

2020 Election Calendar

This calendar is intended to be a reference to significant dates in the election year. Efforts were made to ensure calendar complies with applicable law. If in any case the calendar conflicts with state or federal law, applicable laws control. For complete information regarding dates and deadlines, be sure to consult applicable law. Calendar is subject to change.

| Date | Event | Statutes |
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| September 25, 2019 | First day persons who will turn 18-years-old on or before November 3, 2020, may register to vote. | 7-5-180 |
| January 15, 2020 | Deadline to mail PPP absentee ballots to military and overseas citizens. | 7-15-405 |
| January 30 | Deadline to register to vote for PPP. By mail applications must be postmarked by this date. | 7-5-150 |
| January 30 | Deadline for county boards to have in-office absentee precinct fully operational for PPP. | 7-13-320(F) |
| February 22 | Last Saturday prior to PPP. SEC recommends holding absentee voting hours from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Particularly, if local volume is high. | |
| February 25 5:00 p.m. | Deadline to return absentee by mail application for PPP. Warning: voters should apply at least one week prior to election day to allow adequate mail time. Applying late puts voters at risk of being unable to return ballots by the deadline of 7:00 p.m. on election day. | 7-15-330 |
| February 28 5:00 p.m. | Deadline to vote absentee in person for PPP. | 7-15-330 |
| February 29 | Democratic PPP. Polls open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. | 7-11-20 |
| February 29 After 7:00 p.m. | Results available at scVOTES.gov . | |
| March 4 5:00 p.m. | Deadline for military and overseas citizens by mail ballot return. Ballot must be mailed no later than 7:00 p.m. on February 29 th . | 7-15-700 |
| March 5 before 1:00 p.m. | Deadline for county boards to hold provisional ballot hearing, canvass votes, and certify results for PPP. | 7-17-510 |
| March 6 10:00 a.m. | State Board of Canvassers meets to canvass votes and declare results of PPP. | 7-17-510 |
| March 10 | Latest possible date for political parties to publish first notice of county conventions (must be published three weeks prior to convention). | 7-9-70 |
| March 16 12:00 noon | Filing opens for all candidates seeking a political party nomination for the following offices in the 2020 General Election: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - U.S. Senate - U.S. House of Representatives - State Senate - State House of Representatives - multi-county district offices - Solicitor (Circuits 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16) - countywide and less than countywide offices | 7-11-15 7-11-210 7-11-220 |
| March 17 | Latest possible date for political parties to publish second notice of county conventions (must be published two weeks prior to convention). | 7-9-70 |
| March 30 12:00 noon | Deadline for sheriff and coroner candidates to file affidavit with the county party executive committee. | 17-5-130 23-11-110 |

