

Election Advisory No. 2025-08

November 4, 2025 Election Law Calendar

The uniform election date in November of odd-numbered years is usually the date on which constitutional amendments passed by the Texas Legislature during its recently completed session are voted on. Many local political subdivisions, such as cities and school districts, also have their regular general elections for members of their governing bodies or special elections to fill vacancies on this date. Political subdivisions, including counties, may also have measure (proposition) elections on this date. Therefore, this calendar is designed to meet the needs of many diverse governmental bodies. If there are questions about the applicability of something in this calendar to your particular election, do not hesitate to call the Elections Division of the Office of the Texas Secretary of State at 1-800-252-VOTE (8683).

Section 2.025 of the Texas Election Code requires the Secretary of State to set the runoff date for all runoff elections resulting from an election held on a uniform election date. Pursuant to Section 2.025, the Secretary of State has designated Saturday, December 13, 2025 as the election date for all runoff elections resulting from elections held by local political subdivisions on the November 4, 2025 Uniform Election Date.

Notes

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Events Calendar

Friday, June 20, 2025

(The 30th day before July 19, 2025, the first day to file an application for a place on the ballot, is June 19, 2025. This deadline rolls forward one day under Sec. 1.006 because June 19, 2025 is a state and federal holiday).

Cities, Schools, and Other Political Subdivisions: Post [Notice of Deadline to File Applications for Place on the Ballot \(PDF\)](#) in a building in which the authority maintains an office. The notice must be posted not later than the 30th day before the first day to file. (Sec. 141.040; Sec. 49.113, Water Code). This notice must be posted in addition to the posting the requirements and deadline for filing for candidacy under Section 2051.201, Government Code. ([See Note 3](#), above.)

Water Districts: The notice must be posted at the district's administrative office or at the public place established by the district under Section 49.063 of the Water Code. (Sec. 49.113, Water Code).

NOTE - The delivery, submission, or filing of an application with an employee of the filing authority at the authority's usual place for conducting official business constitutes filing with the authority. (Sec. 1.007).

NOTE - The authority with whom an application for a place on the ballot is filed is required to designate an e-mail address in the notice required by Section 141.040 for the purpose of filing an application for a place on the ballot.

Monday, June 30, 2025 (last day of June)

Counties with a Population of Over 500,000: Deadline for party chairs to submit to county commissioners court a list of eligible persons for precinct presiding judge and alternate presiding judges for appointments in each county election precinct, presiding judge and alternate judge for the early voting ballot board, and as a central counting station presiding judge and alternate judge and who are affiliated or aligned with the county chair's political party. (Secs. 32.002 & 127.005(e)). This is meant for counties that did not make two-year appointments in 2024, and will be making appointments in the July 2025 term. Lists submitted by mail must be postmarked by June 30, 2025, in order for them to be considered timely-filed.

July

July Term

Counties with a Population of Over 500,000: This is meant for counties that did not make two-year appointments in 2024, and will be making appointments in the July 2025 term. The commissioners court must appoint the election judges for each regular county election precinct, the presiding and alternate judge for the central counting station, and the presiding and alternate judge for the early voting ballot board at its July term in a county with a population of over 500,000. In counties with a population of over 500,000, the terms of the judges start on August 1, 2025. See entry for [Monday, June 30, 2025](#). See [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2025-05](#) for more information on appointment procedures.

Saturday, July 19, 2025 (30th day before Monday, August 18, 2025, regular filing deadline for a place on the ballot)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: First day to file an application for a place on the ballot or a declaration of write-in candidacy. (Secs. 143.007, 144.005, 146.054, Election Code; Secs. 11.055, 11.056, 130.082(g), 130.0825, Educ. Code). See [Candidacy Guide for Local Political Subdivisions](#) for more details. The following applications may be provided to candidates and are available on the Secretary of State's website:

- [Application for Place on City/School/Other Political Subdivision Ballot \(PDF\)](#)
- If your home rule city or special law district allows for a petition, the following petition may be used: [Petition for a Place on the Ballot for a Local Political Subdivision \(PDF\)](#)

- [Declaration of Write-In Candidacy for City, School, or other Political Subdivisions \(PDF\)](#)

NOTE - NEW LAW: HB 3629 (2025, R.S.), effective immediately, prohibits people who are required to register as sex offenders under the Code of Criminal Procedure from serving as trustees for an independent school district. Applicants who want to run for school trustee, whether as a candidate on the ballot or a write-in, must therefore indicate that they are eligible under this provision when filling out the candidate application. This change will be reflected in updated candidate-application forms. Applicants who use an older version of an application that does not contain this affirmation should be rejected and directed to use an updated form.

NOTE - We are often asked how filing can begin if you have not yet ordered the general election. You do **not** need to order your **general** (regularly occurring) election in order for the filing period to begin.

NOTE - Candidate applications, other than those that must be accompanied by a filing fee, may be filed via email. The application must be a scanned copy of the candidate application and must be sent to the filing authority's designated email address for accepting applications. (Secs. 143.004, 144.003).

NOTE - Cities, Schools, and Other Political Subdivisions: At least part of the candidate filing period will occur during the summer break for school districts. Additionally, there are political subdivisions that do not have office hours on all days of the business week (Monday through Friday) or do not have an office that is open for eight hours each day of the business week. The Elections Division recommends that political subdivisions take steps to have someone available for a few hours most days during the candidate filing period to accept filings, and that political subdivisions post a schedule on their websites and on the bulletin boards where notices of meetings are posted of the days and times when someone will be available to accept filings.

The Elections Division also strongly recommends having someone available at the place of business on the filing deadline, especially from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., if you are otherwise closed. This guideline is based on the office-hour rule under Section 31.122 of the Election Code. Although a political subdivision may accept applications by mail, fax, or email without a person there at the office, the political subdivision will not be able to determine which applications were timely filed by 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 31, 2025 (last day of July)

Recommended date that county election officials and local political subdivisions meet to discuss conducting elections at the same polling locations pursuant to Sections 42.002 &

42.0621, as well as any applicable joint election issues needed to be agreed upon. **NOTE - This is not a deadline; just a recommendation.** [See Note 14 on Consolidating and Combining Precincts.](#)

Counties with a Population of 500,000 or Less: Deadline for party chairs to submit to county commissioners court a list of eligible persons for appointments as presiding election and alternate presiding judges in each county election precinct, as a central counting station presiding judge and alternate judge, and as an early voting ballot board presiding judge or alternate judge, and who are affiliated or aligned with the county chair's political party. (Secs. 32.002 & 127.005(e)). This is meant for counties that did not make two-year appointments in 2024, and will be making appointments in the August 2025 term. Lists submitted by mail must be postmarked by July 31, 2025 to be considered timely.

