



Election Commission

2020 Citizen Centric Report

COMMISSION

JESUS I. SABLAN

Chairperson (Saipan & Northern Islands)

DORIS ANN ALDAN-ATALIG

Vice-Chairperson (Saipan & Northern Islands)

VICENTA ROSARIO BORJA

Member (Saipan & Northern Islands)

HENRY L. KAIPAT

Member (Saipan & Northern Islands)

LELANIE I. MANGLONA

Member (Rota)

ESTHER A. YATAR

Member (Rota)

JOHN D. ATTAO

Member (Tinian & Aguiguan)

VACANT

(Tinian & Aguiguan)

VACANT

(Saipan & Northern Islands)

COMMISSION STAFF

KAYLA S. IGITOL

Executive Director

VACANT

Administrative Officer

AMBROSIO J. LISUA

Election Register Clerk

CHRISTINA K. NORITA

Election Register Clerk

ASHLEY B. BORNILLA

Election Register Clerk

ROBIN N. SABLAN

Election Register Clerk

BENWACHI N. TAISAKAN

Election Clerk Assistant

ANTONIA T. ANGUI

Co-Op Trainee

Who are we?

The Commonwealth Election Commission was created under Public Law 12-18, as amended which was codified in Title 1 Division 6 of the Commonwealth Code. It was created to establish procedures and requirements of voters and the conduct of elections within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Commission shall have nine (9) members appointed by the Governor subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. Five members shall be residents of Saipan and the islands north of Saipan, two members shall be residents of Rota, and two members shall be residents of the islands of Tinian and Aguiguan. No person may be appointed a commission member who is not a registered voter of the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth Election Commission's Executive Director is Kayla S. Igitol, who serves at the pleasure of the Commission. Including the Executive Director, CEC's full-time staff consist of six employees. Eight months prior to election the commission hires Ten (10) temporary employees to assist in preparation and closing of election.

Mission

To ensure a fair, honestly, orderly and impartial election process.



WHO QUALIFIES TO REGISTER?

A person is eligible to vote who meets the following qualifications as provided in Title 1 Division 6 § 6201.

1. A citizen or national of the United States
2. Who, on the date of election, is 18 years of age or older
3. Domiciled in the Commonwealth for 120 days prior to the election
4. Has not been declared by a court to be of unsound mind
5. Not serving a sentence for a felony



CONTACT US

COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION

Susupe, Tekken St.

P O Box 500470 CK

Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 235-8683

Fax: (670)664-8689

WWW.VOTECNMI.GOV.MP

Email: administrative@votechnmi.gov.mp





PERFORMANCE

2020 ABSENTEE REQUESTED

1,670

NORTHERN MARIANAS DESCENT REGISTRY (NMDR)

Northern Marianas Descent Qualification

A person of Northern Marianas descent is a person who is a citizen or national of the United States and who has at least some degree of Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood or a combination thereof. For purposes of determining Northern Marianas descent by adoption, a child without any degree of Northern Marianas descent when adopted while under the age of eighteen by a person of Northern Marianas descent shall not acquire any degree of Northern Marianas descent. For purposes of determining Northern Marianas descent, a person shall be considered to be a full-blooded Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian if that person was born or domiciled in the Northern Mariana Islands by 1950 and was a citizen of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands before the termination of the Trusteeship with respect to the Commonwealth.

Any person who has less than one quarter Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood or a combination thereof, claiming to be a person of Northern Marianas descent shall provide evidence to support that he/she possess some degree of Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood or a combination thereof to the Superior Court. Based on the evidentiary standard of “preponderance of the evidence”, the Superior Court may grant or deny such claim, and the decision of the Superior Court on such claim shall be subject to a “de novo” judicial review. However, if the Superior Court finds and agrees that the person in fact possesses at least some degree of Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood or a combination thereof, the Superior Court shall certify that the person is a person of Northern Marianas descent.

Voter Registration Statistic

| Precinct | Total by Precinct | Polling Site |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Precinct 1A | 939 | Saipan Southern High |
| Precinct 1B | 2,721 | Dandan Md. School |
| Precinct 1C | 1,278 | Kobler Youth Center |
| Precinct 2 | 1,531 | Joeten Kiyu Public Library |
| Precinct 3A | 973 | Oleai Elm School |
| Precinct 3B | 2,805 | Garapan Elem School |
| Precinct 4A | 695 | Tanapag Youth Center |
| Precinct 4B | 592 | GTC Elem School |
| Precinct 4C | 407 | J.P. Mafanas Legislative Building |
| Precinct 4D | 162 | Northern Islands |
| Precinct 5 | 2,771 | Kagman Youth Center |
| Precinct 6 | 1,728 | Tinian Gymnasium |
| Precinct 7 | 1,933 | NMC Campus—ROTA |
| TOTAL: | 18,535 | |

