



Clallam / Jefferson County Joint Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee Per RCW 29A.04.223



2023 Action Plan to Improve Accessibility of Elections For Voters with Disabilities

Formed by Jefferson Co. 5/08; Clallam Co. joined 12/14
Rev. 12/11; 12/14; 9/15; 9/17; 10/18; 4/19; 12/20; 5/21; 3/22; 4/23

Committee's role:

- ✓ Accessibility – Advise the Auditor's Office on how to make voting more accessible to the disabled community
- ✓ Outreach – Assist the Auditor's Office in communicating with voters in the disabled community
- ✓ Education – Help the Auditor's Office to inform voters in the disabled community and educate staff on disability issues

Committee Members:

At a minimum from each county, the committee members should consist of:

- County Auditor
- Election Supervisor / Coordinator
 - o Other county employees that participate in either elections or outreach and education.
- Members from local organizations that provide services for individuals, businesses and organizations. For example, Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH) and Jefferson County Council of the Blind (JCCB).

Voting Centers, Staffed:

Clallam County has one voting center located in room 042 in Elections' Office on the basement floor of the Clallam County Courthouse, 223 E. 4th St., Port Angeles. The accessible voting unit (AVU) will be located in the Election Office. The courthouse is ADA accessible. The voting center will be open for 20 days prior to the election from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm and on Election Day from 9:30 am-8:00 pm.

Jefferson County has one voting center located in the Auditor's Office on the first floor of the Jefferson County Courthouse, 1820 Jefferson St., Port Townsend. The accessible voting unit (AVU) is located in the hallway in front of the Auditor's Office. The courthouse is ADA accessible. The voting center will be open for 20 days prior to the election from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm and on Election Day from 8:30 am – 8:00 pm.

Ballot Drop Sites, Unstaffed - Clallam County:

Available 24/7 during 20 day voting period.
The boxes are closed and locked at 8:00 pm Election day.

1. Clallam County Courthouse, Circular Drive and Front Sidewalk – available 24/7 during 20 day voting period
223 E. 4th St., Port Angeles 98362
2. Clallam County Courthouse, directly across from the disabled parking – available 24/7 during 20 day voting period.
223 E. 4th St., Port Angeles 98362
3. Sequim Village Shopping Center, Parking Lot – available 24/7 during 20 day voting period
651 W Washington St., Sequim 98382
4. Forks City Hall (outside) – available 24/7 during 20 day voting period
500 E. Division St., Forks 98331
5. Neah Bay – available 24/7 during 20 day voting period
1450 Bayview Ave (in front of Washburn’s General Store).
6. Sekiu - available 24/7 during 20 day voting period (beginning 10/18)
15 Sekiu Airport Rd (by the PUD building).
7. Carlsborg - available 24/7 during 20 day voting period (beginning 10/18)
261461 Hwy 101 (next to Sunny Farms, near Mill Rd).
8. Clallam Bay – 16990 Hwy 112 (in front of the Clallam Bay Branch Library)

Ballot Drop Sites, Unstaffed – Jefferson County:

Available 24/7 during 20 day voting period.

The boxes are closed and locked at 8:00 pm Election day.

1. Jefferson Co. Courthouse, Back parking lot –
1820 Jefferson St., Port Townsend 98368
2. Jefferson Co. Library
620 Cedar Ave., Port Hadlock 98339
3. Nordland Fire Station 12
6633 Flagler Rd, Nordland 98358
4. Quilcene Community Center
294952 Hwy 101, Quilcene 98376
5. Brinnon Community Center
306144 Hwy 101, Brinnon 98320
6. Olympic Peninsula Gateway Visitor Center
93 Beaver Valley Rd., Port Ludlow 98365
7. Hoh Indian Nation
2261 Lower Hoh Rd., Forks 98331
9. Quinault Indian Nation (Queets)
Queets Ave., Forks, 98331
10. Jefferson County Courthouse, (in front by the courthouse steps).
1820 Jefferson St., Port Townsend 98368

Community Outreach

Clallam and Jefferson Counties will use a variety of methods to reach out to the community with information about accessible voting, such as:

- Presentations: Upon request, provide presentations about accessible voting options to area service clubs, senior centers, and groups that can help communicate accessible voting information out to the disabled community.
- Press Releases: Include VAAC members and others who provide outreach to the disabled community in the distribution list for election-related press releases.
- Signage: During election time, provide signage to assisted living communities, churches, senior centers, WorkSource, and other organizations. Messages on the signage should include, “Remember to Vote”, “Ballots must be postmarked by Election Day - Mail your ballot early” and “Contact us for accessible voting options”. Be sure that the messaging does not make it sound like official drop boxes are placed there.
- Reader Boards: During election time, ask that agencies include “Remember to Vote – Mail your ballot early” messages on their reader boards.
- Website Links: Ask that other agencies include a link on their websites to our Accessible Voting webpages.
- Mailers: Look for opportunities to provide mailers about accessible voting and a supply of blank labels to other organizations, so that they can distribute our information to their mailing lists.
- Radio advertisement.
- Counties will work to have consistent messaging in order to provide accessible information to all voters.

Online Ballot Marking Program

Any registered voter can use the online ballot marking program. Clallam and Jefferson Counties, along with all of Washington counties, use votewa.gov. Voters with disabilities can mark their choices online, print their ballot, sign the declaration on the return envelope and return it to the any Washington State official drop box or in the mail.

Implementation of the Provisions of HAVA

The VAAC committee will continue to advise the Auditor’s Offices on how to make voting more accessible to the disabled community; assists the Auditor’s Offices in communicating with voters in the disabled community; and helps the Auditor’s Offices to inform voters in the disabled community and educate staff on disability issues.

Training in Respectful Communication

Clallam County has a manual on Diversity Sensitivity Training which all have read and are encouraged to review annually.

Jefferson County employees are required to participate in Diversity Sensitivity Training every two years.

Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH) and Jefferson County Council of the Blind (JCCB) will offer training to community and county employees on disability issues.

Identify areas where people with disabilities can participate by assisting in the process as workers.

Clallam and Jefferson County hire extra help for elections through a normal county hiring process which encourages those with disabilities and minorities to apply.