August

August Term

Counties with a Population of 500,000 or Less: This is meant for counties that did not make two-year appointments in 2024, and will be making appointments in the August 2025 term. The commissioners court must appoint the election judges for each regular county election precinct, the presiding and alternate judge for the central counting station, and the presiding and alternate judge for the early voting ballot board at its August term in a county with a population of 500,000 or less. In counties with a population of 500,000 or less, the terms of the judges start on September 1, 2025. See entry for [July 31, 2025.](#)

Recommended time for the county commissioners court to decide whether to consolidate county election precincts for the November 4, 2025 state constitutional amendment election. The county may consolidate two or more precincts into a single precinct if it will be so located as to adequately serve the voters. At least one consolidated precinct must be wholly within each commissioners precinct.

If a county consolidates county election precincts, they must provide a [Notice of Consolidated Precinct \(PDF\)](#) at each polling place used in the preceding general election to inform voters of the precinct's consolidation and the location of the consolidated precinct polling place. This notice must be posted not later than the 10th day before election day and must remain posted continuously through election day. (Secs. 42.008, 4.003(b)). The county shall deliver to the Secretary of State notice of the consolidated precinct no later than the date of the election. (Sec. 4.003(e)). See [Note 14 on Consolidating and Combining Precincts.](#)

Wednesday, August 6, 2025 (90th day before election day)

Last day for eligible political subdivisions to submit [Notice of Exemption Under Section 61.013 \(PDF\)](#) or an [Application of Undue Burden Status \(PDF\)](#) to the Secretary of State for exemption from the accessible voting system requirement. (Sec. 61.013). For additional information, consult the current advisory on this topic, [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory 2025-06](#).

NOTE - NEW LAW: HB 2253 (2025, R.S.), effective immediately, allows the authority that ordered a bond measure to cancel the election on the measure by the 74th day before election day if the governor issues a disaster declaration by the 90th day before the date of the election on the measure. To do so, the authority must hold an open meeting on the question of cancelling the election and must post notice of the cancellation at each early voting location and each election day polling place.

Friday, August 15, 2025 (81st day before election day; 3rd day before filing deadline)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: If a candidate dies on or before this date and the filing deadline for the filing authority is Monday, August 18, 2025, his or her name is not placed on the ballot (Sec. 145.094(a)(1)).

NOTE - Section 145.098 provides that if a candidate dies on or before the deadline for filing an application for a place on the ballot, the authority responsible for preparing the ballots MAY choose to omit the candidate from the ballot. If the authority does choose to omit the candidate, the deadline for filing an application for a place on the ballot is extended to the fifth day after the filing deadline. Because the fifth day after the filing deadline is a Saturday, the filing deadline is rolled forward to the next regular business day, which is Monday, August 25, 2025. (Sec. 1.006) This extended deadline only applies to the regular filing deadline. It **DOES NOT** apply to the write-in deadline.

Monday, August 18, 2025 (78th day before election day)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: 5:00 p.m. - Last day for a candidate in a political subdivision (other than a county) to file an application for a place on the ballot for general election for officers for most political subdivisions, except as otherwise provided by the Texas Election Code. (Secs. 143.007(c), 144.005(d), Election Code; Sec. 11.055, Education Code; Chapter 286, Health & Safety Code). See [Candidacy Guide for Local Political Subdivisions, Terms, Qualifications, and Vacancies](#), and [Voter Registration Requirements for Candidates](#) for more information.

NOTE - A home-rule city's charter may **not** provide an alternate candidate filing deadline. (Secs. 143.005(a), 143.007).

NOTE - City Offices with Four-Year Terms: If no candidate has filed for a city office with a four-year term, the filing deadline is 5:00 p.m. of the 57th day before election day, Monday, September 8, 2025. (Sec. 143.008).

NOTE - An application by mail is considered to be filed when received by the appropriate filing authority. (Secs. 143.007(b), 144.005(b)).

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties (General Election): Deadline for political subdivisions to order a general election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, unless otherwise provided by the Election Code. (Sec. 3.005). One of the following forms may be used:

- [Order of Election for Municipalities \(PDF\)](#)
- [Order of Election for Other Political Subdivisions \(Including Schools\) \(PDF\)](#)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties (Special Election): Deadline to order a special election on a measure to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. The following form may be used:

- [Order of Special Election for Municipalities \(PDF\)](#)
- [Order of Special Election for Other Political Subdivisions \(PDF\)](#)

Counties: Deadline for counties to order a special election on a measure to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, other than the constitutional amendment election, which is ordered by the governor. (Secs. 3.004, 3.005). The following form may be used:

- [Order of Special Election for County-Ordered Measure Elections \(PDF\)](#)

Notice for State Constitutional Amendment Election: The constitutional amendment election is ordered by the governor. But the commissioners court should also complete a local [order \(PDF\)](#) to ensure that all required actions related to the election have been completed.

The order of election must include:

1. The date of the election;
2. The location of the main early voting polling place **including the street address, room number, and building name. The order must designate which location is the main early voting polling place;**
3. The offices or measures to be voted on;
4. **(Recommended)** Branch early voting polling places (see [Notice of Elections](#) above);

5. The dates and hours for early voting (recommended for counties and cities, but required for all other entities).
6. The dates and hours of any Saturday and Sunday early voting (if applicable, it is recommended that this information be included in the order for counties, but it must be included for all other entities); and
7. The early voting clerk's official mailing address or street address at which the clerk may receive delivery by common or contract carrier, if different, phone number, e-mail address, and the Internet website, if the early voting clerk has an Internet website.

