



Types of Elections

	General	Primary Election	School	City	City Primary
Voting Geography	Voting Precincts	Voting Precincts	School District	Municipal Boundary	Municipal Boundary
Polling Hours	7:00 AM - 9:00 P.M.	7:00 AM - 9:00 P.M.	7:00 AM - 8:00 P.M. ⁽²⁾	7:00 AM - 8:00 P.M.	7:00 AM - 8:00 P.M.
Cross County Lines	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Control Auditor	Polk	Polk	Varies ⁽¹⁾	Varies ⁽¹⁾	Varies ⁽¹⁾
Polling Places	183	183	176	172	Varies ⁽⁵⁾
Public measures	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Partisan Election	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Changes to voting / district geography	After the next decennial census to create districts of equal population.	After the next decennial census to create districts of equal population.	When boundary changes through merger or land swap.	When boundary changes (Annexation)	When boundary changes (Annexation)
Area of coverage	The precincts cover the complete geographical area of Polk County. All Polk County residents will vote in Polk County.	The precincts cover the complete geographical area of Polk County. All Polk County residents will vote in Polk County.	School districts cover the complete geographical area of Polk County, not all voters will vote in Polk County. ⁽³⁾	172 Precincts, Covering the Municipal boundary areas only, not all voters will vote in Polk County. ⁽⁴⁾	172 Precincts, Covering the Municipal boundary areas only, not all voters will vote in Polk County. ⁽⁴⁾
Election dates	November in even numbered years.	June in even numbered years.	Every September	November in odd numbered years	October in odd numbered years for primary cities only. ⁽⁵⁾
Paid for by	County	County	School Districts and DMACC ⁽⁵⁾	Cities	Cities
Who may vote	All registered voters	Political party declared registered voters	All registered voters	Voters residing in appropriate city	Voters residing in appropriate city

⁽¹⁾ The control Auditor is in the county Auditor where the majority of the population resides.

⁽²⁾ Polls open noon - 8:00 P.M. In the Bondurant - Farrar and Saydel School Districts

⁽³⁾ Polk County is not the Control Auditor for the following school districts that are partially in Polk County: Woodward-Granger, Madrid, Ballard, Collins-Maxwell, PCM, and Carlisle.

⁽⁴⁾ Polk County is not the Control Auditor for the following cities that are partially in Polk County: Carlisle, Norwalk, and Granger.

⁽⁵⁾ Primary Cities include: Des Moines, Ankeny, Bondurant, Johnston, and Urbandale

⁽⁶⁾ School Elections can not be combined with any other type of election.

For more information please visit <http://www.legis.state.ia.us/ElectionLaws/index.html>