

The Ballot Marking Device (BMD)

The Ballot Marking Device (BMD) portion of the ImageCast is available to assist the voter in marking the ballot. The BMD allows the voter with disabilities to vote privately and independently, and cast the ballot collectively. The BMD includes headphones, a monitor to enlarge or contrast the ballot, a keypad to navigate and mark the ballot, and a sip & puff option.



The BMD Voter

When you sign in at the Inspector Table, you can request the assistance of the BMD. This feature is located on the end of the ImageCast ballot box, opposite the scanner. You will be given a blank sheet of ballot paper and directed to the BMD. An inspector will program the BMD for your ballot and assist you with the head-set, monitor, keypad, or sip & puff. When you are finished making your selections, the ballot will print out with your choices marked. This ballot is concealed in a privacy folder and placed in the scanner where you can once again verify your choices, and cast the ballot.

Checking your Work

Mark your ballot by completely darkening in the square next to your choice.

Check your ballot over before leaving the voting booth. Make sure you have marked your choices clearly and have not made any other marks on the ballot.

If you make an error, you may return your ballot to the election inspectors and receive a new one, for up to three ballots.

If you have any questions regarding your ballot, please ask an election official for clarification.

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Seneca County Board of Elections

How To Vote

With Sequoia ImageCast

Voting on the Paper Ballot
Optical Scan System



Introduction to the Optical Scan Voting System

The Optical Scan voting system allows the voter to hand-mark a paper ballot in the privacy of a voting booth and then deposit the ballot into the scanner to record the vote and secure the ballot in a locked box. The ImageCast Optical Scanner also has a Ballot Marking Device (BMD) feature to assist voters in marking the ballot.

Paper ballot voting allows the voter to clearly review the ballot after filing in the voting squares and be confident that their vote is accurately recorded and preserved.

Getting Started

Sign in at the Inspector Table. If more than one district is voting at the pollsite, the Pollsite Coordinator can help you find the correct district table. An inspector will check your name off of the voter list and have you sign your name in the pollbook. Then you will be given your ballot, and directed to the voting booth.

Voting the Ballot

In the voting booth, mark your ballot by filling in the voting square next to the candidate name you are selecting. Use only the marking pens provided. For a write-in vote, fill in the square next to the 'Write-In' box at the bottom of the office column. Then write-in the name.

When you are finished filling out the ballot, take your completed ballot to the ImageCast Optical Scanner. Place either end of the ballot into the scanner. The LCD display will alert you to an over-vote or under-vote.* If you want to review the ballot or change your ballot, press the **Return** button. You will have to return your ballot to the inspector table to receive a new one, or return to the voting booth to change an under-vote. Once you are satisfied with your ballot press the **Cast** button. The scanner will tabulate the votes. If there is a need for a re-count, the ballots will be safely preserved for further counting.