In addition to the information included above, an order for a debt obligation (bond) election **must** include (Sec. 3.009):

1. the proposition language that will appear on the ballot;
2. the purpose for which the debt obligations are to be authorized;
3. the principal amount of the debt obligations to be authorized;
4. that taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the debt obligations may be imposed;
5. a statement of the estimated tax rate if the debt obligations are authorized or of the maximum interest rate of the debt obligations or any series of the debt obligations, based on the market conditions at the time of the election order;
6. the maximum maturity date of the debt obligations to be authorized or that the debt obligations may be issued to mature over a specified number of years not to exceed the maximum number of years authorized by law;
7. the aggregate amount of the outstanding principal of the political subdivision's debt obligations as of the date the election is ordered;
8. the aggregate amount of the outstanding interest on debt obligations of the political subdivision as of the date the election is ordered, which may be based on the political subdivision's expectations relative to variable rate debt obligations; and
9. the ad valorem debt service tax rate for the political subdivision at the time the election is ordered, expressed as an amount per \$100 valuation of taxable property.

Friday, August 22, 2025 (74th day before election day)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: 5:00 p.m. - Deadline for write-in candidates to file [Declarations of Write-In Candidacy \(PDF\)](#) for regular officers for city, school district, library district, junior college district, hospital district, common school districts, Chapter 36 and 49 Water Code districts, and other political subdivision elections, unless otherwise provided by law. (Secs. 144.006(b)(2), 146.054(b)(2), 146.055, 146.083, Election Code; Secs. 11.056, 11.304, 130.0825, Education Code; Secs. 326.0431, 326.0432, Local Government Code; Sec. 285.131, Health & Safety Code; Secs. 36.059, 49.101, 63.0945, Water Code). See [Candidacy Guide for Local Political Subdivisions](#).

NOTE - An application by mail is considered to be filed at the time of its receipt by the appropriate filing authority. (Secs. 143.007(b), 144.005(b)).

First day to post [Notice of Drawing for Place on Ballot \(PDF\)](#) if drawing is to be conducted on Tuesday, August 26, 2025. This notice must be posted for 72 hours immediately preceding the time of the drawing. (Sec. 52.094(c))

The authority conducting the ballot position drawing shall provide notice of the date, hour, and place of the drawing to candidates by this date **if** the drawing is to be conducted on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, as recommended. (Sec. 52.094(d)). If a candidate in a special election files on this date, they should be given a copy of the notice at the time they file.

The authority conducting the drawing shall provide notice of the date, hour, and place of the drawing to each candidate. The authority may provide written notice at the time the candidate files an application with the appropriate authority.

If notice was not provided at the time the candidate filed an application, the notice may be provided by:

1. written notice that is mailed to the address stated on the candidate's application not later than the fourth day before the date of the drawing; or
2. telephone, if a telephone number is provided on the candidate's application or
3. by e-mail, if an e-mail address was provided on the candidate's application. (Sec. 52.094).

NOTE - NEW LAW: HB 2253 (2025, R.S.), effective immediately, allows the authority that ordered a bond measure to cancel the election on the measure by the 74th day before election day if the governor issues a disaster declaration by the 90th day before the date of the election on the measure. To do so, the authority must hold an open meeting on the question of cancelling the election and must post notice of the cancellation at each early voting location and each election day polling place.

Monday, August 25, 2025 (71st day before election day)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: 5:00 p.m. - Last day for a candidate to withdraw, by submission of a [Certificate of Withdrawal \(PDF\)](#) or a notarized letter. **If a candidate withdraws or is declared ineligible by this date, his or her name is omitted from the ballot.** (Secs. 145.092(f), 145.094(a)(4), 145.096(a)(4)). For special circumstances regarding withdrawal of a candidate before ballots are prepared, please contact the Elections Division of the Office of the Texas Secretary of State.

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: 5:00 p.m. — Last day to **withdraw** as a **write-in** candidate in the general election ordered by a political subdivision other than a county. (Secs. 144.006(c), 146.0301, 146.054(c)). (Candidates may use the [Certificate of Withdrawal \(PDF\)](#)).

NOTE - Section 145.098 provides that if a candidate dies on or before the deadline for filing an application for a place on the ballot, the authority responsible for preparing the ballots MAY choose to omit the candidate from the ballot. If the authority does choose to omit the candidate, the deadline for filing an application for a place on the ballot is extended to the fifth day after the filing deadline. Because the fifth day after the filing deadline is a Saturday, the date rolls forward to Monday, August 25, 2025. This extended deadline only applies to the regular filing deadline. It **DOES NOT** apply to the write-in deadline.

Recommended first day that an election may be canceled if all filing deadlines have passed, each candidate for an office listed on the ballot is unopposed, and write-in votes may be counted only for names appearing on a list of write-in candidates. (Sec. 2.052). The [Certification of Unopposed Candidates for Other Political Subdivisions \(PDF\)](#) may be used to certify candidates as unopposed. Also, see our [Sample Order of Cancellation \(PDF\)](#).

A special election of a political subdivision is considered to be a separate election with a separate ballot from a general election for officers of the same political subdivision held at the same time as the special election. Therefore, the fact that there may be a proposition on the ballot will not prevent a cancellation of an election for candidates who are unopposed. (Sec. 2.051(a)). If any members of the political subdivision's governing body are elected from territorial units, such as single member districts, an election **shall** be cancelled in a particular territorial unit if each candidate for an office that is to appear on the ballot in that territorial unit is unopposed **and no** opposed at-large race is to appear on the ballot. An unopposed at-large race **shall** be cancelled in an election regardless of whether an opposed race is to appear on the ballot in a particular territorial unit. (Sec. 2.051(b)).

NOTE – Under Section 2.053 of the Texas Election Code, this cancellation process is mandatory rather than discretionary.

This recommended cancellation deadline presumes a filing deadline of Monday, August 18, 2025, and a write-in deadline of Friday, August 22, 2025. Special elections may have different deadlines, and may now be cancelled separately.

NOTE - Political Subdivision Holding a Special Election to Fill a Vacancy: If you are having a special election to fill a vacancy for an unexpired (partial) term, you cannot cancel the special election until after all deadlines to file for a special vacancy election have passed. (Reminder: The cancellation procedures allow general and special elections to be considered separate elections for cancellation purposes. If the elections are separated, note there are procedures related to listing unopposed candidates in the same relative order on the ballot.).

