

Cost of Elections

The following is breakdown of who is responsible and who pays for certain election-related costs. Wis. Stat. § 5.68.

COST OF ELECTIONS				
Item	County Clerk is responsible <i>(for Federal, State, and County Elections and State and County Referenda)</i>	Municipal Clerk is responsible <i>(for Municipal Elections and Referenda)</i>	School Clerk is responsible <i>(for School District Elections and Referenda)</i>	Who Pays? <i>(See "Special Notes")</i>
<i>Polling Places</i>				
Establishing and changing Polling Places		X		Municipality
<i>Notices</i>				
Type A	X	X	X	Jurisdiction responsible - Can be prorated proportionately if notice is combined with other jurisdictions.
Type B	X	X	X	Jurisdiction responsible - Can be prorated proportionately if notice is combined with other jurisdictions.
Type C	X	X	X	Jurisdiction responsible
Type D		X*	X ⁺	<i>Municipality</i> --Can be prorated proportionately if notice is combined with other jurisdictions. <i>School district for special⁺ school district election event.</i>
Type E		X*	X ⁺	<i>Municipality</i> --Can be prorated proportionately if notice is combined with other jurisdictions. <i>School district for special⁺ school district election event.</i>
<i>Polling Place Notices</i>				
EL-111, EL-112, EL-114, EL-115, EL-117, EL-118		X		Municipality

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<i>Supplies</i>				
Absentee Ballot Mailing Envelopes, Certificate Envelopes and Postage		X		Municipality
Used Certificate Env. of Absentee Elector (EL-103)	X	•	❖	Jurisdiction responsible for providing materials
Certificate of Rejected Absentee Ballots Env. (EL-102)	X	•	❖	Jurisdiction responsible for providing materials
Provisional Ballot Certificate Env. (EL-123)		X		Municipality
Provisional Ballot Reporting Form (EL-123r)	X	•	❖	Jurisdiction responsible for providing materials
Inspectors' Certificate of Provisional Ballots Env. (EL-108)	X	•	❖	Jurisdiction responsible for providing materials
Inspectors' Statement (EL-104 & 104c)	X	•	❖	Jurisdiction responsible for providing materials
Write-in Candidate tally sheet (modified EL-105) 2 per reporting unit	X	X	X	Jurisdiction responsible for providing materials
Pre-printed registration list from WisVote		X		Municipality-may be prorated proportionately among jurisdictions
Election Day Reg. Voter List & Supplemental List (EL-107)	X	•	❖	Jurisdiction responsible for providing materials
Voter numbers	X	•	❖	Jurisdiction responsible for providing materials-may be prorated proportionately among jurisdictions
“Return to County” “Return to Municipality” “Return to S.D.,” Envs.		X		Municipality
<i>Ballots & Associated Materials</i>				
Paper (Hand Count)	X	X	X	Jurisdiction required to provide ballots
Optical Scan	X	X	X	Prorated proportionately among jurisdictions
Ballot Bags w/certificate (EL-101), ties/seals, “chain of custody” documentation	X	X	X	Jurisdiction responsible (Where op scan ballots are used, cost is prorated)

				proportionately among jurisdictions.)
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<i>Labor</i>				
Election Inspectors, EROs, Tabulators SVDs		X		Municipality for all regularly-scheduled elections* OR jurisdiction calling special election.
Board of Canvassers, Tabulators	X	X	X	Jurisdiction requiring canvass
Messengers		X (when delivering materials to county or school district)		Municipality
	X (When delivering materials back to municipality)		X (When delivering materials back to municipality)	Jurisdiction delivering materials
<i>Equipment</i>				
Voting Machines/Systems, ballot boxes, voting booths, pens, pencils		X		Municipality
Set up of machines (moving machines from one place to another)		X		Municipality
Maintenance of machines (making sure machines are in good repair; repairing when break down occurs)		X		Municipality
Preparation and programming of electronic voting systems	X			Jurisdiction Responsible (When programming includes municipal or other district offices, the municipality or district pays proportionately.)

- **Municipal Clerk** supplies (and pays for) when there are no federal, state or county elections.
- ❖ **School Clerk** supplies (and pays for) when there are no federal, state, county or municipal elections.

Special Notes:

- If no other level of government is involved in a school or special district election, *whether regularly-scheduled election* or special election⁺*, the district shall pay for all costs of the ballots, supplies, notices and other materials. Wis. Stat. § 5.68(2).
- When a county, school district, or special purpose district holds a special election *at a time other than a regularly scheduled election**, all costs of the election are the responsibility of the jurisdiction calling the special election (all costs of the ballots, supplies, notices and other materials, *including* the cost of the polling place and election inspector(s). Wis. Stats. §§ 5.68(2), (5), 7.03(1)(bm).

* Regularly scheduled elections are the February spring primary and April spring election and, in even-numbered years, the August partisan primary and November general election.

+A Special Election is an election scheduled outside the four regularly-scheduled election days.

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