (Computer) Network

LAT Logic and Accuracy Test

-M-

MBB Mobile Ballot Box

MACC Metro Area County Commissioners

MOE Maintenance of Effort

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

MOVE Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act—A federal law enacted in 2009 that amended UOCAVA by mandating a 45 day ballot transit time for military and overseas citizens

-N-

NACO National Association of Counties www.naco.org

NASED National Association of State Elections Directors www.nased.org

NASS National Association of Secretaries of State www.nass.org

NCCUSL National Association of Uniform Commissioners on Uniform State Laws www.nccusl.org

NEC National Elections Commission

NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology – A federal agency directed by HAVA to lead the Technical Guidelines Development Committee TGDC in developing Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG) www.vote.nist.gov

NVLAP National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program www.nist.gov/nvlap

NVRA National Voter Registration Act (“Motor Voter Act”) – A federal law enacted in 1993 that, among other things, requires human service agencies and motor vehicle offices to provide voter registration, standardizes registration procedures, and sets out rules for registration list maintenance (42 U.S.C. §§ 1973 gg et seq.)

-O-

OAC Office of Administrative Courts www.colorado.gov/dpa/oac
OAA Older Americans Act
ODIHR Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights – European organization which observes elections www.osce.org/odihr
OIT Office of Information Technology
OLVR Online Voter Registration www.GoVoteColorado.com
OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Act (29 U.S.C. §§ 651 et seq.)
OSPB Office of State Planning & Budgeting www.colorado.gov/ospb
OSRVS Office of State Registrar of Vital Statistics www.cdpphe.state.co.us/certs
OVF Overseas Vote Foundation www.overseasvotefoundation.com

-P-

PI Postponed Indefinitely
PII Personal Identifying Information – Any information about an individual maintained by an agency which can be used to distinguish or trace an individual’s identity
PIO Public Information Officer
PMIV Permanent Mail-in Voter (Section 1-8-104.5, C.R.S.)
PMR Colorado Planning and Management Regions (13 established by Executive Order)
PNP Pick and Pull
POA Power of Attorney

-Q-

Q&A Question and Answer

-R-

REP Republican
RFI Request for Information
RFP Request for Proposals
RMA Required Maintenance Agreement
RTA Rural Transit Authority
RTD Regional Transportation District

-S-

SB Senate Bill
SCORE State of Colorado Registration and Elections (the statewide voter registration database)
SCR Senate Concurrent Resolution (Colorado)

SDA	Special District Association www.sdaco.org
SIPA	Statewide Internet Portal Authority
SOS	Secretary of State (<i>See also CDOS</i>)
SOVC	Statement of Votes Cast
SSA	Social Security Act/Administration
STIP S	Statewide Transportation Improvement plan – A plan that combines the local Transportation Improvement Plans.
SVID	Secure and Verifiable Identification

-T-

TABOR	Taxpayer Bill of Rights (Section 20, Article X of the Colorado Constitution)
TGDC	Technical Guidelines Development Committee – Supports the Election Assistance Committee by providing recommendations on voluntary standards and guidelines related to voting equipment. (<i>See also NIST</i>)
TIP	Transportation Improvement Plan
TPRs	Transportation Planning Regions

-U-

UAT	User Acceptance Testing
UOCAVA	Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voters Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 1973ff et seq.)
UMOVA	Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act (Article 8.3 of Title 1, C.R.S.)
UNA	Unaffiliated
UPS	Uninterrupted Power Supply
USAO	United States Attorney's Office
USC	United States Code

-V-

VA	Veteran's Affairs
VBO	Verifiable Ballot Option (<i>See also VVPAT, VVPAR</i>)
VIC	Voter Information Card
VRD	Voter Registration Drive (Section 1-2-701, C.R.S. et seq.)
VSTL	Voting System Testing Laboratories – Refers to testing laboratories now accredited by EAC.
VVSG	Voluntary Voting System Guidelines – An EAC publication of voting system standards (2005 forward)
VVPAT	Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail – The “receipt” on the voting machine (<i>See also VBO, VVPAR</i>)
VVPAR	Voter Verified Paper Audit Record (<i>See also VBO, VVPAT</i>)
VRA	Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. §§ 1973 et seq.)

-W-

DouglasVotes Glossary

-X-

-Y-

YTD

Year to Date

-Z-