



2025 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY AND GENERAL

ELECTION CALENDAR

Montana Secretary of State

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2025																											
January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1							1			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30					
													30	31													
May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4						1			1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31								
													30														

2025

ACTIVITIES

Note: Some activities are only completed if a municipal primary election is held.

DEADLINE

REFERENCE

(MCA/ARM)

DEADLINE	ACTIVITIES	REFERENCE
Thursday, April 17	Candidate filing opens – 8:00 a.m.	No sooner than 145 days before the election 13-10-201(7)
Monday, June 16	Candidate filing closes – 5:00 p.m. DEADLINE	85 days before the election 13-10-201(7)
	5:00 p.m. – Deadline for candidates to withdraw primary election candidacy	No later than filing deadline 13-10-325(1)(b)
Within 5 days of filing for office	Candidates must file required campaign paperwork with the Commissioner of Political Practices (http://politicalpractices.mt.gov/) to appear on the ballot.	Within 5 days of becoming a candidate 13-37-126 13-37-201
Monday, June 23*	By this date, the Commissioner of Political Practices shall by written statement notify the election administrator conducting an election when a candidate or a candidate's treasurer has not complied with the provisions 13-37-126 and that the candidate's name may not appear on the official ballot.	No later than 5 days after the candidate filing deadline 13-37-126(5)(c)(i) *Postponement due to holiday 1-1-307
Thursday, June 26	Election administrators determine whether nonpartisan primary elections and parties' primary elections need to be held, then immediately notify the governing body. Deadline for the governing body to decide that a nonpartisan primary must be held if the election administrator determines the election need not be held	13-10-209 13-14-115(2)(d) Not more than 10 days after the close of filing 13-14-115(3)
Monday, July 7*	5:00 p.m. – Deadline for write-in candidates to file a Declaration of Intent for the primary election	By 5:00 p.m. on the 65 th day before the election 13-1-403(2) *Postponement due to holiday 1-1-307

<p>Friday, July 11</p>	<p>Deadline for the Secretary of State to receive a written mail ballot plan, timetable, and instructions from a county election administrator planning to conduct a municipal primary election by mail ballot</p>	<p>At least 60 days prior to the date set for the election 13-19-205(1)</p>
<p>Monday, July 14</p>	<p>Starting not earlier than this date, election administrators must publish notice specifying the day regular voter registration for the primary election will close and the availability of late registration (<i>three times in the four weeks preceding close of regular registration</i>).</p>	<p>In the four weeks preceding the close of registration 13-2-301(1)(b)</p>
<p>Thursday, July 31 – Saturday, August 30</p>	<p>Election administrators must publish notice of the primary election three times. (<i>If the newspaper of general circulation is weekly, notice may be published two times.</i>)</p>	<p>No earlier than 40 days and no later than 10 days before the election 13-1-108(1)</p>
<p>Monday, August 11*</p>	<p>5:00 p.m. – Deadline for candidates to WITHDRAW from general election candidacy</p>	<p>85 days before a general election 13-10-327(2) *Postponement due to holiday 1-1-307</p>
	<p>Close of primary election regular registration (<i>registration forms postmarked by this date and received within 3 days are accepted for regular registration</i>)</p>	<p>30 days before any election 13-2-301</p>
	<p>Beginning of period during which election administrators publicly test and certify that each voting machine used in an election is performing properly before the primary election</p>	<p>No more than 30 days prior to an election in which a voting system is used 13-37-212</p>
	<p>Date primary election absentee ballots must be available for in-person voting if the election is conducted as a polling place election</p>	<p>30 days prior to election day 13-13-205</p>

