



**2021**  
**ELECTION  
CALENDAR**

**COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

**Tom Wolf**  
Governor

# 2021

JANUARY						
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# 2022

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## 2021 PENNSYLVANIA ELECTIONS IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

First day to circulate and file nomination petitions	February 16
Last day to circulate and file nomination petitions	March 9
First day to circulate and file nomination papers	March 10
Last day to file objections to nomination petitions	March 16
Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions	March 24
Last day to REGISTER before the primary	May 3
Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot	May 11
Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00 P.M.)	May 18
<b>MUNICIPAL PRIMARY</b>	<b>May 18</b>
First day to REGISTER after primary	May 19
Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 P.M. on May 17)	May 25
Last day to circulate and file nomination papers	August 2
Last day to file objections to nomination papers	August 9
Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated by nomination papers	August 9

Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated at the primary	August 9
Last day to REGISTER before the November election	October 18
Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot	October 26
Last day for County Boards of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00 P.M.)	November 2
<b>MUNICIPAL ELECTION</b>	<b>November 2</b>
First day to REGISTER after November election	November 3
Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 P.M. on November 1)	November 9

**Note:**

*All dates in this calendar are subject to change without notice.*



COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

Dear Fellow Pennsylvanians:

The 2020 presidential election generated unprecedented voter registration and turnout in Pennsylvania. While that is great news, every election every year is important.

During the 2021 election cycle, voters will select judges for the Supreme, Superior and Commonwealth courts, as well as for the Court of Common Pleas in each county. The ballot also will include local and county offices that oversee vital community services we rely on every day.

To help voters and candidates plan, I am pleased to introduce the 2021 election calendar. It contains a list of all the important dates and deadlines for this year's primary and general elections. I hope you will find this calendar useful.

As Thomas Jefferson observed, "we do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate." Be a part of the majority that makes our democracy work and go to the polls in 2021.

Sincerely,

Tom Wolf  
Governor

# 2021 CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING DATES

*(Not applicable to candidates running for Federal offices.)*

TYPE REPORT	COMPLETE AS OF	FILING DEADLINE**
2020 Annual Report	December 31, 2020	February 1, 2021
*6th Tuesday Pre-Primary	March 29, 2021	April 6, 2021
2nd Friday Pre-Primary	May 3, 2021	May 7, 2021
30-Day Post-Primary	June 7, 2021	June 17, 2021
*6th Tuesday Pre-Election	September 13, 2021	September 21, 2021
2nd Friday Pre-Election	October 18, 2021	October 22, 2021
30-Day Post-Election	November 22, 2021	December 2, 2021
2021 Annual Report	December 31, 2021	January 31, 2022

- \* Only statewide candidates and committees supporting statewide candidates are required to file these reports.
- \*\* Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.



**2021  
Election Calendar**

# Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Election Calendar for 2021

*(All time set forth in this calendar is prevailing time.)*

**NOTE:** ALL DATES IN THIS CALENDAR ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE IN THE EVENT OF PASSAGE OF ANY AMENDATORY LEGISLATION DURING THE SESSION OF 2020-2021.

**MAY 18, 2021**                      **MUNICIPAL PRIMARY**

**NOVEMBER 2, 2021**            **MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

**JANUARY 1, 2021** Last day for justices or judges to resign in order for the seat to be placed on the ballot for the municipal election.

**JANUARY 4, 2021** On or before this day, elected judges seeking retention election in 2021 must file their declarations of candidacy for retention election in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**.

**FEBRUARY 1** Last day for all candidates and all political committees and lobbyists to file annual expense reports in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county boards of elections. Such reports shall be complete as of December 31, 2020.

***NOTE:** Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**FEBRUARY 1** Deadline for county boards of elections to mail absentee ballot applications to individuals on the permanent absentee ballot list.

**FEBRUARY 1** Deadline for county boards of elections to mail mail-in ballot applications to individuals on the permanent mail-in ballot list.

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day for any business entity which was awarded non-bid contracts from the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions during 2020 to report to the **SECRETARY OF THE**



**COMMONWEALTH** an itemized list of all political contributions made during 2020 by (1) any officer, director, associate, partner, limited partner, individual owner or member of their immediate family when the contribution exceeded an aggregate of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) by any Individual; or (2) any employee or members of his/her immediate family when the contribution exceeded an aggregate of one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day for each county board of elections to transmit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a list of the organizations which qualify as political parties within the county pursuant to Section 801(b) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 2831(b).

