

# COVID-19 Voting Contingencies

COVID-19 has caused changes in how people vote across the country, as well as here in Iowa. Below are some possible contingencies that may arise. If you face a specific issue, contact the county auditor's office (info on front of the sheet).

## IF YOU HAVE REQUESTED A VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

### CHANGE HAPPENS BEFORE 10/5

This is before vote-by-mail (absentee) ballots will be mailed to the voters who have requested them up to that point,

- If you have already requested a vote-by-mail ballot to your Ames residence, you can simply submit a new request form with the address you will reside at after 10/5/2020. You must submit a new form because by law ballots cannot be forwarded (so including forwarding address to DOR at move out will not ensure the ballot reaches you).

### CHANGE HAPPENS BETWEEN 10/5 & 10/24

This is after vote-by-mail (absentee) ballots have been mailed but before request deadline.

- If you receive your ballot in the mail before departing, return it as soon as you can. Ballots must be postmarked by no later than the Monday before the election (11/2/20).

- By law, ballots cannot be forwarded, so if you have left your Ames residence before your ballot arrives and are unable to retrieve it from your mailbox, you can physically return to Ames to vote early or vote on election day.

### CHANGE HAPPENS BETWEEN 10/24 & ELECTION DAY

This is after vote-by-mail (absentee) request deadline has passed, but before election day.

- If you receive your ballot in the mail before departing, return it as soon as you can. Ballots must be postmarked by no later than the Monday before the election (11/2/20).

- If you have left your Ames residence before ballot arrives and are unable to retrieve it from your mailbox, you can physically return to Ames to vote early or vote on election day. This will be a "provisional vote" until it can be determined that your mail ballot was not voted. You do not have to do anything further.

## IF YOU HAVE NOT REQUESTED A VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

- If you have not yet requested a vote-by-mail ballot, you can do so until 10/24. Your "Iowa Residential Address" (#3 on form) will be your Ames address, and "Where Your Ballot Should Mailed" (#4 on form) will be the address you will reside at after 10/5/2020.

- If you have not yet requested a vote-by-mail ballot, you can do so until 10/24. Your "Iowa Residential Address" (#3 on form) will be your Ames address, and "Where Your Ballot Should Mailed" (#4 on form) will be the address you will reside at after 10/5/2020.

- The deadline to request a vote by mail ballot has passed. If you have not requested a ballot yet you will need to vote early or on election day in person.

## IF YOU ARE NOT VOTING BY MAIL

- If not voting by mail, physically return to Ames to vote early or vote on election day.

- See above.

- See above.