

1 Secretary of State

2

3 Adopted Permanent Rules Relating to Absentee Ballots; Optical
4 Scan Voting Systems

5

6 Rules as Adopted

7 8210.0200 ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION.

8 Subpart 1. [Unchanged.]

9 Subp. 2. Absentee ballot instruction. The following
10 instructions shall be printed on the absentee ballot application:

11 INSTRUCTIONS

12 1. In order to vote by absentee ballot you must be an
13 eligible voter, you must be a resident of the election precinct
14 indicated by your legal residence address on this application,
15 and you must not intend to abandon this residence prior to
16 election day. Please note that Minnesota law provides that it
17 is a felony to make a false or untrue statement in an
18 application for an absentee ballot, to apply for an absentee
19 ballot more than once in an election with the intent to cast an
20 illegal ballot, to exhibit a ballot marked by a person to
21 another person, or to violate an absentee ballot provision for
22 the purpose of casting an illegal vote in a precinct or to
23 assist anyone to cast an illegal vote.

24 2. Be sure to check the appropriate box indicating why you
25 are unable to go to your polling place on election day; these
26 are the only reasons that entitle you to vote by absentee ballot.

27 3. Be sure to give your correct legal residence address as
28 completely as possible, since this is used to verify your
29 precinct number.

30 4. Be sure to sign the application.

31 5. Return the completed application as soon as possible to
32 the county auditor or municipal clerk from whom you received it.

33 Remember:

34 1. You must indicate whether you are requesting ballots
35 for the primary or general election, or both.

1 2. Do not submit more than one application for each
2 election.

3 3. Your absentee ballots will be mailed or delivered to
4 you as soon as they are available.

5 Subp. 3. Postcard application. The absentee ballot
6 application may be printed as a postcard application or in any
7 other manner deemed appropriate by the auditor or municipal
8 clerk. If the application is printed as a postcard application,
9 it shall be printed in the following manner.

10 The postcard shall be white with black ink. The postcard
11 shall weigh not more than one ounce. The size shall be no
12 smaller than 3-1/2 inches by five inches and no larger than
13 6-1/8 inches by 11-1/2 inches. The postcard shall be at least
14 .007 inches thick.

15 8210.9910 ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION, SPECIFIED BY PART
16 8210.0200.

17 Absentee Ballot Application for
18 (print or type your name)

19
20 READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING

21
22 I hereby apply for absentee ballots for:

23
24 (Check one)

- 25 primary election
- 26 general election
- 27 primary and general election

28
29 I will need an absentee ballot for the following reason:

30
31 (Check one)

- 32 absence from precinct
- 33 illness or disability
- 34 religious discipline or observance of religious holiday
- 35 service as election judge in another precinct

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My legal residence address is:

.....

Street or Route No. Apt. No. Rural Box No.

.....

() City () Township County Zip

(check wichever is applicable)

Mail my absentee ballot to me at the following address:

.....

Street or Route No. Apt. No. Rural Box No.

.....

City or Township State Zip

Date

Legal signature

8230.4350 OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEMS

Subpart 1. to 4. [Unchanged.]

Subp. 5. Precinct counting equipment. Precinct counting systems that read ballots as they are inserted into the ballot box may not be used for a central counting center, except that one ballot counter may be supplied for up to ~~four~~ ten precincts with a combined total of fewer than ~~±7000~~ 1,500 registered voters. Separate prom packs must be used for each of the precincts. Except as provided in this subpart, at least one ballot counter must be supplied to each precinct.

If the ballot counter will be used to count ballots of only one precinct, machine-readable ballot configuration identification may be printed on each ballot card in place of the precinct name and identification required by subpart 2. A ballot configuration means a unique ballot format prepared for

1 use in one or more precincts in which all ballot information,
2 including offices and questions to be voted on, candidate names,
3 and rotation sequence, is identical.

4 If the locked ballot box cannot be detached from the ballot
5 counter, the number of ballot counters supplied to the precinct
6 must be sufficient so that the number of ballots expected to be
7 counted on any counter will be at least ten percent less than
8 the maximum capacity of the ballot box. The maximum capacity
9 must be determined on the basis of the size of the ballot to be
10 voted at the election.

11 The auditor or clerk must test each prom pack individually
12 and, after testing, seal it with a numbered seal. Each ballot
13 counter must be tested to ensure that the components are
14 operating properly. The election judges shall verify that the
15 ballot counter at the precinct has the correct seal number and
16 certify the seal number on the summary statement.

17 Before opening the polls, the election judges shall
18 initialize the ballot counter in accordance with the
19 manufacturer's instructions. The judges shall verify that the
20 initial counts for the voting positions are zero, that the
21 public counter is set at zero, and that the ballot positions and
22 other ballot information for each candidate and proposal printed
23 on the initial tape agree with those on the ballot cards.

24 If the ballot counter is programmed to return to the voter
25 a ballot having defects, the rejected ballot must be treated as
26 a spoiled ballot and a new ballot must be issued to the voter
27 after the spoiled ballot has been deposited in the spoiled
28 ballot container. The election judges shall read the error
29 message to the voter and may explain the conditions that cause a
30 ballot to be rejected, but the judges shall not examine the
31 voted ballot unless the voter requests assistance as provided in
32 Minnesota Statutes, section 204C.15.

33 If the ballot counter is programmed to return to the voter
34 a ballot having defects, no means of overriding the rejection
35 may be used that do not meet the conditions in items A to C.

36 A. The override must be protected against being

1 inadvertently activated.

2 B. The override must not allow more than one ballot
3 to be processed each time it is operated.

4 C. A message, to be initialed by the election judges
5 who activated the override, must be printed on the results tape
6 each time the override is operated.

7 As soon as voting has ended, the election judges shall
8 process any ballots in the auxiliary ballot box and then secure
9 the ballot counter against receiving any more ballots. The
10 election judges shall produce a printed record of results and
11 sign the certificate that is part of the printed record.

12 At a general election, after the ballot counter has been
13 secured against receiving additional ballots, the election
14 judges shall open the write-in compartment and count and record
15 on the summary statement the valid write-in votes.

16 One unbroken tape that includes the initial zero report at
17 the opening of the polls, messages printed during the hours of
18 voting, and the first printout of results must be certified to
19 the county canvassing board. In the event of equipment failure,
20 the election judges and any technicians working on the equipment
21 shall make entries on the tape of initials and time of
22 occurrence to indicate the points at which the equipment failed
23 and was returned to service. If the tape has been broken, the
24 election judges shall seal the parts together and sign over the
25 seal so that it cannot be broken without disturbing the
26 continuity of the signatures. Additional copies of the record
27 of results must be certified as required by the election
28 jurisdiction.

29 Subp. 6. and 7. [Unchanged.]