

Chapter 5

Post Election Day

This chapter of the handbook is broken into categories of related tasks and deadlines that apply to all elections to help you plan how you will manage all of the details.

When something applies only to a particular type of election, that information is noted.

When planning for an election, also see the election-specific chapters of this handbook for details that apply just to that election.



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The Day After - Wednesday

Returning Supplies

Election supplies from each precinct, including the election register, tally list, and ballots, must be returned by noon the day after the election. Send messengers for all supplies not returned by noon.

Upon receipt of the ballots, verify the quantity of ballots received against the number listed on the ballot record and receipt. Sign the ballot record and receipt once the numbers have been verified. The ballot record and receipt is available in the Election Forms Library.

[§49.65, 50.10, 50.17, 50.23]

Storing Ballots

Carefully preserve all ballots, including those not voted. The packages are to be kept unopened in a safe place for six months for non-federal elections and 22 months for federal elections. The ballot packages may be opened **only** if there is a recount or if an election contest requires that the ballots be examined. At the end of the retention period, destroy the ballots. See the election document retention record available in the Election Forms Library.

Note: Chairpersons of each political party must be notified before destroying ballots. Each party may designate a person to witness the destruction of the ballots.

[§50.9, 50.12, 50.13, 50.15, 50.19]

Storage Space

Make sure you have enough space for storing unvoted ballot stocks and for filing absentee ballot requests, voter registration forms, voted ballots, etc.

Check to see if the required period of retention has passed for any documents you are storing and discard them to make space. Make sure you notify the county political party chairs before destroying ballots.

See the election document retention record available in the Election Forms Library for more information.

Provisional Ballots Listed

Post a list of the number of provisional ballots cast in each precinct as soon as possible but no later than 9 a.m. on the second day following the election. Any elector may look at the list of the number of provisional ballots cast and the affidavit envelopes of provisional voters during normal office hours until the ASVP board reconvenes to consider the provisional ballots.

If the ASVP board must reconvene to consider the provisional ballots earlier than the Thursday after the election, try to post the list of provisional voters before the ASVP board reconvenes at noon on Wednesday.

[§50.20]

ASVP Board

Reconvene the ASVP board no earlier than noon on the second day following the election to consider any provisional ballots, challenged absentee ballots, and any absentee ballots that were postmarked before election day and received before the ASVP board meets.

Note: If the canvass is scheduled to be earlier than the Monday following the election, the ASVP board must be reconvened at noon on the day following the election. See the chart below for dates and times the ASVP board must reconvene.

Dates to Reconvene the ASVP Board

Election	County Canvass Date	Reconvene ASVP Board
School	Friday after election [§277.20]	Noon on Wednesday following election [§50.21]
City Primary	Thursday following election no earlier than 1 p.m. [§376.7]	Noon on Wednesday following election [§50.21]
Regular City without runoff provisions	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	No earlier than noon on Thursday following election [§50.21]
Regular City with runoff provisions	Thursday following election no earlier than 1 p.m. [§376.9]	Noon on Wednesday following election [§50.21]
City Runoff	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	No earlier than noon on Thursday following election [§50.21]
Primary	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§43.49]	No earlier than noon on Thursday following election [§50.21]
General	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	No earlier than noon on Thursday following election [§50.21]
Special	See pg. 5 of this chapter	See Special Elections chapter

The number of members on the ASVP board may increase or decrease depending on the number of provisional ballots to be considered. If no provisional ballots were cast, the board will be reconvened only if there are absentee ballots to be counted before the canvass.

The board may divide itself into panels of no less than three members each to consider provisional ballots. Each panel must include a Democrat and a Republican. Not more than a simple majority of the members of a panel may be from the same political party.

[§50.21, 50.22]

Provisional Ballots and Challenged Absentee Ballots

The ASVP board must review all the information on the provisional ballot envelopes and all of the evidence submitted (if any) regarding the qualifications of each voter. The decision to count or reject each ballot must be made on the basis of information on the envelope containing the provisional ballot, the evidence concerning the challenge, and any pertinent voter registration documents.

