

The State of Texas



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Hope Andrade
Secretary of State

TO: Texas County Judges
CC: County Election Officials
County Financial Officers
FROM: Coby Shorter, III, Texas Deputy Secretary of State
DATE: August 29, 2008
RE: Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funding

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Coby Shorter, III".

As you are aware by now, funds were made available to your county in response to the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002. To-date, six allotments of funding have been awarded to each Texas county: 1) County Education fund, 2) Voting System Accessibility, 3) General HAV Compliance, 4) TEAM Compatibility, 5) Polling Place Accessibility, and 6) Opportunity for Access. The funds are accessible through the HAVA online grant system at <http://hava.tamu.edu/>, which you have a user ID and password to access. If you don't have a user ID and password, please email hava@sos.state.tx.us.

Once in the grant system, the purpose areas awarded to the county are viewable on the left side of the screen on the county's homepage. A short description for each purpose area, including its eligible uses and period of availability, are also included on the homepage. All users have access to view current approved budgets and reimbursements. Also on the left side of the screen is a link to a Status Report that outlines the total amount budgeted to-date, the amount that has been reimbursed to-date, and the remaining balance for each award allotted to the county. The authorized official for the county (county judge) has access to apply for the funding, including grant adjustments if the award has a remaining balance. Upon approval by the Secretary of State's Office, the county financial officer (the county auditor or treasurer, depending on the county) has access to request reimbursement against the approved budget.

This memo serves as notice that the County Education Fund, Voting System Accessibility, General HAVA Compliance, TEAM Compatibility, Polling Place Accessibility, and Opportunity for Access awards have all been extended to December 31, 2009. Each county has until that time to submit a budget

OVER 

via the online grant system. Below are the periods of availability for the funding that has been awarded to your county.

<u>Grant Award</u>	<u>Funding Period</u>
<u>County Education Fund</u>	June 1, 2004 thru December 31, 2009
<u>Voting System Accessibility</u>	November 8, 2000 thru December 31, 2009
<u>General HAVA Compliance</u>	November 8, 2000 thru December 31, 2009 (HAVA Compliant Voting Equipment and Ongoing Operation Costs - maintenance, licensing, storage, etc.) and September 1, 2004 thru December 31, 2009 (Voter and Election Worker Education)
<u>Texas Election Administration Management (TEAM) Compatibility</u>	January 1, 2006 thru December 31, 2009
<u>Polling Place Accessibility and Opportunity for Access</u>	For budget items submitted prior to January 1, 2008: January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2008 For budget items submitted on or after January 1, 2008: January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2009

In addition, the Polling Place Accessibility and Opportunity for Access grants have increased award amounts. All counties are eligible regardless of whether they have previously submitted a budget. Below are the new award amounts:

Making Polling Places Accessible

Current Award Amount	New Award Amount
\$2,500	\$4,500
\$5,000	\$6,500
* \$7,500	\$8,500

Opportunity for Access

Current Award Amount	New Award Amount
\$1,500	\$2,000
\$1,750	\$2,500
* \$2,000	\$3,000

If you need assistance, or if you have questions, please call Dan Glotzer or Jennifer Templeton toll-free at 1.800.252.8683 or email dglotzer@sos.state.tx.us or jtempleton@sos.state.tx.us—we are here to help you, to answer questions, and to make this process as easy as possible.