

FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(Follow form instructions)

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION					2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment) WI20101001				
3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including Zip code) Elections Commission, Wisconsin 212 E Washington Ave Fl 3, Madison, WI 537034232									
4a. DUNS Number		4b. EIN		5. Recipient Account Number or Identifying Number (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)		6. Report Type <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Final		7. Basis of Accounting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual	
8. Project/Grant Period (Month, Day, Year) From: March 28, 2018 To: September 30, 2019						9. Reporting Period End Date (Month, Day, Year) September 30, 2020			
10. Transactions								Cumulative	
<i>(Use lines a-c for single or combined multiple grant reporting)</i>									
Federal Cash (To report multiple grants separately, also use FFR Attachment):									
a. Cash Receipts								\$14,828,442.00	
b. Cash Disbursements								\$6,796,723.91	
c. Cash on Hand (line a minus b)								\$8,031,718.09	
<i>(Use lines d-o for single grant reporting)</i>									
Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance:									
d. Total Federal funds authorized								\$14,828,442.00	
e. Federal share of expenditures								\$6,791,960.91	
f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations								\$309,340.41	
g. Total Federal share (sum of lines e and f)								\$7,101,301.32	
h. Unobligated balance of Federal funds (line d minus g)								\$7,727,140.68	
Recipient Share:									
i. Total recipient share required								\$1,918,941.00	
j. Recipient share of expenditures								\$1,868,274.11	
k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j)								\$50,666.89	
Program Income:									
l. Total Federal share of program income earned								\$276,500.22	
m. Program income expended in accordance with the deduction alternative								\$0.00	
n. Program income expended in accordance with the addition alternative								\$0.01	
o. Unexpended program income (line l minus line m and line n)								\$276,500.21	
11. Indirect Expense	a. Type	b. Rate	c. Period From	Period To	d. Base	e. Amount Charged	f. Federal Share		
g. Totals:					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
12. Remarks: Attach any explanations deemed necessary or information required by Federal sponsoring agency in compliance with governing legislation: State interest earned in current year \$0 (WEC does not earn interest on state share as match comes from current budget authority)									
13. Certification: By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and intent set forth in the award documents. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)									
a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Billingham, Julia WEC Senior Accountant						c. Telephone (Area code, number, and extension) 			
b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official Billingham, Julia						d. Email Address 			
						e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) April 8, 2021			

Standard Form 425
OMB Approval Number: 4040-0014
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 4040-0014. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: US Department of Health & Human Services, OS/OCIO/PRA, 200 Independence Ave, SW, Suite 336-E, Washington DC 20201. Attention: PRA Reports Clearance Officer

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(Additional Page)

Federal Agency & Organization : ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Federal Grant ID : WI20101001

Recipient Organization : Elections Commission, Wisconsin
212 E Washington Ave Fl 3, Madison, WI 537034232:

DUNS Number :

DUNS Status when Certified :

EIN : September 30, 2020

Reporting Period End Date

Status :

Remarks :

Federal Agency Review

Reviewer Name :

Phone # :

Email :

Review Date :

Review Comments :

EAC Progress Report

Response ID:84 Data

1. Login

Please enter your userword and password to begin the Progress Narrative. If you require assistance or have any questions, please contact grants@eac.gov

2. Verification

3. EAC Progress Report

1. State or Territory:

Wisconsin

2. Grant Number:

WI20101001-01

3. Report:

Annual (Oct 1 - Sept 30)

4. Grant:

Please select only one.

Election Security

5. Reporting Period Start Date

10/01/2019

6. Reporting Period End Date

09/30/2020

7. DUNS/UEI:

8. EIN:

9. Recipient Organization:

Organization Name

Wisconsin Elections Commission

Street Address

212 East Washington Ave, Po Box 7984

City

Madison

State

WI

Zip

53707-7984

4. Progress and Narrative

10. Describe in detail what happened during this reporting period and explain how you implemented the approved grant activities.

State of Wisconsin
Annual Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security Grant
2020 Progress Report

During the reporting period of October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020 the Wisconsin Elections Commission utilized the combined 2018/2020 Help America Vote Act Election Security Grant funds appropriated to Wisconsin to improve the administration and security of Federal elections by assisting our 1,853 local elections officials and 72 county elections officials to improve their security posture heading into the 2020 federal election cycle and continuing to implement security measures into our statewide voter registration system. Wisconsin received \$6,978,318 in 2018 and \$7,850,124 in 2020 in HAVA Elections Security funds for a total of \$14,828,442.