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day for the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** to transmit to each county board of elections a list of the organizations which qualify as political parties within the State pursuant to Section 801(a) of the Election Code, 25 P.S. § 2831(a).

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day for the clerks or secretaries of cities, boroughs, towns, townships and school districts to file with their respective county boards of elections a written notice of all offices to be nominated at the ensuing primary.

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day for the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** to send to the county boards of elections a written notice designating the public offices for which candidates are to be nominated at the ensuing primary and for which candidates are required to file nomination petitions in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**.

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day for a justice or a judge, who has filed a declaration of candidacy for retention under the provisions of Article V, Section 15 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to revoke the declaration by notifying the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** in writing. The **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** shall include such office in certifications under the provisions of Section 905

of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 2865.

**FEBRUARY 16** First legal day to circulate and **FILE** nomination petitions.

**FEBRUARY 17** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must prepare an election notice to be used by military-overseas voters in conjunction with the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB).

**FEBRUARY 23** Not earlier than this day nor later than March 2, the county board of elections shall begin to publish in newspapers the names of all public offices for which nominations are to be made and the names of all party offices for which candidates are to be elected at the ensuing primary.

**MARCH 9** Last day to circulate and **FILE** nomination petitions.

**MARCH 9** Last day for **STATE LEVEL PUBLIC OFFICE CANDIDATES** to **FILE** “Statements of Financial Interests” with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470. A copy of the “Statement” must also be appended to the nomination petition. Last day for candidates for county or local level public office to file the “Statement” with the governing authority of the political subdivisions in which they are candidates. A copy of the “Statement” must also be appended to the nomination petition.

**MARCH 10** First legal day to circulate and **FILE** nomination papers nominating independent candidates of political bodies or candidates of minor political parties.

**MARCH 16** Last day to file **OBJECTIONS** to nomination petitions.

**MARCH 17** Day for casting of lots in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** for position of names upon the primary ballot.

**MARCH 19** Last day that may be fixed by the Court of Common Pleas or the Commonwealth

Court for hearings on objections that have been filed to nomination petitions.

**MARCH 24** Last day, if possible, for the Court of Common Pleas or the Commonwealth Court to render decisions in cases involving objections to nomination petitions.

**MARCH 24** Last day for candidates who have filed nomination petitions for the primary election to withdraw, by 5:00 P.M.

**MARCH 29** Last day for the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** to transmit to each county board of elections a list of all candidates who filed nomination petitions with him and who are not known to have withdrawn or been disqualified.

**MARCH 29** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must begin to transmit ballots and balloting materials to all covered voters under the Uniformed Military and Overseas Voters Act (UMOVA) in extremely remote or isolated area, who by that date, submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.

*[The preceding includes qualified electors who are Uniformed-Service voters (members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States who are on active duty; members of the United States merchant marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States; members on activated status of the National Guard or Pennsylvania National Guard); Spouses and dependents of uniformed service members; Overseas voters; or veterans of a uniformed service who is bedridden or hospitalized due to illness or physical disability.]*

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to such electors within 48 hours after the application is received by the county board of elections.*

**MARCH 29** First day on which county boards of elections must begin to process official applications for mail-in ballots.

***NOTE:** A county board of election may begin to process applications earlier if it deems it appropriate.*

**MARCH 29** First day on which county boards of elections must begin to process official applications for civilian absentee ballots.

***NOTE:** A county board of election may begin to process applications earlier if it deems it appropriate.*

**APRIL 2** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to all covered voters under UMOVA who by this date submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.

*[The preceding includes qualified electors who are Uniformed-Service voters (members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States who are on active duty; members of the United States merchant marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States; members on activated status of the National Guard or Pennsylvania National Guard); Spouses and dependents of uniformed service members; Overseas voters; or veterans of a uniformed service who is bedridden or hospitalized due to illness or physical disability.]*

***NOTE:** As additional applications are received, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to such electors within 48 hours after the application is received by the county board of elections.*

**APRIL 6** Last day for candidates for statewide offices and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists which have expended money for the purpose of influencing the nomination of such candidates to file campaign expense reports

or statements due by the Sixth Tuesday before the primary election in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**. Such reports shall be complete as of March 29.

**NOTE:** *Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**MAY 3** Last day to **REGISTER** before the primary election.