For more information on Cancellation of Elections, see Sec. 2.053, Election Code and the Secretary of State's Outline - [Cancellation of Election for Local Political Subdivisions \(Not County\)](#).

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: *Recommended* date to appoint **presiding and alternate judges**. Currently, the Election Code does not establish a deadline for appointing election officials; there is only a notification deadline. For further information concerning procedures for appointing judges and their alternates, see Sections 32.005, 32.008, and 32.011. General eligibility requirements are found in Subchapter C, Chapter 32.

The governing body must allow the judge to appoint no less than two clerks; however, the alternate judge must serve as one of the clerks as a matter of law. (Secs. 32.032, 32.033). The presiding judge then appoints an additional clerk(s), but not more than the maximum set by the governing body. (Sec. 32.033).

Presiding judges and their alternates must be given a [Notice of Appointment \(PDF\)](#) **not later than the 20th day after the appointment is made**. (Sec. 32.009). If the appointment is for a single election, the notice may be combined with the [Writ of Election \(PDF\)](#), which is required to be delivered to each presiding judge **not later than the 15th day before the election, Monday, October 20, 2025**. (Secs. 4.007, 32.009(e)). If the notices are combined, both must be delivered by the date required by the earlier notice. See [Note 20 regarding Online Training Materials](#).

NOTE - Water Districts: A water district is not required to provide a Notice of Appointment to a presiding judge, as required under Section 32.009, but must provide a [Writ of Election \(PDF\)](#). (Sec. 4.007; Sec. 49.110, Water Code).

Recommended date to appoint the **central counting station personnel**, if applicable. (Secs. 127.002, 127.003, 127.004, 127.005). There is no statutory notice requirement for members of the central counting station, but good practice suggests that written notice be given to them.

Recommended date to appoint the **presiding judge and alternate judge of the early voting ballot board** or to designate the election workers of one election precinct to serve as the early voting ballot board. (Secs. 87.001, 87.002, 87.004). There is no statutory notice requirement for members of the early voting ballot board, but good practice suggests that written notice be given to them.

Recommended date to order the lists of registered voters from the county voter registrar. The list should include both the voters' residences and mailing addresses in order to conduct early voting by mail. (Sec. 18.006).

Recommended date to order election supplies, other than ballots. (Sec. 51.003).

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: Recommended date to confirm telephone number for the county voter registrar's office on election day.

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 (70th day before election day)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: Last day to order a special election to fill a vacancy (if authorized to fill vacancies by special election) and have the filing deadline be the 62nd day before election day. (Secs. 201.054(a)(1)), 201.052). Please note that the Election Code requires the election to be ordered as soon as practicable after the vacancy occurs. (Sec. 201.051). The following forms may be used:

- [Order of Special Election for Municipalities \(PDF\)](#)
- [Order of Special Election for Other Political Subdivisions \(PDF\)](#)

NOTE - Section 201.054 provides that if a special election to fill a vacancy is ordered (1) on or before the 70th day before election day, the candidate application must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on the 62nd day before election day, OR (2) after the 70th day but on or before the 46th day before election day, the candidate application must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on the 40th day before election day. This is the first of the two possible ordering times.

Recommended date to conduct ballot position drawing. (Sec. 52.094) You should also certify today to the county election officer the offices, propositions (in all necessary languages), and candidates' names (including the order) as they are to appear on the ballot, **if you are contracting** to have the county conduct your election or if you are conducting a joint election with the county. See entry for [August 22, 2025](#).

NOTE - After the ballot drawing has occurred, the Elections Division recommends that you proof and test your ballot programming as soon as possible and **prior to the deadline to mail a ballot** if the political subdivision will be using automatic tabulating equipment to count the mail ballots or if your mail ballots are printed from the same database used to program your precinct scanners and/or DREs (See Note on [Testing Tabulating Equipment](#)). **The Elections Division also recommends that you provide candidates with copies of ballot proofs so that candidates may verify the correctness of their names, positions sought, and order of names on the ballot.**

Wednesday, August 27, 2025 (State Holiday - LBJ's Birthday)

Thursday, August 28, 2025 (68th day before election day)

Deadline for the Secretary of State to certify the state constitutional amendment election. (Sec. 274.003). The certification will include the ballot order of the constitutional amendments.

September

Monday, September 1, 2025 (64th day before election day) (Labor Day) Wednesday, September 3, 2025 (62nd day before election day)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: 5:00 p.m. - Last day to file application for a place on the ballot in a special election to fill a vacancy, if the special election is ordered on or before the 70th day before election day, Tuesday, August 26, 2025. (Sec. 201.054(a)(1)). For more details about Section 201.054 and the two possible special election deadlines, see entry for [Tuesday, August 26, 2025](#).

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: 5:00 p.m. - Deadline for write-in candidates to file [Declarations of Write-In Candidacy \(PDF\)](#) for officers for city, school district, library district, junior college district, hospital district, and common school districts in a special election to fill a vacancy if the special election is ordered on or before the 70th day before election day, Tuesday, August 26, 2025. (Sec. 201.054(a)(1), 201.054(g)).

NOTE - A declaration of write-in candidacy for a special election must be filed not later than the filing deadline. The filing deadline to file an application for a place on the ballot in a special election to fill a vacancy if the special election is ordered on or before the 70th day before election day, Tuesday, August 26, 2025, is Wednesday, September 3, 2025. (Sec. 201.054(g)).

NOTE - When reviewing candidate applications, please make sure that the candidate has used the most current version of the form.

NOTE - School Districts: In addition to the general felony rule at Election Code Sec. 141.001 (finally convicted), a candidate must not have been convicted (finally convicted or otherwise) of specific crimes under the Education Code in order to serve. ([Sec. 11.066](#), Education Code).

NOTE – The authority conducting the drawing shall provide notice of the date, hour, and place of the drawing to each candidate. The authority may provide written notice at the time the candidate files an application with the appropriate authority.

