

This edition of the 2026 Idaho Election Calendar is subject to amendatory changes during the 2026 session of the Idaho Legislature. If changes occur, an updated version will be published.

JAN. 2 **Election Register Examination:** Deadline for county clerks to examine the election register, from the Nov. 4 election, and note challenges. [[§34-432\(1\), Idaho Code](#)]

JAN. 15 **Last Day for County Commissioners to Establish Election Precincts:** Deadline for county commissioners to establish the number of precincts and their boundaries for the following year. After precincts have been established, county clerks shall provide maps of all precincts to the secretary of state. [[§34-301, Idaho Code](#)]

JAN. 16 **Early Voting Security Plan:** Deadline for county clerks to submit their ballot security plan to the secretary of state. (*NOTE: The Early Voting Security Plan must be submitted at least 30 days prior to implementing an early voting plan.) [[§34-1013, Idaho Code](#)]

JAN. 20 **County Clerk Deliver Precinct Committeeman List to Central Committees:** County Clerks shall deliver in writing a list of precinct committeemen who were elected at the last primary election, or who have since been appointed as precinct committeemen. [[§34-502, Idaho Code](#)]

FEB. 1 **Last Day for Chairs of County Central Committees to Certify Precinct Committeemen:** Deadline for the chairman of the county central committee to certify precinct committeemen information. [[§34-502, Idaho Code](#)]

FEB. 23 – 27 **Candidate Filing Period for Federal, State, Legislative, and Judicial Offices:** Candidates may file declarations of candidacy with the Secretary of State beginning at 8 a.m. on Monday and must be filed by no later than 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the filing period. [[§34-704, Idaho Code](#)]

FEB. 27 – MAR. 6 **Publish Notification of Candidate Filing Deadline:** County clerk must publish a notification of the candidate filing deadline for all taxing districts for which officers will be elected in the May 19th election – during this period. The notice should appear in the official newspaper of the political subdivision. [[§34-1405, Idaho Code](#)]

MAR. 2 **Secretary of State to Certify Candidates with Parties:** The secretary of state shall notify the legislative district and state central committees of the party candidates for the primary election. [[§34-706, Idaho Code](#)]

MAR. 2 – 13 **Candidate Filing Period for County Offices, Precinct Committeemen, and Nonpartisan Candidates:** Candidates may file declarations of candidacy with the county clerk or the clerk of the political subdivision beginning at 8 a.m. on Monday and must be filed by no later than 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the filing period. [[§34-704, Idaho Code](#)]

MAR. 6 **Write-In Candidate Filing Deadline for Federal, State, and Legislative Offices:** Deadline for write-in candidates to file a declaration of intent with the Secretary of State. [[§34-702A, Idaho Code](#)]

MAR. 6 **Withdrawal Deadline for Federal, State, and Legislative Offices:** Last day to withdraw from the primary election. [[§34-717, Idaho Code](#)]

MAR. 13 **Ballot Question Submission Deadline:** Political subdivisions must submit ballot language (to the county clerk) for any bond, levy, initiative, referendum, or other question – to be placed on the ballot – for the May 19 election. [[§34-106, Idaho Code](#)]



