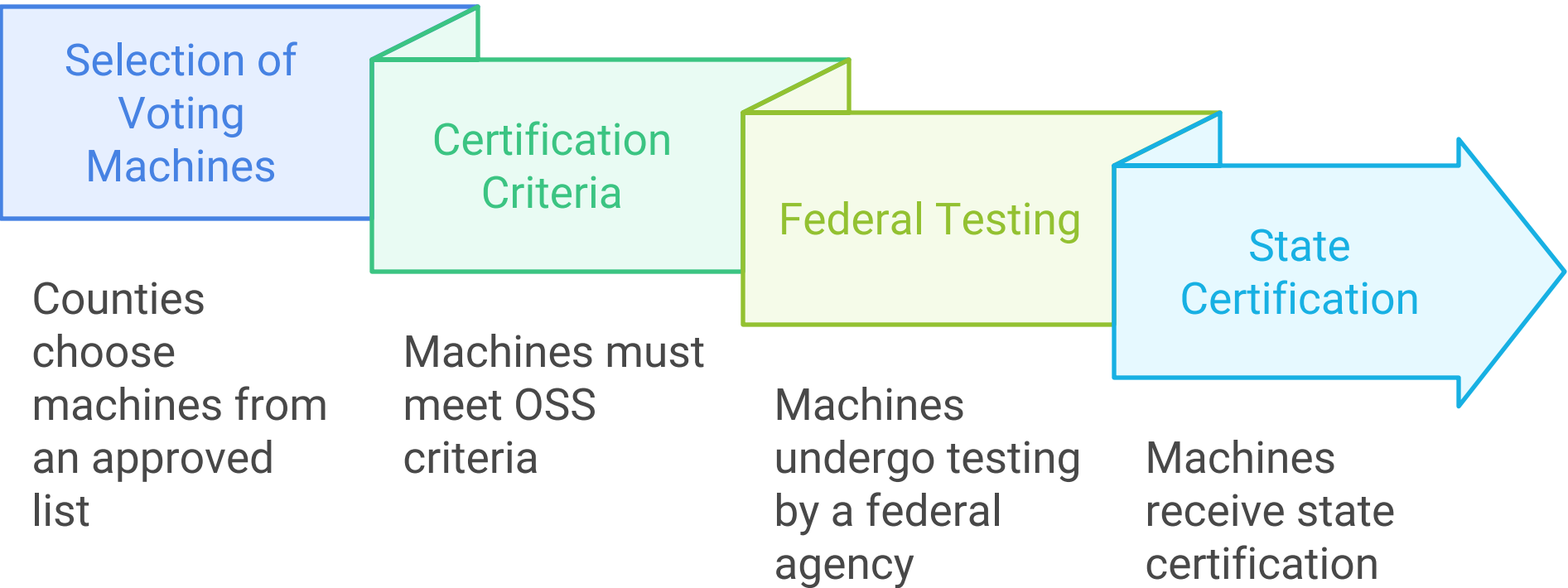


Election Security in Minnesota

Step 1: Voting Machine Selection and Certification

- **Selection:** Counties select voting machines from a list approved by the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office (OSS).
- **Certification:** Machines must meet OSS criteria and undergo rigorous testing by a federal agency before state certification.

