

**FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

(Follow form instructions)

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted  <b>ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION</b>				2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)  <b>RI20101001</b>			
3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including Zip code)  <b>EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF STATE OF RHODE ISLAND</b> <b>82 Smith St 217, Providence, RI 029031120</b>							
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual		
8. Project/Grant Period (Month, Day, Year) From: <b>March 28, 2018</b>				9. Reporting Period End Date (Month, Day, Year) <b>September 30, 2020</b>			
To: <b>September 30, 2019</b>							
<b>10. Transactions</b>					Cumulative		
<i>(Use lines a-c for single or combined multiple grant reporting)</i>							
<b>Federal Cash (To report multiple grants separately, also use FFR Attachment):</b>							
a. Cash Receipts					\$6,216,180.00		
b. Cash Disbursements					\$2,807,362.12		
c. Cash on Hand (line a minus b)					\$3,408,817.88		
<i>(Use lines d-o for single grant reporting)</i>							
<b>Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance:</b>							
d. Total Federal funds authorized					\$6,216,180.00		
e. Federal share of expenditures					\$2,807,362.12		
f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations					\$0.00		
g. Total Federal share (sum of lines e and f)					\$2,807,362.12		
h. Unobligated balance of Federal funds (line d minus g)					\$3,408,817.88		
<b>Recipient Share:</b>							
i. Total recipient share required					\$793,236.00		
j. Recipient share of expenditures					\$150,000.00		
k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j)					\$643,236.00		
<b>Program Income:</b>							
l. Total Federal share of program income earned					\$71,444.51		
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)					\$71,444.51		
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: State interest earned: \$0							
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  <b>Halloran-Villandry, Colleen</b> <b>Director of Finance &amp; Personnel</b>				c. Telephone (Area code, number, and extension)			
b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official  <b>Halloran-Villandry, Colleen</b>				d. Email Address			
e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year)  <b>December 28, 2020</b>							

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)

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Federal Agency & Organization : ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Federal Grant ID : RI20101001

Recipient Organization : EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
82 Smith St 217, Providence, RI 029031120

DUNS Number :

DUNS Status when Certified :

EIN :

Reporting Period End Date : September 30, 2020

Status :

Remarks :

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**Federal Agency Review**

Reviewer Name :

Phone # :

Email :

Review Date :

Review Comments :

# EAC Progress Report

Response ID:96 Data

## 1. Login

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Please enter your userword and password to begin the Progress Narrative. If you require assistance or have any questions, please contact [grants@eac.gov](mailto:grants@eac.gov)

## 2. Verification

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## 3. EAC Progress Report

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### 1. State or Territory:

Rhode Island

### 2. Grant Number:

RI20101001

### 3. Report:

Annual (Oct 1 - Sept 30)

### 4. Grant:

Please select only one.

Election Security

### 5. Reporting Period Start Date

10/01/2019

### 6. Reporting Period End Date

09/20/2020

### 9. Recipient Organization:

#### Organization Name

Rhode Island Department Of State

#### Street Address

82 Smith Street

**City**

Providence

**State**

RI

**Zip**

02903

## 4. Progress and Narrative

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### **10. Describe in detail what happened during this reporting period and explain how you implemented the approved grant activities.**

The Rhode Island Department of State, State Board of Elections and local boards of canvassers implemented several initiatives that strengthened the security of Rhode Island's elections infrastructure. The security enhancements improved the state's election processes and ensured Rhode Island voters can trust the integrity of the election results.

Rhode Island conducted two elections during the reporting period. The Presidential Primary was delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic from April 28 to June 2. The election was conducted primarily by mail ballot. As a result, the state saw a record of nearly 105,000 voters cast ballots by mail.

The state also held its Statewide primary election on September 8. This election also saw an increased mail ballot turnout. In addition, this election was the first with an in-person early voting process. The law was enacted by the legislature in July of this year. Local election officials and the Board of Elections had to adjust their procedures to provide for early voting.

HAVA funds allowed the Department to implement the following initiatives in accordance with our grant submission.

A new Central Voter Registration System (CVRS) was designed, developed, and released. The updated CVRS incorporates best practice standards to enhance the security of the system to protect against efforts to penetrate the voter registration database. HAVA funds were used to upgrade the database platform as well as the programming code and implementation of

the new CVRS. In addition to the security enhancements, the new system provides additional functionality and data analysis through the CVRS.

