

# Kumision Ileksion Guåhan

“Bota ya un ma kuenta.”



# Guam Election Commission

“Your Vote is your voice.”

414 W. Soledad Ave. GCIC Bldg. Suite 200 Hagåtña, Guam 96910 • Tel: (671) 477-9791 / Fax: (671) 477-1895 • <https://gec.guam.gov>

Page 1 About GEC

Page 2 Performance

Page 3 Finance

Page 4 Outlook

In light of the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic, Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero declared a State of Emergency in early March 2020, initiating a complete government shutdown which delayed the Guam Election Commission’s preparations for the upcoming Special, Primary, and General Elections. The GEC received extensive guidance from Public Health in order to conduct these elections as safely as possible. However, as the pandemic worsened, Public Law 35-96 was passed cancelling the Primary Election in hopes of minimizing the spread. These conditions persisted through the fiscal year challenging staff to effectively host the 2020 General Election.

## Who We Are

The GEC is an autonomous and independent commission of the Government of Guam. The Commission is made up of seven members, all of whom are registered voters of Guam. With recommendations made from the Democrat and Republican parties, *I Maga'låhen Guåhan* appoints six members, three from each political party. The seventh member, an independent, is selected and appointed by the six members. Members serve a two-year term. Executive Director Maria I.D. Pangelinan serves at the pleasure of the Commission and manages the GEC’s administrative team.

## Mission

The mission of the Guam Election Commission is to provide Guam a fair, honest, and orderly election process in accordance with local and federal laws.

## Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of the GEC are to provide fair and ample access for qualified individuals to register to vote; to maintain an accurate voter registry; to hire & train election officials; to conduct fair, honest, and orderly elections; and to perform all administrative duties enumerated in Title 3 and other applicable sections of the Guam Code Annotated.

## History

The Guam Election Commission was created with the passage of P.L. 11-202 on December 12, 1972 and was comprised of members appointed by the Governor from each of the recognized political parties, with the Chief Commissioner serving as Chairman. On March 1973, the Commission held their first meeting and appointed an Executive Director and an assistant in September of that year. In October 1973, the Commission moved into its office in the GCIC building in Hagåtña where it continues to operate.

## Commissioners

|                       |     |                  |
|-----------------------|-----|------------------|
| Gerard C. Crisostomo  | (R) | Chairman         |
| Alice M. Tajjeron     | (D) | Vice Chairperson |
| G. Patrick Civile     | (I) | Member           |
| Joseph P. Mafnas      | (D) | Member           |
| Antonia R. Gumataotao | (R) | Member           |
| Carissa E. Pangelinan | (D) | Member           |
| Benny A. Pinaula      | (R) | Member           |

(D) = Democrat, (R) = Republican, (I) = Independent

Michael J. Perez (R) served as Chairman for the 2020 elections.

## Who qualifies to register?

An individual must meet the following qualifications as provided in 3 GCA § 3101 to be a registered voter on Guam:

- Must be a citizen of the United States
- Must be a resident of Guam
- Must be 18 years of age on or before the day of the election
- Must not be committed under a sentence of imprisonment
- Must not be confined to a mental institution
- Must not be judicially declared insane

## 2020 GEC Demographics

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Registered Voters (as of Sept. 30, 2020) | 55,345 |
| Full-Time Employees                      | 14     |
| District Voter Registrars                | 36     |
| Precinct Officials                       | 335    |
| Precincts                                | 67     |
| Polling Sites                            | 22     |

# OUR PERFORMANCE

| PERFORMANCE MEASURES            | FY 2018<br>2018 Primary | FY 2019<br>2018 General | FY 2020<br>2020 Primary** | % Change |   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------|---|
| % of Voter turnout              | 57%                     | 67%                     | N/A**                     | N/A      |   |
| <b>No. of Voters</b>            |                         |                         |                           |          |   |
| Registered Online               | 398                     | 312                     | 717                       | 129%     | ↑ |
| Total No. of Registered Voters  | 54,033                  | 55,941                  | 55,174                    | -1%      | ↓ |
| <b>Absentee Voters</b>          |                         |                         |                           |          |   |
| Off-Island                      | 113                     | 208                     | 73                        | -64%     | ↓ |
| Homebound                       | 386                     | 613                     | 247                       | -59%     | ↓ |
| In-Office                       | 912                     | 1042                    | 2284                      | 119%     | ↑ |
| No. of Absentee ballots counted | 1,411                   | 1,863                   | 2,604                     | 39%      | ↑ |
| <b>Outreach/Trainings</b>       |                         |                         |                           |          |   |
| No. of Candidate Workshops      | 14                      | *0                      | 8                         | 100%     | ↑ |
| No. of Volunteer Registrars     | 271                     | 105                     | 70                        | -33%     | ↓ |
| No. of Precinct Officials       | 335                     | 335                     | 335                       | 0%       | ↔ |
| No. of Notary Officials         | 12                      | 12                      | 14                        | 16%      | ↑ |