Tuesday, August 12	Late Registration begins – Primary Election	After the close of regular registration 13-2-304
Thursday, August 14	Registration forms postmarked by August 11 and received by this date are accepted for regular registration (primary election).	3 days after regular registration is closed 13-2-301(3)
Wednesday, August 20 – Monday, August 25	If conducting a mail ballot election, ballots are sent during this period. A single mailing date must be chosen that is 20-15 days before election (primary election).	No sooner than the 20 th day and no later than the 15 th day before election day 13-19-207(1)
Saturday, August 30 – Sunday, September 7	Election administrators must publish a diagram showing the voting system and a sample of the ballot layout, a statement of the locations where voting systems used by voters are on public exhibition, and instructions on how to vote (primary election).	Not more than 10 or less than 2 days before an election 13-17-203(1)
Saturday, August 30 – Friday, September 5	Election administrators must publish locations of the precinct polling places, including accessibility designations for each polling place (primary election).	Not more than 10 days or less than 2 business days before an election 13-3-105(2) 13-3-207
Tuesday, September 2*	5:00 p.m. Deadline for write-in candidates to file a Declaration of Intent for the general election	By 5:00 p.m. on the 65 th day before the general election 13-1-403(2) *Postponement due to holiday 1-1-307
Thursday, September 4	Election administrators may at their option, if the county qualifies, conduct early preparation of absentee ballots as provided in statute and administrative rule (primary election).	No sooner than 3 business days before election day 13-13-241(7)(8) 44.3.2204

Friday, September 5	Deadline for the Secretary of State to receive a written mail ballot plan, timetable, and instructions from a county election administrator planning to conduct a municipal general election by mail ballot	60 days prior to the date set for the election 13-19-205
	Beginning of period for printing primary election precinct register(s)	No sooner than the Friday before the election 13-2-116(1)
	After 5:00 p.m. – Beginning of period for qualified electors who are prevented from voting at the polls due to an illness or health emergency, occurring between 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election and 8:00 p.m. on election day, to request to vote in the primary election by special absentee ballot	5:00 p.m. of the Friday preceding the election 13-13-211(2) 13-13-212(2)
Monday, September 8	Noon - Deadline for application to be made for a primary election absentee ballot Noon - Absentee ballots are issued to late registrants up until this time on the day before election day; late registrants who submit a registration form after noon must return to the election office or other location designated by the election administrator on election day to receive an absentee ballot (primary election).	Before noon on the day before the election* 13-13-211(1) ; 13-2-304 *Modified by court ruling to have late registration end at 8:00 p.m. on election day
Monday, September 8* (General Election)	Starting not earlier than this date, election administrators must publish notices specifying the day regular voter registration for the general election will close (October 6) and the availability of late registration (<i>three times in the four weeks preceding the close of regular registration</i>).	In the 4 weeks preceding the close of registration 13-2-301(1)(b) *Postponement due to holiday 1-1-307

Tuesday, September 9	MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION	The Tuesday following the second Monday in September 13-1-107(2)
	Election administrators or designees must randomly test and certify 10% of each type of voting system (<i>a minimum of one per county</i>), to validate the accuracy of voted paper ballots with the voting system results.	Election day 44.3.1713
	8:00 p.m. - End of late registration (<i>or when all individuals in line at 8:00 p.m. have registered</i>)	Election day 13-2-304 *Modified by court ruling to have late registration end at 8:00 p.m. on election day
Wednesday, September 10 – Monday, September 15	Period during which election administrators may open a package containing a precinct register to resolve provisional ballots (primary election)	After election until all provisional ballots have been resolved and before the canvass 13-15-301(2) 13-15-107(7)(b)
Monday, September 15	3:00 p.m. – Deadline for election administrators to receive Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWABs) that were sent by absent military and overseas electors by 8:00 p.m. on election day (primary election)	The Monday following the election 13-21-206(1)(c)
	3:00 p.m. – Counting of provisional ballots that are not resolved by the end of election day may not begin prior to this date and time (primary election).	The sixth day after the election 13-15-107(8)
Tuesday, September 23 (Primary Election)	By this date the Primary Election Canvass must be completed – The board declares nominated the individuals having received the highest number of votes cast for each office and proclaims adoption or rejection of ballot issues.	Within 14 days after each election 13-15-401 13-15-405
Thursday, September 25 – Saturday, October 25	Election administrators publish notice of the general election 3 times. (<i>If the newspaper of general circulation is weekly, notice may be published 2 times.</i>)	No earlier than 40 days and no later than 10 days before the election 13-1-108

