

THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

COMMISSION ON CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CLE CREDIT FOR ATTORNEYS WHO SERVE AS POLL WORKERS

Effective August 1, 2022, pursuant to Gov.Bar R. X, Sec. 5 (I), attorneys who serve as a precinct election officials may receive four general CLE credit hours for each election, with a maximum of twelve credits hours for service performed during a biennial compliance period.

1. What does precinct election official mean?

Precinct Election Official (“PEO”) means an attorney who has completed the precinct election official training required by a county board of elections and worked for that county board of elections as a precinct election official, voting location manager, ballot tabulator supervisor, paper ballot specialist, or field technician in Ohio on election day.

2. Will I receive CLE credit if I am a poll watcher, commonly referred to as observer?

No. The rule specifies that an attorney must take the training and serve for a full day as a PEO to receive CLE credit.

3. Who is eligible to serve as a precinct election official?

Attorneys may serve as precinct election official and receive CLE credit for their service. Pursuant to [Jud.Cond. R. 3.4](#), judges and magistrates cannot work as poll workers.

4. How do I get CLE credit for serving as a precinct election official, commonly referred to as a poll worker?

To earn four (4) hours of general CLE credit, an attorney must do the following:

- i. Complete the required precinct election official training **and**
- ii. Serve as a PEO for their county board of elections on Election Day.

5. What if I have already attended the County Board of Elections PEO Training?

If the attorney has already completed the PEO training required by the county board of elections and is not required to complete the training to serve as a precinct election official, the attorney must complete at least three hours of election training offered by the office of the Secretary of State of Ohio, which shall include training on statutory law and case law related to Ohio elections. The attorney may not receive general CLE credit if the activity has been separately approved for CLE credit.

6. Will I receive CLE credit if I only attend the Precinct Election Official Training?

No. Gov.Bar R. X, Sec. 5 (I) requires that an attorney must take the training and serve for a full day as a PEO to receive CLE credit.

7. Do I have to serve for a full day as a PEO?

Yes. Generally, PEOs are expected to be at the polls at 5:30 am and remain on duty until after the close of polls at 7:30 pm.

8. How will I receive the CLE credit?

As with any CLE program, attorneys are expected to sign in and provide their attorney registration number at the training and at the polling location. The [County Board of Elections](#) will submit to the Secretary of State a list of attorneys who completed the training and served as a PEO on Election Day. The Secretary of State will then submit the CLE hours within 30 days to the Supreme Court of Ohio.

9. If I exceed the 12-credit hour maximum for service as a PEO, will the additional hours carry over to the next biennial compliance period?

No. Any additional hours above the 12-hour maximum, will not carryover to the next biennial compliance period.

10. How do I sign up to be a Precinct Election Official (Poll Worker)?

Please visit the [PEO Sign Up Page](#) on the Ohio Secretary of State website to sign up to be a Precinct Election Official.

11. Who do I contact if have further questions regarding receiving CLE credit for working the polls?

Any questions regarding receiving CLE credit for serving as a poll worker should be sent to the Secretary of State at acrawford@OhioSoS.gov.