2018

Dec. 13 Last day for local option petitions to send to Division of Liquor Control... R.C. 3501.35, 4509.14

(35 days before Feb. 6, 2019 deadline for filing petitions for May 7, 2019 primary election)

2019

Jan. 1 Applications for absentee ballots for 2019 elections may be accepted (first day of the year)...... R.C. 3509.03, 3517.02

Jan. 7 Last day for local option petitions seeking to send at a community facility to send to Division of Liquor Control... R.C. 3501.34, 4509.14

(30 days before Feb. 6, 2019 deadline for filing petitions for May 7, 2019 primary election)

Jan. 19 Secretary of State and boards of elections must send notice to candidates required to file annual campaign finance reports...... R.C. 3501.27, 4509.14

Jan. 27 Boards of elections must prepare and publish notices of the May 7 primary/special election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 100 days before primary/special election)...... R.C. 3511.11

Feb. 6 Constitutional amendments proposed by joint resolution of the General Assembly must be filed with Secretary of State (90 days before primary/special election)...... Ohio Const., XV, 61

Declarations of candidacy for partisan candidates must be filed by 4 p.m. (90 days before primary election)...... R.C. 3511.14

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March 26 Local questions and issues for May 7 primary/special election, including local option petitions, must be certified to or filed with boards of elections by 4 p.m. (90 days before primary/special election)......

April 26 April 26

April 8 Deadline for voter registration for May 7 primary/special election (30 days before primary election)...... R.C. 3501.13(B), 4509.19

April 9 Last day for local option and challenges to precinct registration lists to be published (30 days before primary election)...... R.C. 3509.24

April 9 Non-UOCAVA absentee ballots for May 7 primary/special election must be received (first day after close of voter registration)...... R.C. 3509.07

April 15 Secretary of State and boards of elections must send notice to candidates required to file pre-primary campaign finance reports...... R.C. 3501.35, 4509.14

April 17 Committees advocating or opposing issues on May 7 primary/special election ballot must file by 4 p.m. to be recognized as a committee to appoint observers...... R.C. 3509.23

April 20 (20 days before primary/special election)

April 20 Boards of elections must prepare precinct voter registration lists (14 days required before primary election)...... R.C. 3509.23

April 26 Deadline for political parties, groups of candidates and issue committees to file notice of observer appointments (11 days before primary/special election)...... R.C. 3509.25

April 27 Boards of elections must give public notice of election (10 days before primary/special election)...... R.C. 3503.07

April 28 Boards of elections must prepare and publish notices of the Aug. 6 special election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 100 days before primary/special election)...... R.C. 3511.16

April 29* (74 days before primary/special election)

April 29 Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of candidate whose name is on May 7 primary election ballot in more than one county must be filed by 4 p.m. (10 days before primary election)...... R.C. 3513.10

May 2 Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of candidate whose name is on the May 7 primary election ballot in only one county must be filed by 4 p.m. (5 days before primary election)...... R.C. 3513.30

May 4 Applications for absentee ballots to be mailed for May 7 primary/special election must be received by boards of elections by noon (7 days before primary/special election)...... R.C. 3509.04, 4509.19

May 6 Nominating petitions of independent candidates for offices for which a primary election may be held must be filed by 4 p.m. (day before primary election)...... R.C. 3513.25

Amendments to observer appointments must be filed by 4 p.m. (day before primary/special election)...... R.C. 3509.25

May 7 Primary/Special Election Day. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. (no later than primary day)

If voter, or voter’s minor child, is hospitalized because of accident or medical emergency, voter may apply for an absentee ballot until 3 p.m. unless otherwise provided by law

Absentee ballots, returned in person or via a method other than U.S. Mail, must be received by the boards of elections by close of polls...... R.C. 3509.04, 3517.02

May 8 Local questions and issues for Aug. 6 special election must be certified to or filed with boards of elections by 4 p.m. (90 days before special election)...... R.C. 3509.36

May 17 Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked no later than May 6 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after primary/special election)...... R.C. 3509.05, 4509.14

UOCAVA absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after primary/special election)...... R.C. 3513.22

May 18 Boards of elections must begin official canvass of May 7 primary/special election ballots no later than this date (15 days after primary/special election)...... R.C. 3513.22

May 22 Boards of elections must complete official canvass of May 7 primary/special election ballots no later than this date (21 days after primary/special election)...... R.C. 3513.22

