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Important Election Dates

IN-PERSON SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE OF THE TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE HAVE MOVED TO 400 W. 15TH STREET. [PARKING DETAILS AND MORE INFORMATION](#)

Apostille/Authentication services now available by appointment on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Walk-in service available Mondays and Fridays. [More Information](#)

Election Notice: [Election Night Returns](#)

Texas Secretary of State
Jane Nelson

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Note - Navigational menus along with other non-content related elements have been removed for your convenience. Thank you for visiting us online.

Important Election Dates

2026

Important 2026 Election Dates

Longer calendars are on the Conducting Your Elections pages when available.	
Tuesday, March 3, 2026 - Primary Election	
First day to file for a place on the Primary ballot for precinct chair candidates.	Tuesday, September 9, 2025
First day to file for all other candidates for offices that are regularly scheduled to be on the Primary ballot; first day for independent candidates to file declaration of intent.	Saturday, November 8, 2025
Filing deadline for primary candidates; filing deadline for independent candidates to file declaration of intent.	Monday, December 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM
First day to apply for a ballot by mail using Application for a Ballot by Mail (ABBM) or Federal Postcard Application (FPCA).	Thursday, January 1, 2026* *First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday. An "Annual ABBM" or FPCA for a January or February 2026 election may be filed

<https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/important-election-dates.shtml>

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	earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.
Last Day to Register to Vote	Monday, February 2, 2026
First Day of Early Voting	Tuesday, February 17, 2026* *First business day after President's Day
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received , not Postmarked)	Friday, February 20, 2026
Last Day of Early Voting	Friday, February 27, 2026
Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, March 3, 2026 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is not postmarked, OR Wednesday, March 4, 2026 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) ⁴

Saturday, May 2, 2026 – Uniform Election Date (Limited)

Authority Conducting Elections	Local Non-County Political Subdivisions (County-ordered elections may not be held on this date. County Election Official may, but is not required to, contract to provide election services to political subdivisions holding elections on this date.)
Deadline to post candidate requirements ⁵ <u>Form 1-20</u>	Friday, May 2, 2025
Deadline to Post Notice of Candidate Filing Deadline (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only) ¹	Monday, December 15, 2025
First Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail	Thursday, January 1, 2026* <i>*First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday. An "Annual ABBM" or FPCA for a January or February 2026 election may be filed earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.</i>
Last Day for Candidates Planning to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only) to Register to Vote or Update Voter Registration	Tuesday, January 13, 2026

First Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only) ¹	Wednesday, January 14, 2026
Last Day to Order General Election or Special Election on a Measure	Friday, February 13, 2026
Last Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only) ²	Friday, February 13, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. See note below relating to four-year terms ³
Last Day to File a Declaration of Write-in Candidacy (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only)	Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.
Last Day to Register to Vote	Thursday, April 2, 2026
First Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Monday, April 20, 2026
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, not Postmarked)	Monday, April 20, 2026 (deadline falls on San Jacinto Day, moves to preceding business day)
Last Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Tuesday, April 28, 2026
Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Saturday, May 2, 2026 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is not postmarked, OR Monday, May 4, 2026 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) ⁴

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 – Primary Runoff Election

First day to apply for a ballot by mail using Application for a Ballot by Mail (ABBM) or Federal Postcard Application (FPCA)	Thursday, January 1, 2026* <i>*First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday. An "Annual ABBM" or FPCA for a January or February 2026 election may be filed earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.</i>
Last Day to Register to Vote	Monday, April 27, 2026
Last Day to Apply by Mail (Received, not Postmarked)	Friday, May 15, 2026
First Day of Early Voting	Monday, May 18, 2026
Last Day of Early Voting	Friday, May 22, 2026

Last Day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, May 26, 2026 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is not postmarked, OR Wednesday, May 27, 2026 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) ⁴
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Tuesday, November 3, 2026 - Uniform Election Date	
Deadline to post candidate requirements ⁵ Form 1-20	Monday, November 3, 2025
First Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail	Thursday, January 1, 2026* <i>*First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday. An "Annual ABBM" or FPCA for a January or February 2026 election may be filed earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.</i>
Deadline to Post Notice of Candidate Filing Deadline (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only)	Thursday, June 18, 2026 for local political subdivisions that have a first day to file for their candidates ¹
Last Day for Candidates Planning to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only) to Register to Vote or Update Voter Registration	Friday, July 17, 2026
First Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only) ¹	Saturday, July 18, 2026
First Day to File a Declaration of Write-in Candidacy (General Election for State and County Officers)	Saturday, July 18, 2026
Last Day to Order General Election or Special Election on a Measure	Monday, August 17, 2026
Last Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only) ²	Monday, August 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. See note below relating to four-year terms ³
Last Day to File a Declaration of Write-in Candidacy (General Election for State and County Officers)	Monday, August 17, 2026
Last Day to File a Declaration of Write-in Candidacy (Local Non-County Political Subdivisions Only)	Friday, August 21, 2026

Last Day to Register to Vote	Monday, October 5, 2026
First Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Monday, October 19, 2026
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, not Postmarked)	Friday, October 23, 2026
Last Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Friday, October 30, 2026
Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, November 3, 2026 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is not postmarked, OR Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) ⁴

¹ For the few entities who do not have a first day to file: For the May 2, 2026 election, Wednesday, January 14, 2026 is the deadline to post notice of candidate filing deadline for local political subdivisions that do not have a first day to file for their candidates. For the November 3, 2026 election, Saturday, July 18, 2026 is the deadline to post notice of candidate filing deadline for local political subdivisions that do not have a first day to file for their candidates. See Section 141.040(a)(2) of the Election Code.

Local political subdivisions include: cities, school districts, water districts, hospital districts, and any other local government entity that conducts elections. Many of these elections are conducted on the May uniform election date.

² Filing deadlines: generally, the filing deadline is the 78th day prior to Election Day. The Election Code may provide a different special election filing deadline. See Section 201.054 of the Texas Election Code (the "Code"). Write-in deadlines for general and special elections vary. See the long calendar for this election date for details. The write-in deadline for most local (city, school, other) **special elections** is now the same day as the filing deadline for application for a place on the ballot. Section 201.054.

³ If no candidate for a **four-year term** has filed an application for a place on the ballot for a **city office**, the filing deadline for that office is extended to 5 p.m. of the 57th day before the election. For the May 2, 2026 election, this is Friday, March 6, 2026. See Section 143.008 of the Election Code.

⁴ Different deadlines apply to the last day to receive ballots sent by the following: 1) non-military and military voters who mailed ballots from overseas and submitted a regular state Application for Ballot by Mail ("ABBM"), 2) non-military voters who mailed ballots from overseas and who submitted a Federal Postcard Application ("FPCA"), and (3) military voters and members of the Texas National Guard, who mailed ballots domestically or from overseas and who submitted an FPCA. See Secs. 86.007, 101.001 and 101.057 of the Election Code.

⁵ Section 2051.152 of the Government Code requires all political subdivisions with the authority to impose a tax maintain a publically accessible Internet website and post the date and location of the next election for officers of the political subdivision and the requirements and deadline for filing for candidacy of each elected office of the political subdivision, which shall be continuously posted for at least one year before the election day for the office.

Please contact the Elections Division of the Office of the Texas Secretary of State at 1-800-252-VOTE (8683) for additional information.