MAR. 13	Recall Notification Deadline: Deadline to notify the county clerk if a recall election is ordered – for the primary election. [§34-106(9), Idaho Code]
MAR. 13	Secretary of State to Certify Candidates for Primary Election: The Secretary of State shall certify the candidates for the primary election to the county clerks. [§34-705(2), Idaho Code]
MAR. 13	Deadline to Change Political Party Affiliation or Become Unaffiliated Before the Primary Election: Last day for voters to change party affiliations or become unaffiliated by filing a form with the county clerk. [§34-41A, Idaho Code]
MAR. 13	Investigation of Candidate Qualifications for Federal, State, Legislative, and Judicial Offices: Deadline to file complaint [§34-219, Idaho Code]
MAR. 16	County Clerks to Certify Candidates with Parties: The county clerk shall notify the county central committees of the party candidates for the primary election. [§34-706, Idaho Code]
MAR. 20	Clerks of Political Subdivisions to Certify Nonpartisan Nominees: Deadline for clerks of political subdivisions to certify candidates to be placed on the ballot. [§34-1404, Idaho Code]
MAR. 20	Write-In Candidate Filing Deadline for County Offices and Precinct Committeemen: Deadline for write-in candidates to file declarations of intent with the county clerks. [§34-702A, Idaho Code]
MAR. 20	Post-election Audit Directive to be Issued: The Secretary of State shall issue a directive outlining the Postelection Audit procedures for the Primary. [§34-1203A(2), Idaho Code]
MAR. 20	Withdrawal Deadline for County Offices, Precinct Committeemen, and Nonpartisan Offices: Last day to withdraw with the county clerk or the clerk of the political subdivision for the primary election. [§34-717, §34-1405A, Idaho Code]
MAR. 20	Secretary of State to Provide Sample Ballot: Last day for the Secretary of State to provide the sample form for the primary election ballots. [§34-712, Idaho Code]
MAR. 27	Investigation of Candidate Qualifications for County Offices, Precinct Committeemen, and Nonpartisan Offices: Deadline to file complaint [§34-219, Idaho Code]
MAR. 27	Early Voting Security Plan: Deadline for county clerks to submit their ballot security plan to the secretary of state. (*NOTE: The Early Voting Security Plan must be submitted at least 30 days prior to implementing an early voting plan. If a plan was submitted and approved earlier in the year, and has not changed, it need not be resubmitted.) [§34-1013, Idaho Code]
MAR. 30	Absentee Print Deadline: Deadline for county clerks to print absentee ballots. [Secretary of State Directive 2015-1]
APR. 1	Deadline for County Commissioners to Designate Mail Ballot Precincts: Last day for county commissioners to designate mail ballot precincts.) [§34-308, Idaho Code]
APR. 3	Deadline for Absentee Ballot Delivery Witnesses: Last day for political parties to supply the county clerk with absentee ballot delivery witnesses. [§34-1003(5), Idaho Code]
APR. 3	Mail Absentee Ballots: County clerks must begin mailing absentee ballots – to voters who have requested absentee ballots – for the primary election. [§34-1003(3), Idaho Code and Secretary of State Directive 2015-1]
APR. 17	Deadline to Recommend Election Judges: Last day for precinct committeemen to recommend judges for the upcoming election to the county clerks. [§34-303, Idaho Code]

APR. 17	Deadline for County Commissioners to Designation Polling Locations: Last day for county commissioners to confirm the polling locations for the primary elections. [§34-302, Idaho Code]
APR. 24	Mail Ballot Precincts: County clerks may begin mailing ballots to voters located in designated mail ballot precincts – for the primary election. [§34-308(3), Idaho Code]
APR. 27	Early Voting May Begin: For the primary election in those counties that choose to conduct early voting. [§34-1012, Idaho Code]
MAY 1	Petition Signature Deadline: Last day for petitions in circulation to submit petition signatures to the county clerks. This date is dependent upon when the 18-month circulation period began. [§34-1802(2), Idaho Code]
MAY 5	Mail Ballot Precincts: Deadline for county clerks to complete mailing ballots to voters in designated mail ballot precincts – for the primary election. [§34-308, Idaho Code]
MAY 7	Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election – in the county's official newspaper(s) – for the primary election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [§34-602 and §34-1406, Idaho Code]
MAY 7	Poll Watchers: Deadline for parties, candidates, or pro and con representatives to submit a written request (to the county clerk) for the purpose of authorizing watchers to observe at polling places – for the primary election. [§34-304, Idaho Code]
MAY 8	Preregistration Deadline: Voter registrations must be received by the county clerk by 5 p.m. local time – for the primary election. [§34-408 and §34-410, Idaho Code]
MAY 8	Absentee Ballot Application Deadline: Applications must be received by the county clerk by 5 p.m. local time – for the primary election. [§34-1002(7), Idaho Code]
MAY 14	Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerks to publish the second notice of election along with a facsimile sample ballot – for the primary election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [§34-602 and §34-1406, Idaho Code]
MAY 14	Emergency Absentee Ballot: County clerks may receive emergency absentee ballot applications through 5 p.m. on May 18 from those who cannot be present for voting due to hospitalization, if hospitalization occurred after 5 p.m. on May 8. [§34-1002A, Idaho Code]
MAY 15	In-Person Absentee/Early Voting Ends: At 5 p.m. – for the primary election. [§34-1002(7) and §34-1012, Idaho Code]
MAY 19	Election Day: Polling places – and the county clerk's office – to be open 8 a.m.–8 p.m. Qualified individuals may register and vote at their designated polling place on election day. [§34-211, §34-408A, and §34-1101, Idaho Code]
MAY 19	Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: Voted absentee ballots must be received – by the county clerk – by 8 p.m. for the May 19 election. [§34-1005, Idaho Code]
MAY 20	Voter Registration Reopens [§34-408, Idaho Code]