\* Candidate workshops are conducted January to June in even years.

\*\* The 2020 Primary Election was cancelled by Public Law 35-96, two days before the election was to be held.

| PERFORMANCE MEASURES           | Yona Mayor Special Election Saturday, May 30, 2020 |
|--------------------------------|--|
| % of Voter turnout             | 53%  |
| Total No. of Registered Voters | 2,896  |

The extensive changes made to 2020 election preparation and execution can be attributed to the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. Beginning March 14, 2020 through the end of the election season, the Guam Election Commission expanded its efforts to keep the public and all election workers safe. The first action taken was the postponement of the Yona Mayoral Special Election that was originally set for March 18, 2020. It was then rescheduled twice and eventually held on May 30, 2020. Preparations involved the newly mandated public health guidelines and substantial emphasis placed on sanitation practices. The GEC worked in tandem with Public Health to educate staff and precinct officials on the effective use of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and social distancing. Additional supplies such as sneeze guards, face shields, digital thermometers, sanitizer dispensers, and a slew of sanitizing products were purchased to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and ensure the public felt safe voting at the polls.

The subsequent Primary and General Elections saw even more modifications as early absentee voting and satellite vote centers were made available to the voters of Guam. The passing of Public Law 35-95 allowed early absentee voting for all registered voters doing away with the need for a lawful reason. Comprehensive changes were unavoidable including hiring a considerable amount of election workers to efficiently run early voting stations and election day. The manpower and supplies required to accomplish the 2020 election cycle significantly exceeded previous elections and ultimately demonstrated the flexibility and ingenuity of GEC staff.

# APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

## MAJOR EXPENSES

- Personnel: Salaries, Overtime and Benefits are the majority of the GEC’s expenses, making up 51 % of the fiscal year expenditures. As the Commission draws closer to every election, tasks such as election trainings, election day preparations, monitoring election activities, and tabulation require staff to work all day and late into the night.
- Contracts: Contracts make up the second largest category of expenditures. \$259,628 covers expenses such as Ballot Printing, Election Day site support, rental of necessary equipment, and other services that may be required for Election Day.
- Rental: As of September 30, 2020, the GEC occupied over 4,000 sq. ft. at the GCIC building in Hagatna