If notice was not provided at the time the candidate filed an application, the notice may be provided by:

1. written notice that is mailed to the address stated on the candidate's application not later than the fourth day before the date of the drawing; or
2. telephone, if a telephone number is provided on the candidate's application or
3. by e-mail, if an e-mail address was provided on the candidate's application. (Sec. 52.094). ([Notice of Drawing for Place on Ballot](#)).

Friday, September 5, 2025 (60th day before election day)

First day of period during which the Secretary of State must publish first statewide notice of state constitutional amendment election. The Secretary of State will publish this notice a second time on the same day of the next week after the first notice was published. (Art. XVII, Sec. 1, Texas Constitution).

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: Last day for the governing body of a political subdivision to deliver notice of the election to the county clerk/elections administrator and voter registrar of each county in which the political subdivision is wholly or partly located. (Sec. 4.008).

NOTE - Section 4.003 requires that counties post on the county website the notice and list of polling locations of any political subdivision that delivers their notice to the county under 4.008. This is regardless of whether the county is contracting with the entity. [See Note 8](#) for more information on the requirements related to Notice of Election.

NOTE - Section 4.004 requires the notice of election to include the Internet website of the authority conducting the election.

NOTE - Section 83.010 requires an election order and the election notice to state the early voting clerk's official mailing address or street address at which the clerk may receive delivery by common or contract carrier, if different, phone number, e-mail address, and the Internet website, if the early voting clerk has an Internet website. (Sec. 83.010).

Recommended date for county clerk/county elections administrator to deliver an initial list of voters who have submitted annual applications for ballot by mail under Section 86.0015 and scans or photocopies of those applications to the early voting clerk of any political subdivision located within the county that is holding an election on November 4, 2025. The list should only include voters that reside in the political subdivision holding the election. The list should only be created and sent to those political subdivisions that have provided notice of the election to the county clerk/elections administrator. See *also* the note below and the entry at [Friday, October 24, 2025](#) for more information about delivery of a final list of voters. See entry for [Thursday, October 23, 2025](#), and entry for [Saturday, November 1, 2025](#) for more information on the delivery of copies/images of the applications.

NOTE - Section 86.0015 requires the county clerk/elections administrator to provide a list of voters that have submitted an annual application for ballot by mail to all political subdivisions in their county holding an election. The law only applies to elections for which the county clerk/elections administrator is not the early voting clerk via a contract for election services or joint election agreement. The Election Division *strongly recommends* that the county and political subdivisions **discuss the frequency and method for which these lists should be transmitted** to ensure that ballots are sent out timely. Finally, the county clerk/elections administrator **must deliver either photocopies or scanned images of the applications (under Section 87.126) to the early voting clerk** of the political subdivision before the ballots by mail are delivered to the early voting ballot board for qualifying and counting under Section 87.041.

Monday, September 8, 2025 (57th day before election day)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: 5:00 p.m. – Last day for a candidate to file [Certificate of Withdrawal \(PDF\)](#) in a special election in which the filing deadline is the 62nd day before election day. **If a candidate withdraws or is declared ineligible by this date, his or her name is omitted from the ballot.** (Secs. 145.092(b), (e) and 145.094(a)(3)).

For special circumstances regarding withdrawal of a candidate before ballots are prepared, please contact the Elections Division of the Office of the Texas Secretary of State.

City Offices with Four-Year Terms: 5:00 p.m. - Extended filing deadline in cities with four-year terms of office, when no candidate files for a particular office by the regular filing deadline of Monday, August 18, 2025. (Sec. 143.008). See note entry for [Monday, August 18, 2025](#).

Monday, September 15, 2025 (50th day before election day; 21st day after August 25, 2025)

Deadline to challenge the filing of an application for a place on the ballot as to form, content, and procedure. (Sec. 141.034).

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: Last day to notify election judges of their appointment if they were appointed, as recommended, on Monday, August 25, 2025. (Sec. 32.009(b)). Presiding and alternate judges must be [notified \(PDF\)](#) of their appointment in writing, not later than the 20th day after the date the appointment is made. The notice of the judge's duty to conduct the election ([writ of election \(PDF\)](#)) pursuant to Section 4.007 may be combined with the above notice, if the appointment is for a single election only. If the notices are **NOT** combined, then the notice of the judge's duty to conduct the election (writ of election) must be delivered not later than the 15th day before election day, Monday, October 20, 2025.

Last day of period during which the Secretary of State must publish first statewide notice of state constitutional amendment election. The Secretary of State will publish this notice a second time on the same day of the next week after the first notice was published. (Art. XVII, Sec. 1, Texas Constitution).

NOTE – NEW LAW: SB 2166 (2025, R.S.) - Last day to post notice for public L&A test and tabulation testing. The tests must be conducted on the 48th day before election day, which is Wednesday, September 17, 2025. Notice of the public tests must be posted on the entity's website at least 48 hours before the test begins. (Secs. 127.093, 127.096, 129.001, 129.022, 129.023). [See Note 15](#) above.

NOTE – NEW LAW: SB 2166 (2025, R.S.) - Entities are no longer required to publish notice of the L&A and tabulation tests in newspapers. Notice must be posted on the entity's website.

Monday, September 15, 2025 - Sunday, December 14, 2025 (50th day before election day - 40th day after election day)

Mandatory Office Hours: Each county clerk, city secretary or secretary of a governing body (or the person performing duties of a secretary) must keep the office open for election duties for at least 3 hours each day, during regular office hours, on regular business days. (Sec. 31.122).

NOTE – NEW LAW: HB 640 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, amended Section 31.122 to require counties, cities, or other political subdivisions to keep their election offices open for election duties on regular business days when the county, city, or political subdivision is regularly open for business. A "regular business day" means a day on which the political subdivision's main business office is regularly open for business. (Sec. 31.122(b)).

NOTE - Counties: This office hour rule applies to the entity's general election or special election ordered by that authority; we recommend that the county maintain these office hours, because the county conducts the constitutional amendment election. The hours are clearly required if the county authority orders an additional county election.

NOTE - Special Elections: In the case of a special election, the office hour rule is triggered starting the third day after the special election is ordered. (Sec. 31.122).

NOTE – Section 31.096 addresses nontransferable functions under an election services contract. **Specifically, an election services contract may not change the political subdivision's requirement to maintain office hours under Section 31.122.** See [Note 21](#).

