

# The State of Texas



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Hope Andrade  
Secretary of State

October 23, 2009

Gineen Bresso Beach, Chair  
US Election Assistance Commission  
1225 New York Avenue, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Chairman Beach:

Texas respectfully requests the disbursement to the Texas Comptroller the fiscal year 2008 and 2009 requirements payments for which Texas is eligible pursuant to the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002. As such, I would like provide the following information regarding our HAVA state plan followed by the necessary certifications to access the funds.

## **Addendum to the 2005 Texas State Plan**

In accordance with Section 254(12) of the Help America Vote Act, the Texas Secretary of State proposes the following clarifications to the Texas State Plan filed in 2005. The state has made no material changes but will modify the budget described in Element 6 of the 2005 State Plan to take into consideration additional Congressional appropriations authorized in federal fiscal years 2008 and 2009 as well as future appropriations. Because no material changes are being proposed, the state is not required to publish a public notice as required in Section 256 of HAVA nor does it need to be published in the Federal Register. However, the state plan, including the information provided in this correspondence, will be made available to the public on the Texas Secretary of State's website.

## **Element 6: Proposed Budget - HAVA Sec. 254(a)(6)**

The state will update the existing state plan budget to accommodate the following:

- Consolidate the state plan purpose areas (budget categories) into the following four main categories:
  1. State Plan Administration: Overall administration of HAVA-funded activities, including staffing costs, technical support, training, and other costs associated with overseeing HAVA implementation.
  2. TEAM (statewide VR system): Activities pertaining to the ongoing development, maintenance, and operation of the HAVA-compliant voter registration

system, TEAM, developed in response to HAVA. Costs may also cover activities associated with county compatibility with TEAM.

3. Grant to Counties:

Includes sub-grants to counties to continue compliance with Title III of HAVA, including ongoing maintenance and upgrades to HAVA-compliant voting systems. Other sub-grants to counties allow election officials and their staffs to attend election-related conferences, seminars, and training events.

4. Election Worker Training and Voter Education:

Covers election official and election worker training programs – both printed material and online training tools. Voter education is intended to inform all Texas voters of their voting rights under the law, including the mandates imposed by HAVA. Methods to reach the voters include media spots, printed materials, and online tools.

- Maintain funding percentage ranges rather than fixed budget amounts, which allows for the allocation of future appropriations and earned interest.
- Increase funding for TEAM, county compliance with HAVA, Election Worker Training and Voter Education and decrease funding for State Plan Administration as described below.

The revised budget listed below maintains the same allocations as the Texas State Plan of 2005, but accounts for the increased funding made available by Congress in 2008 and 2009. In addition, the revised budget accounts for approximately \$15.2MM in interest accrued on existing funds and include all Title I funding. Although the state proposes to consolidate the Texas State Plan into four main categories, the Secretary of State's accounting system and financial controls track each source of funding separately as well as the details on specific expenditures.

<u>Purpose Area</u>	<u>Proposed Allocation Percentage Range</u>	<u>Proposed Allocation Ranges (in millions)</u>	<u>Suggested Allocations (approx.)</u>
SOS Administrative Expenses	2% - 5%	\$2.2 - \$11.1	\$8,000,000
TEAM (statewide VR system)	10% - 20%	\$22.2 - \$44.5	\$34,000,000
Grants to Counties	65% - 75%	\$144.7 - \$167	\$164,500,000
Voter Ed., Election Official and Poll Worker Training	5% - 10%	\$11.1 - \$22.2	\$16,000,000

<u>Purpose Area</u>	<u>Allocation Percentage Current State Plan</u>	<u>Allocation Percentage Proposed Amended State Plan</u>
SOS Administrative Expenses	4.40%	3.60%
TEAM (statewide VR system)	15.50%	15.30%

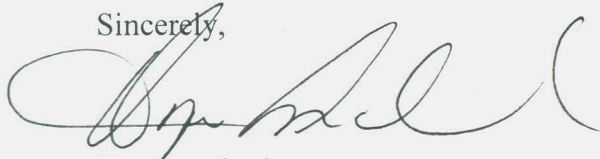
Grants to Counties	73.80%	73.90%
Voter Ed., Election Official and Poll Worker Training	6.40%	7.20%

## **Certifications**

Texas hereby certifies to the following and is eligible to receive payments under Title II, Section 251 of the Help American Vote Act (HAVA):

- Complied with the requirements referred to in section 253(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002.
- Filed and implemented a plan for uniform, nondiscriminatory administrative complaint procedures required by HAVA Section 402.
- Appropriated matching funds equal to five percent of the total amount of the HAVA requirements payment budget.
- Complied with the six laws listed in Section 906 of HAVA.
- Filed a state plan that complies with the requirements listed in Sections 254, 255, and 256 of HAVA.
- Certifies under Section 251 (b)(2) of HAVA that it has implemented the requirements of HAVA Title III and may use requirements payments for other activities to improve the administration of elections for federal office.

Sincerely,



Hope Andrade  
Texas Secretary of State