



**Voting Accessibility
Advisory Committee
Meeting**

July 21, 2022

June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary

- Voter turnout for the June 7 election was 25.70%
- The number of registered voters for this election, 123,894, is a new record high for Merced County.
- Three 11 day VAC's open, Thirteen 4 day VAC's open
- Multiple options for Voter Registration:
 1. Online at registertovote.ca.gov
 2. In-person at any Voting Assistance Center or the Merced County Registrar of Voters Office
 3. Mail in Voter Registration card

VOTE BY MAIL

- ▶ All active registered voters will be mailed a ballot starting 29 days before an election
- ▶ Voters will also receive a ballot return envelope, with pre-paid postage
- ▶ [Wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov](https://wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov) – This is a ballot tracking program that allows voters to receive updates on delivery status.



VOTING LOCATIONS & HOURS

- ▶ Voting Assistance Centers will be open for 11 days (10 days prior to Election day and Election day) or 4 days (3 days prior to Election day and Election day) including weekends.
- ▶ At least one in-person voting location is required for every 10,000 registered voters for a projected total of 13 four-day VACs, and for every 50,000 registered voters, an eleven-day VAC is required, resulting in 3 eleven-day VAC's.
- ▶ Staff will be fully trained to assist voters
- ▶ Language assistance in Spanish, Punjabi, Hmong, Chinese & Mien
- ▶ Facsimile Ballots in Punjabi, Hmong, Chinese & Mien
- ▶ Multilingual Virtual Pollworker (MVP) – other languages including American Sign Language (ASL)

Voting Assistance Center Services

- ▶ Replacement Vote by Mail ballot or ballot return envelope
- ▶ Drop off voted Vote by Mail (VBM) ballot
- ▶ Receive language assistance
- ▶ Mark a ballot using an ADA accessible marking device
- ▶ Register to vote and/or vote in person



DROP BOX LOCATIONS AND HOURS

- ▶ At least 1 drop box is required for every 15,000 registered voters
- ▶ Available no less than 29 days before Election Day
- ▶ Open during regular business hours of each respective location
- ▶ Secure, accessible, and easy to identify
- ▶ Drive-up and walk-up ballot drop boxes are available at the Merced County Administration Building (available 24/7)



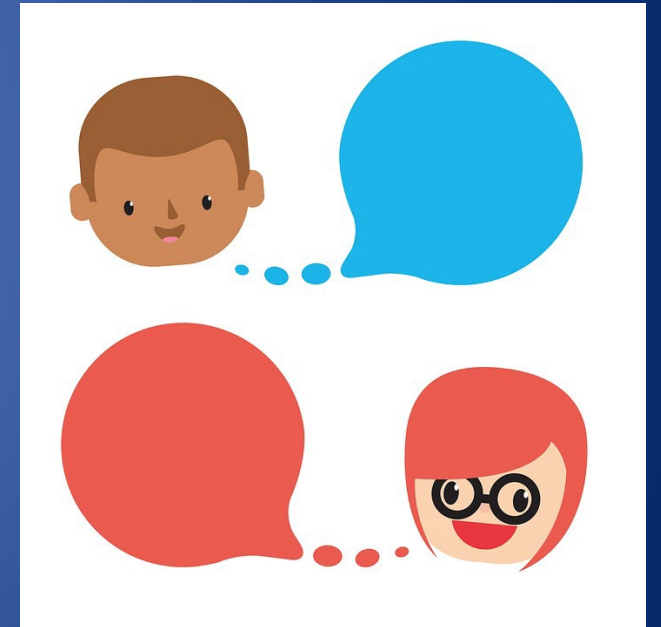
MVP: Multilingual Virtual Poll Workers

What are MVP's?

- MVP's are iPads equipped with a program that connects voters with interpreters through a video call. There are interpreters for over 240 languages including Spanish, Hmong, Punjabi, and American Sign Language.

How will we use MVP's?

- The Elections Department will have our MVP's at Voting Assistance Centers, where voters have specific language needs on voting days. In addition, we will also use them in our office year-round to assist any voter who may need language services that our staff cannot provide.





THANK YOU!

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