[§50.22]

Rejecting Provisional and Challenged Absentee Ballots

The ASVP board may only reject **provisional and challenged absentee ballots** when:

- Voter did not provide ID and was required to do so
- Voter was not registered in the precinct on Election Day
- Voter already returned an absentee ballot that was counted (provisional voters)
- Voter is not qualified to vote
- Voter is inactive/pending only after the ASVP board has met to consider provisional ballots

The board must notify voters if their ballot was rejected within 10 days of the rejection. Sample notices “Notice to Voter of Rejection of Provisional Ballot” and “Rejected Absentee” are available in the Election Forms Library.

[§50.22, 53.25]

Rejected ballots should be marked “Rejected because (reason of rejection).” All rejected ballots must be sealed in an envelope marked “Defective ballots.” The envelope must be marked with “absentee and special voters precinct” and the date of the election at which the ballots were cast. The envelopes must also be signed by the precinct election officials.

The board should record the number of rejected ballots on the absentee and provisional ballot chain of custody log available in the Election Forms Library. The envelope with the rejected ballots must be returned to the auditor at the conclusion of the meeting.

[§53.26]

Absentee Ballots Received After Election Day

The ASVP board must also canvass any absentee ballots which were received after election day but before the deadline for their return. Check the post office for absentee ballots at the latest practicable hour before the canvass by the board of supervisors. The board must follow the usual standards for rejecting absentee ballots and count any acceptable absentee ballots.

[§53.25, IAC 721—21.352-355]

The board may need to meet again on the day of the canvass to complete the tally of absentee ballots. The board will need to submit their tally list to the board of supervisors before the conclusion of the county canvass.

[§50.22, 53.17]

Canvass Day

Election canvass dates vary based on the type of election being held and the statutes authorizing the election. The tables below show the canvass dates. If the canvass date is a public holiday, the date of the canvass must be moved to the next business day.

Canvass Dates

Election	County Canvass Date	State Canvass Date
School*	Friday after election [§277.20]	---
City Primary	Thursday following election no earlier than 1 p.m. [§376.7]	---
Regular City without runoff provisions	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	---
Regular City with runoff provisions	Thursday following election no earlier than 1 p.m. [§376.9]	---
City Runoff	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	---
Primary	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§43.49]	No later than 27 days after election [§50.38]
General	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	No later than 27 days after election [§50.38]
Special	See pg. 5 of this chapter	See pg. 5 of this chapter

*If your county is the control county for a community college, the board of supervisors must meet to canvass the abstracts from other counties in the merged area on the last Monday in September or at the board of supervisors' last regularly scheduled meeting in September.

[§260C.15(4)]

See the following page for canvass dates for special elections.

Special Election Canvass Dates

Special Elections	County Canvass Date	State Canvass Date
School	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	---
City Primary	Thursday following election no earlier than 1 p.m. [§376.7]	---
Regular City without runoff provisions	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	---
Regular City with runoff provisions	Thursday following election no earlier than 1 p.m. [§376.9]	----
City Runoff	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	---
Special to Fill Vacancy – County Office (§69.14A)	First Monday or Tuesday after election [§50.24]	---
Special to Fill Vacancy – State/Federal Office (§69.14)	Thursday following election no earlier than 1 p.m. [§50.46]	Within 5 days of receiving abstracts [§50.46]
Other special elections	See Special Elections chapter or consult the <i>Iowa Code</i>	See Special Elections chapter or consult the <i>Iowa Code</i>

Preparing for County Canvass by the Board of Supervisors

Best Practice: Start early. Type precinct results in I-VOTERS and proof early. Run test abstracts to make sure the numbers are correct. This may done before the canvass so that the forms are ready when needed. The absentee precinct results can be updated after late ballots are counted by the ASVP board.