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 (48th day before election day)

NOTE – NEW LAW: SB 2166 (2025, R.S.) clarifies the requirements for the Public L&A test and tabulation testing by requiring them to be conducted at the same time and by distinguishing the testing procedures for precinct scanners from the testing procedures for central accumulators. The bill also harmonizes the notice requirements for both tests and requires the testing to be performed by the 48th day before election day.

The initial public testing of your electronic voting equipment must be completed no later than the 48th day before election day. However, if the test cannot be conducted by the 48th day deadline, then the general custodian shall conduct the test as soon as practicable after that date and must notify the Secretary of State's Office within 24 hours of the determination that the deadline cannot be met. [See Note 15](#).

Friday, September 19, 2025 (46th day before election day)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: Last day to order a special election to fill a vacancy (if authorized to fill vacancies by special election). If the election was ordered after the 70th day before election day, the filing deadline will be the 40th day before election day. (Secs. 201.052, 201.054(a)(2)). The Election Code requires the election to be ordered as soon as practicable after the vacancy occurs. (Sec. 201.051). The following forms may be used:

- [Order of Special Election for Municipalities \(PDF\)](#),
- [Order of Special Election for Other Political Subdivisions \(PDF\)](#)

NOTE - When reviewing candidate applications, please make sure that the candidate has used the most current version of the form.

Saturday, September 20, 2025 (45th day before election day)

Deadline to mail ballots to military or overseas voters who already submitted their ballot requests via a federal postcard application (FPCA) or via a standard application for ballot by mail (ABBM) and indicated that they are outside the United States. Ballots must be mailed by this date or the seventh day after the clerk receives the application. If the early voting clerk cannot meet this 45th-day deadline, the clerk **must** notify the Secretary of State within 24 hours. (Sec. 86.004(b)).

NOTE - The 45th Day deadline under Section 86.004(b) is not extended by Section 1.006 to the next business day. The ballots covered by Section 86.004(b) should be sent out on or before Saturday, September 20, 2025.

NOTE - An FPCA may be submitted by in-person delivery by the voter in accordance with Section 84.008 or by common or contract carrier. An application is considered submitted in the following calendar year if: 1) the applicant is eligible to vote in an election occurring in January or February of the next calendar year; and 2) the application is submitted in the last 60 days of a calendar year but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election. (Sec. 101.052).

NOTE - A member of the Texas National Guard or the National Guard of another state or a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States serving on active duty under an order of the President of the United States or activated on state orders, or the spouse or dependent of a member, may submit an FPCA. (Sec. 101.001).

Reminder Regarding FPCAs and Overseas ABBMs: If the early voting clerk receives an FPCA (from a military or non-military voter) or an ABBM from an overseas voter after the 45th day deadline, then the ballot **must** be mailed within seven days of **receiving** the FPCA or ABBM. (Secs. 86.004(b), 101.104).

Reminder: For mail ballots for other voters (not military voters using an FPCA or overseas voters using an FPCA or ABBM), the early voting clerk **must** mail a ballot not later than the 7th day after the later of: (1) the date the early voting clerk has accepted a voter's application for a ballot by mail or (2) the date the ballots become available for mailing. But if the 7th day is before the 37th day before election day, the voter's mail ballot must be mailed no later than the 30th day before election day. (Sec. 86.004(a)). This means that for every application that comes in before the 37th day before election day, the balloting materials must be mailed by the 30th day before election day. Any application that comes in after the 37th day before election day will follow the 7-day timeline in Sec. 86.004.

NOTE - Information on the early voting roster for both early voting in person and early voting by mail must be made available for public inspection and on the county's website if the

county clerk or elections administrator is serving as the early voting clerk. (Sec. 87.121). See [Note 22](#).

Thursday, September 25, 2025 (40th day before election day)

Political Subdivisions: 5:00 p.m. - Last day to file for a place on the ballot in a special election to fill a vacancy if the special election is ordered after the 70th day before election day but on or before the 46th day before election day, Friday, September 19, 2025. (Sec. 201.054(a)(2)). For more details about Section 201.054 and the two possible special election deadlines, see entry for [Tuesday, August 26, 2025](#).

Political Subdivisions: 5:00 p.m. - Deadline for write-in candidates to file [Declarations of Write-In Candidacy \(PDF\)](#) for officers for city, school district, library district, junior college district, hospital district, and common school districts in a special election to fill a vacancy if the special election is ordered after the 70th day before election day, but on or before the 46th day before election day, Friday, September 19, 2025. (Sec. 201.054(a)(1), 201.054(g)).

NOTE - Sec. 201.054(g) provides that a declaration of write-in candidacy for a special election must be filed not later than the filing deadline.

NOTE - When reviewing candidate applications, please make sure that the candidate has used the most current version of the form.

NOTE – The authority conducting the drawing shall provide notice of the date, hour, and place of the drawing to each candidate. The authority may provide written notice at the time the candidate files an application with the appropriate authority.

If notice was not provided at the time the candidate filed an application, the notice may be provided by:

1. written notice that is mailed to the address stated on the candidate's application not later than the fourth day before the date of the drawing; or
2. telephone, if a telephone number is provided on the candidate's application or
3. by e-mail, if an e-mail address was provided on the candidate's application. (Sec. 52.094). ([Notice of Drawing for Place on Ballot \(PDF\)](#)).

Monday, September 29, 2025 (36th day before election day)

Deadline for the Secretary of State to mail each county judge a copy of the governor's proclamation ordering the state constitutional amendment election. (Sec. 3.003(c)).

Tuesday, September 30, 2025 (35th day before election day)

Political Subdivisions Other Than Counties: 5:00 p.m. – Last day for a candidate to file a [Certificate of Withdrawal \(PDF\)](#) in a special election in which the filing deadline is the 40th day before election day. **If a candidate withdraws or is declared ineligible by this date, his or her name is omitted from the ballot.** (Secs. 145.092(a), 145.094(a)(2)). For special circumstances regarding withdrawal of a candidate before ballots are prepared, please contact the Elections Division of the Office of the Texas Secretary of State.