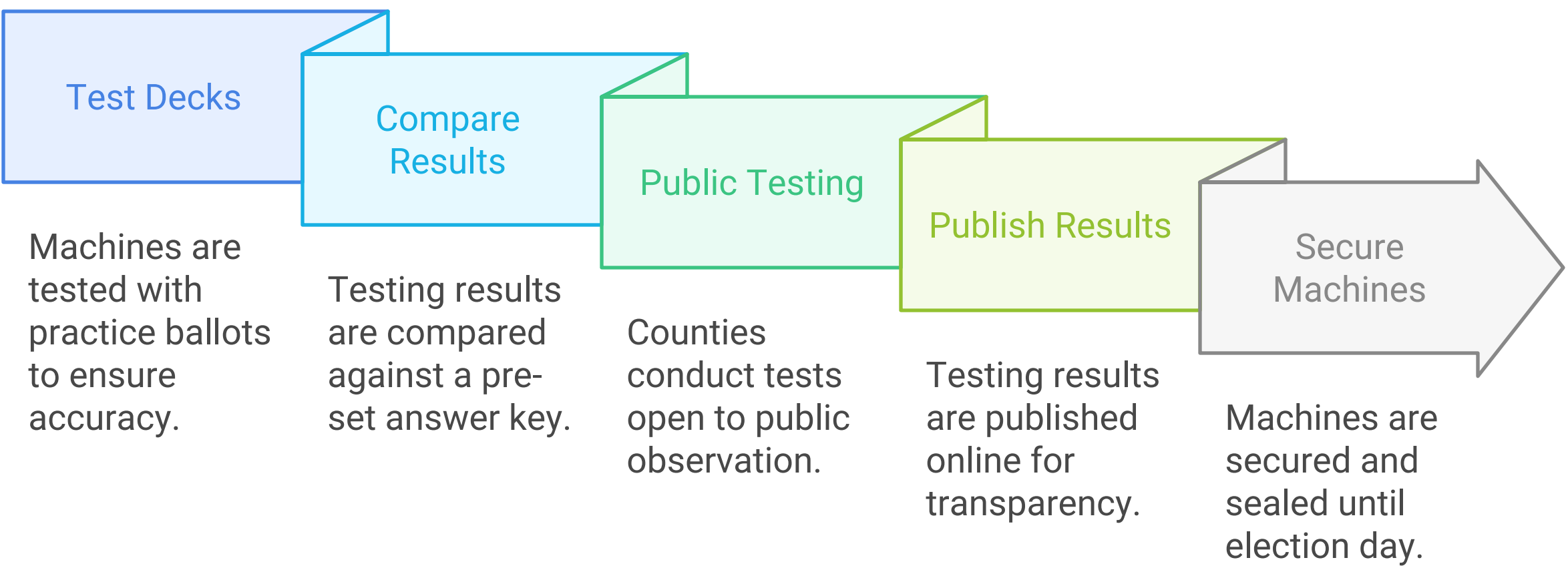
Voting Machine Selection and Certification Process



Step 2: Pre-Election Testing

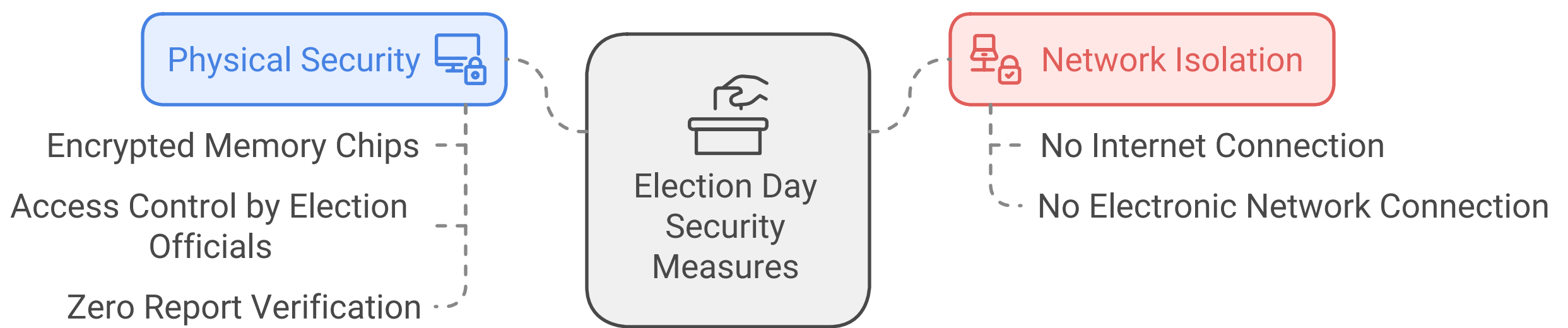
- **Test Decks:** Machines undergo testing with "test decks" (practice ballots) to ensure they read accurately. Results are compared against a pre-set answer key.
- **Public Testing:** Counties conduct public tests, allowing observation by anyone. Results are published online. After testing, machines are secured and sealed until election day.

