

Cost Effective Practices for Providing Language Assistance

2018 Language Access for Voters Summit

Who are we?

- Providence is the capital city in the State of Rhode Island
- One of three jurisdictions covered under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act
- Providence currently has over 123k registered voters
- Has 80 Precincts and 67 Polling Places
- Provide bilingual election related services in English and Spanish

Why is this important

- Advocate for voters
- Promote Voter Registration
- Provide language access for our community
- Voting is your voice – Voters should feel empowered
- Voters should feel comfortable and confident with the voting process

Responsibilities

- Recruitment of polling officials
- Securing polling places
- Inspect polling places
- Lobby for Election Laws - Elections administration and voters
- Voter Registration - Information
- Voter registration drives throughout the city

Community

- Bilingual Polling Officials required in all polling places
- Additional bilingual polling officials are hired based on community demographics
- Social Media Recruitment
- High School students / Parents
- Get paid for your Civic Participation!

Language Access

- Translation Services – Translate in a way where there is no room for error
- EAC Glossary Booklet
- Internet – Other states for similar translation
- Provide Election Day information for voters in our community
- SOS is responsible for translating ballots and Election Guides
- BOE is responsible for translating election day / polling place materials

Costs

- Bilingual Clerk – translates documents and advertisements
- All documents are duplexed
- Advertise in 2 local papers – do not run concurrent
- Mailings – use larger cards