June 4 Secretary of State and boards of elections must send notice to candidates required to file post primary campaign finance reports...... R.C. 3509.25

June 4 Boards of elections must schedule a program for instruction of precinct election officials (within 60 days before primary election)...... R.C. 3517.11

June 12 Last day for local option petitioners to send to Division of Liquor Control (55 days before Aug. 7 deadline for filing petitions for Nov. 5 general election)...... R.C. 3509.33, 4509.14

June 15 Boards of elections of most populous county of a district located in more than one county must transmit petitions of independent candidates to other boards of elections...... R.C. 3513.16

June 21 UOCAVA absentee ballots for Aug. 6 special election must be ready by 4 p.m. (6 days before special election)...... R.C. 3509.24

June 21 Boards of elections must update and publish notices of Aug. 6 special election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 46 days before special election)...... R.C. 3511.18

June 25 Boards of elections must advertise in newspaper(s) the places, dates, times, qualifications, and methods for voter registration (6 weeks before special election)...... R.C. 3509.32

July 3 Constitutional amendments or statutes proposed by initiative petitions submitted directly to the voters must be filed with Secretary of State (125 days before general election)...... Off Const., § 5516.10

July 7 May 7 primary/special election ballot, except for federal office, may be discarded unless ordered held by a court or the Secretary of State (61 days after primary/special election)

July 8 Last day for local option petitioners seeking to send at a community facility to send to Division of Liquor Control...... R.C. 3509.3D, 4509.7079

(30 days before Aug. 7, 2019 deadline for filing petitions for Nov. 5, 2019 general election)

July 8* Deadline for voter registration for Aug. 6 special election (30 days before special election)...... R.C. 3509.19

Deadline to file corrections and challenges to precinct registration lists (30 days before special election)...... R.C. 3509.24

Non-UOCAVA absentee ballots for Aug. 6 special election must be ready (first day after close of voter registration)...... R.C. 3513.22

July 15 Boards of elections must certify petitions of independent candidates...... R.C. 3513.22

July 17 Committees advocating or opposing issues on Aug. 6 special election ballot must be filed by 4 p.m. to be recognized as a committee to appoint observers...... R.C. 3509.23

July 19 Secretary of State and boards of elections must send notice to candidates required to file semianual campaign finance reports...... R.C. 3501.35, 4509.14

July 23 Boards of elections must prepare precinct voter registration lists (14 days before special election)...... R.C. 3509.23

July 26 Deadline for political parties, groups of candidates and issue committees to file notice of observer appointments (11 days before special election)...... R.C. 3509.25

July 26 Boards of elections must give public notice of Aug. 6 special election (10 days before special election)...... R.C. 3503.07

July 28 Boards of elections must prepare and publish notices of the Nov. 5 general election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 100 days before general election)...... R.C. 3511.16

July 30 Protests against independent candidates nominated by petition must be filed by 4 p.m. (no later than 100 days before general election)

Aug 3 Applications for absentee ballots must be mailed for Aug. 6 special election (3 days before special election)...... R.C. 3509.05, 4509.14

Applications must be received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (3 days before special election)...... R.C. 3509.24

Aug 5 Amendments to observer appointments must be filed by 4 p.m. (day before special election)...... R.C. 3509.24

Aug 8 Boards of elections must submit verification forms of handicapped accessible parking and handicapped accessible polling locations to the Secretary of State’s Office (no later than day before special election)...... R.C. 3509.29

*Note: In some instances, the statutory deadline falls on a day when the offices of the Secretary of State and boards of elections are closed. In those instances, the deadlines are extended pursuant to R.C. 1.14 to the next succeeding day when the appropriate office is open for regular business hours. The preceding dates reflect the extended deadline.

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2019 Ohio Elections Calendar

Aug. 6
Special Election may be held. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 7
Constitutional amendments proposed by joint resolution of the General Assembly must be filed with Secretary of State (90 days before general election).

Aug. 12
Political party or independent candidate nominating committees must certify name of person to fill vacancy on ballot caused by withdrawal or disqualification of candidate by 4 p.m. (68 days before general election).

Aug. 16
Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked no later than Aug. 5 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after special election).

Aug. 17
Board of elections may begin official canvass of Aug. 6 special election ballots (1 day after special election).

Aug. 19
Boards of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of candidates’ petitions in nonpartisan races (78 days before general election).

Aug. 20
Board of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of local option petitions (78 days before general election).

Aug. 21
Boards of elections must begin official canvass of Aug. 6 special election ballots no later than this date (15 days after special election).

