

## **Appendix F: MS Student Poll Worker Program**

In 2002, the Mississippi Legislature amended Section 23-15-240, Miss. Code Ann., allowing junior and senior high school students to act as poll worker interns. This law allows teenagers to become more acquainted with their community and the officials serving them.

### **§ 23-15-240. Appointment of student interns to serve during elections.**

The officials in charge of the election in a county or municipality may, in their discretion, appoint not more than two (2) students for each precinct to serve as student interns during elections. To be appointed, a student must:

- a) Be recommended by a principal other school official, or the person responsible for the student's legitimate home instruction program;
- b) Be at least sixteen (16) years of age at the time of the election for which the appointment is made;
- c) Be a resident of the county or municipality for which the appointment is made;
- d) Be enrolled in a public high school, an accredited private high school or a legitimate home instruction program and be classified as a junior or senior or its equivalent; or be enrolled in a junior/senior college or a college or university; and
- e) Meet any additional qualifications considered necessary by the officials in charge of the election in the county or municipality.

The duties of the student interns appointed pursuant to this section shall be determined by the officials in charge of the election in the county or municipality; however, such duties shall not include:

- a) Determining the qualifications of a voter in case a voter is challenged;
- b) The discharge of any duties related to affidavit ballots;
- c) The operation and maintenance of any voting equipment;
- d) Any duties normally assigned to a bailiff; or
- e) The tallying of votes.

Student interns shall at all times be under the supervision of the managers and clerks of the election while performing their duties at precincts.

Before performing any duties, student interns shall attend all required training for managers and clerks of the county or municipality and any additional training considered necessary by the officials in charge of the election in the county or municipality.