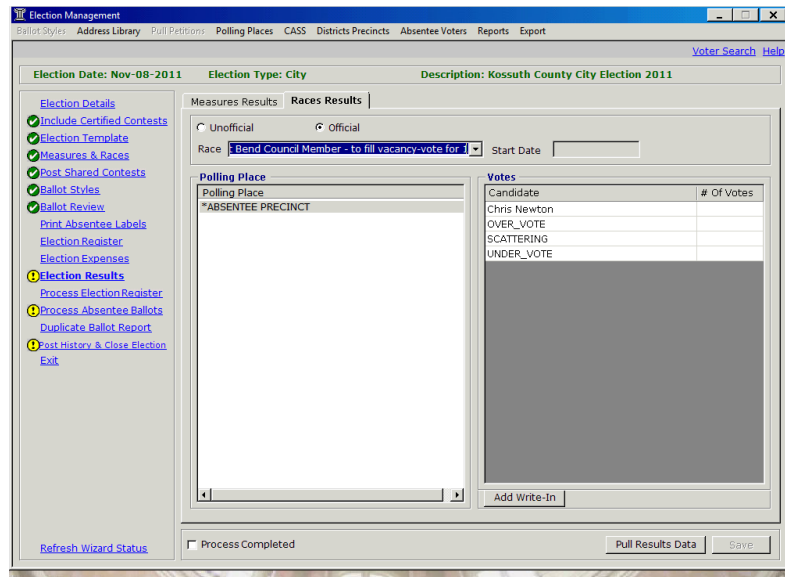
Deliver all tally lists to the board of supervisors at the canvass. The board of supervisors canvasses from the precinct tally lists.

[§50.24]

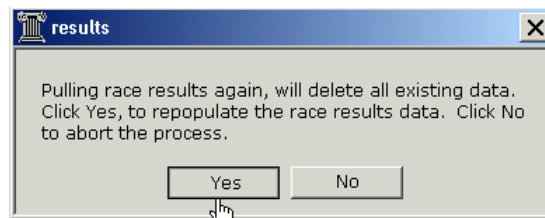
Entering Results into I-VOTERS

1. Open **“Election Management”** from the main I-VOTERS screen.
2. Open the election by highlighting it and clicking **“Detail.”**
3. Click on **“Election Results”** from the menu on the left side of the screen.
4. If you have a message that **“Results data has not yet been pulled”** or if the **“Absentee Precinct”** is the only polling place visible, the results data has not been pulled yet.

Click **“Pull Results Data.”** It may take a few minutes.



5. Select **“Yes.”**



Important Note: If results data has already been entered, clicking **“Yes”** will overwrite any data already entered.

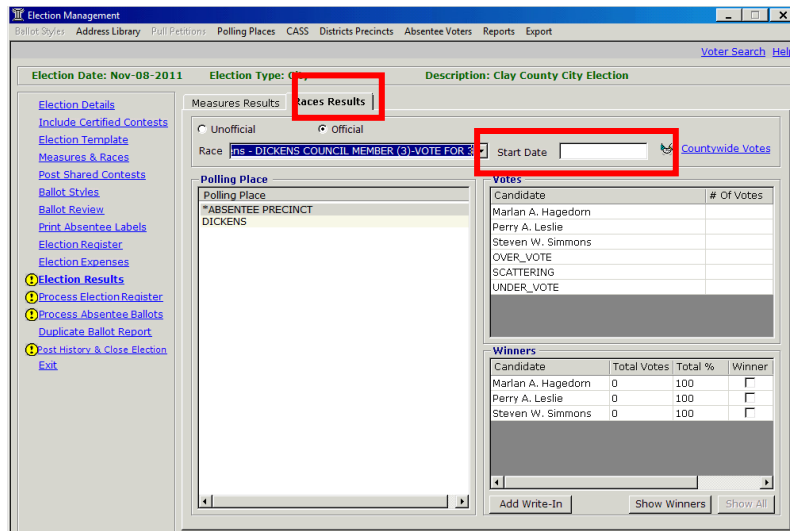
6. Select the “**Measures Results**” or “**Race Results**” tab to begin entering results. Be sure “**Official**” is marked.

