



**Participants Needed for  
Accessibility and Usability Evaluations of Voting Systems**

Maryland will be moving to a new voting system by 2016. In 2007, a law passed that allows Maryland to move to a paper ballot system. This means that we must advocate to ensure that the system that is chosen is fully accessible to voters with disabilities. The law requires that the State Board of Elections conduct a usability and accessibility evaluation as part of its voting system certification process. SBOE has contracted with the University of Baltimore (UB) to conduct the study. SBOE and UB will also be testing the accessibility and usability of the online absentee ballot marking tool that will be available when a voter requests to vote absentee ballot and receives the absentee ballot via the internet.

We need your help in identifying voters with disabilities who are willing to participate in the study. The study pays \$80 per hour and will take place in Baltimore at UB (part of the online absentee ballot evaluation can take place in the voter's home using his or her own computer equipment). UB needs testers with a range of disabilities, including vision, hearing, cognitive and dexterity disabilities. The testers must be over 18 and eligible to vote.

Attached is a flyer that announces the first evaluation of the online ballot marking wizard. Please encourage individuals to contact UB to be considered to be a tester. Potential testers can reach UB by: email at [ubusabilitylab@gmail.com](mailto:ubusabilitylab@gmail.com) or call at 410-837-1974

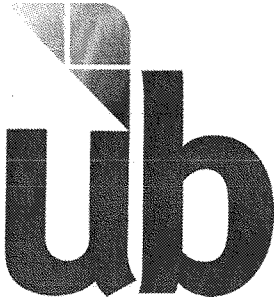
In the weeks that following, UB will be setting up other dates for evaluating the voting system and we need a pool of voters with disabilities who are willing to participate.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need assistance contacting UB.  
Thank you.

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Description: We are studying the accessibility and usability of an online tool for marking ballots in the State of Maryland. During the study, you will be asked to mark a ballot using a web-based tool.

Time: By appointment. Will take about an hour.

When: Oct 7-12, 2013

Location: University of Baltimore AC200K

1420 N Charles St

Baltimore, MD 21201

If you would like to participate:

You can send email to [ubusabilitylab@gmail.com](mailto:ubusabilitylab@gmail.com)

Or call 410-837-1974

Or you can fill out these online questions at:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LKgAszSrrx-WAewcOMq5dbtkFGlytPlz4SIDVY3e6gc>

If you are interested, but not available the week of Oct 7-12, contact us anyway. Additional sessions will take place in Annapolis during the week of October 28-Nov 1, and some sessions will be available as remote tests (you participate from your own home) in early November.

Questions?

Phone: Kathryn Summers, Ph.D. 410-837-6202

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