

# Cuyahoga County Board of Elections

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2026-2027 Biennial Budget Requirements

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# 2026-2027 Election Cycle

During the upcoming biennial budget period, the CCBOE is currently scheduled to conduct the following six elections:

- **January 6, 2026** - Special Election
- **May 5, 2026** - Gubernatorial Primary Election
- **November 3, 2026** - Gubernatorial General Election
- **May 4, 2027** - Primary Election
- **September 14, 2027** - Primary Election
- **November 2, 2027** - General Election



# Additional Funding Requirements

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The County Executive's Recommended Budget (ERB) is insufficient to maintain election operations at current levels.

- CCBOE budgets are typically projected by using data from comparable election cycles four years prior, adjusted with current-year insights
- The ERB for 2026 and 2027 reflect reductions from actual expenditures in the comparable 2022-2023 election cycles.
- Additionally, the 2022 and 2023 cycles did not include lease payments for **1803 Superior Avenue**, which are now required

## Technical Budget Adjustments

In coordination with OBM, CCBOE has submitted Technical Budget Adjustment Forms (TBAF) to reflect necessary funding for 2026-2027 CCBOE operations.

Key adjustments include:

- Poll worker and Seasonal Staff Pay
- Full-time employee (FTE) funding at current 2025 salary rates.
- CCBOE updated contract rates for Ballot printing and voting equipment transportation

Year	Category	ERB	CCBOE	Difference
2026	Personnel	\$10,827,097	\$11,488,936	\$661,839
	Other	\$6,917,430	\$9,653,101	\$2,735,671
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,744,527</b>	<b>\$21,142,037</b>	<b>\$3,397,510</b>
2027	Personnel	\$11,069,422	\$11,738,015	\$668,593
	Other	\$6,917,430	\$9,643,101	\$2,725,671
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,986,851</b>	<b>\$21,381,116</b>	<b>\$3,394,265</b>



# New Voter Registration System

The CCBOE must replace its Voter Registration (VR) system during the 2026–2027 biennium.

- The current system is nearly 20 years old and outdated.
- It supports critical functions: voter records, absentee ballots, candidate filings, petition reviews, poll worker management, and precinct assignments.
- Per **R.C. Section 3506.16**, all VR systems must be certified for use in Ohio by **April 9, 2025**.

# New Voter Registration System (cont.)

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- The current vendor will sunset support in 2026.
- CCBOE must release a bid by **Q2 2026**, finalize a contract, and begin data migration by **Q4 2026**.
- The system must be operational by **January 2027** to support February candidate filings.
- **Estimated Costs:**
  - **Year 1 Implementation:** ~\$1 million
  - **Annual Licensing Fees:** ~\$500,000

**CCBOE**  
**respectfully**  
**requests**  
**Council**  
**approval for:**

- **2026 Technical Budget Adjustment:**  
\$3,397,510 → Total Annual Budget: \$21,142,037
- **2027 Technical Budget Adjustment:**  
\$3,394,265 → Total Annual Budget: \$21,381,116  

These adjustments primarily fund poll workers and seasonal staff payroll, that are charged back to municipalities in odd election years.
- **Additionally, we request future funding** for a certified voter registration system to ensure compliance and operational continuity.