October

Friday, October 3, 2025 (32nd day before election day)

Recommended date for early voting clerk to issue [order \(PDF\)](#) calling for appointment of signature verification committee. (Sec. 87.027).

NOTE - If the signature verification committee will start meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, the early voting clerk must post a copy of the [order \(PDF\)](#) calling for appointment of the signature verification committee on or before this date as the notice must remain posted continuously for at least 10 days before the first day the committee meets. (Sec. 87.027(g)).

Sunday, October 5, 2025 (30th day before election day)

Last day for the county clerk to post a full copy of all amendments to be voted on at the state constitutional amendment election. (Art. XVII, Sec. 1, Texas Constitution).

First day of period during which notice of the constitutional amendment election and other elections must be published in a newspaper of general circulation **if method of giving notice is not specified by a law outside the Texas Election Code**, and this method of giving notice is selected. The notice for elections ordered by the governor, a county authority, or by an authority of a city or school district must be given by publication in a newspaper in addition to any other method specified by a law outside the Election Code. (Sec. 4.003(a)(1), (c), (d)). This notice may be combined with the other notices that are required to be published. The election notice shall be posted on the political subdivision's website. [See Note 8 on Notice of Elections](#).

NOTE - Section 4.004 requires the notice of election to include the Internet website of the authority conducting the election. (Sec. 4.004(a)).

NOTE - Section 83.010 requires an election order and the election notice to state the early voting clerk's official mailing address or street address at which the clerk may receive delivery by common or contract carrier, if different, phone number, e-mail address, and the Internet website, if the early voting clerk has an Internet website. (Sec. 83.010).

NOTE - It is **strongly recommended** that the [Notice of Voting Order Priority \(PDF\)](#) for voters with mobility issues also be posted on the subdivision's website, if one is maintained by the political subdivision. (Secs. 63.0013, 85.007(d)). For more information on this requirement, see [Note 16](#).

NOTE - Notice of Change of Polling Place Location: For elections **ordered by the governor or county judge only**, if the location of the polling place changes after notice has been given under Section 4.003, and the county election officer maintains a website to inform voters about elections, **the notice of the change must be posted on the website**. The notice on the website must be given not later than the earlier of (1) 24 hours after the location was changed; or (2) 72 hours before the polls open on election day. (Sec. 43.061). If the county election officer is conducting a legislative vacancy election, the candidates listed on the ballot are entitled to receive notice directly from the county judge. [Notice of Change to Polling Place \(PDF\)](#).

NOTE - Notice of Previous Polling Place: If a different polling place is being used than at the previous election held by the same authority, [Notice of Change to Polling Place \(PDF\)](#) must be posted at the entrance of the previous polling place informing voters of the current polling place location, if possible. (Sec. 43.062).

Monday, October 6, 2025 (29th day before election day)

Last day to register to vote or make a change of address effective for the Tuesday, November 4, 2025, election. **The deadline is extended to the next regular business day, which is Monday, October 6, 2025, because the 30th day is Sunday, October 5, 2025.** (Secs. 1.006, 13.143(e), 15.025).

NOTE - A voter who submits a change of address after this date may still be eligible to return to his or her previous precinct to vote under "fail-safe" voting, if he or she still resides in the **same** county and the same local political subdivision, if applicable, conducting the election. If a voter has moved to a new county, then a voter can vote a limited ballot. Voting by a limited ballot is only available during the early voting period and **only** at the main early voting polling place (or by mail). (Secs. 15.025, 63.0011, 112.002).

NOTE - A Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) also serves as an application for **permanent** registration under Texas law unless the voter marked "my intent to return is uncertain" using the [FPCA form](#). The early voting clerk should make a copy (for mailing ballots, keeping records, etc.), then should forward the original to the county voter registrar as soon as practicable. (Sec. 101.055; 1 T.A.C. § 81.40(a), (c)(2)).

Recommended last day for early voting clerk to order supplemental and registration correction lists, if applicable, or order revised original list of registered voters from the voter registrar for early voting by personal appearance. (Secs. 18.001, 18.002, 18.003, 18.004).

NOTE - Under Sections 18.002 and 18.003, supplemental and corrected voter registration lists must be provided as needed to ensure all eligible voters appear on the official list of registered voters.

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 (27th day before election day)

Recommended last date for the county election board (or governing body of political subdivision, as appropriate) to appoint a signature verification committee (if one was ordered by the early voting clerk by Friday, October 3, 2025). See entry under Friday, October 3, 2025. (Secs. 51.002, 87.027). The members must be appointed not later than the fifth day after the order was issued by the early voting clerk. The appointing authority must post a notice of the appointment of committee members continuously until the last day the signature verification committee meets. This form may be used for the notice: [Notice of Appointment of Signature Verification Committee \(PDF\)](#).

NOTE - Section 51.002 requires notice of a meeting of the county election board to be posted not later than 48 hours before each meeting. The county clerk shall post notice of the meeting on the county's website, if the county maintains one.

Counties: For timeframes for appointment of various election workers for counties, see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2023-06](#).

Monday, October 13, 2025 (22nd day before election day) (Columbus Day) Tuesday, October 14, 2025 (21st day before election day)

Last day to post notice of election on bulletin board used for posting notices of meetings of governing body. (Sec. 4.003(b)). A [Record of Posting Notice of Election \(PDF\)](#) should be completed at the time of posting. (Sec. 4.005). [See Note on Notice of Elections](#).

Last day to post notice of election in each election precinct, if the method of giving notice is **not** specified by a law outside the Election Code and notice is given by this method in lieu of publication (extended deadline). (Sec. 4.003(a)(2)). The notice for elections ordered by the governor, a county authority, or by an authority of a city or school district must be given by publication in a newspaper in addition to any other method specified by a law outside the Election Code. (Sec. 4.003(a)(1), (c), (d)). A [Record of Posting Notice of Election \(PDF\)](#) should be completed at the time of posting. (Sec. 4.005).

All Political Subdivisions: The election notice shall be posted on the political subdivision's website, if the political subdivision maintains a website. The order and notice

should include all days and hours for early voting by personal appearance including voting on **ANY** Saturday or Sunday. (Secs. 85.006, 85.007). **Note for cities and counties**, the election notice **must** be subsequently amended to include voting later ordered for **ANY** Saturday or Sunday and **must** be posted on the political subdivision's website, if maintained.

