



Wisconsin Elections Commission

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DATE: October 7, 2019

TO: Wisconsin Municipal Clerks
Wisconsin County Clerks
City of Milwaukee Election Commission
Milwaukee County Election Commission

FROM: Michelle R. Hawley
Training Officer

SUBJECT: Badger Book Purchasing Reminder

This is a reminder that if you are considering purchasing Badger Books for the 2020 elections, the purchasing window will close on **October 18, 2019**.

As stated in our August 30, 2019 communication, prior to purchasing and implementing electronic pollbooks in your jurisdiction, it is important to ensure Badger Books will be a good fit for your municipality. As a result, WEC staff compiled a list of items municipalities should know prior to considering the implementation of electronic poll books. While this is not an exhaustive list, it highlights major areas identified since the Spring 2018 roll out. Attached please find a copy of the “Badger Book Purchasing Considerations” document.

Purchasing

Municipalities will purchase machines directly through Paragon Development Service (PDS), the provider of the Badger Book hardware. Direct quotes will be provided to each interested municipality by PDS. Please use the following steps to place your order of Badger Books through PDS.

Step 1: Set up an account with PDS

- Complete and send the “Client Registration” form and tax-exempt information to Dana Berner at TeamGovEdu@pdsit.net. The “Client Registration” form is attached to this Clerk Communication.

Step 2: Indicate your purchasing plans if you have any intention on using Badger Books in 2020 (even if it is not in your budget until 2020)

- Email the number and type of machine(s) that will be purchased to Dana Berner at TeamGovEdu@pdsit.net.

Expected delivery of devices will be the end of December, and the beginning of January (for municipalities who require an invoice dated January 2020).

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners
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To ensure a smooth transition and implementation to Badger Books, municipalities that purchase will also be required to participate in mandatory Badger Book onboarding/training with WEC staff. Currently, we are in the process of developing a regional onboarding/training schedule leading up to the Spring Primary in February. Last year we held a series of webinars and in-person sessions and expect to follow a similar model in 2020. We also expect that the in-person sessions will take place in January (more details to come following the closing window for purchasing).

Borrowing

Due to the anticipated turnout for the 2020 elections, the WEC will lend out its supply of Badger Books to municipalities which may need extra devices. It is important to note that there are a limited number of Badger Books to lend per election.

If you have additional questions about the Badger Book Program, please contact the WEC Help Desk at (608) 261-2028 or elections@wi.gov. If you have technical hardware questions, please contact Dana Berner at (262) 569-5366 or TeamGovEdu@pdsit.net.