

## True or False? Voting only happens on Election Day.

### Test your elections IQ

#### True or False?

1. You must keep the stub at the top of your ballot for your records.
2. The first person to file for an office appears first on the ballot.
3. The Elections Department checks and edits information submitted by candidates for the local voters' pamphlet.
4. You can return your ballot before Election Day.
5. Elections must count and report all specific write-in votes, even fictitious names like Daffy Duck and Bigfoot.
6. Every single voter's signature is checked and verified before a ballot is opened.

(see back for answers)

#### How did you do?

**1-2 Right** – Not bad, keep learning about voting and elections.

**3-4 Right** – Well done!

**5-6 Right** – Great job! You're an Elections Expert!

## What does King County Elections have in common with Mission Impossible?

### Secure and accountable elections

To make sure elections are secure, we have a number of security measures in place and work with formal groups and partners who provide oversight.

Security measures for each election:

- Ballots and ballot processing areas are safeguarded by key card access and biometric controls that check fingerprints.
- All staff, observers, visitors and media must be credentialed and wear a badge at all times. Color-coded lanyards allow for quick identification of security clearance.
- More than 20 security cameras monitor the building 24 hours a day.
- Building alarm systems are on doors and high security areas.
- Sheriff's Department deputies are on site as needed to assist with building security and ballot retrieval from drop boxes.
- Ballots have a batching and tracking system.
- A formal chain of custody process supports all movement of ballots.

**A False** – Elections in Washington begin more than two weeks before Election Day. Keep reading to test your Elections Knowledge.

- 1. FALSE:** If you receive your ballot in the mail, the stub attached to the top is for inventory purposes prior to sending your ballot. Please remove and recycle it.
- 2. FALSE:** Candidates appear in an order determined by a random selection process.
- 3. FALSE:** The information about candidates and measures is written by the candidates or a committee, and we are not permitted to edit it in any way. Your voters' pamphlet does, however, include important and accurate information about voting.
- 4. TRUE:** Voting begins as soon as ballots are mailed, and we encourage you to get your ballot in early. Election Day is the final deadline for returning your ballot – don't wait until the last minute!
- 5. FALSE:** Write-in votes are not tallied by name unless the total number could make a difference in the results of the race.
- 6. TRUE:** To verify your identity, King County Elections staff compare the signature on your return envelope with the signature on file with your voter registration.

**A Both use biometric controls for security!**

Observers from both political parties are requested to be on site for every election as added assurance of oversight and accountability. Elections are also monitored and formally reviewed periodically by the Secretary of State's office.

The 13-member Citizens' Election Oversight Committee, which includes representatives from the state, county, parties and organizations, monitors county elections and recommends improvements. And, the Canvass Board, with representatives from the County Council and Prosecutor's Office, meets throughout each election to review challenged ballots and certify results.

Voters are always welcome to drop in and visit us during business hours to view the election process in action! Elections headquarters in Renton features a viewing loop that allows visitors to take a self-guided tour and observe the entire elections process.

Do you know of a group that would like to visit during an election? We'd be happy to provide a guided tour by appointment. Please contact us at 206-296-1540 to make arrangements.