



2026 SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICT ELECTION CALENDAR

Montana Secretary of State

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2026

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

2026 SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICT ELECTIONS

DEADLINE	ACTIVITIES	REFERENCE (MCA/ARM/LEGISLATION)
<i>For school district dates, see the School District Calendar; For conservation district dates, see the Federal Election Calendar: https://sosmt.gov/elections/calendars/.</i>		
Tuesday, January 20 105 days before the election	Candidate Filing Opens for Special Purpose District Elections	13-1-502(1) HB 207
	Candidate filing closes – 5:00 p.m. DEADLINE (Including write-in candidates)	13-1-502(1)(3) HB 207
	5:00 p.m. Deadline for candidates to withdraw. (Including write-ins)	13-1-502(2) HB 207
Wednesday, February 4 90 days before the election	<p>After 5 p.m., the Election Administrator shall cancel the election and immediately notify the governing body in writing of the cancellation if the number of candidates is equal to or less than <i>the number of positions to be filled</i>.</p> <p>The governing body may require the election to be held by passing a resolution. <i>(Since there is no deadline specified in law for such a governing body resolution, SOS recommends working closely with the governing body to determine in advance of March 6 whether the governing body plans to pass such a resolution.)</i></p>	<p>By the write-in candidate filing deadline</p> <p>13-1-502(4)(a)</p>
	Deadline for candidates to be registered to vote in Montana	2-16-102(3)
Monday, February 9 85 days before the election	Last day for the Governing Body to pass an order or resolution calling for the election. The order or resolution shall specify whether the governing body is requesting that the election be conducted by mail.	13-1-504(4)
Thursday, February 19 75 days before the election	Ballot certification deadline.	<p>75 days before a general election</p> <p>13-12-201</p>
Friday, March 6 60 days before the election.	Deadline for Election administrators to post written ballot plans, timetables, and instructions for each special purpose district election to the county election website or publicly notice them in another way.	<p>60 days prior to the date set for the election.</p> <p>13-19-205 HB 527</p>

March 9 – April 5 Four weeks before the close of voter registration	Publish notice of close of regular registration and availability of late registration at least three times in the four weeks preceding the close of regular voter registration.	In the 4 weeks preceding the close of registration <u>13-2-301</u>
March 26 – April 25 Between 10 and 40 days before the election	Publish notice of election three times (if the newspaper of general circulation is weekly, notice must be published two times).	No earlier than 40 and no later than 10 days before the election <u>13-1-108(1)(2)</u>
Monday, April 6* 30 days before the election	Regular Voter Registration Closes. (Note: 30 days before the election is Sunday, which pushes this date to April 6 per <u>1-1-307</u>.)	30 days before any election <u>13-2-301(1)(a)</u>
Tuesday, April 7	Start of late registration	After the close of regular registration. <u>13-2-304(1)</u>
Tuesday, April 9 Within 3 days of the close of regular voter registration	Voter registration applications postmarked by April 6 and received by April 9 are accepted for regular voter registration.	3 days after regular registration is closed <u>13-2-301(3)</u>
Wednesday, April 15 20 days before the election	Polling Place Election: Absentee ballots must be available for voting.	20 days before election day <u>13-1-503(1)</u>
No sooner than April 15; no later than April 20, 2025	Mail Ballot Election: If the election is conducted by mail ballot, ballots must be mailed on a single date during this range.	No sooner than the 20th day and no later than the 15th day before the election. <u>13-1-503</u>
Tuesday, May 5	ELECTION DAY	First Tuesday after the first Monday in May <u>13-1-504</u>
Tuesday, May 19 14 days after the election	County canvass completed – Canvass Board declares nominated the individuals having received the highest number of votes cast for each county-certified office and proclaims the adoption or rejection of county ballot issues.	Within 14 days after each election <u>13-15-401</u>