Aug. 23
Protests against candidates for nonpartisan office must be filed by this date (74 days before general election).

Aug. 26
Write-in candidates for Nov. 5 general election must file declarations of intent by 4 p.m. (72 days before general election).

Aug. 27
Boards of elections must complete canvass of Aug. 6 special election ballots no later than this date (74 days before general election).

Aug. 30
Protests against write-in candidates must be filed by 4 p.m. (67 days before general election).

Sep. 6
Board of election must send a list of precinct officials to newly elected judges or board members of the board of elections.

Sep. 17
Board of elections must open official canvass of Aug. 6 special election ballots (1 day after special election).

Sep. 20
UOCAVA absentee ballots for Aug. 6 special election must be received by boards of elections by this date (46 days before general election).

Sep. 21
Boards of elections must update and publish notices of Nov. 5 general election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 46 days before general election).

Sep. 24
Board of elections must deliver in person, or in newspaper(s) the places, dates, times, qualifications, and methods for voter registration (6 weeks before general election).

Oct. 4
Aug. 6 special election ballots may be discarded, unless ordered held by a court or the Secretary of State (11 days before general election).

Oct. 5
Deadline for voter registration for Nov. 5 general election.

Oct. 6
Deadline for voter registration for Nov. 5 general election.

Oct. 7
Secretary of State and boards of elections must send notice to candidates required to file pre-general campaign finance reports.

Oct. 17
Last day for local option petitioners to send street listing to Division of Liquor Control (55 days before Dec. 11, 2019 deadline for filing petitions for March 10, 2020 primary election).

Oct. 22
Boards of elections must prepare preprint voter registration lists (14 days before general election).

Oct. 25
Deadline for political parties, groups of candidates and issue committees to file notice of observer appointments (11 days before general election).

Oct. 26
Boards of elections must file data requests to Secretary of State for voter lists (7 days before general election).

Oct. 28
Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of candidate nominated at primary election whose name is on ballot in more than one county must be filed by 4 p.m. (10 days before general election).

Oct. 31
Certificate to fill vacancy on ballot caused by death of independent or nonpartisan candidate prior to Oct. 26 (10 days before general election) must be filed by 4 p.m. (5 days before general election).

Nov. 5
General Election Day. Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 15
Absentee ballots returned by U.S. Mail must be postmarked no later than Nov. 4 and received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after general election).

Nov. 16
UOCAVA absentee ballots must be received by boards of elections by this date to be counted (10 days after general election).

Nov. 18
Boards of elections may begin official canvass of Nov. 5 general election ballots (11 days after general election).

Nov. 20
Boards of elections must begin official canvass of Nov. 5 general election ballots no later than this date (15 days after general election).

Nov. 26
Boards of elections must complete canvass of Nov. 5 general election ballots no later than this date (21 days after general election).

Dec. 3
Secretary of State and boards of elections must send notice to candidates required to file post-general campaign finance reports.

Dec. 8
Boards of elections must prepare and publish notices of March 17, 2020 presidential primary election and provide the notices to federal write-in absentee voters upon request (no later than 108 days before presidential primary election).

Dec. 18
Constitutional amendments proposed by joint resolution of the General Assembly must be filed with Secretary of State (90 days before presidential primary election).

Dec. 23
Dec. 29
Dec. 31

2020

Jan. 1
Applications for absentee ballots for all 2020 elections may be accepted.

Jan. 3
Protests against partisan candidates’ petitions must be filed by 4 p.m. (74 days before presidential primary election).

Jan. 5
Nov. 5, 2019 general election ballots, except for federal office, may be discarded unless ordered held by a court or the Secretary of State (61 days after general election).

Jan. 6
Write-in candidates for presidential primary election must file declarations of intent by 4 p.m. (72 days before primary election).

Jan. 21
Secretary of State and boards of elections must send notice to candidates required to file post-general campaign finance reports.

Recounts and Election Contest

Application for a recount must be filed no later than 5 days after official results are declared. A petition contesting an election must be filed in the appropriate court within 15 days after the official results are declared or, if a recount of the election is conducted, within 10 days after the official results of a recount are declared.

*Note: In some instances, the statutory deadline falls on a day when the offices of the Secretary of State and boards of elections are closed. In those instances, the deadlines are extended pursuant to R.C. 1.14 to the next succeeding day when the appropriate office is open for regular business hours. The preceding dates reflect the extended deadline.