NMD Registry Statistic

| Years | Total Registered |
|-----------|------------------|
| 2008-2020 | 9,730 |



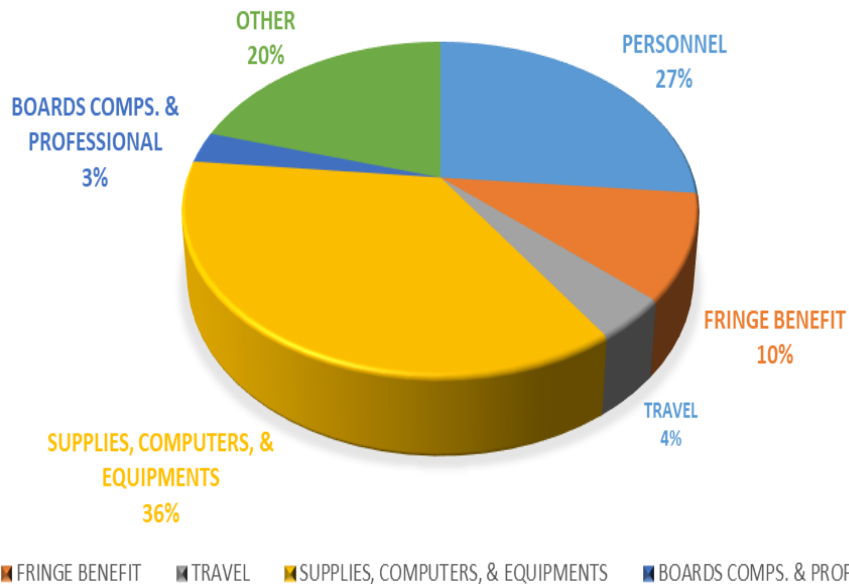
FINANCES

| EXPENDITURES | Fiscal Year 2020 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Personnel | 159,000 |
| Fringe Benefits | 61,000 |
| Travel | 24,000 |
| Supplies, Computers, & Equipments | 215,724 |
| Boards Comp. & Professional Services | 18,139 |
| Others | 122,137 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES: | 600,000.00 |

The Election Assistance Commission allocated \$600,000 to the Commonwealth Election Commission under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security and Help America Vote Act to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for the 2020 Federal election cycle. The grants was used for cost associated with the pandemic during the 2020 election such as:

- Ballots and envelopes printing
- Voter registration and upgrades on database
- Absentee postage, including tracking software
- Voting equipment, including tabulators and hardware
- Cleaning supplies, protective mask and equipment for staff and poll workers on election, vote center and polling site

FY 2020 BUDGET DEMOGRAPHIC DATA





FUTURE OUTLOOK AND CHALLENGES

LOOKING FORWARD

In anticipation of future elections, The CEC continues to strive in:

- ⇒ The Commonwealth Election Commission Board members to meet and address issues with election laws and election regulations that need to be amended to ensure a smooth process.
- ⇒ Continuing efforts to register voters and Northern Marianas Descent
- ⇒ To conduct comprehensive training for all poll workers.
- ⇒ Revisit and amend poll worker training procedures
- ⇒ Adopt operating procedures on ballot handling and ballot accountability

CHALLENGES

CEC confronts issues and barriers with:

- ◆ Validating the voter registry
- ◆ Increasing the number of registered Northern Marianas Descent
- ◆ Hiring of Temporary staff/poll workers
- ◆ Power/water issues at all polling sites
- ◆ Flight delay for Rota and Tinian ballots
- ◆ The processing of absentee ballots
- ◆ Conducting preliminary counts on Rota and Tinian

UPCOMING ELECTION

2022 GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Polls Open: 7:00 am - 7:00 pm

OPEN SEATS

| POSITION | | NO. OF SEAT |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1. Governor | | 1 |
| 2. U.S. Delegate | | 1 |
| 3. Mayor | Saipan | 1 |
| | Tinian | 1 |
| | Rota | 1 |
| | Northern Islands | 1 |
| 4. Attorney General | | 1 |
| 4. Senate | Saipan | 2 |
| | Tinian | 2 |
| | Rota | 2 |
| 5. House of Representative | Precinct 1 | 6 |
| | Precinct 2 | 2 |
| | Precinct 3 | 6 |
| | Precinct 4 | 2 |
| | Precinct 5 | 2 |
| | Precinct 6 | 1 |
| | Precinct 7 | 1 |
| | | |
| 4. Municipal Council | Saipan | 3 |
| | Tinian | 3 |
| | Rota | 3 |
| | | |
| 5. Board of Education | Saipan | 1 |
| | Tinian | 1 |