**NOTE:** *To be processed for the ensuing election a voter registration application must be received as follows:*

- \* Voter registration with a motor vehicle driver's license application under 25 Pa.C.S. § 1323, must be received by the appropriate county voter registration commission not later than fifteen days before the election.*
- \* Voter registration at government agencies under 25 Pa.C.S. § 1325, including offices in Pennsylvania that provide public assistance, county clerks of Orphan's Court, including marriage license bureaus, offices in Pennsylvania that provide state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities, and armed forces recruitment centers, must be received by the appropriate county voter registration commission not later than fifteen days before the election.*
- \* In any other case, the voter registration application must be received by the appropriate county voter registration commission not later than fifteen days before the election.*

**MAY 3** Last day to change party enrollment or non-partisan enrollment before the primary election.

**MAY 4** As soon as possible after ballots are printed and in no event later than this day, the county boards of elections must begin to deliver or mail all mail-in ballots for the primary election.

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, ballots must be mailed within 48 hours after approval.*

**MAY 4** As soon as possible after ballots are printed and in no event later than this day, the county boards of elections must begin to deliver or mail all civilian absentee ballots for the primary election.

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, ballots must be mailed within 48 hours after approval.*

**MAY 7** Last day for all candidates and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists which have expended money for purpose of influencing the nomination of candidates file campaign expense reports or statements due by the Second Friday before the primary in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** and/or the county boards of elections, as the case may be. Such reports shall be complete as of May 3.

**NOTE:** *Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**MAY 8** Not earlier than this day nor later than May 15, the county boards of elections shall publish in newspapers, notice of the date and hours of voting for any special elections, the names of offices to be elected and the names of the candidates at such special elections, the texts and explanations of Constitutional Amendments and other questions to be voted upon, and the places at which such elections are to be held in the various election districts.

**MAY 10** Last day before the primary election on which an elector, who suffered a physical disability which requires him/her to have assistance in voting, may personally make application to the county registration commission in all counties to have such fact entered on his/her registration card.

**NOTE:** *If the disability is not recorded on the elector's registration card, the elector may receive assistance if the elector completes a declaration in the polling place.*

**MAY 10** Last day before the primary election for any person to file a petition with the county registration commission appealing against rejection of registration.

**MAY 11** Last day before the primary election on which official applications for mail-in ballots may be received by the county boards of elections, due at 5:00 P.M.

**MAY 11** Last day before the primary election on which official applications for civilian absentee ballots from certain persons listed as follows may be received by the county boards of elections, due at 5:00 P.M.

*(The preceding includes qualified registered electors who will be absent from the Commonwealth or municipality of residence by reason of occupation, business or duties; persons unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability; persons observing a religious holiday; county employees with duties on election day relating to the conduct of the election; persons employed by the State or Federal government and their spouses or dependents who are within the territorial limits of the United States or the District of Columbia but absent from their municipality of residence. Provided further that any of the preceding qualified electors who become ill or are called away from home by business or duties, which fact was not known or could not reasonably be known prior to the preceding date, are entitled to execute and file an Emergency Application any time prior to 5:00 PM on the Friday preceding the primary. The county boards of elections will supply the forms. Qualified electors who become ill or are called away from home by reason of occupation, business or duties, which fact was not known or could not reasonably be known prior to 5:00 P.M. on the Friday preceding the*

*primary, may file a request for an absentee ballot with the appropriate court of common pleas at any time prior to 8:00 P.M. on the day of the primary.)*

**MAY 11** From this day and until the returns are certified, the county boards of elections shall post the Military, Veterans and Emergency Civilian Absentee Voters' list.

**MAY 13** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall make available for public inspection the forms of the ballots and ballot labels which shall be used in each election district at the primary election.

**MAY 13** After this date, the county boards of elections shall have the forms of the ballots and ballot labels published on the county board's publicly accessible internet website.

**MAY 13** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections, upon request, shall furnish without charge to each candidate whose name is printed on the primary election ballot three specimen ballots for the entire district.

*(The candidate may, at his/her own expense, have printed on different colored paper as many copies as he/she requires for conducting his/her campaign.)*

**MAY 14** By this date, the fourth day prior to the election, the county board of elections shall have the central automatic tabulating equipment tested to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and all questions.

**MAY 17** Last day for any person to file an appeal to court of common pleas for rejection of registration.

**MAY 17** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall deliver the necessary ballots and supplies to the judges of election.

**MAY 17** Not later than 11:59 P.M. this day, covered voters under UMOVA must submit their voted military-overseas ballot for mailing or other



authorized means of delivery, at the place where the voter completes the ballot on the date immediately preceding the date of the election.

**MAY 18** The county boards of elections shall meet no earlier than 7:00 A.M. on election day to pre-canvass all absentee and mail-in ballots received prior to the meeting.

