

FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(Follow form instructions)

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION				2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)			
3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including Zip code) Elections Commission, Wisconsin 212 E Washington Ave Fl 3, Madison, WI 537034232							
4a. DUNS Number	4b. EIN	5. Recipient Account Number or Identifying Number (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)		6. Report Type	7. Basis of Accounting		
				<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual		
8. Project/Grant Period (Month, Day, Year) From: March 28, 2018				9. Reporting Period End Date (Month, Day, Year) September 30, 2021			
To: September 30, 2029							
10. Transactions					Cumulative		
<i>(Use lines a-c for single or combined multiple grant reporting)</i>							
Federal Cash (To report multiple grants separately, also use FFR Attachment):							
a. Cash Receipts					\$14,828,442.00		
b. Cash Disbursements					\$7,241,089.31		
c. Cash on Hand (line a minus b)					\$7,587,352.69		
<i>(Use lines d-o for single grant reporting)</i>							
Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance:							
d. Total Federal funds authorized					\$14,828,442.00		
e. Federal share of expenditures					\$7,241,089.31		
f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations					\$322,169.75		
g. Total Federal share (sum of lines e and f)					\$7,563,259.06		
h. Unobligated balance of Federal funds (line d minus g)					\$7,265,182.94		
Recipient Share:							
i. Total recipient share required					\$1,918,940.70		
j. Recipient share of expenditures					\$1,918,940.70		
k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j)					\$0.00		
Program Income:							
l. Total Federal share of program income earned					\$282,566.55		
m. Program income expended in accordance with the deduction alternative					\$0.00		
n. Program income expended in accordance with the addition alternative					\$0.00		
o. Unexpended program income (line l minus line m and line n)					\$282,566.55		
11. Indirect Expense	a. Type	b. Rate	c. Period From	Period To	d. Base	e. Amount Charged	f. Federal Share
g. Totals:					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12. Remarks: Attach any explanations deemed necessary or information required by Federal sponsoring agency in compliance with governing legislation: "Please provide the following information:							
13. Certification: By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and intent set forth in the award documents. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)							
a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Billingham, Julia WEC Senior Accountant				c. Telephone (Area code, number, and extension)			
b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official Billingham, Julia				d. Email Address			
e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) January 31, 2022							

Standard Form 425
OMB Approval Number: 4040-0014
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 4040-0014. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: US Department of Health & Human Services, OS/OCIO/PRA, 200 Independence Ave, SW, Suite 336-E, Washington DC 20201. Attention: PRA Reports Clearance Officer

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(Additional Page)

Federal Agency & Organization : ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Federal Grant ID

Recipient Organization

DUNS Number

DUNS Status when Certified

EIN

Reporting Period End Date : September 30, 2021

Status : Awarding Agency Approval

Remarks : "Please provide the following information:

State interest earned (current fiscal year): \$0

State interest expended (current fiscal year): \$0

Program income earned (current fiscal year): \$0

Program income earned breakdown (current fiscal year): \$ Source: e.g. Sale of registration list: N/A

Program income expended (current fiscal year): \$0

Federal Agency Review

Reviewer Name

Phone #

Email

Review Date

Review Comments

2021-2022 EAC Progress Report

3. EAC Progress Report

1. State or Territory:

Wisconsin

2. Grant Number:

3. Report:

Annual (Oct 1 - Sept 30)

4. Grant:

Election Security

5. Reporting Period Start Date

10/01/2020

6. Reporting Period End Date

09/30/2021

4. Progress and Narrative

7. Describe in detail what happened during this reporting period and explain how you implemented the approved grant activities in accordance with your State Plan/Program Narrative. (Note: Your activities should align with your Grant Cost Categories Table.)

During the reporting period of October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021 the Wisconsin Elections Commission utilized the Help America Vote Act Election Security Grant funds appropriated to Wisconsin to improve the administration and security of Federal elections to assist our 1,850 local elections officials and 72 county election officials to improve their security posture in preparation for the federal election cycle and continuing to implement security measures into our statewide voter registration

system. Wisconsin received \$14,828,442 in HAVA Elections Security funds.

WEC staff used HAVA security grant funds to maintain a variety of systems and services to monitor the health of local devices and networks accessing election data. For example:

- A multifactor authentication system consisting of thousands of physical "keys" helps safeguard local user credentials and validate each attempt to access election systems.
- Comprehensive endpoint testing provides continuous monitoring of local devices 24/7/365 to alert both users and state cybersecurity staff of malicious software, out-of-date software, overdue firmware upgrades, and even operating system status.
- Security information and event management (SIEM) products monitor, analyze, and aggregate all traffic on the statewide voter registration system to detect protocol anomalies, zero-day threats, polymorphic code, or other potentially malicious activity.
- Use of password manager tools and dedicated privileged access systems have improved the security of administrative systems and shared access data.
- Redundancy of the statewide voter registration system was increased by 50% and logging of all network traffic similarly increased ahead of the 2020 General Election.

Updates to the Statewide Voter Registration System

The Wisconsin Elections Commission devoted considerable time towards improvements to the Statewide Voter Registration System (WisVote) and its associated components. This included development for the private and public web-based portals. Security related improvements generally fell in two categories: those planned prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and those implemented in response to changing voter behavior following the pandemic.