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| March 30 12:00 noon | Candidate filing closes. | 7-11-15 |
| March 31 | Deadline for political parties to hold county conventions. | 7-9-70 |
| April 1 12:00 noon | Deadline for SEC and county boards to provide SICPP forms, filing fee receipts and filing fee checks to the appropriate state or county party executive committee. | 7-11-15 |
| April 6 12:00 noon | Deadline for political parties holding primaries to certify candidates to SEC/county boards of voter registration and elections. | 7-11-15 7-13-40 |
| April 9 12:00 noon | Deadline for county parties to file sheriff and coroner affidavits with county boards. | 23-11-110 |
| April 25 | Deadline to mail Primary absentee ballots to military and overseas citizens. | 7-15-650 7-15-680 |
| April 25 | Deadline for political parties to submit list of prospective poll managers for Primaries to county boards. | 7-13-72 |
| May 5 | Latest possible date for parties to publicly announce date of state convention (must be publicly announced at least 10 day prior to state convention). | 7-9-100 |
| May 8 5:00 p.m. | Deadline to register to vote in person for Primaries (unless county board holds weekend hours). | 7-5-150 |
| May 10 11:59 p.m. | Deadline to register to vote online or by fax or email for Primaries. | 7-5-155 7-5-185 |
| May 11 | Deadline to register to vote by mail for Primaries (must be postmarked by this date). | 7-5-155 |
| May 11 | Deadline for county boards to have in-office absentee precinct fully operational for Primaries. | 7-13-320(F) |
| May 15 | Deadline for political parties to hold state conventions. | 7-9-100 |
| June 5 5:00 p.m. | Deadline to apply for absentee by mail ballot for Primaries. Warning: voters should apply at least one week prior to election day to allow adequate mail time. Applying late puts voters at risk of being unable to return ballots by the deadline of 7:00 p.m. on election day. | 7-15-330 |
| June 6 | Last Saturday prior to Primaries. County boards must hold absentee voting hours from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. | |
| June 8 5:00 p.m. | Deadline to vote absentee in person for Primaries. | 7-15-330 |
| June 9 | Statewide Primaries. Polls open 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. | 7-13-40 7-13-60 |
| June 9 After 7:00 p.m. | Results available at scVOTES.gov. | |
| June 10 5:00 p.m. | Deadline for military and overseas citizens by mail ballot return. Ballot must be mailed no later than 7:00 p.m. on June 9th. | 7-15-700 |
| June 11 1:00 p.m. | Deadline for county boards to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold provisional ballot hearing. • Canvass votes. • Certify results. • Order any necessary runoffs and recounts for county-level offices. | 7-17-510 7-17-610 7-17-280 |
| June 12 10:00 a.m. | State Board of Canvassers meets to canvass votes, certify results and order any necessary runoffs and recounts for state-level offices. | 7-17-510 7-17-610 7-17-280 |