The county boards of elections shall provide at least 48 hours (Sunday, May 16) notice of a pre-canvass meeting by publicly posting on its publicly accessible internet website.

***NOTE:** No person observing or attending or participating in the pre-canvass meeting may disclose the results of any portion of any pre-canvass meeting prior to the close of the polls.*

**MAY 18** All mail-in ballots must be received by the county boards of elections not later than 8:00 P.M. on this day to be counted.

**MAY 18** All absentee ballots, except those received from military and overseas electors as defined by UMOVA and Sections 1301(a) to (h) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 3146.1(a) – (h), must be received by the county boards of elections not later than 8:00 P.M. on this day to be counted.

**MAY 18 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY.** Polls shall remain open continuously between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.

***NOTE:** The Courts of Common Pleas shall be in session from 7:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. except in judicial districts having only one judge, in which case the court shall be in session from 7:00 A.M. to 12 Noon; from 2:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. and from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.*

**MAY 19** By 2:00 A.M. on this day, the judges of election must return to the county boards of elections all envelopes; supplies, including all uncast provisional ballots; and returns, including all provisional ballots and absentee ballots cast in the election district.

**MAY 19** By 3:00 A.M. on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the Department of State returns received from the judges of election for each office for which a candidate must file a nomination petition with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

**MAY 19** First day to **REGISTER** after the primary election.

**MAY 19** First day to change party or non-partisan enrollment after the primary election.

**MAY 21** On this day, the Return Boards meet no later than 9:00 A.M. to canvass and compute the votes cast at the primary election.

***NOTE:** Any petition to open a ballot box or to recanvass the votes on a voting machine shall be filed no later than five (5) days after the completion of the computational canvassing of all the returns of the county by the county board of elections.*

**MAY 24** Last day for the county boards of elections to receive proof of identification that can be verified from an absentee or mail-in elector whose proof of identification was not provided with the application or could not be verified by the board.

**MAY 25** A valid military-overseas ballot cast under Section 3509 of UMOVA, 25 Pa.C.S. § 3509, must be delivered by 5:00 P.M. to the address specified by the county board of elections, to be counted.

***NOTE:** If, at the time of completing their military-overseas ballot, the voter affirms under penalty of perjury, that the ballot was timely submitted, the ballot MAY NOT be rejected on the basis of a late postmark, an unreadable postmark or no postmark.*

**MAY 25** No later than 5:00 P.M. on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** unofficial returns for all Statewide offices and ballot questions that appeared on the ballot in every election district throughout the Commonwealth.

**MAY 26** A recount and recanvass shall not be ordered under Section 1404(g)(1)(i) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 3154(g)(1)(i), if the defeated candidate requests in writing that a recount and recanvass not be made. A request under this subsection must be made by 12 Noon on the second Wednesday following the election.

**MAY 26** On this day, the Return Boards meet to canvass absentee ballots received from military and overseas electors no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 25.

**MAY 27** No later than 5:00 P.M. on this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must issue an order for a recount or recanvass if it is determined, based on the unofficial returns submitted by the county boards of elections, that a statewide candidate or ballot question that appeared on the ballot in every election district throughout the Commonwealth was defeated by a margin of one-half of a percent or less.

**JUNE 1** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must complete the computation of votes.

**JUNE 2** Last day on which a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** can be scheduled to begin.

**JUNE 4** On this day, candidates receiving tie votes at the primary election cast lots at 12 Noon before the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county board of elections, to determine who will be entitled to the nomination. *(If the fact of the tie vote is not authoritatively determined until after June 2, the time for casting lots shall be 12 Noon on the second day after the fact of such tie vote is authoritatively determined.)*

**JUNE 7** Last day to file a petition to contest the nomination of any candidate at the primary election. *(Not applicable to elections of the first class.)*

**JUNE 7** Last day for the county boards of elections to file with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** returns from the primary election.

**JUNE 8** No later than 12 Noon on this day, a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must be completed.

**JUNE 9** By 12 Noon on the day after completion of a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**, but no later than 12 Noon on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** the results of the recount or recanvass.

**JUNE 17** Last day for all candidates and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists to file campaign expense reports and statements due by 30 days after the primary election in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county board of elections as the case may be. Such report shall be complete as of June 7.

***NOTE:** Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**JUNE 17** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall file with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a statement of expenses incurred in preparing, handling, mailing, delivering, counting and storing such official Military, Veterans, and other absentee ballots as they are entitled by law to receive compensations for the sum of sixty cents each.