MAY 28	County Canvas: Deadline for the board of county commissioners to meet and conduct the canvass – of the primary election. [§34-1205 and §34-1410, Idaho Code]
MAY 28	County Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results and issue certificates for the primary election. (*This date may vary; it must be done immediately after canvass.) [§34-1208, Idaho Code]
MAY 29	Post-election Audit Selection: The Secretary of State shall conduct the randomized selection for the counties to be audited for the primary election. [§34-1203A, Idaho Code]
MAY 29	Central Committees to Elect Officers: Last day for county central committees of each political party to meet and elect party officers. [§34-502, Idaho Code]
MAY 30	Legislative District Committees to Elect Officers: Last day for legislative district committees of each political party to meet and elect party officers. [§34-503, Idaho Code]
JUNE 5	Election Certificates to Precinct Committeemen: The county clerk shall issue certificates of election to the precinct committeemen of each political party who receive the highest number of votes, if they received a minimum of 5 votes. [§34-1208, Idaho Code]
JUNE 9	State Canvass: Deadline for the state board of canvassers to meet and conduct the canvass – of the primary election. [§34-1211, Idaho Code]
JUNE 9	Secretary of State to Issue Certificates: The Secretary of State shall issue certificates of nomination to the political party candidates of each party. (*This date may vary; it must be done immediately after canvass.) [§34-1214, Idaho Code]
JUNE 17	Recount Applications for County and Nonpartisan Candidates and Local Ballot Measures: Deadline – for nonpartisan candidates and supporters/opponents of local ballot measures – to apply to the county clerk for a recount of the primary election. Applications for a recount of county contests and ballot measures must be filed with the Attorney General. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days after the county canvass.) [§34-2301, Idaho Code]
JUNE 17	Election Disputes: Deadline for electors to contest the results of the primary election. (*This date may vary; complaints must be filed in the proper court within 20 days of the canvass.) [§34-2008, Idaho Code]
JUNE 29	Recount Applications for Federal and State Candidates and Statewide Ballot Measures: Deadline to apply to the Attorney General for a recount. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days after the state canvass.) [§34-2301, Idaho Code]
JUNE 30	County Clerks to Verify Petition Signatures: Last day for county clerks to verify the initiative petition signatures submitted. [§34-1802(3), Idaho Code]
JULY 17	Election Register Examination: Deadline for county clerks to examine the election register, from the primary election, and note challenges. [§34-432(1), Idaho Code]
AUG. 14 – 21	Publish Notification of Candidate Filing Deadline: County clerks must publish a notification of the candidate filing deadline for all taxing districts for which officers will be elected in the Nov. 3 election – during this period. The notice should appear in the official newspaper of the political subdivision. [§34-1405, Idaho Code]