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| June 12 After SEC cert. | County boards may begin transmitting absentee by mail ballots for Runoff. | 7-15-370 |
| June 15 12:00 noon | Deadline for filing protest of Primary with appropriate county or state party executive committee. | 7-17-520 7-17-560 |
| June 18 | Protest hearings held by appropriate party executive committee | 7-17-530 7-17-570 |
| June 19 3:00 p.m. | Deadline for notice of appeal to the state party executive committee from decisions by county party executive committee | 7-17-540 |
| June 20 12:00 noon | Deadline for state party executive committee to hear appeals | 7-17-550 |
| June 23 | Primary Runoffs. Polls open 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. | 7-13-40 |
| June 23 After 7:00 p.m. | Results available at scVOTES.gov. | |
| June 24 5:00 p.m. | Deadline for military and overseas citizens by mail ballot return. Ballot must be mailed no later than 7:00 p.m. on June 23rd. | 7-15-700 |
| June 25 1:00 p.m. | Deadline for county boards to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold provisional ballot hearing • Canvass votes • Certify results • Order any necessary recounts for county-level offices | 7-17-510 7-17-280 |
| June 26 10:00 a.m. | State Board of Canvassers meets to canvass votes, certify results and order any necessary recounts for state-level offices. | 7-17-510 7-17-280 |
| June 26 | Deadline for Sheriff candidates to make fingerprints available to SLED for search of local, state, and federal files for any criminal record | 23-11-110 |
| June 29 12:00 noon | Deadline for filing protest of Runoff with appropriate county or state party executive committee | 7-17-520 7-17-560 |
| July 2 | Protest hearings held by appropriate party executive committee | 7-17-530 7-17-570 |
| July 3 3:00 p.m. | Deadline for notice of appeal to the state party executive committee from decisions by county party executive committee | 7-17-540 |
| July 4 12:00 noon | Deadline for state party executive committee to hear appeals | 7-17-550 |
| July 6 | Date on which number of signatures required for candidate petitions is determined. | 7-11-70 |
| July 15 12:00 noon | Deadline to submit petition to appropriate election official for name to be placed on General Election ballot. | 7-13-351 |
| August 17 12:00 noon | a) Deadline to check petitions and certify petition candidates. b) Deadline to certify referendum questions to the county election board to be placed on General Election ballot. c) Deadline for political parties to certify candidates to appropriate election office. Deadline for nonpartisan candidates to file and be certified for General Election ballot (actual filing deadlines for some non-partisan offices could differ according to local legislation). | 7-13-350 7-13-351 7-13-352 7-13-355 |
| September 8 12:00 noon | Deadline for political parties to certify candidates for President and Vice President. | 7-13-350(B) |
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| September 19 | Deadline to mail General Election absentee ballots to military and overseas citizens. | 7-15-406 |
| October 2 5:00 p.m. | Deadline to register to vote in person for General Election (unless county board holds weekend hours). | 7-5-150 |
| October 4 11:59 p.m. | Deadline to register to vote online or by fax or email for General Election. | 7-5-155 7-5-185 |
| October 5 | Deadline to register to vote by mail for General Election (must be postmarked by this date). | 7-5-155 |
| October 5 | Deadline for county boards to begin in-person absentee voting for General Election. | 7-13-320(F) H5305/R149 of 2020 |
| October 24 5:00 p.m. | Deadline to return by mail, email or fax the application for an absentee by mail ballot for the General Election. See exceptions under “October 30” below. Warning: Voters should apply at least two weeks prior to election day to allow adequate mail time. Applying late puts voters at risk of being unable to return ballots by the deadline of 7:00 p.m. on election day. | 7-15-330 H5305/R149 of 2020 |
| October 30 5:00 p.m. | Deadline for voter or Authorized Representative to appear in person to return application for absentee by mail ballot for General Election. Authorized Representative acts on behalf of a voter who is unable to go to the polls due to an illness or disability. Warning: voters should apply at least two weeks prior to election day to allow adequate mail time. Applying late puts voters at risk of being unable to return ballots by the deadline of 7:00 p.m. on election day. | 7-15-310 7-15-330 H5305/R149 of 2020 |
| October 31 | Last Saturday prior to General Election. County boards must hold in-person absentee voting hours from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. | |
| November 2 5:00 p.m. | Deadline to vote absentee in person for General Election. | 7-15-330 |
| November 3 | General Election. Polls open 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. | 7-13-10 7-13-60 |
| November 3 7:00 p.m. | Deadline for county board to receive absentee-by-mail ballots. See exception under “November 5” below. | 7-15-420 |
| November 3 After 7:00 p.m. | Results available at scVOTES.gov . | |
| November 5 5:00 p.m. | Deadline for county board to receive absentee-by-mail ballots from Military and Overseas Citizens. Ballot must be mailed no later than 7:00 p.m. on November 3rd. | 7-15-700 |
| November 6 1:00 p.m. | Deadline for county boards to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold provisional ballot hearing. • Canvass votes. • Certify results. Order any necessary recounts for county-level offices. | 7-17-10 7-17-280 |
| November 10 10:00 a.m. | State Board of Canvassers meets to canvass votes, certify results and order any necessary recounts for state-level offices. | 7-17-220 7-17-280 |
| November 11 12:00 noon | Deadline for filing protests of county-level offices with county boards. | 7-17-30 |
| November 15 12:00 noon | Deadline to file protests of federal, state or multi-county offices with the State Board of Canvassers. | 7-17-260 |

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| November 16 | Protest hearings held by county boards for countywide or less than countywide elections. | 7-17-50 |
| November 23 12:00 noon | a) Deadline to file appeal of county board decision to State Board of Canvassers. b) Deadline for county board to submit transcript of protest hearing to the State Board of Canvassers. | 7-17-50 7-17-60 |
| December 7 12:00 noon | Latest possible date for State Board to hear appeals. Appeals must be heard not later than noon, 14 days following filing of appeal. | 7-17-70 |
| December 10 | Latest possible date for State Board to hear a protest of a federal, state or multi-county office. Protests must be heard not earlier than the fifth nor later than the 25 th day following filing of the protest. | 7-17-270 |