

## 2020 HAVA Election Security Grant

### State of Hawaii Program Narrative

The State of Hawaii has been awarded \$3,508,595 in 2020 HAVA Election Security grant funds. Hawaii is responsible to provide a 20% match, totaling \$701,719. States may use these funds to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, including to enhance election technology and make election security improvements to the systems equipment and process used in federal elections.

The State of Hawaii, Office of Elections will be requesting and expending the funds. The 2020 HAVA Election Security grant funds will be used to expand on the activities that were previously described in the State of Hawaii Program Narrative associated with the award of 2018 HAVA Election Security grant funds relating to the following: (1) enhancing the election cybersecurity infrastructure; and (2) updating equipment related to the Statewide Voter Registration System and the voting & vote counting system. Specifically, these new funds will be used to expand on those activities, as follows.

#### Cyber Security

The Office of Elections administers the Statewide Voter Registration System. This system allows Hawaii residents to register to vote, update their information, request an absentee ballot, and view a sample of their ballot online. This system operates on a cloud environment that is managed by the state.

The prior 2018 HAVA Election Security grant funds were focused on improving software and hardware, augmenting staffing, and providing staff training in relation to the current Statewide Voter Registration System. In contrast, we intend for the 2020 HAVA Election Security grant funds to be focused on the expansion and improvement of the Statewide Voter Registration System in regard to its interaction and coordination with other databases, consistent with federal law.

This will be primarily focused on the statewide voter registration's systems interaction with the statewide driver license/state identification card database. However, this expansion and improvement may include a consideration of other databases that are relevant to the Statewide Voter Registration System, such as, but not limited to, the Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center, Department of Health, and Department of Human Services.

The expansion and continued reinforcement of this coordination between databases is critical to ensuring the continuing integrity and accuracy of our voter registration rolls.

Given this, the State will hire contractors and/or enter into agreements with the relevant entities to setup and optimize the necessary environment for these different databases to securely interact with each other. We have budgeted \$100,000 in Fiscal Year 2021 and \$150,000 annually thereafter, to retain these services. An additional \$100,000 will be budgeted for Fiscal Year 2021, and then \$200,000 annually thereafter for software, licensing, and associated maintenance.

## Equipment

### *Voter Registration*

The State will purchase new computer terminals and associated equipment for the previously mentioned databases that will share its data with the Statewide Voter Registration System. This uniformity in the selection of equipment will facilitate ensuring that all security features are updated and standardized across all access points to the system. The estimated cost is \$1,000,000 spread over five fiscal years.

### *Voting & Vote Counting System*

Hawaii is currently in a voting & vote counting system contract that will expire after the 2020 Elections. While the state has procured a new multi-year contract that will begin with the 2022 Elections, the State has earmarked \$450,000 toward the new voting & vote counting system, so the migration to the new system can occur with the 2020 Elections, as opposed to the 2022 Elections. We will also be expending \$458,595 for the 2024 Elections toward the cost of the new voting & vote counting system.

## State Match

Hawaii is required to provide a 20% match of \$701,719. This requirement will be met by making in-kind matches utilizing state funds.

## Timeline

The state intends to draw down the entire amount of \$3,508,895 upon submittal of this narrative to the Election Assistance Commission. However, the monies will be expended over the course of the five-year budget period of this fund. The expenses and timeline are summarized in the table on pages four and five.

## Activities Prior to the 2020 Election

As provided for in the 2020 HAVA Election Security Grants submission guidelines, we have established this section to restate what activities will take prior

to the 2020 Elections and the amount associated with those activities. All other activities and expenditures will be occurring after the 2020 Elections.

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<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>Upgrading of Voting &amp; Vote Counting System</b>	<b>\$450,000</b>
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#### Conclusion

With the continued threat to the security of elections nationwide, the State will utilize these funds to further enhance the security of our environments to protect the integrity of the elections.

State of Hawaii, 2020 HAVA Election Security Grant Budget Timeline<sup>1</sup>

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<i>Cyber Security</i>		
2020-2021	Contractors/Memoranda of Agreement	\$100,000
2020-2021	Software/Licenses/Maintenance	\$100,000
2021-2022	Contractors/Memoranda of Agreement	\$150,000
2021-2022	Software/Licenses/Maintenance	\$200,000
2022-2023	Contractors/Memoranda of Agreement	\$150,000
2022-2023	Software/Licenses/Maintenance	\$200,000
2023-2024	Contractors/Memoranda of Agreement	\$150,000
2023-2024	Software/Licenses/Maintenance	\$200,000
2024-2025 <sup>1</sup>	Contractors/Memoranda of Agreement	\$150,000
2024-2025	Software/Licenses/Maintenance	\$200,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>		<i>\$1,600,000</i>
<i>Equipment - Voter Registration</i>		
2020-2021	Computer Equipment	\$200,000
2021-2022	Computer Equipment	\$200,000
2022-2023	Computer Equipment	\$200,000
2023-2024	Computer Equipment	\$200,000
2024-2025	Computer Equipment	\$200,000
<b><i>Sub-Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$1,000,000</i></b>

<sup>1</sup> The State of Hawaii's fiscal year is from July 1st to June 30th. As the grant requests any funds to be spent by December 20, 2024, any references to Fiscal Year 2024-2025 are understood to reflect any expenditures having been made by December 20, 2024. As it relates to the voting & vote counting system, payments are typically broken into two parts. This may result in half of the payments occurring in the latter part of the fiscal year immediately following the fiscal year that contains the elections.

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***Equipment – Voting & Vote Counting  
System***

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2019-2020	Upgrading of Voting & Vote Counting System	\$450,000
2024-2025	Voting & Vote Counting System	\$458,595
<i>Sub-Total</i>		<i>\$908,595</i>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3,508,595</b>

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