AUG. 17 – 28	Magistrate Judges and Nonpartisan Candidate Filing Window: Candidates may file nomination petitions with the clerk of the political subdivision beginning at 8 a.m on Monday and must be filed by 5:00pm on the last day of the filing period. [§34-1404, Idaho Code]
AUG. 28	Ballot Question Submission Deadline: Political subdivisions must submit ballot language (to the county clerk) for any bond, levy, initiative, referendum, or other question – to be placed on the ballot – for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-106, Idaho Code]
AUG. 28	Recall Notification Deadline: Political subdivisions must notify the county clerk if a recall election is ordered – for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-106(9), Idaho Code]
SEP. 4	Write-In Candidates Deadline: Deadline for nonpartisan write-in candidates for office to file a declaration of intent with the clerk of the political subdivision for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-1407, Idaho Code]
SEP. 4	Non-partisan Nominee Certification: Deadline for the clerk of the political subdivision to certify nominees – to be placed on the ballot – for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-1404, Idaho Code]
SEP. 4	Candidate Withdrawal Deadline: Last day partisan and nonpartisan candidates can withdraw from the Nov. 3 election. [§34-1405A, Idaho Code]
SEP. 4	Sample Ballot Layout Deadline: Deadline for the Secretary of State to provide the layout for the Nov. 3 election sample ballot. [§34-909(1), Idaho Code]
SEP. 4	Candidate Certification Deadline: Last day for the Secretary of State to certify candidates for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-909(3), Idaho Code]
SEP. 4	Statewide Ballot Question Certification Deadline: Last day for Secretary of State to Certify a Proposed Constitution, Constitutional Amendment, or Other Statewide Ballot Questions for the General Election. [§34-603, Idaho Code]
SEP. 4	Post-election Audit Directive to be Issued: Last day for the Secretary of State to issue a Postelection Audit Directive for the General Election. [§34-1203A, Idaho Code]
SEP. 14*	Early Voting Security Plan: Deadline for county clerks to submit their ballot security plan to the secretary of state. (*NOTE: The Early Voting Security Plan must be submitted at least 30 days prior to implementing an early voting plan. If a plan was submitted and approved earlier in the year, and has not changed, it need not be resubmitted.) [§34-1013, Idaho Code]
SEP. 14	Absentee Ballot Printing Deadline: Last Day for County Clerks to Print Absentee Ballots for the General Election. [§34-1003, Idaho Code and Secretary of State Directive 2015-1]
SEP. 18	Absentee Ballot Delivery Witnesses: Deadline for political parties to supply names of witnesses (if desired) to accompany the clerk in the personal delivery of an absentee ballot for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-1003(5), Idaho Code]
SEP. 18	Investigation of Candidate Qualifications: Deadline to file complaint. [§34-219, Idaho Code]
SEP. 18	Mail Absentee Ballots: County clerks must begin mailing absentee ballots – to voters who have requested absentee ballots – for the general election. [§34-308, Idaho Code]

SEP. 24	Voting Procedure Modifications: Deadline for county clerks to submit their plans to the secretary of state; if they want to modify voting procedures (for a political subdivision) — for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-1413, Idaho Code]
OCT. 2	Designate Polling Places: Deadline for county commissioners to designate polling places — for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-302, Idaho Code]
OCT. 9	Mail Ballot Precincts: County clerks may begin mailing ballots to voters located in designated mail ballot precincts — for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-308, Idaho Code]
OCT. 13	Early Voting May Begin: For the Nov. 3 election in those counties that choose to conduct early voting. [§34-1012, Idaho Code]
OCT. 20	Mail Ballot Precincts: Deadline for county clerks to complete mailing ballots to voters in designated mail ballot precincts — for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-308, Idaho Code]
OCT. 22	Poll Watchers: Deadline for candidates or pro and con representatives to submit a written request (to the county clerk) for the purpose of authorizing watchers to observe at polling places — for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-304, Idaho Code]
OCT. 22	Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election — in the county's official newspaper(s) — for the Nov. 3 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [§34-602 and §34-1406, Idaho Code]
OCT. 23	Pre-registration Deadline: Voter registrations must be received by the county clerk — for the Nov. 3 election. (Deadline is 5 p.m. for paper applications handed in or mailed to the county clerk's office, or until midnight for online applications.) [§34-408 and §34-410, Idaho Code]
OCT. 23	Absentee Ballot Application Deadline: Applications must be received by the county clerk by 5 p.m. — for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-1002(7), Idaho Code]
OCT. 29	Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the second notice of election along with a facsimile sample ballot — for the Nov. 3 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [§34-602 and §34-1406, Idaho Code]
OCT. 29	Emergency Absentee Ballots: County clerks may receive emergency absentee ballot applications through 5 p.m. on November 2 from those who cannot be present for voting due to hospitalization if hospitalization began after 5 p.m. on October 23. [§34-1002A, Idaho Code]
OCT. 30	In-Person Absentee/Early Voting Ends: At 5 p.m. — for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-1002(7) and §34-1012, Idaho Code]
NOV. 3	Election Day: Polling places — and the county clerk's office — to be open 8 a.m.–8 p.m. Qualified individuals may register and vote at their designated polling place on election day. [§34-211 , §34-408A , and §34-1101, Idaho Code]
NOV. 3	Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: Voted absentee ballots must be received — by the county clerk — by 8 p.m. for the Nov. 3 election. [§34-1005, Idaho Code]