Pre-Election Testing Process



Step 3: Election Day Security Measures

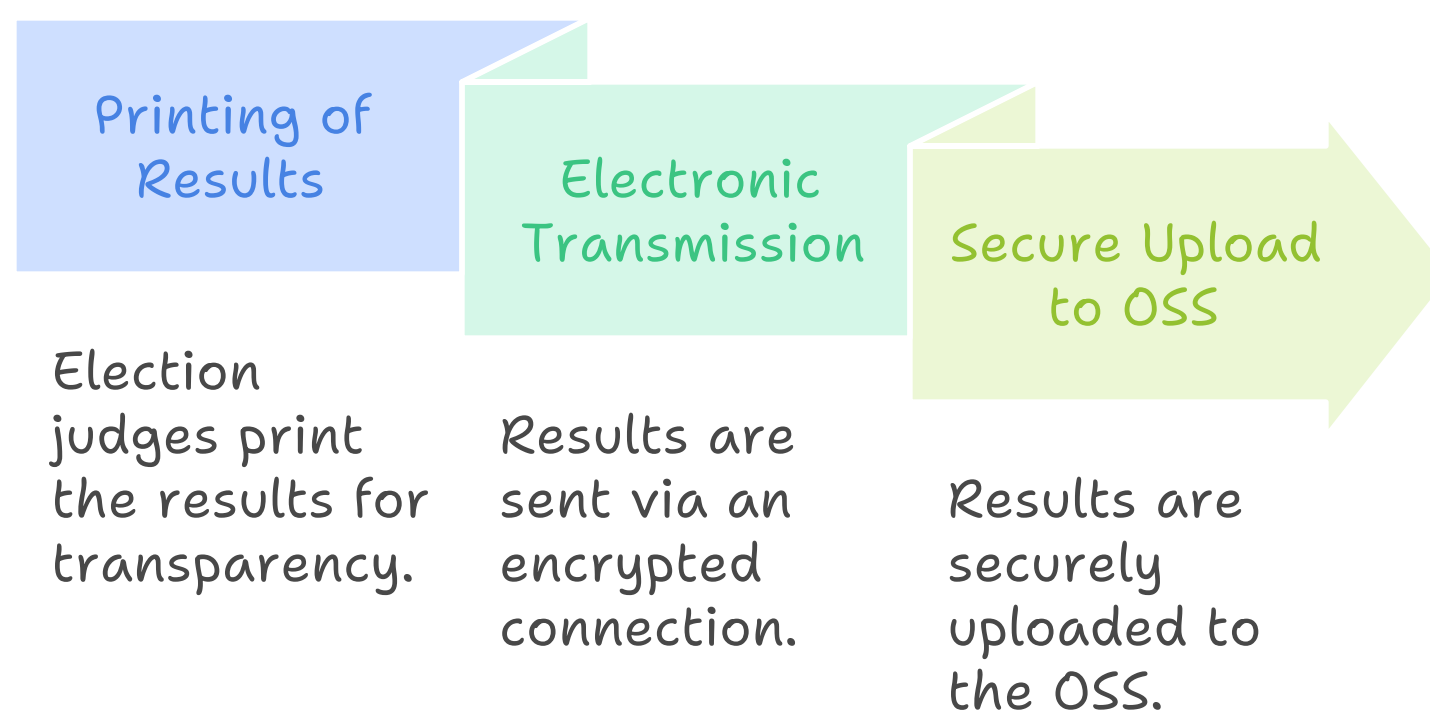
- **Isolation from Networks:** Machines cannot connect to the internet or any electronic network during voting, preventing remote tampering.
- **Physical Security:** Machines have encrypted memory chips secured by election officials who control access keys. Machines are locked after confirming that they print a "zero report" (verifying no pre-existing votes).



Step 4: Data Transmission Post-Voting

- **Printing of Results:** Election judges print the election results for transparency.
- **Electronic Transmission:** Results are transmitted via an encrypted connection to county election or the OSS website, ensuring secure upload to the OSS.

