

EViD FAQs

What is EViD?

The EViD system is a network of electronic devices at voting sites communicating with each other and with the county's voter registration system. The electronic devices – EViD stations – allow poll workers to quickly check in voters during early voting and on election day.

A voter's voting history is transmitted immediately to the county database, eliminating the massive effort for post-election processing, *and* concerns about multiple votes.

With the EViD system, there's no need for printed poll books: all the information you need is on the EViD. To check in a voter, the poll worker swipes their photo ID on an EViD station or types their name and birthdate on the onscreen keyboard. Using the ID data, the EViD system verifies the voter's eligibility. Then it requests the voter's signature on the electronic sig pad, and checks them in to vote.

EViD keeps things simple and easy for poll workers. Large touch-screen buttons and other over-sized controls provide instructions in plain language – there's not a word of "computerese" for poll workers to puzzle over while the voter waits.

Voters with eligibility issues won't cause gridlock either. EViD guides the poll worker through the provisional ballot process and tells the poll worker when it's time to refer the voter to the precinct clerk. And if a voter shows up at the wrong precinct, EViD will print directions to their correct polling place.

How will EViD change the way we run voting sites?

- EViDs replace printed precinct registers (poll books) and supplements.
- EViDs carry up-to-date voter registration data on all active and inactive voters in the county for election day and early voting.
- All the polling places with addresses are available to print directions for voters at the wrong precinct.
- The ability to update voter names and addresses reduces phone calls to the elections office.
- In the event of a communications failure, EViDs can continue to check in voters. Voting history is automatically transmitted to the county database when communications resume.
- The EViD Web Monitor feature gives elections staff a real-time view of the current status of each EViD station. Views can be focused on selected voting sites.

How does EViD work?

When the poll worker swipes the voter's driver license (or types their name and birthdate), EViD verifies eligibility and prints a Voting Pass with ballot style for the voter to exchange for their ballot. The Voting Pass also serves as a hard-copy backup of the voter's check-in and shows the voter's signature captured from the sig pad.

If a voter is not eligible, EViD displays concise instructions to the poll worker, so they can take the appropriate action quickly and confidently. Depending on the reason for ineligibility, EViD prints out a document guiding the voter to the next step:

- A Voting Pass allowing them to vote provisionally.
- A Refer to Clerk ticket, which the voter can present to the precinct clerk for further research on their status.
- Directions to their proper polling place should the voter try to check in at the wrong precinct.

EViD also prints a start-up ticket and end-of-day check-in totals, which can be reconciled with tabulation-machine totals.

Why is EViD called an "electronic poll book"?

Because it provides electronic lookup of voters. But it's more comprehensive than a printed register because you can look up any voter in the county. This means you can use EViDs during early voting as well as election day. If a voter isn't listed in an election day precinct, the poll worker can still look them up and determine eligibility.

EViD is more up-to-date than printed poll books and supplements. Because EViDs communicate with each other and with the county database, changes to eligibility are reflected almost immediately across the entire system. On the morning of election day, all your precinct EViDs are up-to-date with the latest information on absentee ballot returns, move-ins and early voting activity.

Can I use the same EViDs for early voting and election day?

Yes. The EViD station will recognize the change. On election day, EViD can be used in Clerk or Inspector mode.

Does EViD mark the voter as "voted"?

Yes. As each voter checks in, they are marked as "voted" on the EViDs and on the county voter registration database.

Does the voter sign something?

At check-in, the voter signs a signature pad similar to those used in stores for credit card purchases. In early-voting mode, an Early Voting Voter Certificate prints. A Voting Pass prints in election-day mode. Both documents display the voter's signature captured from the signature pad.

What about getting a ballot for the voter?

An EViD station is capable of interfacing with ballot printers. This means a ballot can be printed automatically as soon as the voter is checked in.

How does EViD help the poll worker?