Wisconsin has expended \$1,154,264.13 of its match requirement of \$1,918,941.00. Wisconsin has utilized existing state general purpose revenue funds to offset the cost of election security activities. Ongoing costs that contributed towards the match include election security salaries and fringe as well as other costs such as IT contractor services, local election official training, and supplies and services. Wisconsin has been approved to apply the 10% de minimis indirect cost allocation, but direct costs have been sufficient to meet the required state match by the end of federal fiscal year 2021.

Based on discussions with agency partners and clerk feedback, the Commission determined the most immediate expenditure needs were to assist our local election partners to improve their overall elections security posture as they prepared for the remainder of the 2020 election year and head into future election cycles.

Wisconsin developed a two-phase timeline for improving our federal election security as part of the State of Wisconsin's original HAVA security grant spending plan. The first phase involved immediate expenses in support of the 2020 federal elections. This phase involved addressing immediate security needs such as purchasing software, implementation of security measures into the statewide voter registration system, the creation of federally funded staff positions, and hiring additional IT developers. The second phase involves collecting feedback from Wisconsin election partners such as local election officials and the public to determine long-term election security needs. This second phase is to sustain ongoing security efforts at both the state and local level and is still in development but will also allow for the reservation of some security funding to address future security threats that may develop.

County Subgrant Program

The Wisconsin Elections Commission earmarked \$3.9M for a County Subgrant Program. The purpose of the subgrant was to make funds available to Wisconsin counties to help address 2020 election security needs. The intent was to allow counties to

apply for subgrant funds on an "individual needs basis" instead of a one-size-fits-all approach. Funds from the program were used to make payments for activities that enhance election technology and make election security improvements, as authorized under sections 101, 103, and 104 of HAVA and under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-93), which include personnel, equipment, and training costs associated with cyber vulnerabilities, physical security, voter registration systems and management, election auditing, staff training and communications. Because counties may have different election security needs, this subgrant was designed to allow counties to assess their unique security environment. The Wisconsin Elections Commission distributed 60 county subgrants totaling \$3,294,090.84.

Renewal of Municipal Election Security Subgrant

The Wisconsin Elections Commission earmarked \$1,206,000 for the renewal of the Municipal Election Security Subgrant. The purpose of the local election security subgrant was to help improve federal election security statewide by providing cities, villages, and towns across the State of Wisconsin with federal election security funds to implement baseline security measures based on specific needs of the jurisdiction.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission required all jurisdictions meet certain baseline security measures to receive subgrant funds which includes:

- 1) computer hardware and/or software to meet minimum security recommendations
- 2) Professional IT support
- 3) Security Training (cyber or physical)

The Wisconsin Elections Commission distributed 38 subgrants totaling \$38,200.00.

Elections Security Training

In 2020 many planned election security training events were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the Wisconsin Elections Commission revised existing programs, and developed new programs, to accommodate remote training options. New training programs were then introduced to local officials and other election security partners in the months leading up to the General Election.

Election Security training objectives remain unchanged. The goal of WEC training programs is to provide a safe, relatively low-stress environment for election officials to test their institutional knowledge and election day emergency response plans against the incident injects to (1) test the effectiveness of existing knowledge, policies, and practices as they relate to election security (operational, physical, cyber), (2) provide an increased awareness and preparedness, and (3) adapt and implement the training and lessons learned. The training is designed to encourage participants to work through scenarios, to practice their communication plans, and to take action, without the risks or potential repercussions they may face in real life.

To conduct the remote training, participants leveraged both Zoom Webinars (acquired for 2020), and Adobe Connect. Live training events were supplemented with interactive training tutorials for municipal clerks on election and cyber security topics. These tutorials were incorporated into the WisVote learning center and will be required for new users prior to gaining access to the system.

WEC staff continues to work with county clerks to aid in the facilitation of this training, providing both staffing and materials resources. Training materials are housed on the WEC Learning Center website and include all necessary documents to conduct an exercise, in addition to supplemental documents like an Election Day Emergency Response Plan template, a Communications Plan template, and a memorandum to governing bodies regarding the importance of election security.

Based on the abundance of positive feedback from elections officials across the State, we believe this training model was a success and are currently in the process of outlining our plan going forward to improve and enhance the election security TTX training model for the next calendar year.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission devoted considerable time towards improvements to the Statewide Voter Registration System (WisVote) and its associated components. This included development for the private and public web-based portals. Security related improvements generally fell in two categories: those planned prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and those implemented in response to changing voter behavior following the pandemic.