7. Select a race from the “**Race**” drop-down menu.

8. Enter the term start date.

9. Highlight a polling place by clicking on it and enter the results in the “**Votes**” box.

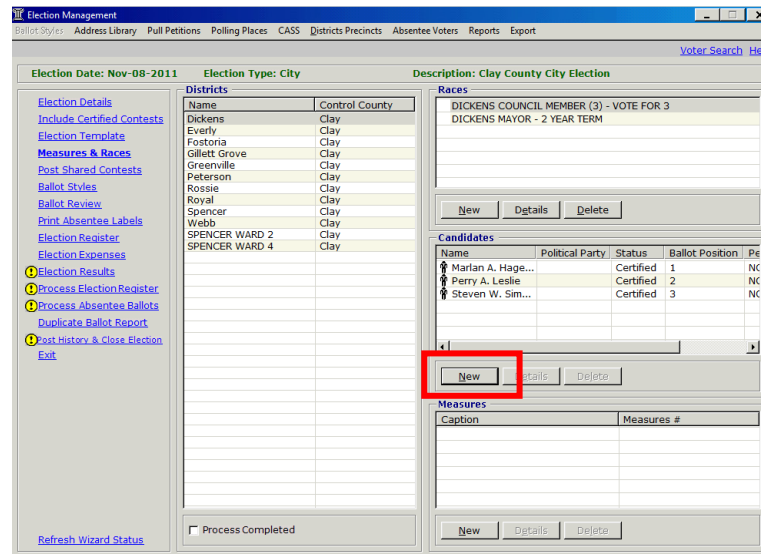
Important Notes: Be sure to enter the number of overvotes and undervotes if voting equipment was used.



10. Names of write-in candidates are only entered if they received five percent or more of the total votes cast for that office. Otherwise, write-in votes will be reported under “**Scattering.**”

To add a write-in candidate, click on “**Measures & Races.**” Choose the “**District**” and “**Race**” by clicking on them. Click “**New**” under “**Candidates**” to add the write-in candidate.

Return to “**Election Results**” and add the votes for the write-in.



11. Be sure the “**Include**” box is marked for each candidate. I-VOTERS will only allow for 8 boxes to be checked. If there were more than 8 candidates, run your abstracts and election canvass summary as RTF files and modify them to include all candidates. Please call the Help Desk (1-877-442-7670) for assistance if needed.

If you are the control county, select the winner by checking the “**Winner**” box.

Important Note: The percentages shown here do not include overvotes and undervotes and that is correct.

Winners					
	Total Votes	Total %	Winner	Runoff	Include
rn	0	100	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
0	0	100	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ns	0	100	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

12. When entering results for measures, be sure to mark the **“Passed”** box if the measure passed.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Passed	# Of Yes	54	# Of No	26	Total	80
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Process Completed Pull Results Data Save

13. When all results are entered for a polling place, click **“Save”** before moving on to the next polling place.

14. Once all results are entered, pull the abstracts of votes and election canvass summary. Open **“Reports & Labels”** from the main I-VOTERS screen.

15. Select **“Election Management”** from the menu on the left side. Choose the **“Election”** from the drop-down.

- a. For abstracts, choose reports **“E-022 County Abstract of Votes – Candidate Abstract”** and **“E-024 County Abstract of Votes – Measures Abstract.”**

Reports

County: Clay

Election: 11/08/2011 - Clay County City Election

Batch Number: [] Request Date: []

District: Dickens

Races: []

Candidate: []

Absentee Type: []

Pol Party: Democrat

Party Org: Iowa Gree

Election Date: []

Sort Order: []

Absentee Application Source: [] HCF/Satellite Location: [] Issue Method: []