**JUNE 17** Last day for county boards of elections to submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a report stating the total number of votes cast in each voting district for each candidate for any Statewide Office, United States Representative, State Senator and State Representative.

**JUNE 28** On this day, **THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** shall select by lottery for audit of campaign expense reports three percent of the total number of public offices for which candidates must file nomination petitions or papers with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**.

**AUGUST 2** Last day to circulate and **FILE** nomination papers nominating minor political party candidates or political body candidates (including independent candidates).

**AUGUST 2** Last day for **STATE LEVEL INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES AND MINOR POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES** to **FILE** "Statements of Financial Interests" with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Financial Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470. A copy of the "Statement" must also be appended to the nomination papers. Last day for independent and minor political party candidates for county or local level public office to file the "Statement" with the governing authority of the political and subdivision in which they are candidates. A copy of the "Statement" must also be appended to the nomination papers.

**AUGUST 4** Not later than this day, the county board of elections must prepare an election notice to be used by military-overseas voters in conjunction with the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB).

**AUGUST 9** Last day for candidates of political bodies, who have filed nomination papers, to withdraw.

**AUGUST 9** Last day to file objections to nomination papers nominating minor political party candidates or political body candidates (including independent candidates).

**AUGUST 9** Last day for candidates nominated at the primary election by write-in votes to pay filing fee; otherwise the party nomination will be declared vacant.

**NOTE:** *State level write-in winners of nominations from the Primary Election must FILE “Statements of Financial Interests” with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470 within thirty days of having been nominated unless such person resigns nomination within that time. County and local level write-in winners of nominations from the primary election must file the “Statement” with the governing authority of the political subdivisions where they were nominated within thirty days of having been nominated unless such person resigns nomination within that time.*

**AUGUST 9** Last day for candidates who were nominated by a political party to withdraw.

**AUGUST 12** Last day that may be fixed by the court for hearings on objections to nomination papers.

**AUGUST 17** Last day, if possible, for the court to render decisions in cases involving objections to nomination papers.

**AUGUST 19** Last day to file substituted nomination certificates to fill vacancies caused by withdrawal of candidates nominated at the primary election or by nomination papers.

*(Substituted nomination certificates to fill vacancies caused by the death of candidates nominated at primaries or by nomination papers shall be filed prior to the day on which ballot printing is started. Objections to substituted nomination certificates must be filed within three days after the filing of the substituted nomination certificate.)*

**NOTE:** *State level candidates nominated by substituted nomination certificate, nomination certificate or nomination papers (see August 19, September 13, and September 20) must file a “Statement of Financial Interests” with the substituted nomination certificate, nomination certificate or nomination papers and with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA*

*17108-1470. County and local level candidates nominated by substituted nomination papers (see August 19, September 13, and September 20) must file a copy of the "Statement" with the substituted nomination certificate, nomination certificate or nomination papers and with the governing authority of the political subdivision where they are nominated.*

**AUGUST 24** Last day for **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** to transmit to each county board of elections a list, as known to exist at that time, of all candidates to be voted on at the November election and a copy of all Constitutional Amendments and other questions to be voted on at the November election together with a statement of the form in which they are to be placed.

**AUGUST 24** Not later than this day, the county board of elections must begin to transmit ballots and balloting materials to all covered voters under the Uniformed Military and Overseas Voters Act (UMOVA) in extremely remote or isolated area, who by that date, submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.

*(The preceding includes qualified electors who are Uniformed-Service voters (members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States who are on active duty; members of the United States merchant marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States; members on activated status of the National Guard or Pennsylvania National Guard); Spouses and dependents of uniformed service members; Overseas voters; or veterans of a uniformed service who is bedridden or hospitalized due to illness or physical disability.)*

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to such electors within 48 hours after the application is received by the county board of elections.*

**SEPTEMBER 2** Last day for a justice or a judge, who has filed a declaration of candidacy for retention under the provisions of Article V, Section 15 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania after February 16 to revoke the declaration by notifying the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** in writing. The nomination to fill such vacancy shall be made in accordance with Section 993 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. Section 2953.

**SEPTEMBER 13** First day on which county boards of elections must begin to process official applications for mail-in ballots.

***NOTE:** A county board of election may begin to process applications earlier if it deems it appropriate.*

**SEPTEMBER 13** First day on which county boards of elections must begin to process official applications for civilian absentee ballots.

