

## Chapter 157

**(House Bill 1200)**

AN ACT concerning

**Elections – Election Judges – Minimum Compensation**

FOR the purpose of establishing a minimum training course compensation and minimum daily compensation for election judges; requiring the State Board of Elections to reimburse each local board a certain amount of certain compensation that is paid to each returning election judge and to develop and implement a certain market campaign; and generally relating to compensation for election judges.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 Article – Election Law  
 Section 10–205  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Election Law**

10–205.

**(A) IN THIS SECTION, “COMPENSATION” INCLUDES STIPENDS FOR TRANSPORTATION, TRAINING, AND BONUS PAYMENTS.**

~~[(a)] (B) (1) A local board may fix the compensation of election judges within the limits authorized for this purpose by the county’s governing body.~~

**(I) THE COUNTY GOVERNING BODY SHALL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDING TO MEET THE MINIMUM COMPENSATION LEVELS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

**(II) WITHIN THE LIMITS AUTHORIZED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNING BODY, A LOCAL BOARD MAY FIX THE COMPENSATION OF ELECTION JUDGES ABOVE THE MINIMUM COMPENSATION LEVELS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

(2) A local board shall pay an election judge for:

**(I) EACH COURSE OF INSTRUCTION REQUIRED UNDER § 10–206(G)(1) OF THIS SUBTITLE THAT THE ELECTION JUDGE COMPLETES; AND**

(II) each election day and each early voting day that the election judge actually serves.

**(3) (I) ~~THE~~ FOR EACH ELECTION JUDGE WHO HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS AN ELECTION JUDGE, THE COMPENSATION FOR EACH ELECTION DAY AND EACH EARLY VOTING DAY ACTUALLY SERVED ~~MAY NOT BE LESS THAN~~ SHALL BE AT LEAST \$250 PER DAY FOR EACH ELECTION JUDGE.**

**(II) FOR EACH ELECTION JUDGE WHO HAS PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS AN ELECTION JUDGE, THE COMPENSATION FOR EACH ELECTION DAY AND EACH EARLY VOTING DAY ACTUALLY SERVED SHALL BE AT LEAST \$100 MORE PER DAY THAN THE COMPENSATION PROVIDED TO AN ELECTION JUDGE WHO HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS AN ELECTION JUDGE.**

**(4) THE COMPENSATION FOR EACH COMPLETED COURSE OF INSTRUCTION REQUIRED UNDER § 10-206(G)(1) OF THIS SUBTITLE ~~MAY NOT BE LESS THAN~~ SHALL BE AT LEAST \$50.**

**(C) THE STATE BOARD SHALL REIMBURSE EACH LOCAL BOARD FOR \$50 OF THE EXTRA COMPENSATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(3)(II) OF THIS SECTION THAT IS PAID TO EACH RETURNING ELECTION JUDGE.**

**(D) (1) THE STATE BOARD SHALL DEVELOP AND PROVIDE TO THE LOCAL BOARDS A MARKETING CAMPAIGN TO RECRUIT INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE AS ELECTION JUDGES IN POLLING PLACES IN THE STATE.**

**(2) THE MARKETING CAMPAIGN SHALL:**

**(I) DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ELECTION JUDGES;**

**(II) DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY TO BE AN ELECTION JUDGE, ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, AND COMPENSATION; AND**

**(III) TARGET DIVERSE VOTER POPULATIONS, INCLUDING MULTILINGUAL INDIVIDUALS.**

[(b) (1) In Allegany County, the compensation for each day actually served may not be less than:

(i) \$100 per day for each chief election judge; and

(ii) \$80 per day for every other election judge.

(2) (i) In Baltimore City, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:

and

1. not less than \$200 per day for each chief election judge;

2. not less than \$150 per day for every other election judge.

(ii) 1. In Baltimore City, except as provided in subsubparagraph 2 of this subparagraph, an election judge shall receive \$20 as compensation for completing the course of instruction required under § 10–206(g)(1) of this subtitle.

2. Unless the local board excuses the election judge from service, an election judge who fails to serve on election day or on an early voting day may not receive the compensation authorized under this subparagraph.

(3) In Baltimore County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:

- (i) \$225 per day for each chief election judge; and

- (ii) \$162.50 per day for every other election judge.

(4) In Calvert County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:

- (i) \$200 per day for each chief election judge; and

- (ii) \$175 per day for every other election judge.

(5) In Harford County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:

- (i) not less than \$160 per day for each chief election judge; and

- (ii) not less than \$125 per day for every other election judge.

(6) (i) In Prince George's County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be not less than:

1. \$250 per day for two chief election judges; and

2. \$200 per day for every other election judge.

(ii) 1. In Prince George's County, except as provided under subparagraph 2 of this subparagraph, election judges and alternate election judges shall receive \$50 as compensation for completing the course of instruction required under § 10–206 of this subtitle.

2. An election judge or alternate election judge may not receive the compensation authorized under this subparagraph if the election judge refuses to serve on an election day or on an early voting day, unless the local board excuses the election judge.

(7) (i) In Washington County, the compensation for each election day or early voting day actually served shall be:

1. \$175 per day for each chief election judge, plus a mileage allowance as determined by the Washington County Board; and

2. \$150 per day for every other election judge.

(ii) In Washington County, a chief election judge or election judge who successfully completes a course of instruction in poll working shall be eligible for additional compensation, if approved by the Washington County Board and provided for in the county budget.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023.

**Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2023.**