Code	Name
E-019	Official Results Report
E-020	Open Seat Report
E-021	Winner List

Folder: [] Browse Export Cancel Run Report Schedule

The date of the canvass will appear on the abstracts. To change the date of the canvass, click on **“Election Details.”**

Election Date: 11/08/2011 Election Type: City Description: Clay County City Election

Include Certified Contests Election Template Measures & Races Post Shared Contests Ballot Styles Ballot Review Print Absentee Labels Election Register Election Expenses Election Results

Election Date: 11/08/2011 Description: Clay County City Election Election Type: City Election Method: Poll

Filing Deadline: 10/22/2011 Closing Date for Registration: 11/08/2011

Certification Deadline: 11/21/2011 Official County Canvass Votes Date: 11/15/2011

Runoff Canvass Date: []

Poll Hours: Open: 7:00 AM Close: 8:00 PM

Publication Dates: Start: 10/19/2011 End: 11/04/2011

Statistics: Accepted Ballots: 0%

District	Control County	# Of Races	# Of Measures

- b. For the election canvass summary, choose **“E-019 Official Results Report.”** Be sure to mark the **“All”** boxes for **“Pol Party”** and **“Party Org.”**

Preparing Abstracts

The office abstracts must include all of the following information:

1. Name of each person who received votes for each office and the number of votes each person received
2. Name and number of votes received by each write-in who received five percent or more of votes cast for an office

The names of candidates who received five percent or more of the votes should appear after the names of candidates whose names were printed on the ballot.

3. Scattering

The votes for any write-in candidates who each received less than five percent of the votes cast for an office shall be reported collectively as "Scattering."

4. Total number of votes cast in the county for each office

This is found by adding together the votes for all of the candidates, including write-in candidates. This does NOT include overvotes or undervotes.

The public measure abstracts must include all of the following information:

1. Number of votes for and against each question (if any)
2. Total number of votes cast in the county for each question (if any). This does NOT include overvotes and undervotes.

[§50.24]

For the primary election, the abstract must also state the number of ballots cast by political party.

[§43.49]

For the general election, separate abstracts must be made for each state and federal office. County offices and township offices can be combined on the same abstract.

For school and city elections, separate abstracts must be made for different jurisdictions.

[§50.25]

Keep the following in mind when preparing and proofing abstracts:

1. **Check the totals.** Before preparing the abstracts, make sure all the totals in I-VOTERS are correct.
2. **Select winners.** Check the box "winner" next to the candidate's name in I-VOTERS.

3. **Check the canvass date.** On the first screen of “**Election Management**”, make sure the canvass date is correct so the abstracts print correctly.
4. **Use zeros.** If no votes were cast for an office or candidate on the ballot, put the number of votes cast as “0” in I-VOTERS and on the abstract.
5. **Make necessary changes.** If additional changes are necessary, generate the abstract and save it as an .rtf (rich text file) and edit it in Microsoft Word.
6. **Signatures.** A majority of the members of the board of supervisors and the auditor must sign both copies of each abstract.
7. **Official seal.** Put the county seal on each abstract.

Printing Abstracts from I-VOTERS

1. Open “**Reports & Labels**” from the main I-VOTERS screen.
2. Select “**Election Management**” from the menu on the left side. Choose the “**Election**” from the drop-down.
3. Choose reports “**E-022 County Abstract of Votes – Candidate Abstract**” and “**E-024 County Abstract of Votes – Measures Abstract.**”

The date of the canvass will appear on the abstracts. To change the date of the canvass, click on “**Election Details**” in “**Election Management.**”

Turnout Report

The turnout report is no longer required.

Election Canvass Summary

The canvass summary must include the results of the election by precinct for each office and public measure on the ballot. The summary must include scatterings, overvotes, and undervotes. Overvotes and undervotes are not included in the summary when the ballots are counted by hand.

[§50.24(3)]

The canvass summary certification must be signed by a majority of the board of supervisors. It can be generated by I-VOTERS. The official results report can be used if the results were entered by precinct. A report from vote tabulation software or SOS election night results reporting program can also be used.