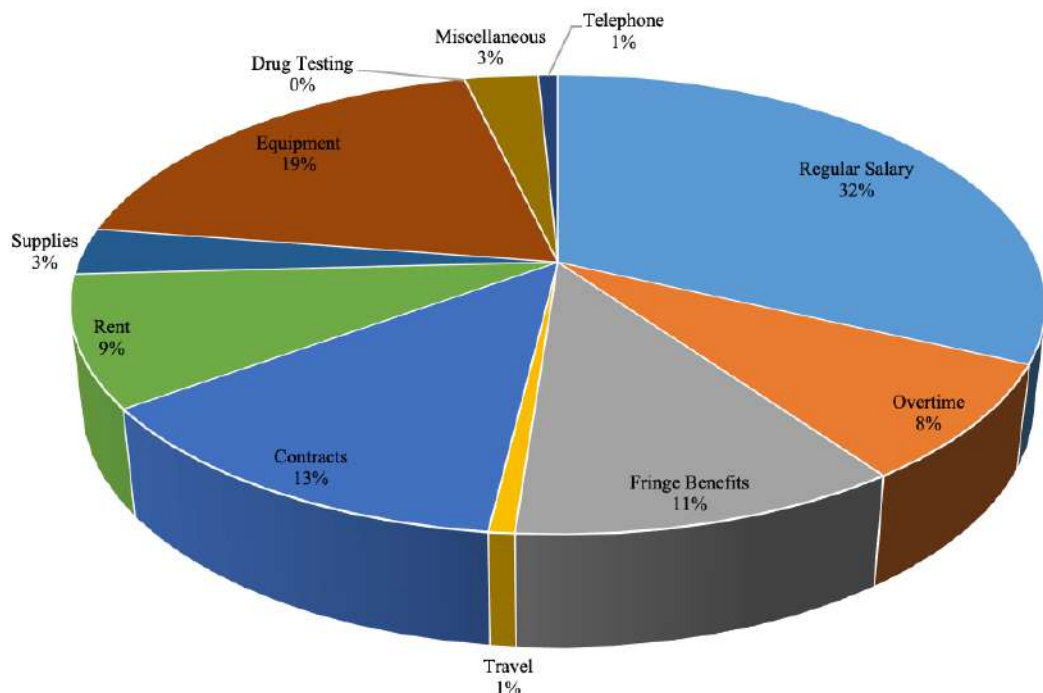
| Appropriations             | FY 2018             | FY 2019             | FY 2020             | % Change       |          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|
| General Fund               | \$ 1,867,854        | \$ 1,687,218        | \$ 1,634,769        | -3.11%         | ↓        |
| Federal Fund               | \$ 600,000          | \$ -                | \$ 1,200,000        | 100.00%        | ↑        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>\$ 2,467,854</b> | <b>\$ 1,687,218</b> | <b>\$ 2,834,769</b> | <b>68.01%</b>  | <b>↑</b> |
| Expenditures               | FY 2018             | FY 2019             | FY 2020             |                |          |
| <b>General Fund</b>        |                     |                     |                     |                |          |
| Regular Salary             | \$ 623,871          | \$ 640,213          | \$ 614,859          | -3.96%         | ↓        |
| Overtime                   | \$ 110,046          | \$ 57,679           | \$ 154,072          | 167.12%        | ↑        |
| Fringe Benefits            | \$ 228,007          | \$ 226,633          | \$ 211,580          | -6.64%         | ↓        |
| Travel                     | \$ 16,515           | \$ -                | \$ -                | 0%             | ↔        |
| Contracts                  | \$ 227,862          | \$ 143,922          | \$ 223,619          | 55.38%         | ↑        |
| Rent                       | \$ 152,347          | \$ 158,547          | \$ 167,440          | 5.61%          | ↑        |
| Supplies                   | \$ 18,975           | \$ 3,982            | \$ 10,433           | 162.00%        | ↑        |
| Equipment                  | \$ 69,285           | \$ -                | \$ -                | 0%             | ↔        |
| Drug Testing               | \$ 160              | \$ -                | \$ -                | 0%             | ↔        |
| Miscellaneous              | \$ 277,749          | \$ 143,972          | \$ 45,057           | -68.70%        | ↓        |
| Telephone                  | \$ 18,146           | \$ 18,406           | \$ 15,523           | -15.66%        | ↓        |
| <b>Total General Fund</b>  | <b>\$ 1,742,963</b> | <b>\$ 1,393,354</b> | <b>\$ 1,442,583</b> | <b>3.53%</b>   | <b>↑</b> |
| <b>Federal Funds</b>       |                     |                     |                     |                |          |
| Salaries                   | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 21,302           | N/A            | ↑        |
| Overtime                   | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 9,489            | N/A            | ↑        |
| Fringe Benefits            | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 6,235            | N/A            | ↑        |
| Travel                     | \$ -                | \$ 40,758           | \$ 14,430           | -64.60%        | ↓        |
| Contracts                  | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 36,009           | N/A            | ↑        |
| Rent                       | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 15,562           | N/A            | ↑        |
| Supplies                   | \$ -                | \$ 324              | \$ 54,717           | 16787.96%      | ↑        |
| Equipment                  | \$ 3,276            | \$ 1,680            | \$ 374,996          | 22221.19%      | ↑        |
| Drug Testing               | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 400              | N/A            | ↑        |
| Miscellaneous              | \$ -                | \$ 16,053           | \$ 12,825           | -20.11%        | ↓        |
| <b>Total Federal Funds</b> | <b>\$ 3,276</b>     | <b>\$ 58,815</b>    | <b>\$ 545,965</b>   | <b>828.28%</b> | <b>↑</b> |

## CARES Funding

The GEC received a total of \$600,000 in CARES Act funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus for the 2020 federal election cycle. Part of these funds were used to cover:

