



MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE



DATE: August 29, 2025

TO: Jerry Howe, Executive Director
Legislative Services Division

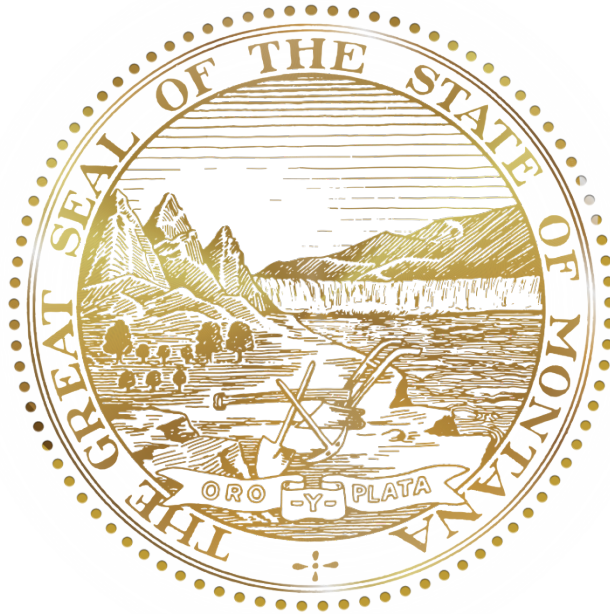
FROM: Angela Nunn, Chief Deputy
Montana Secretary of State

Subject: Annual Report on the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Fiscal Year 2025 Grant Activity

In accordance with 13-1-209 and 5-11-210, MCA, enclosed is a report titled Annual Report to the Montana State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee on Help America Vote Act Funds.

The report contains information regarding HAVA grant funding received and expenditures made during fiscal year 2025.

Montana Secretary of State



Report to the Montana State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

Report Period: Fiscal Year 2025

September 1, 2025

Help America Vote Act (HAVA)

The Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) established a program to provide federal funds to states and territories to upgrade voting systems and improve the administration and security of federal elections. The law also mandated the creation of the Election Assistance Commission to administer HAVA grant programs.

The Election Assistance Commission Office of Grants Management (EAC/OGM) is responsible for awarding, distributing, and monitoring grant funds authorized by Congress under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). The EAC/OGM works closely with grantees to ensure the appropriate use of funds and provides regular grant training and technical assistance to grantees. The grants office also negotiates indirect cost rates with grantees, resolves audit findings on the use of HAVA funds, and reports to Congress on grant expenditures and activities.

Montana Secretary of State HAVA Grant Activities for Fiscal Year 2025

There were no additional HAVA funds awarded by the EAC to the Secretary of State's Office (SOS) during fiscal year 2025.

During fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of State's Office expended \$504,330 in HAVA funds. The expended funds were for payment related to the November 5, 2024, General Election professional support services provided by the State Information Technology Services Division (IT systems support and cyber security support) and subgrant funds issued to Montana counties for items allowable under HAVA provisions and SOS objectives. SOS also incurred indirect administrative costs during fiscal year 2025.

The Secretary of State's Office had two active allocations that were offered to Montana counties through the subgrant program during the reporting period.

Subgrant Offering #1 – November 2, 2022 through November 30, 2024

The following objectives were identified for this offering:

- Implementing requirements from Election Security Administrative Rules (44.3.2901 through 44.3.2905)
- Hiring a third-party to complete a security assessment (if a no-cost option is not available)
- Implementing recommendations from a third-party security assessment
- Implementing physical security enhancements – such as to safeguard staff, ballots, and election equipment.
- Other items allowable under HAVA provisions (e.g. tabulators, ExpressVote machines, etc.) if the following prerequisites have been implemented:
 - Implemented Endpoint Detection & Response (EDR) tools or similar tools on county endpoints (e.g. Center for Internet Security's Endpoint Security Services).

- Implemented vulnerability scanning on at least a monthly basis (e.g. CISA’s Cyber Hygiene Services).
- Migrated to a .gov domain for the county website and email addresses.
- Joined Center for Internet Security’s Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC).

\$382,383 was distributed to the counties, including \$136,270 in fiscal year 2025.

Subgrant Offering #2 – August 16, 2024 through December 31, 2025

This subgrant offering was made available to counties to allow for supplementing (not replacing) poll worker/election judge personal services budgets for the November 5, 2024, General Election. This offering allowed counties to request supplemental funds for additional poll workers their budgets would otherwise not have been able to cover, supplement the difference for offering higher hourly rates to increase applicant pool sizes, and supplement the difference for offering a premium hourly rate for late-night shift hours.

\$181,660 was distributed to the counties in fiscal year 2025.

HAVA Funds Awarded to Counties in Fiscal Year 2025

<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Beaverhead County	\$ 8,509.63
Blaine County	\$ 1,793.00
Carbon County	\$ 991.40
Cascade County	\$ 8,620.00
Daniels County	\$ 818.95
Dawson County	\$ 506.14
Fergus County	\$ 7,224.19
Flathead County	\$ 64,414.11
Gallatin County	\$ 11,803.75
Glacier County	\$ 10,330.60
Golden Valley County	\$ 3,000.00
Hill County	\$ 11,312.00
Jefferson County	\$ 6,039.87
Lake County	\$ 28,939.34
Lewis and Clark County	\$ 38,950.17
Lincoln County	\$ 4,491.85
Missoula County	\$ 12,997.00
Park County	\$ 13,905.89
Powell County	\$ 4,240.00
Prairie County	\$ 13,300.65

Ravalli County	\$ 3,253.66
Stillwater County	\$ 10,881.81
Sweet Grass County	\$ 1,116.75
Wheatland County	\$ 10,820.41
Yellowstone County	\$ 39,670.00

Additional Resources and Information Publicly Available

Elections Assistance Commission Grant Website - <https://www.eac.gov/grants>

SOS Past Reporting to EAC - <https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/es-snapshot>

Awarded Funding to Secretary of State's Office - <https://www.eac.gov/funding-levels-by-state>

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) - <https://budget.mt.gov/SingleAudits/>