Within 5 days of official canvass certification (Primary Election)	Deadline for candidates to initiate contest of primary election nomination	Five days or less after a candidate has been certified 13-36-102(1)
	Deadline for unsuccessful primary election candidates to apply for a recount (if applicable)	Within 5 days after the official canvass 13-16-201 13-16-301
Within 10 days of official canvass (Primary Election)	Deadline for successful primary election write-in nominees to file a written Declaration of Acceptance	No later than 10 days after the official canvass 13-10-204
Tuesday, September 30	The Commissioner of Political Practices shall by written statement notify the election administrator conducting an election when a candidate or a candidate's treasurer has not complied with the provisions of 13-37-126 and that the candidate's name may not appear on the official ballot.	No later than September 30 13-37-126(5)(c)(ii)
Monday, October 6*	Date general election absentee ballots must be available for in-person voting if the election is conducted as a polling place election	30 days prior to election day 13-13-205 *Postponement due to holiday 1-1-307
	Close of regular voter registration for general election (Registration forms postmarked by this date and received within 3 days are accepted for regular registration.)	30 days before any election 13-2-301
	Beginning of period during which election administrators publicly test and certify that each voting machine used in an election is performing properly before the election	No more than 30 days prior to election 13-17-212
Tuesday, October 7	Late Registration begins – General Election.	After the close of regular registration 13-2-304

Thursday, October 9	Registration forms postmarked by October 6 and received by this date are accepted for regular registration.	3 days after regular registration is closed 13-2-301(3)
Wednesday, October 15 – Monday, October 20	If conducting a mail ballot election, ballots are sent during this period. A single mailing date must be chosen that is 20-15 days before the election.	No sooner than the 20th day and no later than the 15th day before election day 13-19-207(1)
Saturday, October 25 – Sunday, November 2	Election administrators must publish a diagram showing the voting system and a sample of the ballot layout, a statement of the locations where voting systems to be used by voters are on public exhibition, and instructions on how to vote.	Not more than 10 or less than 2 days before an election 13-17-203
Saturday, October 25 – Friday, October 31	Election administrators must publish locations of the precinct polling places, including accessibility designations for each polling place.	Not more than 10 days or less than 2 business days before an election 13-3-105(2) 13-3-207
Thursday, October 30	Early preparation of absentee ballots optional for counties that qualify (For counties that do not qualify, ballot preparation may not begin sooner than one day before the election.)	No sooner than 3 business days before election day 13-13-241(7)(8) 44.3.2204
Friday, October 31	Beginning of period for printing of general election precinct register(s)	No sooner than the Friday before each election 13-2-116(1)
	After 5:00 p.m. – Beginning of period for qualified electors who are prevented from voting at the polls due to illness or health emergency, occurring between 5:00 p.m. of the Friday before the election and 8:00 p.m. on election day, to request to vote by special absentee ballot	Between 5:00 p.m. of the Friday preceding the election and before the close of polls on election day 13-13-211(2) 13-13-212(2)

