

System Security - Washington's Election system is secure!

The State embarked on an unprecedented opportunity to work collaboratively with the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that our election systems remain secure. This partnership allows us to work together, elections and IT experts working hand in hand to ensure our systems are secure.

Before a tabulation system can be used in Washington, the State requires testing at a federally approved independent testing lab. These expert testers include security reviews as a part of their overall testing efforts. Then, systems are tested at the state level and reviewed by our own voting systems certification board, comprised of technology experts, accessibility experts, and county election officials.

Counties must then perform logic and accuracy testing prior to every election. In addition, post-election audits are performed, where groups of ballots are drawn at random and vote totals from the hand count are compared to the vote totals from the machine count before the election is certified.

No tabulation equipment is connected to the internet or capable of wireless communication. Additionally, WAC 434-261-045 requires that security measures be employed to detect any inappropriate access to protect the physical security of the system.