Ohio Registered Election Official (OREO) Certification

Eight courses are required for certification, including four core courses.

For questions about course registration, credits, how many courses you have or need, and certification, contact Aaron Ockerman at aaron@ockermanconsulting.com

**CORE COURSES**

**100: The Election Aftermath**
By statute, Ohio county election officials are charged with undertaking a host of critical responsibilities after the polls close on Election Day. These include conducting the unofficial canvass, the official canvass, a post-election audit, and recounts, when necessary. In addition, county election officials must adhere to critical security procedures, and be prepared to have their conduct scrutinized in a post-election judicial contest of an election outcome. This course will explore and discuss how county election officials can undertake their responsibilities with a critical eye to building and maintaining public trust in the election process.

**101: Voting Equipment: Standards, Operation, Maintenance**
Managing the implementation of voting equipment is one of the most challenging aspects of any election official’s job. This course will familiarize Ohio election officials with the basics of voting equipment standards, operation, and maintenance. The first half of the course will cover developments in voting technology, laws regulating the systems used for voting, and the testing and certification process for voting systems. The latter half of the course will focus on the operation and maintenance of voting systems, which includes managing the flow of information from election officials to the voter, ensuring the security of every vote cast, and reporting the results. The course will address the pros and cons of different types of voting equipment used in Ohio and survey trends and possible future developments in voting equipment.

**102: Ethics: Data, Partisan Politics, and the Public**
Boards of Elections house substantial data, including personal identifying information. This course will explore the ethical and legal aspects of handling that data and the ethical situations that arise while operating in a pseudo-political environment. Participants also will explore how boards of elections interact with the public and strategies for interacting with the public, candidates and the press in a way that balances political interests and promotes voter confidence.

**103: Voter Registration**
The Law and practice intersect to create an ever-changing landscape for how people register to vote and how voter registration records are managed. This class includes a top-to-bottom review of voter registration law and administration, including its history, federal and state legal requirements, current issues and litigation, registration methods, database management, best practices, and likely future developments.
ELECTIVE COURSES

104: Money and Politics: Campaign Finance Regulation
This course focuses on the role money plays in our political system. Students will have an interactive discussion on how the campaign finance system affects political discourse and policymaking in our state and country. The second part of the class will be a hands-on, practical lesson on how to administer campaign finance at the local board of elections level. This section will identify how boards of elections can successfully implement their legal requirements as it relates to campaign finance laws.

105: Poll Workers: Recruiting, Maintaining, Training and Managing
The full range of what must happen to assure that enough poll workers are found and what can be done to improve their abilities, to assure they return for future elections, managing the polling place, and training and motivating poll workers. The course covers subjects such as how adults learn, special training needs for older adults, and enhancing voter experience with improved poll workers.

106: Duplicate Processing, Local Options and Chargebacks
This is a hands-on, practical course that will focus on the day-to-day tasks involving list maintenance and local option questions. The course will focus on resolving potential duplicate voter queries, the board of elections role in local liquor options, and when and how chargebacks can be used with local governments.

107: IT for non-IT Administrators
If you are an election administrator, you are an IT expert. The two go hand-in-hand. This course is designed for election officials who have never had formal IT training and will focus on the basic knowledge that is needed to function in a professional environment increasingly defined by computer systems. Additional information will focus on cybersecurity and the ability to practically implement state laws and directives.

108: Election Administration Plans and Contingency Planning
Elections are the cornerstone of our democracy and elections operations are a critical component of our Nation’s Essential Critical Infrastructure. It is crucial that election officials have plans in place that will allow the election operations to continue in the event of unforeseen circumstances. This course provides election leaders with a general understanding for election contingency planning and specific expertise related to the Ohio Election Administration Plan (EAP) and an Election Continuity of Operations Preparedness Plan.

Graduate Course 200: Public Budgeting
Budgets inform everything that a board of elections does. While boards are funded primarily at the county level, how budgets are formulated and appropriated by county commissioners can vary. This class will explore the basics of public budgeting in Ohio with an emphasis on best practices for constructing and advocating for sufficient budgetary needs.

Graduate Course 201: A History of Election Administration and Litigation in Ohio and the U.S.
The United States prides itself on its democratic processes, but those processes have been constantly evolving throughout the country’s history as a reflection of broader social changes as well as in response to administrative problems and legal challenges. This three-hour course combines a historical discussion of how the processes of conducting elections have changed over time with an overview of how key court cases in disputed elections have altered or influenced American elections.

Graduate Course 203: Redistricting in Ohio
Voter maps influence the outcome of elections. This course will explore the history and legal authority of redistricting in Ohio, the current processes and tools that are used to draw Ohio’s voter maps, and the implications of how those maps are drawn for elections officials, Ohio politics, and American democracy.