***NOTE:** A county board of election may begin to process applications earlier if it deems it appropriate.*

**SEPTEMBER 13** Last day before the November election for political parties or minor political parties to file nomination certificates or for political bodies to file nomination papers in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**, or the county boards of elections, as the case may be, to fill vacancies in public offices which occur for any cause at a time when the Constitution or Laws require them to be filled at the ensuing election, but at a time when such nominations cannot be made under any other provision of the Election Code (25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960.)

**SEPTEMBER 16** Last day for withdrawal of candidates nominated under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960.

**SEPTEMBER 16** Last day to file objections to nomination certificates and papers under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960



**SEPTEMBER 17** Not later than this day, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to all covered voters under UMOVA who by this date submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.

*(The preceding includes qualified electors who are Uniformed-Service voters (members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States who are on active duty; members of the United States merchant marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States; members on activated status of the National Guard or Pennsylvania National Guard); Spouses and dependents of uniformed service members; Overseas voters; or veterans of a uniformed service who is bedridden or hospitalized due to illness or physical disability.)*

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to such electors within 48 hours after the application is received by the county board of elections.*

**SEPTEMBER 20** Last day to file substituted nomination certificates under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code.

**NOTE:** *Substituted nomination certificates to fill vacancies caused by the death of candidates nominated under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code must be filed in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county boards of elections, as the case may be, at any time prior to the day on which the printing of ballots is started. Objections to substituted nomination certificates, under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, must be filed within three days after the filing of the substituted nomination certificates.*

**SEPTEMBER 20** Last day for a court hearing on objections to nomination certificates and papers under the provisions of Sections 993-991.1 of the Election Code at 25 P.S. § 2953-2960.

**SEPTEMBER 21** Last day for candidates for statewide offices and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists which have expended money for the purpose of influencing the election of such candidates to file campaign expense reports and statements due by the Sixth Tuesday before the election in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**. Such report shall be complete as of September 13.

***NOTE:** Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**OCTOBER 18** Last day to **REGISTER** before the November Election.

***NOTE:** To be processed for the ensuing election a voter registration application must be received as follows:*

- \* Voter registration with a motor vehicle driver's license application under 25 Pa.C.S. § 1323, must be received by the appropriate county voter registration commission not later than fifteen days before the election.*
- \* Voter registration at government agencies under 25 Pa.C.S. § 1325, including offices in Pennsylvania that provide public assistance, county clerks of Orphan's Court, including marriage license bureaus, offices in Pennsylvania that provide state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities, and armed forces recruitment centers, must be received by the appropriate county voter registration commission not later than fifteen days before the election.*
- \* In any other case, the voter registration application must be received by the appropriate county voter registration commission not later than fifteen days before the election.*

**OCTOBER 18** Last day to change party enrollment or non-partisan enrollment before the November Election.

**OCTOBER 19** As soon as possible after ballots are printed and in no event later than this day, county board of elections must begin to deliver or mail all mail-in ballots for the November election.

***NOTE:** As additional applications are received ballots shall be mailed within forty-eight hours after approval.*

**OCTOBER 19** As soon as possible after ballots are printed and in no event later than this day, county board of elections must begin to deliver or mail all civilian absentee ballots for the November election.

***NOTE:** As additional applications are received ballots shall be mailed within forty-eight hours after approval.*

**OCTOBER 22** Last day for all candidates and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists which have expended money for the purpose of influencing the election of candidates to file campaign expense reports or statements due by the Second Friday before the election in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** and/or the county boards of elections, as the case may be. Such reports shall be complete as of October 18.

***NOTE:** Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**OCTOBER 23** Not earlier than this day nor later than October 30, the county board of elections shall publish in newspapers, notice of the date and hours of voting for the November Election, the names of offices to be elected, the names of the candidates, the texts and explanations of Constitutional Amendments and other questions to be voted upon, and the places at which the election is to be held in the various election districts.

**OCTOBER 25** Last day before the November election on which an elector, who has suffered a physical disability which requires him/her to have assistance in voting, may personally make application to the county registration commission in all counties to have such fact entered on his/her registration card.

***NOTE:** If the disability is not recorded on the elector's registration card, the elector may receive assistance if the elector completes a declaration in the polling place.*

**OCTOBER 25** Last day before the November election for any person to file a petition with the county registration commission appealing against rejection of registration.

**OCTOBER 26** Last day before the November election on which official applications for mail-in ballots may be received by the county boards of elections, due at 5:00 P.M.

**OCTOBER 26** Last day before the November election on which official applications for civilian absentee ballots from certain persons listed as follows may be received by the county boards of elections, due at 5:00 P.M.