<p>Monday, November 3</p>	<p>Noon - Deadline for application to be made for a general election absentee ballot</p> <p>Noon - Absentee ballots are issued to late registrants until noon on the day before election day; late registrants who submit a registration form after noon must return to the election office on election day to receive an absentee ballot (general election).</p>	<p>Before noon on the day before the election*</p> <p>13-13-211(1); 13-2-304</p> <p>*Modified by court ruling to have late registration end at 8:00 p.m. on election day</p>
<p>Tuesday, November 4</p>	<p>MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION</p>	<p>First Tuesday after the first Monday in November</p> <p>13-1-104(3a)</p>
	<p>Election administrators or designees must randomly test and certify 10% of each type of voting system (<i>a minimum of one per county</i>), to validate the accuracy of voted paper ballots with the voting system results.</p>	<p>Election day</p> <p>44.3.1713(1)(f)</p>
	<p>8:00 p.m. - End of late registration (<i>or when all individuals in line at 8:00 p.m. have registered</i>)</p>	<p>Election day</p> <p>13-2-304</p> <p>*Modified by court ruling to have late registration end at 8:00 p.m. on election day</p>
<p>Wednesday, November 5 – Monday, November 10</p>	<p>Period during which election administrators may open a package containing a precinct register to resolve provisional ballots</p>	<p>After election until provisional ballots have been resolved before the canvass</p> <p>13-15-301(2) 13-15-107(7)(b)</p>
<p>Monday, November 10</p>	<p>3:00 p.m. – Deadline for election administrators to receive Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWABs) that were sent by absent military and overseas electors by 8:00 p.m. on election day</p>	<p>The Monday following the election</p> <p>13-21-206(1)(c)</p>
	<p>3:00 p.m. – Counting of provisional ballots that are not resolved by the end of election day may not begin prior to this date and time.</p>	<p>Sixth day after the election</p> <p>13-15-107(8)</p>

After Election	The commissioner must, by written statement, notify the public official responsible for issuing a certificate of nomination or election that a candidate or the candidate's treasurer has complied with provisions of 13-37-126 and that a certificate of nomination or election may be issued.	After Election 13-37-127
Tuesday, November 18	General Election Canvass completed – Board declares elected the individuals having received the highest number of votes cast for each office and proclaims adoption or rejection of ballot issues.	Within 14 days after election 13-15-401 13-15-405
Within 5 days of official canvass	Deadline for unsuccessful general election candidates to apply for a recount, if applicable	Within 5 days after the canvass 13-16-201 13-16-301
Within 10 days of official canvass	Deadline for successful general election write-in candidates to file a written Declaration of Acceptance	Not later than 10 days after the official canvass 13-15-111

Voter Information

My Voter Page

Visit the Secretary of State’s webpage at sosmt.gov or the [My Voter Page](#):

- Check your voter registration and absentee status.
- Find your polling place*, including a map with directions to the polling place.

**The polling place listed is for statewide primary/general election. Contact your County Election Administrator to verify polling locations for Municipal Elections.*

Filing for Office

- A candidate may not file for more than one public office except as outlined in [7-1-205](#), MCA.
- Individuals cannot file for nonpartisan offices as independent candidates or as political party candidates.

Late Registration

- An elector may register or change their voter registration information after the close of regular registration by appearing at the county election office or designated location by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- Absent military and overseas electors are eligible for late registration, go to <https://sosmt.gov/elections/military-overseas/> for detailed information.

Polling Places

- Polls must be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If a polling place has fewer than 400 registered polling place voters, it must open from at least noon to 8:00 p.m. or until all registered voters in any precinct have voted. ([13-1-106](#), MCA). Contact your [county election office](#) for polling location and hours.

Accepted forms of identification (ID) at the polling place

- All voters must present ID when voting at the polling place.
- ID can be any **current** photo ID with the voter's name, or if photo ID is not available, a **current** utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, notice of confirmation of voter registration, government check or other government document that shows the voter's name and **current** address. More detailed information can be found at votemt.gov/voter-identification/.

Provisional Ballots

- Voters whose eligibility or identity cannot be determined are allowed to vote a provisional ballot.
- Proof of registration or required identification must be provided to the county election office by 5:00 p.m. the day after the election or mailed to the county election office by the day after the election and received by 3 p.m. on the sixth day after the election.
- Pursuant to [13-15-107](#), MCA, counting provisional ballots that are not resolved by the end of election day may not begin prior to 3:00 p.m. the sixth day after the election.
- Election officials shall notify each elector who cast a provisional ballot, by the most expedient means possible, whether the elector's ballot was counted, and the reason(s) why or why not.

Additional Voter Resources

- Contact the [county election office](#) directly or Secretary of State at soselections@mt.gov or visit sosmt.gov.