Preplanned changes focused on securing communication channels, public facing sites, and backup systems. Cloudflare Athenian anti-DDOS protections and other site monitoring tools were rolled out across all public and private agency sites. This roll-out was performed in conjunction with software updates and additional infrastructure to improve redundancy. Other technical improvements were implemented to improve data transfers with electronic poll books being piloted in the state. Finally, the agency IT staff implemented a rigorous load testing program to ensure updated systems could handle the volume of traffic anticipated in 2020.

More recent changes to Wisconsin election systems were planned in response to changing voter behavior during the April Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary. A significant shift to absentee by mail voting led agency staff to implement ballot tracking tools in coordination with the USPS, increase the security of PII transmitted during the ballot request process, and enable secure digital storage of identification cards required for Wisconsin's photo ID law. These changes collectively increased the security of sensitive voter information and improved situational awareness for both voters and local election officials.

Upcoming Activities

The Wisconsin Elections Commission continues to safeguard its HAVA Elections Security Grant funds to ensure that immediate security needs are being met while continually monitoring and evaluating future ongoing needs. The COVID-19 crisis demonstrated that unanticipated challenges could arise quickly and produce unexpected and urgent needs. Wisconsin's reserved funds will be used to address future ongoing needs and allow Wisconsin to take advantage of new technologies and react to unexpected immediate needs in the future.

11. Provide a timeline and description of project activities funded to meet HAVA requirements. Provide an analysis of how such activities conform to the submitted State Plan or Program Narrative as applicable.

Wisconsin developed a two-phase timeline for improving our federal election security as part of the State of Wisconsin's original HAVA security grant spending plan. The first phase involved immediate expenses in support of the 2020 federal elections. This phase involved addressing immediate security needs such as purchasing software, implementation of security measures into the statewide voter registration system, the creation of federally funded staff positions, and hiring additional IT developers. The second phase involves collecting feedback from Wisconsin election partners such as local election officials and the public to determine long-term election security needs. This second phase is to sustain ongoing security efforts at both the state and local level and is still in development but will also allow for the reservation of some security funding to address future security threats that may develop.

12. Describe any significant changes to your program during the course of the project, or if the project was implemented differently than described in your original State Plan or Program Narrative.

Otherwise enter - no significant changes during this period.

None

13. Describe any favorable developments which enabled meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Otherwise enter N/A.

None

14. Report on the number and type of articles of voting equipment obtained with the funds. Include the amount expended on the expenditure table.

Otherwise enter - No articles of voting equipment purchased during this period.

None

15. Provide a description of any security training conducted and the number of participants.

Otherwise enter - no security training conducted during this period.

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16. Subgrants (if applicable):

Describe how you made funds available to local jurisdictions.

Provide a description of the major categories of subgrant activities local voting districts will accomplish with the funds.

Otherwise enter N/A.

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17. Match (if applicable):

Describe how you are meeting the matching requirement.

Otherwise enter - match not required.

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18. Issues Encountered:

Describe all major issues that arose during the implementation of the project and the reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate. Address each issue separately in its own section, and describe whether and how the issues were resolved. Also, briefly discuss the implications of any unresolved issues or concerns.

Otherwise enter - no issues encountered.

None

19. Upcoming Activities:

Provide a timeline and description of upcoming activities.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission continues to safeguard its HAVA Elections Security Grant funds to ensure that immediate security needs are being met while continually monitoring and evaluating future ongoing needs. The COVID-19 crisis demonstrated that unanticipated challenges could arise quickly and produce unexpected and urgent needs. Wisconsin's reserved funds will be used to address future ongoing needs and allow Wisconsin to take advantage of new technologies and react to unexpected immediate needs in the future.

5. Expenditures

20. Current Period Amount Expended and Unliquidated Obligations

GRANT COST CATEGORIES

	Federal	Match
Voting Equipment:	\$88,573.34	\$58,265.36
Post-Election Auditing:	\$2,415.36	\$634.00
Voter Registration Systems:	\$534,633.45	\$1,027,759.01
Cyber Security:	\$1,285,941.47	\$24,410.63
Communications:	\$190,481.93	\$18,322.73
Total	\$5,691,628.09	\$1,154,264.13
General Election Security Activities	\$335,812.72	\$24,872.40
Subgrants to Counties and Municipalities	\$3,253,769.82	

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 3265-0020

6. Certification

Name and Contact of the authorized certifying official of the recipient.

First Name

Julia

Last Name

Billingham

Title

Senior Accountant

Phone Number

Email Address

Signature of Certifying Official:

Julia Billingham

Signature of: Julia Billingham

7. Report Submitted to EAC



Thank you, your progress report has been submitted to EAC. Please keep the PDF download of your submission as grant record.