Funds also were used to continue the maintenance and support of existing cybersecurity monitoring programs that protect the CVRS and other aspects of the state's election infrastructure.

The Board of Elections procured a high-speed signature verification and mail ballot processing machine. The system allowed the Board of Elections to process the increased amount of mail ballots in a timely manner.

The Department of State granted Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns a combined \$100,000 for improvements to elections processes. Most of the cities and towns have received funds for multiple items including: security assessments, upgraded computers, and secure transport methods, among other election security improvements.

The Department of State also convened over 140 local elections and IT officials for the second Cyber Security Summit. The half-day forum gave Rhode Island election officials from nearly every city and town an opportunity to learn from national and statewide cybersecurity experts on several topics, including:

- Current best practices on the state and local level to secure election systems ahead of 2020
- Combating misinformation and disinformation campaigns
- Common causes of data breaches and ways to prevent them
- Actions being taken on the federal level to protect elections

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**12. 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.**

**Otherwise enter N/A.**

No significant changes during this period.

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**18. 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.**

**Otherwise enter N/A.**

The main issue Rhode Island election officials encountered during the reporting period were the unforeseen actions necessary to conduct elections during a pandemic. Conducting two elections during the reporting period and preparing for another necessitated the Department and other election officials to overhaul the manner in which they conduct elections in a short period of time.

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**15. Provide a description of any security training conducted.**

**Otherwise enter N/A.**

The second Cybersecurity Summit convened by the Department of State included more than 140 participants. The summit provided election officials with information on best practices to secure election systems, combating misinformation and disinformation campaigns and how to protect against common causes of data breaches, among other security topics.

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**16. Subgrants (if applicable):**

**Describe how you made funds available to local jurisdictions.**

**Provide a description of the major categories of subgrant activities local voting districts will accomplish with the funds.**

**Otherwise enter N/A.**

The Department of State established a \$100,000 Elections Administration Improvement Grant Program for Cities and Towns. Grants were based on voter turnout in the November 2018 election. Cities and towns were required to submit a project description to the Department of State prior to being provided election security grant funds.

The grants had to be used to acquire equipment, systems or technology that improves the administration of elections or enhances the security of elections on a local level.

To be eligible for grant funding, a city or town were required to establish a free membership in the Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC) and sign-up for the protection against phishing service that is offered.

Major categories of subgrant activities:

- Cyber security training for local election officials. The Department of State worked with the Center for Internet Security to partner with the SANS Institute to provide discounted cyber security training programs for municipalities.
- Systems and software that improve election security
- Voting systems that improve the efficiency of elections administration

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**17. Match (if applicable):**

**Describe how you are meeting the matching requirement.**

**Otherwise enter - match not required.**

The state is working to meet the match requirement by identifying personnel costs attributable to activities funded by HAVA funds. In addition, we allocated additional state funds to the development of the CVRS.

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**14. Report on the number and type of articles of voting equipment obtained with the funds.**

**Include the amount expended on the expenditure table.**

**Otherwise enter N/A.**

- 1 - High-Speed Signature Verification Machine for the Board of Elections
  - Scanners, printers and computers for several local election offices
  - 58 - Computers and computer equipment
  - 27 - Scanners
  - 10 - Security systems, cameras, equipment, training
  - 12 - Printers
  - 60 - Secure equipment transport bags
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## 5. Expenditures

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### 20. Current Period Amount Expended and Unliquidated Obligations

#### GRANT COST CATEGORIES

	Federal	Match
Voting Equipment and Processes:	\$370,752.52	
Post-Election Auditing:	\$22,500.00	
Voter Registration Systems:	\$680,911.24	
Cyber Security:	\$239,373.56	
Communications:		
Total	\$1,659,582.30	
Elections related computers and hardware upgrades	\$243,176.61	
Printing mail ballot oath envelopes	\$43,563.00	
Subgrants to cities and towns	\$57,688.53	
Audit fees to State of RI	\$1,616.84	

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 3265-0020

## 6. Certification

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

**First Name**

Rob

**Last Name**

Rock

**Title**

Director of Elections

**Phone Number**

**Email Address**

Signature of Certifying Official:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Rock". The letters are stylized and connected, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Signature of: Rob Rock

7. Report Submitted to EAC

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Thank you, your progress report has been submitted to EAC. Please keep the PDF download of your submission as grant record.

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