

**Fulton County Election Data & Needs
For Center for Tech & Civic Life Planning Grant**

Locality: Fulton County, GA

Names & Email Addresses of those filling out this form:

You'll find below three sets of questions:

1. Baseline data questions about your county's voters and election administration.
2. Data questions specific to the August 11, 2020 election.
3. Open-ended questions related to your county's plans, needs, and budget estimates for a variety of activities related to the remaining elections in 2020.

We understand that these are a large number of questions and data requests; we estimate that completing this information will take between 2-4 hours to respond. Your efforts to provide thorough information will enable a more robust plan to be developed.

Part 1-A: Baseline Data Questions about Voting in Your County for November 3 Election

# of Registered Voters in the county as of 7/27/2020	823,940
# of Estimated Eligible Voters in the county	900,00
# of voters who have requested absentee ballots for November 2020 election as of 7/1/2020	42,021
# of new voter registrants between Jan 1 and present	25,693
# of FTEs regularly engaged in election administration	34
# of polling locations previously utilized in presidential election years	203
# of poll workers regularly engaged on election day	2,000
Total 2020 budget for all elections	12,900,000

Part 1-B: Baseline Data Questions about Voting in Your County for September 29 Election

# of Registered Voters who can vote in the 9/29 election as of 7/27/2020	823,940
# of Estimated Eligible Voters for the 9/29 election	900,000

# of voters who have requested absentee ballots for 9/29 election as of 7/1/2020	1
# of poll workers regularly engaged on election day for 9/29 election	780

Part 2: Data Specific to the June 9, 2020 Election in your county

# of voters who requested absentee ballots	143,809
# of voters who returned absentee ballots by deadline	93,402
# of absentee ballots successfully cast	92,975
# of absentee ballots rejected due to incomplete certification	427
# of absentee ballots rejected due to signature mismatch	0
Estimated % of absentee ballots returned by secure drop-box or drop-off	5%
# of secure drop-boxes used	20
# of early voting sites	8
# of days of early voting	15
# of voters who voted in-person early	30,334
If applicable, # who voted in-person early by site and # of early voting sites	5,516
Did your county utilize drive-thru ("curbside") voting on Election Day? (yes or no, and if yes, provide estimated # of voters who utilized this option)	No
Did your county utilize drive-thru ("curbside") voting for in-person early voting? (yes or no, and if yes, provide estimated # of voters who utilized this option)	No
# of additional staff who assisted with election-related efforts	150
# of polling locations stood up on Election Day	167
\$ amount spent on PPE for all June election-related efforts	\$50,000
# of poll workers utilized	1,265
# or % of poll workers who had never worked an election before	40%

Part 3: Planning & Needs for August, September & November 2020 Elections

These questions are more qualitative - please feel free to add additional brief commentary or explanation as necessary. Please provide your most accurate estimates but don't be constrained by current budget realities. Imagine the most robust effort(s) your county wants to engage in this year and provide your best available cost and staffing estimates to make that effort a success. Wherever possible, please detail the expected impacts on your planned activities on voters.

Absentee, Vote by Mail:

1. Does your county have a goal for how many/what percent of your voters you would like to have vote absentee by mail in August, September, and November 2020? If yes, what is that #/ %?

Our goal for absentee by mail for August is 33%. We exceeded that for June 2020, but runoff turnout is unpredictable.

For September, we hope to achieve 30% by mail turnout.

For November, we are aiming to have ballot by mail turnout to exceed 40%.

2. Is your county planning to mail all registered or eligible voters absentee ballot request forms? If so, please describe your plan - for example, are you planning to mail to all households? Just registered voters? Are you planning this for both August, September, and November or just November? Please describe your plan and your estimated costs for these mailings.

We are planning to promote our absentee by mail portal with a mailer that also details early voting opportunities. It is undecided, still, whether we will send an application to every registered voter.

For August we did an early voting promotional mailer that detailed, also, how to submit an absentee by mail application.

For September, we have no plans to promote absentee by mail, currently.

To mail voters a promotion for absentee by mail would cost \$209,713 per election, November and January.

3. How many secure drop-boxes would you like to have for the August, September, and November 2020 elections for voters to be able to most easily return absentee ballots, and what is the estimated cost for that # of drop-boxes?

We have 20 ballot drop boxes for August.

I'd like to increase the number of drop boxes for November to exceed 30 sites.

The September election will only cover half the county, but if we have 30 drop boxes up by early voting's start, that will help us to promote them for November and January. To purchase another 10 drop boxes it would cost \$20,350, plus \$22,305 for cameras to monitor the boxes 24 hours per day.

4. Describe what additional staffing your county would need to process a higher number/percentage of absentee ballots, and provide an estimated cost for those additional staff hours.

We have 32 extra people working full-time for an absentee by mail and early voting call center. We've never done this before. For opening ballots by mail and tabulation we are employing an extra 70 people full - time for August and September for but that will increase to 150 people for November. Then, for December it'll be 70 again. It is approximately \$380,928 per election for the call center to operate, or \$1,142,784.