Preplanned changes focused on securing communication channels, public facing sites, and backup systems. Cloudflare Athenian anti-DDOS protections and other site monitoring tools were rolled out across all public and private agency sites. This roll-out was performed in conjunction with software updates and additional infrastructure to improve redundancy. Other technical improvements were implemented to improve data transfers with electronic poll books being piloted in the state. Finally, the agency IT staff implemented a rigorous load testing program to ensure updated systems could handle the volume of traffic anticipated in 2020.

More recent changes to Wisconsin election systems were planned in response to changing voter behavior during the April Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary. A significant shift to absentee by mail voting led agency staff to implement ballot tracking tools in coordination with the USPS, increase the security of PII transmitted during the ballot request process, and enable secure digital storage of identification cards required for Wisconsin's photo ID law. These changes collectively increased the security of sensitive voter information and improved situational awareness for both voters and local election officials.

Since the November 2020 General Election, agency staff have built and implemented more than 100 improvements to the statewide voter registration system. Most recently, staff deployed additional safeguards for confidential voter information to enhance the privacy of residents granted a protective order as a victim of abuse, assault, or stalking. Another recent change is the creation of improved alerts and tracking tools to identify deceased voters or possible felons in the database. Finally, the agency also deployed numerous address validation improvements to enhance the accuracy of data in the statewide system.

Post-Election Auditing

The Wisconsin Election Commission conducted post-election audits of electronic voting equipment after the November General election. The established 2020 audit criteria were as follows:

1. Establish the audit sample as 5% of all reporting units statewide for a minimum of 184 total audits.
2. Ensure that at least one (1) piece of voting equipment is selected for audit in each of the 72 Wisconsin counties.
3. Ensure that a minimum of five (5) reporting units are selected for each piece of equipment

Over 6 days in November, county and municipal clerks directed the hand tally auditing of more than 145,000 ballots from the November 2020 General Election. The findings of the 2020 Post-Election Voting Equipment Audit showed that there was no evidence that any voting equipment subject to audit and used in the 2020 General Election in Wisconsin changed votes from one candidate to another, incorrectly tabulated votes, or altered vote totals in any way.

With very limited exceptions, tabulation and accessible voting equipment used in the 2020 General Election recorded and tabulated votes in a manner that satisfied certification standards and Wis. Stat. § 7.08(6). The audit results indicated that improvements can be made in both administrative procedures training and equipment programming requirements. The few discrepancies identified during the audit were primarily the result of human error that occurred as part of the process of conducting the audit. Additionally, the results of the audit did identify a single issue which impacted equipment in two selected reporting units. This issue was addressed by the Commission and resulted in an amendment to the certification for one previously certified system version. All selected jurisdictions were eligible for reimbursement for costs incurred while conducting the audit and agency staff received, reviewed, and processed those reimbursement requests.

Staffing

The Wisconsin Elections Commission continues to utilize grant funds for staffing federal project positions to facilitate elections security projects as well as for IT developers who upgrade the statewide voter registration system.

Upcoming Activities

The Wisconsin Elections Commission continues to safeguard its HAVA Elections Security Grant funds to ensure that immediate security needs are being met while continually monitoring and evaluating future ongoing needs. The COVID-19 crisis demonstrated that unanticipated challenges could arise quickly and produce unexpected and urgent needs. Wisconsin's reserved funds will be used to address future ongoing needs and allow Wisconsin to take advantage of new technologies and react to unexpected immediate needs in the future.

8. Describe any significant changes to your program during the project, including changes to your original State Plan/Program Narrative or favorable developments that improved program efficiency and/or service delivery.

N/A

9. Issues Encountered:

Describe all major issues that arose during the implementation of the project and the reasons why established goals were not met, if applicable. Address each issue separately and describe whether and how the issues were resolved. Also, briefly discuss the implications of any unresolved issues or concerns.

N/A

10. Provide a description of any training conducted, including security training.

Elections Security Training

In the last year, 226 new election officials completed interactive Security Awareness training tutorials on election and cyber security topics. The tutorials were incorporated into the WisVote learning center and new users are required to take these tutorials prior to gaining access to the system. The security training videos include: Securing WisVote – The Basics, WisVote Access Policy, Phishing Facts, Password Protocols, Browsing Safely and Computer Safeguards. 27 clerk grantees also participated in the CISA Cybersecurity and Phishing Webinar in order to meet compliance standards of the subgrant. Agency staff also created two new online training modules. The new modules are designed to reflect the evolving needs of Wisconsin election officials based on their input. The first, titled Security Incidents, is a mandatory course explaining how to appropriately respond to a cyber-security incident. The second course is an optional block of instruction reviewing physical security considerations for polling places. The new courses are primarily based on published guidance from the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

Although in-person training remained scaled back in 2021, several opportunities were made available to clerks. Nearly 40 clerks and election inspectors completed a pilot program for covering the development of contingency plans. An equal number of election officials completed a comprehensive train-the-trainer program to configure and manage electronic poll books. WEC staff continues to work with county clerks to facilitate training, providing both staffing and material resources as needed. Training materials are housed on the WEC Learning Center website and include all necessary documents to conduct an exercise, in addition to supplemental documents like an Election Day Emergency Response Plan template, a Communications

Plan template, and a memorandum to governing bodies regarding the importance of election security.

