



**ALBANY COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**
224 S. Pearl St Albany, NY 12202
(518) 487-5060 • Fax (518) 487-5077
boardofelections@albanycounty.com
www.albanycounty.com/vote

Commissioners
ALISON MCLEAN LANE, DEMOCRATIC
RACHEL BLEDI, REPUBLICAN

Deputy Commissioners
DAVID CADY, DEMOCRATIC
MELISSA KERMANI, REPUBLICAN

MEMO

TO: Joanne Cunningham, Chairwoman of the Legislature
Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader
Frank Mauriello, Minority Leader
Dave Reilly, Commissioner of Management & Budget
Quentin Trahan-Crudo, Budget Analyst

FROM: Rachel Bledi, Board of Elections Republican Commissioner
Alison McLean Lane, Board of Elections Democratic Commissioner

RE: 2026 Election Grant-Contract Approval New Grant

DATE: 07/06/2026

Please be advised that the Albany County Board of Elections seeks contract approval for a *2026 Election Grant* in the amount of \$48,752.64 from the New York State Board of Elections. The grant would reimburse the county for expenses related to the running of an Election such as temporary staff, poll site supplies, election equipment, and public awareness campaigns. The term of the contract is 04/01/2026 to 03/31/2027.

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Contract Approval- New Grant 2026 Election Grant

Date:	7/06/2026	Submitted By:	Rachel Bledi & Alison McLean
Department:	Board of Elections	Lane	
Attending Meeting:	Rachel Bledi and Alison McLean Lane	Title:	Commissioner of Elections
		Phone:	518-487-5070

Purpose of Request: Contract Authorization 04/01/2026-03/31/2027

CONTRACT TERMS/CONDITIONS:

Party Names and Addresses: NYS Board of Elections
40 South Pearl St, Albany, NY 12207

Term: (Start/end date or duration)	04/01/2026 to 03/31/2027
Amount/Raise Schedule/Fee:	\$48,752.64

BUDGET INFORMATION:

Is there a Fiscal Impact:	Yes ☒ No ☐
Anticipated in Budget:	Yes ☐ No ☒
Spreadsheet attached:	Yes ☐ No ☒

Source of Funding – (Percentages)

Federal:	Enter text.	County:	Enter text.
State:	100%	Local:	Enter text.

County Budget Accounts:

Revenue Account and Line:	To be Determined
Revenue Amount:	\$48,752.64
Appropriation Account and Line:	Enter text.
Appropriation Amount:	Enter text.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Mandated Program/Service:	Yes ☒ No ☐
If Mandated, Cite Authority:	NYS Election Law
Request for Bids / Proposals:	
Competitive Bidding Exempt:	Yes ☐ No ☐
# of Response(s):	Enter text.
# of MWBE:	Enter text.
# of Veteran Business:	Enter text.
Bond Resolution No.:	Enter text.
Apprenticeship Program	Yes ☐ No ☐

Previous requests for Identical or Similar Action:

Resolution/Law Number and Date:	Enter text.
---------------------------------	-------------

DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:

Please be advised that the Albany County Board of Elections seeks contract approval for a *2026 Election Grant* in the amount of \$48,752.64 from the New York State Board of Elections. The grant would reimburse the county for expenses related to the running of an Election such as temporary staff, poll site supplies, election equipment, and public awareness campaigns. The term of the contract is 04/01/2026 to 03/31/2027.

2026 Election Grant Background

The New York State Aid to Localities Budget authorized \$3 million to be made available to local Boards of Elections for the reimbursement of eligible operating costs related to elections to be held in 2026.

The State Board of Elections has determined a County Board funding distribution based on voter enrollment. Each County Board of Elections will receive a percentage of the funds based on their total enrolled voters. Each County will also receive a base amount of \$5,000 to ensure smaller Counties have a reasonable amount of funds needed to fulfill the goals of the grant.

Eligible operating costs, include, but are not limited to, expenses related to the running of an Election such as temporary staff, poll site supplies, election equipment, and public awareness campaigns. Provided, any funds received by a County under this appropriation shall be used to supplement and not supplant current local expenditures of federal, state or local funds that the county currently spends for the administration of elections or has budgeted, for costs related to elections held in 2026.

This grant fund distribution program does not provide for the direct release of State funds to counties. County Boards of Elections may submit a claim for payment, after the purchase of such products and services with county funds, for reimbursement of either some or all those costs, provided the purchases were reasonable, allowable and allocable. Substantial evidence must be included with each claim, and prior to the award of any reimbursement, all claims will be reviewed for the products' and/or services' compliance with the NYSBOE guidelines for allowable expenses. Reimbursement will be made for allowable costs which have not previously been claimed for reimbursement for the same expenses elsewhere.

Contract Terms			
Current Contract Term:			
From:	4/1/2026	To:	3/31/2027
Current Contract Period			
From:	4/1/2026	To:	3/31/2027

Allowable Expenses

- Temporary workers
- Additional poll workers and election inspectors
- Costs related to opening additional early voting poll site locations
- Printing of additional ballots and envelopes for early mail and absentee ballots, and in-person ballots
- Additional mailing and postage
- Costs related to maintaining security at poll sites included but not limited to equipment seals, secure cellular services and internet providers for electronic poll books, de-escalation training, generators and other back up power sources, and poll site security
- Supplies related to administering the election, including but not limited to pens, markers, ballot paper, cleaning supplies, signs, extension cords, power strips, and other materials
- Equipment and technology related to running an election included but not limited to mail processing equipment, ballot on demand printers, ballot scanners, central count tabulators and scanners, voter registration systems, and associated software and installation/migration fees
- Transportation fees for election related materials, equipment, and poll workers
- Vendor costs for the printing and sending of ballots and other functions related to administration of the election
- Costs related to public awareness campaigns including but not limited to printing, physical/online distribution of educational materials, and advertisement and marketing fees
- Provided, all allowable expenses must not supplant current local expenditures of federal, state or local funds that the county currently spends for the administration of elections or has budgeted, for costs related to elections held in 2026
- Other expenses directly related to administering elections in 2026, that have not previously been budgeted for, may be considered for reimbursement based upon documentation submitted by County Boards of Election