EViD finds the voter's record far more quickly than most poll workers can page through a register or type a name. The magnetic stripe reader can read a driver license and bring up the voter's information in a second. Touch-screen selection and data entry are ideal for temporary staff like poll workers.

Is it easy to prepare EViDs for elections?

The EViD station and case weigh only 27 lbs. The poll worker takes it out of the case, plugs it in, and in a few minutes it is ready to check in the first voter of the day.

Is the EViD system secure?

During design and development of the EViD system, VR Systems implemented extensive security measures to protect the EViD system from electronic attack.

Can EViD move the lines faster?

Using a single EViD station, a trained poll worker team can check in a voter every 30 seconds.

What do voters say about EViD?

The EViD system is now accepted as a normal part of voting. Some quotes from voters who checked in to vote on an EViD:

It made voting easier. I didn't have to bother with going on this line or that line.

It takes the place of all those books you had to go through.

I thought it was great. Once they gave you the ticket, you were ready to go.

What are the components of the EViD system?

The EViD system consists of:

- One or more EViD stations (you purchase as many as your county needs).
- EViD software to run on the EViD stations (preloaded and included in the station price).
- EViD software on the county voter registration system.

Each EViD station contains an easy-to-read touch screen, a printer, and a magnetic stripe reader with a signature pad attached. The station itself weighs less than 20 lbs and sits on four sturdy rubber feet.

How do the EViDs stations communicate with the county system?

The EViD stations use a connection to a secure website operated by VR Systems, which funnels the check-ins to the county database and transfers new eligibility information to the EViDs. Each voting site will need a connection to the internet, which can be

- The county LAN or WAN (for EViDs operating in a county facility).
- A phone line to an internet service provider (ISP).
- An air card to connect wirelessly to the internet.

EViD is the only system capable of checking in voters while sharing voting history data with the county database without the need for continuous communications. (The EViD system is protected by U.S. Patent 7,494,377 B2.)

Does voting history get posted?

On election day, voting history is continually posted during the day as the EViD stations transmit voter activity to the county database. Should internet communications fail, voting history is taken from the USB drive. Voting history can quickly be verified against vote tabulation totals.

Get-out-the-vote reports are available for candidates and political parties during election day, listing who has voted and who has not yet voted.

Early-voting activity (that is, check-ins, address changes, provisional ballot voting) is communicated among all EViDs in early voting sites and the county database.

What are our payment options?

EViD stations can be purchased outright, or they can be rented for a 5-year period with an option for yearly renewals. Annual usage fees provide for ongoing software upgrades.

Purchase includes a 3-year warranty on all hardware. An extended warranty is available for subsequent years.

Under the rental program, stations are replaced as needed.

What does purchase or rental provide?

Under either the purchase or rental plans, the EViD system includes:

- EViD stations with signature pads and storage cases.
- EViD station software (Windows-based) for three modes:
 - Early Voting
 - Election Day
 - Voter Outreach (such as county fairs and July 4th booths)
- EViD software (Windows-based) that runs in conjunction with the Voter Focus voter registration software for:
 - Preparing the USB drives.
 - Capturing and distributing voter check-ins and move-ins.
 - Processing provisional-ballot activity.
 - Recording voter history.
 - Displaying the current status of each EViD station on a PC equipped with the EViD monitoring software.
- Technical support and training:
 - Full training for poll worker trainers, technical staff, and elections staff.
 - Hotline troubleshooting support 24/7 during major elections.
 - Unlimited technical support year-round.
- Full documentation and sample poll worker training manuals.

What kind of storage and maintenance do EViDs need?

Like tabulation and voting equipment, EViD stations need air-conditioned storage and careful handling. EViDs stack and store easily. They don't need charging, but they must be tested before each election.

What kind of supplies will we need?

- Thermal paper rolls for the printer (no ink is necessary).
- *Optional.* An uninterruptible power supply (UPS) for each station to maintain service in the event of brownouts and short power interruptions.
- USB drives, at least two per voting site.