STUDENT POLL WORKER INTERNSHIP

Office of The Alabama Secretary of State

Are you a student?
Be a poll worker!
JOHN MERRILL
SECRETARY OF STATE OF ALABAMA

Office Phone: 334-242-7200
Elections Division: 334-242-7210
Email: John.Merrill@sos.alabama.gov
Clay.Helms@sos.alabama.gov
ACT #2019-476

• Effective September 1, 2019
• By Senators Chesteen, Williams, Smitherman, Sessions, and Representative Baker
• “…to authorize a judge of probate to appoint up to two high school or college students to work as unpaid student interns at each polling place in the county on election day; to provide student intern qualifications; and to allow student interns to count any absence from school as an excused absence.”
  ➤ Probate judges appoint for municipal, county, and statewide elections.
Student Qualifications

1) Be recommended by a principal or other school official, or by the individual responsible for the student’s home instruction program

2) Be at least 16 years of age at the time of the election

3) Be a resident of the county or municipality

4) Be enrolled in a public high school, an accredited private high school, or home instruction program and be classified as a junior or senior of the equivalent, or be enrolled in a two-year or four year higher education institution
Student Duties

- Shall be determined by the county or municipal elections officials
- Before performing any duties, student interns shall attend all required training for poll workers of the county or municipality and any additional training considered necessary by the officials in charge of the election in the county or municipality
- Shall at all times be under the supervision of the poll managers of the election while performing their duties at precincts
Student duties may not include:

- Determining the qualifications of a voter in the event a voter is challenged
- The operation and maintenance of any voting equipment
  - Students may utilize electronic pollbooks since they are not considered voting equipment
A student intern who works four or more hours in a day during school hours on the day of an election or any day of training shall be entitled to an excused absence from school for purposes of Chapter 28 of Title 16, Code of Alabama 1975.
How to apply?

- Print your internship application from the Alabama Secretary of State’s website at https://www.sos.alabama.gov

- Please have your principal or other school official return your application to your county Probate Judge’s Office.
Questions?

Please call:

✉ The Alabama Secretary of State’s Office
   ☎ 334-242-7200

✉ The Alabama Secretary of State’s Elections Division
   ☎ 334-242-7210

✉ Or, your local probate judge’s office:

*This document is intended to be a quick reference guide for students, school officials, and Probate Judges. Please review Alabama ACT 2019-476 for full information.*