*(The preceding includes qualified registered electors who will be absent from the Commonwealth or municipality of residence by reason of occupation, business or duties; persons unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability; persons observing a religious holiday; county employees with duties on election day relating to the conduct of the election; persons employed by the State or Federal government and their spouses or dependents who are within the territorial limits of the United States or the District of Columbia but absent from their municipality of residence. Provided further that any of the preceding qualified electors who become ill or are called away from home by business or duties, which fact was not known or could not reasonably be known prior to the preceding date are entitled to execute and file an Emergency Application any time prior to 8:00 PM on the day*

*of the election. The county board of elections will supply the forms.)*

**OCTOBER 26** From this day and until returns are certified, the county boards of elections shall post the Military, Veterans and Emergency Civilian Absentee Voters' list.

**OCTOBER 28** After this date, the county board of elections shall have the forms of the ballots and ballot labels published on the county board's publicly accessible internet website.

**OCTOBER 28** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall make available for public inspection the forms of the ballot and labels which shall be used in each election district at the November election.

**OCTOBER 28** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections, upon request, shall furnish without charge to each candidate whose name is printed on the ballot three specimen ballots for the entire district.

*(The candidate may, at his/her own expense, have printed on different colored paper as many copies as he/she requires for conducting his/her campaign.)*

**OCTOBER 28** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections, upon request, shall deliver, without charge, to county chairman or other authorized representatives of each political party and political body in the county, two specimen ballots or diagrams for each election district in the county in which their candidates are to be voted for.

*(Such political party or body may, at its own expense, have printed on different colored paper as many copies as it requires for conducting its campaign.)*

**OCTOBER 29** By this date, the fourth day prior to the election, the county board of elections shall have the central automatic tabulating equipment tested to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and all questions.

**NOVEMBER 1** Last day for any person to file an appeal to court of common pleas for rejection of registration.

**NOVEMBER 1** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall deliver the necessary ballots and supplies to the judges of election.

**NOVEMBER 1** Not later than 11:59 P.M. this day, covered voters under UMOVA must submit their voted military-overseas ballot for mailing or other authorized means of delivery, at the place where the voter completes the ballot on the date immediately preceding the date of the election.

**NOVEMBER 2** The county boards of elections shall meet no earlier than 7:00 A.M. on election day to pre-canvass all absentee and mail-in ballots received prior to the meeting.

The county boards of elections shall provide notice at least 48 hours (Sunday, October 31) notice of a pre-canvass meeting by publicly posting on its publicly accessible internet website.

***NOTE:** No person observing or attending or participating in the pre-canvass meeting may disclose the results of any portion of any pre-canvass meeting prior to the close of the polls.*

**NOVEMBER 2** All mail-in ballots must be received by the county boards of elections not later than 8:00 P.M. on this day to be counted.

**NOVEMBER 2** All absentee ballots, except those received from military and overseas electors as defined by UMOVA and Sections 1301(a) to (h) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 3146.1(a) – (h), must be received by the county boards of elections not later than 8:00 P.M. on this day to be counted.

**NOVEMBER 2 MUNICIPAL ELECTION:** Polls shall remain open continuously between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.

***NOTE:** The Courts of Common Pleas shall be in session from 7:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. except in judicial districts having one judge, in which case the court shall be in session from 7:00 A.M.*

*to 12:00 Noon; from 2:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. and from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.*

**NOVEMBER 3** By 2:00 A.M. on this day, the judges of election must return to the county boards of elections all envelopes; supplies, including all uncast provisional ballots; and returns, including all provisional ballots and absentee ballots cast in the election district.

**NOVEMBER 3** By 3:00 A.M. on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the Department of State returns received from the judges of election for each office for which a candidate must file a nomination petition with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

**NOVEMBER 3** First day to **REGISTER** after election.

**NOVEMBER 3** First day to change party or non-partisan enrollment after the election.

**NOVEMBER 5** On this day, the Return Boards meet no later than 9:00 A.M. to canvass and compute the votes cast at the November election.

***NOTE:** Any petition to open a ballot box or to recanvass the votes on a voting machine shall be filed no later than five (5) days after the completion of the computational canvassing of all the returns of the county by the county board of elections*

**NOVEMBER 8** Last day for the county boards of elections to receive proof of identification that can be verified from an absentee elector whose proof of identification was provided with the application or could not be verified by the board.

