

721—21.75(49) Voting centers for certain elections. The commissioner may establish voting centers for the regular city election, city primary election, city runoff election, regular school election, and special elections.

21.75(1) Definition.

“*Voting center*” means a location established by the commissioner for the purpose of providing ballots to all registered voters who are qualified to vote in a particular jurisdiction for a regular city election, city primary election, city runoff election, regular school election, or special election.

21.75(2) Minimum requirements.

a. Establishment. One or more voting centers may be established in lieu of precinct polling places for the elections at which the use of voting centers is permitted.

b. Choices. Regular polling place sites that are accessible to people with disabilities may be used as voting centers for any election at which the use of voting centers is permitted. Other suitable locations may also be used.

c. Accessibility. A voting center is subject to the requirements of Iowa Code section 49.21 relating to accessibility to persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities and relating to the posting of signs.

21.75(3) Hours. Voting center hours shall be the same as permitted for an election pursuant to Iowa Code Supplement section 49.67. Except for school elections, a voting center that serves a jurisdiction which includes both unincorporated territory and a city with a population in excess of 3500 shall open at 7 a.m.

21.75(4) Publications. The location of each voting center shall be published in the notice of election by the commissioner in the same manner as the location of polling places is required to be published. The notice of election shall also include a description of the voting center in substantially the following form:

For the _____ election to be held on [date], voting centers will be available. Any registered voter of [jurisdiction name] may vote at any of the following places in this election:

[List addresses of voting centers.]

21.75(5) I-Voters use prohibited. The commissioner shall not provide direct access from voting centers to the I-Voters system on election day.

21.75(6) Operation of voting centers.

a. Election registers and voter lists. Each voting center shall have a list of all registered voters who are eligible to vote in that election. The voter list may be a paper list or may be available on computers in an electronic format, rather than as an interactive connection to I-Voters.

b. Election day registration at voting centers. A person who needs to register to vote may register and vote at a voting center provided that the person has appropriate identification and is a resident of the jurisdiction served by the voting center.

c. Ballots. Each voting center shall have all ballot styles necessary to provide a ballot to any voter who is eligible to vote in the election for the jurisdiction served by the voting center.

d. Precinct election officials. Voting centers shall be administered by a minimum of five precinct election officials selected pursuant to Iowa Code sections 49.12 to 49.16. These officials shall be trained before each election and shall have specific instructions regarding the differences between voting centers and polling places.

21.75(7) Postelection review of voter participation.

a. Within 30 days after the election, the commissioner shall review the signed declarations of eligibility or the signed election registers from each voting center, and if any person is found to have voted in more than one voting center in the election, the commissioner shall immediately notify the county attorney.

b. The notice to the county attorney shall include a copy of the person’s voter registration record and copies of the declarations of eligibility signed by the voter. The notice shall also include a reference to 2008 Iowa Acts, House File 2620, section 23(1A)“d,” which reads as follows: “d. Pursuant to section 39A.2, subsection 1, paragraph "b", subparagraph (3), a person commits the crime of election misconduct in the first degree if the person knowingly votes or attempts to vote at more than one voting center for

the same election.” The notice shall also include a reference to Iowa Code section 39A.2(2), which reads as follows: “2. Election misconduct in the first degree is a class ‘D’ felony.”

This rule is intended to implement 2008 Iowa Acts, House File 2620, division II.