



Card Reader FAQ

How Card Readers Work

The INEC staff operating the Card Reader will scan the PVC of each voter to verify it is genuine before allowing the voter to get accredited. It takes an average of 10 to 20 seconds to authenticate a voter.

Question 10: How is the Card Reader programmed?

To prevent fraudulent use, the Card Reader is configured to work only on Election Days. In addition, the device is configured to specific polling units and cannot be used elsewhere without requiring reconfiguration by authorised INEC personnel.

Who operates the Card Reader at the Polling Unit?

An Assistant Presiding Officer (APO) at the polling unit has the responsibility to operate the Card Reader.

What happens if the Card Reader fails and cannot be replaced within the accreditation time?

The exercise will be repeated the following day rather than revert to manual accreditation.

What if the Card Reader verifies a voter's PVC but his/her fingerprints cannot be authenticated?

If a voter's PVC has been read and it is evident that he/she is the legitimate holder of the card, but the fingerprints cannot be authenticated (or he/she doesn't have fingers), the Presiding Officer of the voting point will complete an incident form and the voter will be accredited to vote. Party Agents and Observers would be there to witness to this.