NOV. 4	Voter Registration Reopens <small>[§34-408, Idaho Code]</small>
NOV. 12	County Canvass: Deadline for the board of county commissioners to meet and conduct the canvass – of the Nov. 3 election. (This deadline also applies to the canvass for political subdivisions.) <small>[§34-1205 and §34-1410, Idaho Code]</small>
NOV. 12*	County Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results of the Nov. 3 election to the clerk of the political subdivision(s) and the county candidates who received the highest number of votes. (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the county canvass.) <small>[§34-1209, Idaho Code]</small>
NOV. 12*	Election Certificates: Deadline for the clerk of the political subdivision to issue certificates of election. (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the county canvass.) <small>[§34-1410, Idaho Code]</small>
NOV. 13	Postelection Audit Selection: The Secretary of State shall conduct the randomized selection for the counties to be audited for the general election. <small>[§34-1203A, Idaho Code]</small>
NOV. 24	State Canvass: Deadline for the state board of canvassers to meet and conduct the canvass – of the general election. <small>[§34-1211, Idaho Code]</small>
NOV. 24	Secretary of State to Issue Certificates: The Secretary of State shall issue certificates of nomination to candidates who received the highest number of votes. (*This date may vary; it must be done immediately after canvass.) <small>[§34-1215, Idaho Code]</small>
DEC. 2*	Recount Applications for County and Nonpartisan Candidates and Local Ballot Measures: Deadline – for nonpartisan candidates and supporters/opponents of local ballot measures – to apply to the county clerk for a recount of the general election. Applications for a recount of county contests and ballot measures must be filed with the Attorney General. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days after the county canvass.) <small>[§34-2301, Idaho Code]</small>
DEC. 2*	Election Disputes for County and Nonpartisan Candidates and Local Ballot Measures: Deadline for electors to contest the results of the Nov. 3 election. (*This date may vary; complaints must be filed in the proper court within 20 days of the county canvass.) <small>[§34-2008, Idaho Code]</small>
DEC. 14*	Recount Applications for Federal and State Candidates and Statewide Ballot Measures: Deadline to apply to the Attorney General for a recount. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days after the state canvass.) <small>[§34-2301, Idaho Code]</small>
DEC. 14*	Election Disputes for Federal and State Candidates and Statewide Ballot Measures: Deadline for electors to contest the results of the Nov. 3 election. (*This date may vary; complaints must be filed in the proper court within 20 days of the county canvass.) <small>[§34-2008, Idaho Code]</small>
DEC. 31	Publication Deadline for the 2027 Election Calendar: County clerks to publish the 2027 election calendar. <small>[§34-1405(2), Idaho Code]</small>
DEC. 31	Election Register Examination: Deadline for county clerks to examine the election register, from the Nov. 3 election, and note challenges. <small>[§34-432(1), Idaho Code]</small>