[§50.24(3)]

Provisional Ballots

During the county canvass of votes, make public the number of provisional ballots rejected and not counted.

[§50.22]

Also report the number of rejected provisional ballots and the reasons why to the SOS for the General Election. The ballot rejection tally sheet is available in the Election Forms Library.

EDR Totals

Report the number of election day registrants to the SOS for the general election and primary election.

Rejected Absentee Ballots Tally

Report the number of rejected domestic absentee ballots and rejected UOCAVA absentee ballots and the reasons for their rejections to the SOS for the general election. The state is required to report these numbers and corresponding rejection reasons to the federal government. The ballot rejection tally sheet is available in the Election Forms Library.

During the County Canvass

The board of supervisors does not count ballots. The board uses the results reported by the PEOs in the tally lists to compile the vote totals for the county. The board has no authority to examine any ballots or write-in documents other than the tally lists from each precinct. The board declares the winners for county and township offices. This declaration is included in the county abstract of votes.

The board of supervisors also canvasses the county vote totals for state and federal offices. The county abstracts are mailed immediately to the SOS following the county canvass so the state canvass of votes may start.

[§50.24 – 50.27]

Open meeting laws do not apply. It is not necessary to publish and post the agenda before the meeting. However, the meeting must be open to the public and minutes must be kept.

[OAG #90-2-6(L), §50.45]

Who Wins?

The candidate with the most votes is declared the winner with two exceptions.

[§50.45, 277.20, 376.8]

Cities With Runoff Provisions:

All candidates must receive a majority of the votes cast to be declared elected; however, there are two different definitions of “majority” in cities with runoff provisions.

Majorities in “vote for no more than one” races: A simple majority is needed to be declared elected. A simple majority is at least one vote more than 50% of the total votes cast. If no candidate receives a majority in this type of race, a runoff must be held between the highest vote-getters. The number of candidates on the runoff ballot will equal twice the number of seats to be filled. For example, a runoff for the office of mayor will have two candidates on the runoff ballot.

Majorities in at-large multi-member body elections: A majority is one vote more than half the quotient found by dividing the total number of votes cast for all candidates for that body by the number of positions to be filled.

See the City Elections chapter for more information.

Primary Election

Candidates who received the highest number of votes are nominated if they also receive 35% of the total votes cast for the race (within the party primary). If no candidate receives the required 35%, the primary is inconclusive and provisions set forth in §43.78 apply.

[§43.52, 43.65, 43.37, 43.78]

See the Primary Elections chapter for more information.

Write-In Winners

A write-in winner can be declared elected and sworn in if the write-in candidate received the most votes. If a person elected by write-in votes declines the office, the seat is vacant and filled by appointment unless it is a city election. See the City Elections chapter and §376.11.

[§43.54, 43.66, 50.45, 279.6, 279.4]

See the Primary Elections chapter for more information about write-in nominees in primary elections.

Tie Situations

The board of supervisors will draw lots to settle a tie vote. The result of the drawing must be entered on the abstract of votes and a certificate of election sent to the declared winner.

If there is a tie vote for a public measure, lots are not drawn. The measure fails.

[§43.75, 50.44]

Public Measures

A public measure generally requires a simple majority to pass. A simple majority is at least one vote more than half the total number of votes cast. **Example:** If 100 votes were cast, 51 votes are required for the measure to pass.

Some questions may require a higher percentage to pass. For example, most bond issue elections require 60%. To determine if a question requiring 60% approval passes, follow these three steps:

1. Add together the number of yes and no votes.
2. Multiply the sum of the yes and no votes by 0.60. Round fractions up to the next whole number. This will give you the number of votes needed to pass.
3. If the number of yes votes is equal to or greater than the answer to #2, the question passes. If the number of yes votes is less than the answer to #2, the question does not pass.

[§50.45, 75.1]

Canvass Materials

1. The board must sign two sets of each abstract of votes. A majority of the board of supervisors and the auditor must sign the abstracts.