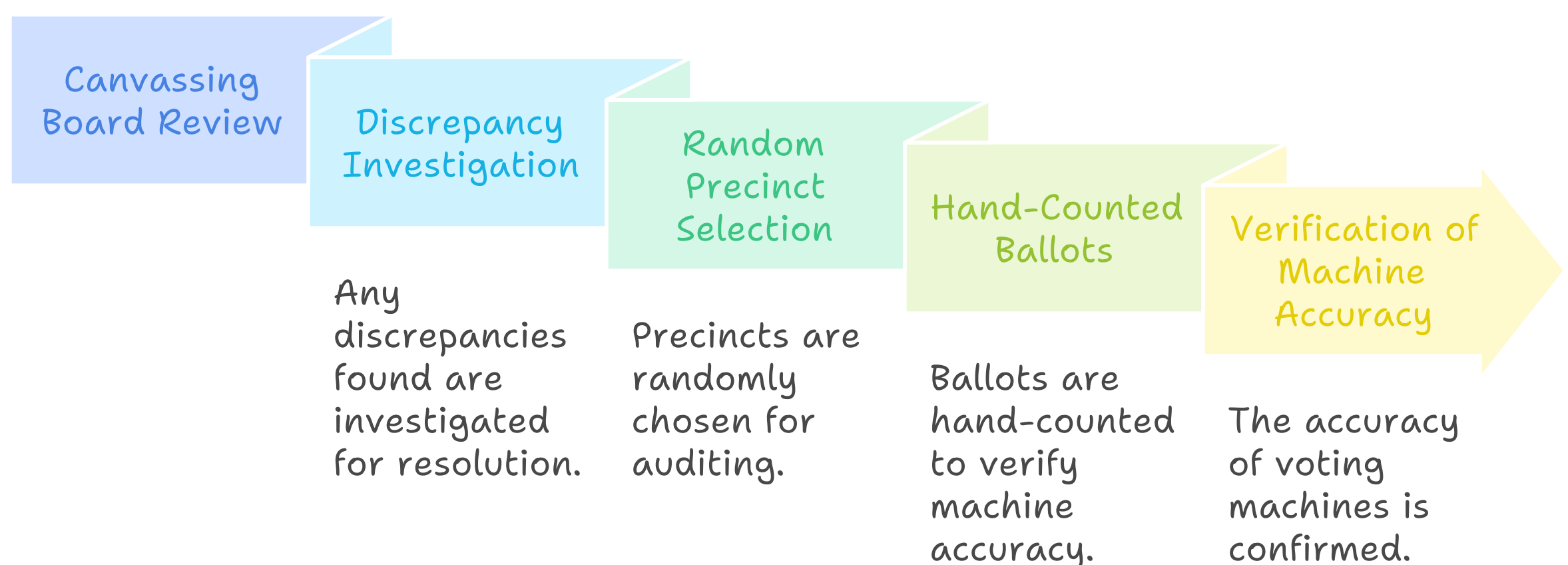
Election Results Transmission Process



Step 5: Post-Election Audit and Certification

- **Canvassing Board Review:** A canvassing board compares precinct and county numbers. Discrepancies are investigated, ensuring alignment before certification.
- **Post-Election Review:** Selected precincts are randomly audited with hand-counted ballots by party-balanced election judges to verify machine accuracy.

Post-Election Review Process



Step 6: Recount and Complaint Process

- **Recounts:** Candidates may request recounts, funded publicly if results are within a specific margin. Discretionary recounts are available if the candidate funds them. All recounts are publicly observed.

- **Complaint Process:** Public complaints about potential election irregularities can be filed, reviewed, and escalated to county attorneys if needed.

