

2021 City/School Election FAQ's

Q: When is the city/school election held?

A: The City/School Election is held in odd numbered years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November to elect city/school officers & vote on public measures.

- Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Q: When are the polls open for the city/school election?

A: Polls must be open from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm for all precincts.

Q: What does the regular city/school election include?

A: The regular city election, regular school election and community college directors are included in the regular city/school election. Each entity can also put public measures on the ballot.

Q: Do I get to vote for community college directors at every city/school election?

A: In a given year it is possible that a voter's community college director is not on the ballot.

Q: Who is eligible to vote in the city/school election?

A: All voters who live within a school & community college district and are eligible to vote in the city/school election.

Q: Who can vote in my city's election?

A: Only voters who live within the city boundaries are eligible to vote in their city election.

Q: How many days before an election do I need to register to vote if I'm not registered or if I moved, and I want my name to be on the voter register at the polls?

A: 15 days

- Monday, October 18, 2021

Q: Can I register to vote at the polls?

A: Yes. You will need both proof of identity (which everyone needs) AND proof of residence.

Q: When is the first day I may request an absentee ballot by mail?

A: 70 days before the election.

- Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Q: After I send in my absentee ballot request form, when will the county auditor mail me my ballot?

A: The auditor can begin mailing absentee ballots 20 days before the election.

- Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Q: When is the last day that I can request an absentee ballot by mail?

A: The county auditor must receive your request form at least 15 days before the election. (For exceptions, see below.)

- Monday, October 18, 2021

Q: What is the deadline for getting my absentee ballot back to the county auditor?

A: The county auditor must have your ballot by the close of the polls, which is 8:00 pm on election day.

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Q: Won't my ballot be counted as long as it is postmarked before election day?

A: NO. The law changed, and your ballot must be in the possession of the county auditor by 8:00 pm on election day.

Q: May I return someone else's absentee ballot, or may someone else return my absentee ballot?

A: The only people who may return a voter's absentee ballot (we're talking about the **BALLOT**, NOT the ballot REQUEST FORM) are the voter, someone living in the voter's household, an immediate family member, or, if the voter is blind or has another disability, or a special delivery agent. (For exceptions and details, see below.)

Q: When is the first day I can vote absentee in person at the auditor's office?

A: 20 days before the election. You should only vote at the office if you have not requested a ballot by mail.

- Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Q: When is the last day I can vote absentee in person at the auditor's office?

A: The day before the election. (This didn't change.)

- Monday, November 1, 2021, 5:00 pm

Q: Where will the polls be on election day?

A: General election polling locations will be used for the city/school election:

- Douglas/Peterson – Peterson Community Center
- Garfield/Herdland – Webb Community Center
- Lake/Freeman – Dickens Community Center
- Lincoln/Clay – Royal Community Center
- Logan/Gillett Grove – Greenville Community Center
- Waterford/Lone Tree – Hap Ketelsen Community Center
- Spencer Wards 1-5 & Summit/Riverton/Sioux/Meadow – Clay Regional Events Center

Q: Where can I find laws related to city/school elections?

A: Chapter 376 of Iowa Code is the main source of information for laws relating to city elections.

Chapter 277 of Iowa Code is the main source of information for laws relating to school districts.

Chapter 260C of Iowa Code is the main source of information for laws relating to community colleges.
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For exceptions, details, and more law changes, [click here](https://claycounty.iowa.gov/auditor/elections/) for the 2021 Election Law Changes for Iowa Voters, published by the Iowa State Association of County Auditors.

<https://claycounty.iowa.gov/auditor/elections/>