Important Note: The abstracts are the official permanent record of the election.

2. The board must also certify the election canvass summary at the canvass.

The canvass summary must include the results of the election by precinct for each office and public measure on the ballot. The summary must include scatterings, overvotes, and undervotes. Overvotes and undervotes are not included in the summary when the ballots are counted by hand.

[§50.24]

3. Make public the number of provisional ballots rejected and not counted.

Also report the number of rejected provisional ballots and the reasons why to the SOS for the general election. The ballot rejection tally sheet is available in the Election Forms Library.

[§50.22]

After the County Canvass of Votes

Follow These 8 Steps

1. Canvass minutes do not need to be published.

Exception: See the Primary Elections chapter for primary election post canvass publication requirements.

[§349.16(1)]

2. Keep one set of the abstracts for your files and send one set to the appropriate governing board for the jurisdiction.

[§50.27]

- For city elections, send the abstract(s) to the council for each city.
- For school elections, send the abstract(s) to the school board for each school district.

Exception: Community Colleges

If you are the control county, send one set of the abstracts to the community college board. If you are not the control county, send one set of the abstract to the control county.

- For the primary, general, and special elections to fill vacancies pursuant to §69.14, send a set of the abstracts for the federal offices, state offices, constitutional amendments, and judicial retention to the SOS within 13 days after the election. Also send a copy of the election canvass summary certified by the board of supervisors.

Best Practice: Please do not staple federal abstracts together.

Exception: Governor and Lt. Governor

When the office of governor is on the ballot, the SOS provides counties with a special envelope which is addressed to “The Speaker of the House of Representatives” in which to mail the abstracts for the governor’s race. Do not include any other abstract in this envelope. This envelope will be opened by the speaker of the house, not the SOS. Forward this envelope along with the envelope that contains the other abstracts to the SOS.

[§50.31, 50.33]

- For local option tax elections and hotel/motel tax elections, send the abstract to the Department of Revenue and Finance if the tax passes.

[§423A, 423B.1(6)(b)]

3. Send the certificates of election.

Each person who was elected must receive a certificate of election. Include open meetings law (Chapters 21 and 22 of the *Iowa Code*) information with the certificates.

[§21.10, 50.29]

Certificates may be generated from I-VOTERS, but counties are not required to use the certificates generated by I-VOTERS.

The SOS sends certificates of election and the open meetings laws to those who were elected to federal and state offices as well as for the judges who were retained.

[§50.41]

Primary Election

Certificates of election are not issued to candidates who were nominated at the primary election. The board of supervisors must certify a list of offices for which candidates were nominated and a list of offices for which no candidate was nominated. You must forward these lists to the chairperson of each county party central committee.

[§43.55]

There is an I-VOTERS report that can be used for this purpose. In **“Reports and Labels”** from the **“Election Management”** screen, choose E-020 “Open Seat Report” and E-021 “Winner List.” Both reports list by party so you will have one set of reports to send to each political party county chair.

4. Enter election results into I-VOTERS before creating abstracts and a certified canvass summary.
5. Swear in officers.

Most elected officials will take the oath of office no later than noon on the first day of the term in January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday.

[§39.8, 63.1]

Exceptions: County agriculture members must take the oath of office within 15 days after the county canvass of votes.

[§176A.14(5)]

Terms of new members for school boards begin at the first regular meeting of the school board held after the canvass of votes.

[§277.28]

Officials who were elected or appointed to fill a vacancy or were elected to an office where an appointee is currently serving must qualify within 10 days of the county canvass.

See the Vacancies chapter for more information.

[§63.8]

For specific term start dates, see the “Terms of Office” webpage on the SOS website here: www.sos.state.ia.us/election/electioninfo/officeterms.html.

6. Store election materials.

Tally lists and abstracts are kept forever. Other documents pertaining to the election are kept for six months for non-federal elections and 22 months for federal elections. See the election document retention record in the Election Forms Library.