It costs us \$107,520 for a 14 day tabulation cost period for each election, except for November, which is \$215,040, or \$430,080.

If we purchase ballot openers/extractors for November it'll reduce staffing needs significantly for now and the future. We need twenty, but that would cost \$500,000. The reduction in personnel costs if we purchase the extractors will cost \$230,400 for the three elections, thus it is more cost effective in the long run to purchase the openers/extractors.

We will need to hire an extra 30 full-time staff to process absentee ballot applications for September, November, December and January, which would cost us \$153,600.

5. What outreach would you like to do to inform voters about how to correctly fill out their absentee ballot application & envelope? (i.e. mailings - in more than one language? Website updates? Advertising? Paid social media posts? Phone calls from staff to assist voters? etc.) Describe the voter education/outreach efforts you would like to engage in and provide an estimated cost.

See #2 above.

6. What other activities or efforts would your county like to engage in to expand absentee voting in the remaining 2020 elections, and what resources (including but not limited to staffing, postage, printing, copying, training, advertising, signage, translation, etc. etc.) do you need to accomplish that?

N/A

Curbside/Drive-Thru Voting:

1. If your county utilized drive-thru voting in June 2020, provide a little more detail about how it was utilized, how much it cost to implement, and how many voters voted in this way. (i.e. did you use it for in-person early voting? On Election Day?) What, generally, was the community's response to curbside voting?

N/A

2. Does your county plan to use drive-thru ("Curbside") voting in the August, September and/or November 2020 elections? Why or why not? If yes, please provide some detail of your plan to utilize drive-thru voting in either of those upcoming elections and provide

estimates of your staffing and budget needs for robust drive-thru voting in your county (including PPE, signage, publicity, advertising, tents, supplies for poll workers, poll worker training, and any other costs you would incur.)

We have no plans, currently, to have drive through voting this year.

Early Voting Sites & Expanded Hours Early-Voting:

1. Does your county have a goal for how many/what % of voters you would like to vote early in August, September, and November?

Between early voting and absentee by mail, we'd like an 80% turnout before Election Day. We achieved 64% turnout via EV (59%) and absentee by mail (5%) in the 2016 November General. Therefore, 80% before Election Day is a reasonable goal. If we can split EV and absentee by mail at 40% each we will reach that goal.

For August, we are hoping that early voting will reach 30% of the total vote.

In September, our goal will be 40% turnout for early voting. In elections such as September's one contest election, early voting is difficult to predict.

2. How many early voting locations would you like to stand-up for August, September, and November elections and for how many days prior to the election? Where will they be and why those locations? Please describe your ideal early voting plan for the remaining 2020 elections and estimated costs and staffing needs, including staffing costs, publicity, materials for each location, signage, PPE, processing costs for your office, etc.

We have 19 locations open for August, plus one five-day outreach location.

For September we are going to have either six or seven locations.

In November, we plan to have 30 permanent locations, 13 outreach locations and have our two new mobile voting precincts (buses), each visit one location per day, which is the equivalent of two full-time locations.

We are paying \$100 COVID hazard pay per day during early voting. In order to attract enough workers for September and November, with some working split shifts in November, we'll need approximately \$798,00 for a COVID stipend to operate our early voting sites. For September, we'll need approximately \$80,000 for a COVID stipend. The same would be true for a December runoff and \$550,000 for the January US Senate runoff, in which early voting would take place in December 2020.

3. Would you like to be able to offer weekend and evening hours for early voting in 2020? If so, please detail how many hours of weekend and evening voting hours you would like to offer for the remaining 2020 elections and detail the costs and staffing needs associated with offering those evening & weekend early voting opportunities, making sure to include specifics on how staffing costs, publicity, signage, materials for each location, and processing costs for your office of those ballots cast early.

The answer for this is included in #3.

4. What other ways/activities would your county like to pursue in the remaining 2020 elections to expand early voting, and what resources do you need to accomplish those plans? (including, but not limited to, staffing, printing, postage, signage, translation, advertising, processing, training, etc.)

Equity & Voter Outreach, Particularly to Communities of Color:

1. What specific outreach would your county like to do for the remaining 2020 elections to reach voters of color, including Spanish-speaking voters? Please describe the outreach you'd like to do to reach these voters (i.e. informational mailings, billboards, radio or print advertisements, social media advertisements, phone calls specifically about photo ID, text messages, virtual events, etc. etc.), what impact you think it might have on voter turnout, and provide estimated costs.
2. Do you plan on getting ballots in different languages, and if so, which languages? What is the estimated number of ballots you would print in languages other than English and what is the estimated cost?

No.

3. Did your county conduct an equity analysis of the June 2020 election? If so, what did the analysis indicate about how/if the COVID-19 pandemic affected different voting populations. (Share key findings, areas of concern, areas of encouragement, etc.) If your county did not conduct such an analysis, does the Clerk and Clerk's staff have general comments or observations about which demographic(s) of voters were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and how?