- Purchasing of PPEs
- Purchasing of sanitizing equipment
- Early voting supplies
- Equipment rentals
- Acquiring additional office space to accommodate social distancing

FY2020 Total Expenditures



# FUTURE OUTLOOK & CHALLENGES

## UPCOMING ELECTIONS

### 2022 ELECTION CYCLE

#### Primary Election

Saturday, August 27, 2022

Polls Open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

#### General Election

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Polls Open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

### OFFICES UP FOR ELECTION

- Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Guam (1 Seat)
- Members for the 37<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature (15 seats)
- Non-Voting Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives (1 Seat)
- Attorney General of Guam (1 seat)
- Guam Education Board (6 seats)
- Consolidated Commission on Utilities (2 seats)

### 2022 ELECTION INFORMATION

- Candidate Packets for the 2022 Elections are tentatively scheduled to be released on January 3, 2022.
- Individuals interested in becoming volunteer voter registrars may apply by downloading the application at [gec.guam.gov](http://gec.guam.gov) and submitting it to [vote@gec.guam.gov](mailto:vote@gec.guam.gov)
- Qualified individuals may register to vote at the GEC Office in Tamuning, online at [gec.guam.gov](http://gec.guam.gov), at village mayor's offices, with volunteer registrars in the community, or when renewing or applying for their ID or license at the DMV.

## Looking Forward

### The GEC continues to:

- Prepare for the 2022 election cycle;
- Ensure that elections are conducted fairly, efficiently, and with transparency;
- Populate its voter registry;
- Upgrade equipment in line with industry standards to safeguard the security of the island's elections;
- Review and propose updates to the Election Code of Guam as prescribed by 3 GCA § 2103(d)(1);
- Supervise campaign contributions and expenditures pursuant to 3 GCA § 17102;
- Notify, receive, and certify filings mandated by the Public Official Disclosure Act; and,
- Establish procedures that acknowledge Guam's dynamic social and political environment.

## Challenges

### The GEC confronts issues and barriers with:

- Conducting local and federal elections in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Increasing the number of registered voters and voter participation;
- Streamlining the electoral process and Election Code;
- Modernizing the voter registry system; and,
- Secure access with the Department of Motor Vehicles for motor voter registration and online voter registration.



**We want to hear from you!** Do you like this report? Do you think it should include any other information? Please let us know by calling us at 477-9791 or via email at [vote@gec.guam.gov](mailto:vote@gec.guam.gov).



Mariella Cruz &lt;macruz@guamopa.com&gt;

---

**Letter of Compliance Status for FY 2017-2020 CCR Submissions - GEC**

---

Elizabeth Santos &lt;elizabeth.santos@gec.guam.gov&gt;

Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 3:54 PM

To: Benjamin Cruz &lt;bjcruz@guamopa.com&gt;, speaker@guamlegislature.org

Cc: mcruz@guamopa.com, croque@guamopa.com, Maria Pangelinan &lt;maria.pangelinan@gec.guam.gov&gt;, Vote &lt;vote@gec.guam.gov&gt;

Håfa Adai,

Transmitted herewith is GEC's Citizen Centric Report for FY2020. It is also available to view or download on our [website](#). Please let us know if you have any questions or require additional information. Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

On Fri, Oct 1, 2021 at 12:04 PM Maria Pangelinan &lt;maria.pangelinan@gec.guam.gov&gt; wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

--

*si Yu'us ma'ase'*

Maria I.D. Pangelinan  
Executive Director  
Guam Election Commission  
[414 W. Soledad Ave.](#)  
GCIC Bldg., Ste.200  
Hagatna, GU 96923  
671.477.9791 (office)  
671.687.9792 (cell)  
571.477.1895 (fax)  
[www.gec.guam.gov](http://www.gec.guam.gov) (website)

--

Si Yu'os ma'åse'!

Elizabeth B. Santos  
Program Coordinator II  
*Kumision Ileksion Guåhan*

Phone [+1 671-477-9791](tel:+16714779791)/2/3 | Fax [+1 671-477-1895](tel:+16714771895)Email: [elizabeth.santos@gec.guam.gov](mailto:elizabeth.santos@gec.guam.gov) | Website: [gec.guam.gov](http://gec.guam.gov)

Notice: This email (including attachments) is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510-2521, is confidential and may be legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any retention, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. Please reply to the sender that you have received the message in error and delete it.

---

 **GEC CCR FY2020.pdf**  
1612K