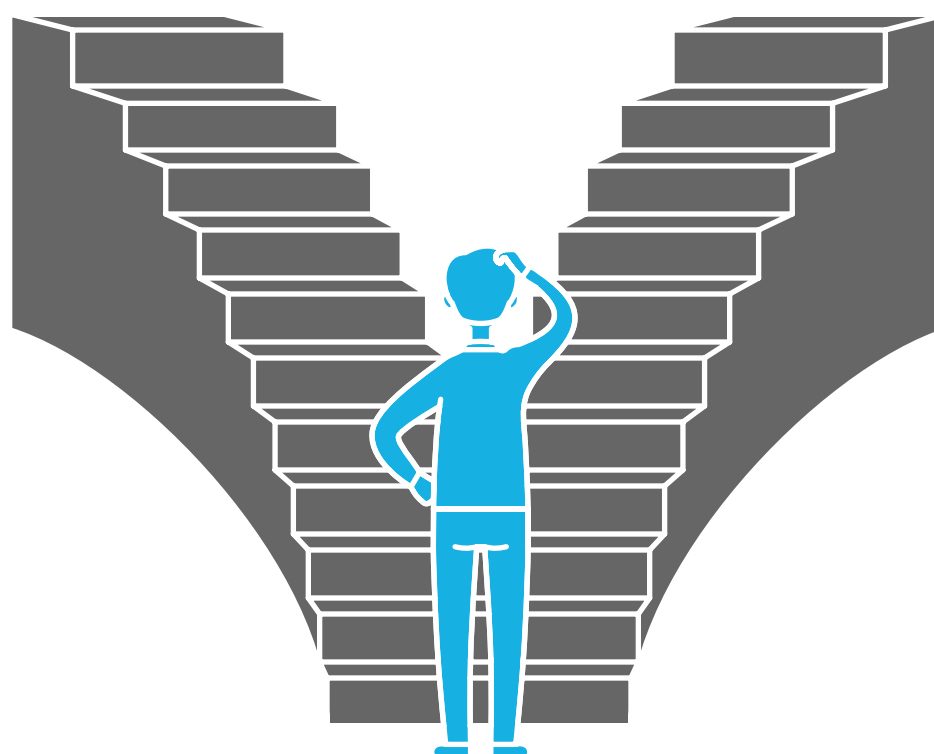
Recount and Complaint Process

Candidate Request Recount

Funded publicly if within margin, discretionary if candidate funds. All are publicly observed.

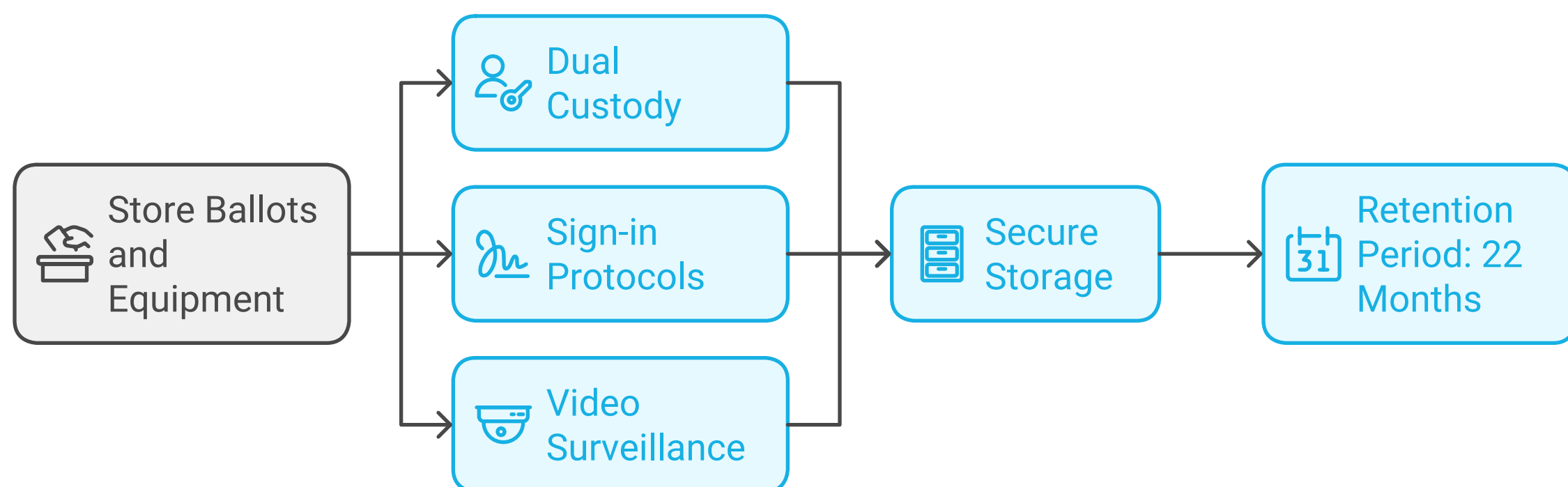
Public Complaint

Public complaints can be filed, reviewed, and escalated.



Step 7: Secure Storage of Election Materials

- **Storage and Surveillance:** Ballots and equipment are stored under strict conditions, with dual custody, sign-in protocols, and video surveillance. Election materials are retained for 22 months.



Additional Security and Transparency Measures

- **Decentralization:** Each state independently administers elections, with unique standards and safeguards.
- **Seal Tracking:** Seals on machines and ballots are tracked with serial numbers to prevent tampering.
- **Transparency and Observations:** Public testing, independent observation (e.g., LWVMN and CEIMN), and paper trails bolster trust and verification in Minnesota elections.

Additional Security and Transparency Measures

