

Program #90010B - Elections - Special Elections

FY 2026 Proposed

Department: Community Services
Program Offer Type: Operating
Related Programs: 90010A
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Program Contact: Tim Scott
Program Offer Stage: Proposed

Program Description

Oregon statutes specify four election dates every calendar year. Those dates are the 2nd Tuesday in March, the 3rd Tuesday in May, the 4th Tuesday in August, and the 1st Tuesday after the first Monday in November. During odd years, the May Special Election is the only election with candidate positions scheduled. During even years, the May Primary and November General are the only elections with candidate positions scheduled. Ballot Measure referrals can be placed on any of the four scheduled election dates.

Program offer 90010A provides funding for the November and May election dates because those are when most jurisdictions hold elections in Oregon and when the Primary and General election are conducted. This program offer provides funding for any elections that the Multnomah County Elections Division would be required to conduct in August or March.

The August and March election dates are for conducting special elections. A special election is an election scheduled on an election date other than the usual date for the jurisdiction to elect officers. Special elections are often called to fill a vacancy in an elective office or for jurisdictions to refer a ballot measure to voters. Under Oregon law, any jurisdiction that holds a special election in August or March is required to reimburse the county for the costs incurred to conduct the election.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target
Output	Number of special elections funded	2	2	0	2

Performance Measures Descriptions

Legal / Contractual Obligation

County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, addresses initiative/referendum petition process and filling county office vacancies. County Administrative Rules, Language, Communication and Cultural Access Policy, Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 165, addresses uniformity in conduct of elections. Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapters 246 to 260, provide authority for conducting elections. Federal Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, National Voter Registration Act, Help America Vote Act, and Military and Overseas Empowerment Act establish election administration standards.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Personnel	\$130,000	\$0	\$130,000	\$0
Contractual Services	\$430,000	\$0	\$430,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$140,000	\$0	\$140,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$700,000	\$0	\$700,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$700,000		\$700,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Service Charges	\$700,000	\$0	\$700,000	\$0
Total Revenue	\$700,000	\$0	\$700,000	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

The special elections funded by this program offer would be conducted on election dates that would allow the county to seek full reimbursement from the jurisdictions that called elections on those dates.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2025: 90010E Elections - Special Elections