11. Subgrants:

Did your office provide subawards to local jurisdictions during this reporting period?

Yes

12. Describe the activities carried out by your subgrantees during the reporting period.

County Subgrant Program

During this reporting period the Wisconsin Elections Commission awarded two counties with additional Elections Security subgrants totaling \$79,178.50. The purpose of the subgrant was to make funds available to Wisconsin counties to help address 2020 election security needs. The intent was to allow counties to apply for subgrant funds on an "individual needs basis" instead of a one-size-fits-all approach.

Funds from the program were used to make payments for activities that enhance election technology and make election security improvements, as authorized under sections 101, 103, and 104 of HAVA and under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-93), which include personnel, equipment, and training costs associated with cyber vulnerabilities, physical security, voter registration systems and management, election auditing, staff training and communications. Because counties may have different election security needs, this subgrant was designed to allow counties to assess their unique security environment.

Renewal of Municipal Election Security Subgrant

During this reporting period the Wisconsin Elections Commission awarded one municipality with a Municipal Election Security Subgrant totaling \$700. The purpose of the local election security subgrant was to help improve federal election security statewide by providing cities, villages, and towns across the State of Wisconsin with federal election security funds to implement baseline security measures based on specific needs of the jurisdiction.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission required all jurisdictions meet certain baseline security measures to receive subgrant funds which includes:

- 1) computer hardware and/or software to meet minimum security recommendations
- 2) Professional IT support
- 3) Security Training (cyber or physical)

Provide a breakdown of aggregate subawards expenditures across major categories.

Security : \$79,878.50

Total : \$79878.5

13. Match:

Describe how you are meeting or have met the matching requirement.

In this federal fiscal year 2021, the Wisconsin Election Commission (WEC) spent our remaining \$50,667 of our required \$1,918,941 State Match Share. That \$50,667 went toward supporting Post-Election Auditing. Above and beyond our grant match requirement and in total, the WEC spent \$2,903,130 in Wisconsin state funds this 2021 federal fiscal year on Election Security: \$146,786 supporting our e-poll book Badger Book program, which we categorized under Voting Equipment; a total of \$94,007 toward Post-Election Auditing; \$1,902,406 on WisVote, our Voter Registration System, and on MyVote, the public-access site to that registration information; \$381,711 on Cyber Security; \$54,279 on Communications; \$288,769 on Administration which are expenditures that are too broad to fall into any of the previous categories; and \$35,172 on Accessibility.

14. Report on the number and type of articles of voting equipment obtained with the funds. Include the amount expended on the expenditure table.

As Wisconsin is a very decentralized election state, our counties and municipalities purchase their own voting equipment, and the WEC does not hold any voting equipment of our own. We have developed e-poll books, called Badger Books. For approximately \$2000 per unit, jurisdictions may purchase our Badger Books from a third-party vendor for use at their polling places during elections. We receive no revenue from this program. We provide free Badger Book training and support to the

jurisdictions. The WEC currently owns 28 Badger Books that we use for testing and training throughout Wisconsin, all of which were purchased prior to FY2021. In federal fiscal year 2021, we spent \$34,700 of our federal Election Security grant on our Badger Book program, categorized under "Voting Equipment."

5. Expenditures

14. Current Period Amount Expended and Unliquidated Obligations

GRANT COST CATEGORIES - FEDERAL

Voting Equipment and Processes: : \$34700

Post-Election Auditing: : \$2

Voter Registration Systems: : \$101187

Cyber Security: : \$294838

Voter Education/Communications: : \$5353

Other (Specify below) : \$13049

Total : \$449129

Comments: Other = Administration. We awarded \$79,878.50 in additional Election Security subgrants to two counties (\$79,178.50) and one municipality (\$700.00) from the end of the last fiscal year's subgrant programs. We also received \$101,298.18 in the return of unspent subgrant funds from those two programs, for a net subgrant amount of (\$21,419.68). This amount is included above in the "Cyber Security" cost category.

15. GRANT COST CATEGORIES - MATCH

Post-Election Auditing: : \$50667

Total : \$50667

Comments: Though this year we have met and exceeded our required state match, we continue to contribute state funds towards our Election Security, contributing over \$2.9M this federal fiscal year.

7. Expenditures

16. Confirm Total Grant Expenditure Amounts

Federal : \$449129

Match : \$50667

Total : \$499796

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 3265-0020

8. Certification

Name and Contact of the authorized certifying official of the recipient.

First Name

Julia

Last Name

Billingham

Title

Senior Accountant, Financial Manager

Phone Number

Email Address

17. Add another contact to send a copy of submission confirmation and edit link?

Signature of Certifying Official:



Signature of: Julia Billingham

9. Report Submitted to EAC



Thank you. Your Annual (Oct 1 - Sept 30) progress report for Election Security has been submitted to the EAC. Please keep the PDF download of your submission as grant record.