



# U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence

## U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence

### Membership Agreement

We're thrilled you're here. This document lays out the rules and guidelines for participation in the U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence (the "Alliance"). The Alliance is a project of the Center for Technology and Civic Life, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation. This is a legal document. Please read it carefully, and please ask any questions you may have. You must consult your legal counsel to ensure that your participation complies with all applicable laws in your jurisdiction. If you have any questions for us, please feel free to reach out to our team to discuss in more detail.

#### **Alliance Goals and Purpose:**

The Alliance is here to learn from election officials, inspire them to excellence, and celebrate their success. To accomplish these goals, the Alliance will develop and establish a nonpartisan, nationwide certification program so that jurisdictions meeting certain performance standards may hold themselves out as Centers for Excellence.

#### **Commitment to Nonpartisanship:**

We are dedicated to supporting election officials and local governments of all size, partisanship, and geography by providing tools and resources that allow officials to conduct safe, secure, trustworthy, and inclusive elections. Our commitment to nonpartisanship is total. We will never attempt to influence the outcome of any election. Period.

#### **In addition, Alliance partners will never:**

- Touch live ballots or ballot tabulating equipment
- Give legal advice
- Require you to implement specific advice or recommendations

### **Benefits of Membership:**

At this point in time, centers can choose to join the Alliance at the basic membership level or premium membership level. Both tiers reflect a paid membership model.

#### **Basic Membership:**

- Curated access to a selection of off-the-shelf, publicly-accessible election administration resources, document templates, and training materials
- Center-specific coaching and consulting from select Alliance partners, in the form of a \$800 credit towards the fair market value of Alliance partners' hourly consulting services
- Access to numerous multi-center group coaching and consulting sessions hosted by select Alliance partners on an hourly basis
- Invitations to numerous live and recorded trainings and demos hosted by select Alliance partners, as well as facilitated discussions among centers concerning topics related to best practices in election administration

#### **Premium Membership: Includes services included in Basic Membership, plus:**

- Center-specific coaching and consulting from select Alliance partners, in the form of a \$3,040 credit towards the fair market value of Alliance partners' consulting services on an hourly basis
- Additional multi-center group coaching and consulting sessions hosted by select Alliance partners on an hourly basis
- Additional invitations to live and recorded trainings and demos hosted by Alliance partners, as well as additional facilitated discussions among centers

### **Obligations of Membership:**

Centers agree to pay annual membership dues to the Alliance and to make non-monetary (but highly significant) contributions to the broader activities of the Alliance. These non-monetary contributions are key components of Alliance membership, and—in addition to membership dues—are offered as *bona fide* consideration in exchange for the fair market value of Alliance partners' services.

#### **Non-Monetary Contributions**

A core purpose of the Alliance is to promote the exchange of information about best practices in all directions: from the Alliance partners to centers, between centers, and

from centers to the Alliance. One outcome of this exchange of information will be the creation of Values and Standards for Election Excellence ("the Standards"), which reflect nonpartisan excellence in election administration for local election departments across the county. Centers agree to contribute to the creation of the Standards by:

- Attending and participating in events hosted by the Alliance for the purpose of defining and developing the Standards;
- Attending and participating in events hosted by the Alliance for the purpose of developing measurements, tools, trainings, and materials to help election jurisdictions achieve the Standards;
- Providing written and verbal feedback on documents, forms, templates, and trainings generated by the Alliance that are related to the Standards;
- Sharing local best practices and, where permissible, non-confidential forms, templates, and documents with the Alliance to be used as models for other election jurisdictions seeking to achieve the Standards;
- Offering advice and support to Alliance partners and other centers;
- Sharing non-sensitive, non-confidential technical data and usage statistics and providing feedback about any Standards-related digital tools offered by Alliance partners and implemented by the center; and

### **Membership Dues**

In addition to the participation requirements detailed above, centers agree to pay yearly dues to the Alliance in the following amounts:

- Basic Membership: \$1,600/year
- Premium Membership: \$4,800/year

Membership is valid for one calendar year and is renewable on an annual basis. If desired, you may pre-pay for more than one year of membership; simply contact us for arrangements.

In some jurisdictions, state or local law may prohibit the use of private funds to pay for Alliance membership dues. By signing below, you agree not to use private funds to pay your membership dues unless doing so is permitted in your jurisdiction, and you certify your compliance with applicable legal requirements (you should consult your legal counsel).

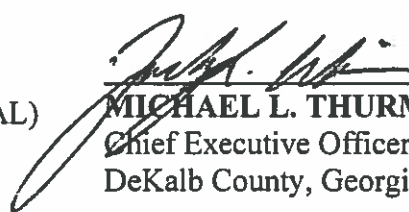
**Signature Page to Membership Agreement with U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have duly executed this Grant Agreement effective on January 24, 2023.

**U.S. ALLIANCE FOR ELECTION EXCELLENCE**

**DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ (SEAL)  
Signature / Date


 by Dir. (SEAL)  
**MICHAEL L. THURMOND / Date**  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Typed or Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Tax I.D. Number

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**BARBARA H. SANDERS, CCC**  
Clerk of the Chief Executive Officer  
and Board of Commissioners of  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**DIANNE MCNABB**  
Chief Financial Officer

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Irene B. Vander Els**  
Senior Assistant County Attorney