[§50.19]

7. Determine the costs of the election and bill other jurisdictions (if needed).

Certify to the board of supervisors the costs of the election. The board will bill the appropriate jurisdictions, if needed.

The following items may be included in the bill:

- Ballot printing [§47.3, 49.56]
- Absentee balloting costs (postage, envelopes) [§47.3]
- Polling place rental [§49.21, 49.24]
- Election registers and lists of registered voters [§47.3]
- Publication of election notice (and any other required publications)
[§47.3, 49.23, 49.53, 49.54]
- Declaration of eligibility slips and other forms [§49.74]
- Compensation of precinct election officials [§47.3, 49.20, 49.125]
- Canvass materials (tally lists and canvass books) [§47.3]
- Preparation and installation of voting equipment [§47.3]
- Other costs, NOT including: costs of voter registration, administration, clerical costs, and rent for voting equipment [§47.3]

8. Pay precinct election officials.

Precinct election officials cannot be paid until after the county canvass of votes is complete.

[§49.20]

EDR Updates

As soon as possible after the election, add new election day registrants and update the voter registration records in I-VOTERS based on any voter registration forms received at the polls on election day. For instructions on processing election day registration forms, please see the Voter Registration chapter.

EDR Follow Up

You must send a voter registration card to voters who used EDR no later than 45 days after election day. The voter registration card must be sent by non-forwardable mail. If the voter registration card is returned undeliverable, contact the voter by forwardable mail using the “Notice to Election Day Registrant” available in the Election Forms Library.

If the voter does not respond within 14 days after the notice is mailed, change the voter’s registration status to “inactive” and notify the SOS and county attorney immediately. In addition, try to call or email the voter if a phone number or email address was provided to convey the importance of responding to the follow up notice that was mailed.

[§48A.26A]

Voter History Updates in I-VOTERS

Election participation information for voters must be updated in I-VOTERS no later than 60 days after each election.

Do not give vote credit to voters whose provisional ballots were rejected.

[§48A.38(1)(a)]

Recounts and Contests

Losing candidates or groups of people concerned about the vote count for a public measure may request that the ballots be recounted. The auditor may request an administrative recount if there are doubts about the performance of the voting equipment or the programming used in the election. The sealed ballot packages may be opened and the ballots may be examined only if there is a formal request for a recount. There are no exceptions.

An election contest is the formal process for challenging the results of an election by alleging that improper activities resulted in an incorrect outcome.

See the Recount and Contest chapters for more information.

[50.48, 50.49, 50.50]

High School PEOs

If high school PEOs were used, certify the following to the school within 14 days after the election:

- The name of each student who served as a PEO
- The number of hours each student served
- The precinct number and polling place location where the student served
- Any other information deemed appropriate
- Any other information requested by the school

[§49.13(5)(g)]

Vote Centers

If vote centers were used, conduct a postelection review no later than 45 days after the election. Review the election registers and declarations of eligibility. If anyone is found to have voted more than once at an election in which vote centers are used, notify the county attorney immediately. Forward a copy of the voter's voter registration record and the documents signed by the voter on election day to the county attorney and reference §39A.2(2) and §49.11(3)(b) in the notice.

State Canvass of Votes (applicable for state and federal elections only)

As soon as the abstracts begin arriving from the counties, the SOS begins tabulating the county results for state and federal offices. An abstract of votes, canvass summary, winners list, and EDR totals will be created.

[§50.36, 50.39]

The State Board of Canvassers must meet no later than 27 days after the election. The State Board of Canvassers is made up of the Iowa Executive Council which consists of the governor, secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer, and the secretary of agriculture. They will review the canvass materials prepared by the SOS and sign the abstracts and certificates of election for federal and state officers and judges. The two political parties are invited to send observers to watch the tabulation of votes.

[§50.36, 50.38]

For the presidential election, the presidential electors will meet at the Capitol on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December to elect and certify their choices.

[§54.7]

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