Aid to Localities Budget Language

1 The amounts appropriated herein shall be
2 made available to local boards of
3 elections, including the New York city
4 board of elections, for the reimbursement
5 of eligible operating costs related to
6 elections to be held in 2026.
7 The state board of elections shall develop a
8 plan for the distribution of such funds to
9 local boards of elections for reimburse-
10 ment of eligible operating costs, includ-
11 ing, but not limited to, the temporary
12 employment of personnel, technological
13 upgrades and public awareness campaigns,
14 provided that such reimbursement shall be
15 apportioned based on the number of regis-
16 tered voters in a county. Any funds
17 received by a county under this appropri-
18 ation shall be used to supplement and not
19 supplant current local expenditures of
20 federal, state or local funds that the
21 county currently spends for the adminis-
22 tration of elections or has budgeted for
23 costs related to elections to be held in
24 2026. A copy of such plan shall be sent to
25 the director of the division of the budg-
26 et, the senate finance committee, and the
27 assembly ways and means committee (23529) 3,000,000
28 -----

2026 Election Grant

Total Grant Funds	\$ 3,000,000.00
-------------------	-----------------

			\$5,000
Counties	Total Enrolled Voters (Active and Inactive)	Percent of State Voter Population	Grant Distribution (\$5K Base)
Albany	218,081	1.63%	\$48,752.64
Allegany	27,963	0.21%	\$10,610.09
Broome	132,932	0.99%	\$31,669.57
Cattaraugus	50,806	0.38%	\$15,192.99
Cayuga	51,152	0.38%	\$15,262.40
Chautauqua	84,991	0.63%	\$22,051.37
Chemung	55,536	0.41%	\$16,141.94
Chenango	32,375	0.24%	\$11,495.25
Clinton	53,785	0.40%	\$15,790.65
Columbia	49,421	0.37%	\$14,915.12
Cortland	31,074	0.23%	\$11,234.24
Delaware	31,893	0.24%	\$11,398.55
Dutchess	219,940	1.64%	\$49,125.60
Erie	662,636	4.94%	\$137,941.76
Essex	27,990	0.21%	\$10,615.51
Franklin	28,822	0.21%	\$10,782.43
Fulton	35,941	0.27%	\$12,210.69
Genesee	40,214	0.30%	\$13,067.96
Greene	35,049	0.26%	\$12,031.73
Hamilton	4,423	0.03%	\$5,887.37
Herkimer	42,452	0.32%	\$13,516.96
Jefferson	66,799	0.50%	\$18,401.59
Lewis	19,770	0.15%	\$8,966.37
Livingston	42,047	0.31%	\$13,435.71
Madison	46,659	0.35%	\$14,360.99
Monroe	530,176	3.95%	\$111,366.89
Montgomery	31,720	0.24%	\$11,363.84
Nassau	1,068,308	7.97%	\$219,329.96
Niagara	150,285	1.12%	\$35,151.02
Oneida	142,931	1.07%	\$33,675.62
Onondaga	329,996	2.46%	\$71,205.65
Ontario	84,008	0.63%	\$21,854.16
Orange	269,719	2.01%	\$59,112.54
Orleans	26,393	0.20%	\$10,295.11
Oswego	80,172	0.60%	\$21,084.56
Otsego	39,305	0.29%	\$12,885.59
Putnam	77,067	0.57%	\$20,461.61
Rensselaer	113,926	0.85%	\$27,856.47
Rockland	221,805	1.65%	\$49,499.77
Saratoga	189,554	1.41%	\$43,029.39

Schenectady	108,633	0.81%	\$26,794.56
Schoharie	21,861	0.16%	\$9,385.88
Schuyler	13,312	0.10%	\$7,670.73
Seneca	21,705	0.16%	\$9,354.58
St.Lawrence	65,237	0.49%	\$18,088.21
Steuben	65,143	0.49%	\$18,069.36
Suffolk	1,133,206	8.45%	\$232,350.16
Sullivan	54,712	0.41%	\$15,976.63
Tioga	34,908	0.26%	\$12,003.44
Tompkins	67,088	0.50%	\$18,459.57
Ulster	137,384	1.02%	\$32,562.75
Warren	50,314	0.38%	\$15,094.28
Washington	41,239	0.31%	\$13,273.60
Wayne	62,775	0.47%	\$17,594.27
Westchester	682,090	5.09%	\$141,844.73
Wyoming	26,096	0.19%	\$10,235.53
Yates	14,893	0.11%	\$7,987.92
Total Outside NYC	8,048,712	60.03%	\$1,899,777.87
Bronx	793,669	5.92%	\$164,230.34
Kings	1,686,555	12.58%	\$343,366.15
New York	1,173,630	8.75%	\$240,460.25
Queens	1,366,230	10.19%	\$279,100.75
Richmond	339,262	2.53%	\$73,064.65
Total NYC	5,359,346	39.97%	\$1,100,222.13
Statewide Total	13,408,058	100.00%	\$3,000,000.00