**NOVEMBER 9** A valid military-overseas ballot cast under Section 3609 of UMOVA, 25 Pa.C.S. § 3509, must be delivered by 5:00 P.M. to the address specified by the county board of elections, to be counted.

***NOTE:** If, at the time of completing their military-overseas ballot, the voter affirms under penalty of perjury, that the ballot was timely submitted,*

*the ballot **MAY NOT** be rejected on the basis of a late postmark, an unreadable postmark or no postmark.*

**NOVEMBER 9** No later than 5:00 P.M. on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** unofficial returns for all Statewide offices and ballot questions that appeared on the ballot in every election district throughout the Commonwealth.

**NOVEMBER 10** A recount and recanvass shall not be ordered under Section 1404(g)(1)(i) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 3154(g)(1)(i), if the defeated candidate requests in writing that a recount and recanvass not be made. A request under this subsection must be made by 12 Noon on the second Wednesday following the election.

**NOVEMBER 10** On this day, the Return Boards meet to canvass absentee ballots received from military and overseas electors after 5:00 P.M. no later than 5:00 P.M. on November 9.

**NOVEMBER 11** No later than 5:00 P.M. on this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must issue an order for a recount or recanvass if it is determined, based on the unofficial returns submitted by the county boards of elections, that a statewide candidate or ballot question that appeared on the ballot in every election district throughout the Commonwealth was defeated by a margin of one-half of a percent or less.

**NOVEMBER 16** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must complete the computation of votes.

**NOVEMBER 17** Last day on which a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** can be scheduled to begin.

**NOVEMBER 19** On this day, candidates receiving tie votes at the election shall cast lots at 12:00 Noon before the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county boards of elections,



as the case may be, to determine the winner. *(If the fact of the tie vote is not authoritatively determined until after November 17, the time for casting lots will be 12:00 Noon on the second day after the fact of such tie is determined).*

**NOVEMBER 22** Last day to file petitions to contest the election of any candidate. *(Not applicable to elections of the first class.)*

**NOVEMBER 22** Last day for the county boards of elections to file with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** returns from the November election.

**NOTE:** *State level write-in winners of elections from the November election must file "State-ments of Financial Interests" with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470 within thirty days of having been elected unless said person resigns within that time. County and local-level public office write-in winners of elections must file the "Statement" with the governing authority of the political subdivision where they were elected within 30 days of having been elected unless said person resigns within that time.*

**NOVEMBER 23** No later than 12 Noon on this day, a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must be completed.

**NOVEMBER 24** By 12 Noon on the day after completion of a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**, but no later than 12 Noon on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** the results of the recount or recanvass.

**DECEMBER 2** Last day for all candidates and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists to file campaign expense reports or statements due 30 days after the election in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** and/or the county boards of elections as the case may be. Such report shall be complete as of November 22.

**NOTE:** Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior filing deadline.

**DECEMBER 2** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall file with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a statement of expenses incurred in preparing, handling, mailing, delivering, counting and storing such official Military, Veterans' and other absentee ballots as they are entitled by law to receive compensation for in the sum of sixty cents each.

**DECEMBER 2** Last day for each county board of elections to submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a report stating the total number of votes cast in each voting district for each candidate for any Statewide Office, United States Representative, State Senator and State Representative.

**DECEMBER 13** On this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** shall select by lottery for audit of campaign expense reports three percent of the total number of public offices for which candidates must file nomination petitions or papers with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**.

## NOTES

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# FILING FEES AND SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

*Candidates who file nomination petitions to access the Municipal Primary Ballot.*

The filing fees and the number of signatures that are required on nomination petitions for offices to be filled at the 2021 Elections are as follows:

OFFICE	FEE	NUMBER OF SIGNATURES
1. Statewide Judges	\$200	1,000 (including 100 each in 5 counties)
2. Judge of a Court of Record (1st Class County)	\$100	1,000
3. Judge of a Court of Record (2nd Class County)	\$100	500
4. Judge of a Court of Record (2nd Class A - 8th Class Counties)	\$100	250

## **Candidates who file Nomination Papers to access the Municipal Election Ballot**

Signature requirements for nomination papers (filed by candidates of minor political parties or political bodies) for those public offices listed above may be obtained by calling the Bureau of Elections and Notaries, Department of State, 210 North Office Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120, at 717-787-5280. For information regarding local offices, contact your county board of elections.



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

North Office Building, Room 210  
401 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0500

1-877-VOTES PA (1-877-868-3772)  
(717) 787-5280

[www.dos.pa.gov](http://www.dos.pa.gov)