

Vote Protector FAQs:

What are the requirements to be a Vote Protector?

- Monitor 1 or more voting sites on April 28, May 14, and May 17
 - *Stake a lawn sign directing voters to the 888-OUR-VOTE hotline*
 - *Complete a polling place evaluation checklist*
 - *Report problems to the 888-OUR-VOTE hotline*
- Be at least 16 years old with transportation to and from your assigned polling place(s)
- Attend a 2-hour online training
- Sign a volunteer waiver and commit to being nonpartisan
- Pick up your vote protector t-shirt, sign, and other materials before your shift

What do Vote Protectors do?

Each Vote Protector will sign-up to monitor one or more polling places. Going to each assigned polling station, Vote Protectors will:

- Promote our voter hotline through planting informational yard signs at polling places,
- Complete a polling place site evaluation checklist; and
- Alert Democracy NC if there are any larger issues by calling our voter hotline, which is staffed by lawyers and law students trained in NC's election law.
- Station themselves outside of a polling place and interact with voters who need assistance. Vote Protectors who choose to interact with voters must wear a face mask and maintain a six-foot distance from voters.

Our staff will work with Vote Protectors, poll workers, and County election officials to rectify voter accessibility issues raised by Vote Protectors.

How will Vote Protectors stay safe from COVID-19?

We ask each volunteer to wear a mask, and we can provide additional safety measures if needed by each individual Vote Protector. The checklist that Vote Protectors are asked to fill out is able to be completed in compliance with social distancing protocols.

If you have a disability or health risks that prevent you from leaving your car, please email us and we will work with you so that you can still participate in this program.

Why should I be a Vote Protector?

Voting can be a convoluted process and can lead to voters being discouraged or even disenfranchised. Vote protectors offer assistance to each and every voter, by addressing accessibility issues at a site and providing access to our voter hotline. Addressing logistical voting site issues and individual voter issues can make a huge impact across the state and in our national elections.

Past Vote Protectors have said they have enjoyed the chance to empower voters, assist the elderly and handicapped access curbside voting, provide a reassuring presence to voters that

they are not alone and the voting process is being closely observed, and offer a service to their community, country, and democracy.

I have been a Vote Protector before. Do I have to attend a training?

Yes. In 2022, Democracy NC will be introducing a new way to sign-up for shifts, and a component of the training will review this process. Vote Protectors will also benefit from your experiences during training and role-plays, and Democracy NC is thankful to have you back!

How will I be assigned to my polling place(s)?

Following your training, you will receive an invitation to create an account on CERVIS where you will be able to select the shift(s) you would like to attend. In past years, there has been a greater need for Vote Protectors that are willing to travel further distances to rural areas. You will be asked to indicate the maximum distance you are willing to drive and may be contacted if there is a need for more coverage in certain areas.

Vote Protectors are encouraged to sign up for multiple shifts in order to encourage maximum coverage on action days.

When did you last ask yourself: *what am I doing for my democracy?*

Additional questions? Please contact voteprotector@democracync.org.