**REQUIREMENTS:**

**Security**

A “secure” voting machine means one that cannot be tampered with or manipulated. Security begins with requiring that systems accurately record votes as cast. Although requirements vary from state to state, other aspects of security that may be addressed include:

* Physical security of the equipment and ballots: Procedures that ensure that additional votes cannot be cast after the polls have closed or tampered with at any stage of the process, and that there is an auditable “chain of custody.”
* Auditability: The capability of a machine to maintain an audit record that can be reviewed post-election.
* Internet connection: Ensuring a machine cannot be connected to the Internet or networked during the voting period to avoid the potential for hacking.

**Functionality**

Standards may also address specific functionality that a voting machine should have. Functionality might include:

* Correctly registering and recording all votes cast.
* Permitting the voter to vote for any person, office or measure for which he or she has the right to vote.
* Permitting a voter to review his or her votes before casting them, and providing the opportunity to change or correct the ballot before it is cast and counted.
* Notifying a voter if he or she has cast too many votes for a particular candidate or issue (overvoted) or neglected to vote for a particular candidate or issue (undervoted).
* Providing a method for voters to “write-in” a candidate of their choice.
* Accumulating total ballots cast.

**Privacy**

Voters have a right to a secret ballot and to cast their vote in private. This is necessary to protect voters from being coerced or bribed into voting a certain way. In the context of a voting machine, this means that the system shouldn’t provide a receipt or any way for another person to determine the contents of a voter’s ballot.

**Usability**

Casting a ballot should be easy for voters. This means that a voting machine should be as intuitive to use as possible and contain clear instructions regarding how to vote. The way that the ballot is designed and presented—on-screen or on paper—is also important. Ballot design and usability is an integral part of voting system design.

**Accessibility**

By federal law, all people, including those with visual, physical or cognitive disabilities, must have the opportunity to independently cast their votes. Paper is not accessible for many people, either because of vision impairment or because pen and paper are hard to manipulate. As the population ages, the demand for adaptive systems with continue to grow. By federal law, voting systems must also have the ability to provide alternative language accessibility.  

**HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Hard Ware | Minimum System Requirement |
| processor | 2.4 GHZ processor speed |
| Memory | 128 MB RAM (256 MB Recommended) |
| Disk Space | 80 GB (including 20 GB for database Management system) |
| Display | 800 x 600 colors (1024 x 768 High color- 16 bit Recommended) |