We didn't conduct an equity analysis, but in many precincts in southern Fulton County, predominantly black, predominantly Democrat, lines were longer than in precincts in north Fulton. Democrats outvoted Republicans 4-1 in the June Primary. We have to assign resources based on total registered voters in each precinct. The State of Georgia requires that we outfit each precinct with 1 BMD for every 250 registered voters even if precinct has voted heavy during early voting and also absentee. We are unable to adjust resources to accommodate precincts with lower pre-Election Day turnout from precincts with high pre-Election Day turnout. In Primary elections, this hamstrings our ability to properly distribute equipment and poll workers.

We lost 45 Election Day polling locations of 198 planned locations in the June Primary election. We reduced early voting locations from 24 to 5, but increased locations to 8 during the early voting period. Both of these factors, due to COVID, hurt our Election Day performance.

We lost many experienced early voting poll workers to concerns about COVID. Six of seven usual EV workers declined to work in the Primary. We lost hundreds of Election Day poll workers, in addition, to concerns over COVID.

No in person training was conducted prior to the June Primary on the brand new voting system. All training was conducted via video and teleconference.

4. What other activities would your county like to engage in to ensure that historically disenfranchised communities within your county are able to cast ballots in the remaining elections of 2020, and what resources would you need to accomplish those efforts/activities? (including, but not limited to, printing, postage, staffing, translation, advertising, processing, training, etc.)
5. What social media platforms do you intend to use for voter outreach? Do you intend to hire additional staff or communication specialists firms to assist with this outreach? If resources were available, what social media efforts would your county engage in for the remaining 2020 elections and what is your estimate of costs needed for that effort?
6. What other voter outreach would your county like to engage in for the remaining 2020 elections? (i.e. radio/print advertising, direct mail to all households, direct mail to all registered voters, billboards, direct text messages, virtual town halls, etc.) Please provide detail on the outreach you'd like to conduct, including the kind of messaging and targeting you'd like to include, and the estimated costs.

Poll Worker Recruitment, Training & Safety:

1. To fully staff all of your desired polling locations on Election Day for both August, September, and November 2020, how many poll workers do you need to hire? What is the estimated cost of that full poll worker staffing? Please be as specific as possible - i.e. how many poll workers per location, how many new election officials will be needed overall?

We need to hire four full-time staff to help recruit workers for November at a cost of \$9,600.

We want to pay each EDay poll worker for September, November and December a COVID stipend to ensure poll workers stay committed to work \$150 for the day for a total cost of \$315,000 per election. We have many workers nervous to attend poll worker training and to work in the polling site on Election Day.

2. To fully staff the number of polling places you had available in November of 2016, how many poll workers do you need to hire? What is the estimated cost of that full poll worker staffing? Please be as specific as possible - i.e. how many poll workers per location, how many new election officials will be needed overall?
3. Describe your ideal poll worker recruitment effort for the remaining 2020 elections and provide an estimated cost for that recruitment effort.
4. Describe the training you will need to provide to new poll workers for the remaining 2020 elections and provide an estimated cost for that training, including staff time, copying costs, website updates, etc.

5. What additional activities would your county like to engage in for the remaining 2020 elections related to poll worker recruitment, training, and safety and what are the estimated costs for those efforts?

Election Days in August, September, and November 2020:

1. Assuming that Georgia is still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic during the August, September, and November elections, please detail the PPE you will need for election day and the estimated costs.

We will need hand sanitizer, masks and sneeze guards.

2. How many election day polling locations would your county like to stand up on those 3 election days, if poll workers and PPE were procured? Please distinguish between August, September, and November.

We are going to have 174 locations for August.

We plan to increase our Election Day polling sites for September and November to between 210 and 230 locations.

3. Does your county plan to utilize electronic poll books for August, September, and November elections? Do you have enough electronic poll books to use them at all desired election day polling locations? Detail how many new electronic poll books you would like to have for these remaining elections and all associated costs - including staff training, maintenance, security, etc. - for those electronic poll books.

We use KnowInk Poll Pads.

We need to order at least 300 more Poll Pads to cover Election Day and training classes in September and November. The cost is \$210,000.

4. What additional activities would your county like to do for the August, September, and November Election Days to ensure safe, secure, and fair elections, and what are the estimated costs for those additional activities?

We need to order sneeze guards for our Election Works carriers to increase the barrier between voting stations. This will enable more voters to go to BMDs on Election Day.

We need 1000 sneeze guards for Election Day locations at a total of \$157,490.

Other:

1. Please add any other activities that, if resources were available, your county would like to conduct in relation to the August, September, and November 2020 elections to ensure that they are safe, inclusive, secure, and fair. Please include cost estimates for each of those activities.

We want to order Quadient AI software to process absentee by mail applications, which would cost us \$211,000. This software will help us, also, with processing the flood of voter registration applications we will receive at the same time.

We need to purchase 30 laptops for extra staff at \$990 per laptop for a total of \$29,700.

We need to purchase three 900 series Oki printers to upgrade our capability to print ballots for absentee by mail at a cost of \$37,000.

To purchase a Bluecrest signature verification module for our Bluecrest mailing system it will cost \$30,000.