



# Maryland State Board of Elections

## SBE Policy 2025-01: Line Management for Voters Who Need Assistance

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The State Board of Elections issues this policy regarding elderly and disabled voters at polling places and early voting centers. This policy is issued by SBE under its authority to supervise the conduct of elections and direct the conduct of the local boards of elections.

In determining locations for an early voting center or polling place, the election director shall determine whether the location can provide a seating area for elderly and disabled voters in the event of long lines during voting hours. This will be a factor in choosing a location. The election director shall train election judges to accommodate elderly and disabled voters upon request, in the manner set forth in this policy.

If a voter volunteers information to an election judge that they are elderly, disabled, or otherwise unable to stand for long periods of time, the election judge shall provide a placeholder card to the voter and another voter who is holding their place in line. The voter requesting assistance shall be offered the opportunity to sit down until the placeholder reaches the next stage of the voting process. The voter standing in line will alert the election judges and show them the card when it is the seated voter's turn to vote. The cards shall be numbered in pairs to identify the voter who is waiting to vote.