

Rule 6. Election Judges

- 6.1 Appointment of election judges under section 1-6-104, C.R.S.
- 6.1.1 The county clerk must request an updated list of election judges from each major party before each election the clerk conducts under the Uniform Election Code.
- 6.1.2 The county clerk must reasonably attempt to exhaust the updated list provided by the major parties before supplementing with additional major party judges or minor party or unaffiliated judges. When the county clerk is filling election judge vacancies under section 1-6-113 (1), C.R.S., the clerk may choose from any of the available lists.
- 6.1.3 If a major political party fails to provide an adequate list of election judges by the 60th day before election day, the county clerk must notify the Secretary of State. The county clerk may consider a supplemental list from a major political party after the 60-day deadline.
- 6.1.4 The county clerk must provide a list of election judges, including political party affiliations and assignments, if known, to each appointing party no later than 35 days before election day. Upon request by an appointing party, the clerk must provide a supplemental list no later than seven days before the date on which the county will open its first Voter Service and Polling Center.
- 6.1.5 The county clerk may not ask an election judge or county staff member to change his or her party affiliation to achieve the bipartisan balance required under section 1-6-109, C.R.S.
- 6.2 Assignment of Election Judges
- 6.2.1 The county clerk may assign an election judge based upon appropriate skill level and interest. If a major party objects to the initial election judge assignments provided by the clerk under Rule 6.1.4, the political party may contact the clerk and nominate judges for replacement. The clerk must consider the new nominations.
- 6.2.2 The county clerk may remove or reassign an election judge performing signature verification at any time for cause, which may include, but is not limited to:
- (a) An inability to perform signature verification;
 - (b) An inability to serve for the requisite amount of time needed; or
 - (c) An irregular acceptance or rejection rate, as determined by the county clerk.
- 6.3 The county clerk may not personally conduct signature verification.
- 6.4 Except for UOCAVA ballots and ballots received for counting after election day:
- 6.4.1 Absent written consent by each major party county chair, a county with 5,000 or more active electors on the 90th day before election day may not use regular staff as signature verification judges.
- 6.4.2 A county with fewer than 5,000 active electors on the 90th day before election day may use regular county staff that are sworn in as election judges to conduct signature verification.

- 6.5 For purposes of training election judges, an “election cycle” means all elections held during a calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31.
- 6.6 In lieu of the oath for other election judges prescribed in section 1-6-114, C.R.S., each student election judge must take a self-affirming oath or affirmation before serving, in substantially the following form:
- “ I, _____ do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am a citizen of the United States and state of Colorado; that I am at least 16 years of age and a High School Junior or Senior; that I will perform the duties of an election judge according to law and to the best of my ability; that I will studiously strive to prevent fraud, deceit, and abuse in conducting the same; that I will not try to determine how any elector voted, nor will I disclose how any elector voted if in the discharge of my duties as a student election judge such knowledge shall come to me, unless called upon to disclose the same before some court of justice; that I have never been convicted of election fraud, any other election offense, or fraud and that, if any ballots are counted before the polls close on the date of the election, I will not disclose the result of the votes until after the polls have closed.”*
- 6.7 A supervisor judge in a voter service and polling center must complete a training course conducted by the county clerk. The Secretary of State must provide or approve the training content.
- 6.8 A signature verification judge must complete a training course conducted by the county clerk at least once per election cycle. The Secretary of State must provide or approve the training content.
- 6.9 The county clerk must arrange for a criminal background check on each supervisor judge and each staff member with access to SCORE or electors’ confidential or personally identifiable information.
- 6.9.1 The criminal background check must be conducted by or through the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, the county sheriff’s department in accordance with section 24-72-305.6(3), C.R.S., or similar state or federal agency.
- 6.9.2 A person convicted of an election offense or an offense containing an element of fraud may not handle voter registration applications or conduct voter registration and list maintenance activities.