Note for Counties - Section 4.003 requires that counties post on the county website the notice and list of polling locations of any political subdivision that delivers their notice to the county under Section 4.008. This is regardless of whether the county is contracting with the entity and regardless of whether the entity is conducting their own election or contracting with the county.

For Bond Elections: First day a political subdivision must post on their Internet website prominently and together with the notice of the election, a copy of the sample ballot, and the contents of the proposition, if the political subdivision maintains an Internet website. (Sec. 4.003(f)).

The **recommended** time to include the notice of accepting voters with certain disabilities on a county website is when the notice of election is also posted on the website. (Secs. 63.0013, 85.007(d)). [See Note 16](#) regarding notice on accepting voters with certain disabilities.

Counties, Cities, and School Districts: Last day for a county that holds an election or provides election services for an election to post certain information regarding the upcoming election(s) on the county's website per Section 4.009. A city or independent school district that holds an election and maintains an Internet website must also post this same election information on their website even if the county is also posting this data. See [Note 3](#) for more information.

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 (20th day before election day)

First day that the signature verification committee, if one is appointed, may begin operating. (Sec. 87.027)

NOTE - In counties with a population of 100,000 or more, the general custodian of election records shall implement a live-stream video surveillance system that retains a record of all areas containing voted ballots from the time the voted ballots are delivered to the central counting station, the signature verification committee, or early voting ballot board until the canvass of precinct election returns. (Sec. 127.1232). For more information, see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2022-10](#).

Signature Verification Committee (if appointed) Actions for a Defective Carrier

Envelope: For information on corrective action procedures, see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2023-13](#).

Last day to post [notice \(PDF\)](#) of places, days, and hours for voting at branch early voting polling place if voting is to begin at that location on the first day of early voting in person. The schedule may be amended after the beginning of early voting by personal appearance to include notice of additional branch locations, but any amendment must be made and posted not later than the fifth day before voting begins at the additional temporary branch. (Secs. 85.062, 85.067(c), (d)).

NOTE - NEW LAW: HB 3526 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, creates new reporting requirements for local entities that order an election to authorize a local government to issue bonds. These reports must be sent to the [Texas Bond Review Board](#). Not later than the 20th day before election day for an election to authorize a local government to issue bonds, the local government shall send the Bond Review Board a report that includes:

1. the date of the election;
2. the proposition number for each bond proposition;
3. the total estimated cost of the issuance of each proposed bond;
4. the estimated minimum dollar amount required to be annually expended for debt service;
5. a description of the purpose of each bond proposition; and
6. any other information the board determines necessary.

For more information on this requirement, please contact the [Texas Bond Review Board](#).

NOTE - Deadline for a person who is not permanently registered to vote to submit a postmarked FPCA, in order to receive a ballot for any non-federal election held on November 4, 2025. A person submitting who is not permanently registered to vote and submits a postmarked FPCA after this date (20th day) and before the deadline to submit an application for ballot by mail is not entitled to receive a ballot for any non-federal election. See [Monday, October 20, 2025](#) entry for timeliness of an FPCA received without a postmark (extended deadline). (Sec. 101.052(e)). See [Note 17](#) for more information on means of submitting FPCAs.

NOTE - Be sure to check the list of registered voters for permanent registration status. Also, state law authorizes an FPCA to also serve as an application for **permanent registration**;

therefore, the person might be permanently registered based on a prior FPCA. Even if the FPCA arrives too late for a particular election, the early voting clerk will still need to forward the original FPCA to the county voter registrar, after making a copy for your early voting clerk's use (mailing ballots, etc.) and records unless the voter marked "my intent to return is uncertain" using the [FPCA form \(PDF\)](#). (Sec. 101.055; 1 T.A.C. § 81.40).

NOTE - Overseas (non-military) voters marking the FPCA "**my intent to return is uncertain**" using the [FPCA form \(PDF\)](#) receive a federal ballot **only** regardless of the date filed. (Chapter 114). In a local (non-federal) election, this means there is **no ballot to send the voter**.

NOTE – NEW LAW: SB 2166 (2025, R.S.) - Last day to post [notice \(PDF\)](#) of L&A test for electronic pollbooks if test will be held on Friday, October 17, 2025. Notice of the L&A Test must be posted on the entity's website at least 48 hours before the test begins. (Sec. 129.0231). [See Note 15](#) above.

Thursday, October 16, 2025 – Friday, October 24, 2025 (19th day before election – 11th day before election day)

A person submitting an [FPCA \(PDF\)](#) during this period who is **not** registered to vote is not entitled to receive a ballot for any non-federal election held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. This means that a person submitting an FPCA during this period is entitled to receive a federal ballot only if they are not already a permanent registered voter. (Secs. 101.052(f), 114.002, 114.004). In a local election (where there is no federal office on the ballot), this means there is **no ballot to send the voter**.

The early voting clerk is required to maintain a copy of this application since it may be used for other elections and forward the original to the voter registrar. Also see entry below under Monday, October 20, 2025 (FPCA without a postmark). (Secs. 84.007, 101.052(e), (f)).

NOTE - Be sure to check the list of registered voters for permanent registration status. Also, state law authorizes an FPCA to also serve as an application for **permanent registration**; therefore, the person might be permanently registered based on a prior FPCA. Even if the FPCA arrives too late for a particular election, the early voting clerk will still need to forward the original FPCA to the county voter registrar after making a copy for your early voting clerk's use (mailing ballots, etc.) and records, except for **overseas (non-military) voters** marking the FPCA "**my intent to return is uncertain**" using the [FPCA form \(PDF\)](#), in which case it will not serve as a permanent registration. (Sec. 101.055; 1 T.A.C. § 81.40). These voters receive a federal ballot **only** regardless of the date filed. (Chapter 114). In a local (non-federal) election, this means there is **no ballot to send the voter**.

Friday, October 17, 2025 (18th day before election day)

NOTE – NEW LAW: SB 2166 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, requires the general custodian of election records to perform logic and accuracy testing for electronic pollbook systems for each election. The test must be conducted at least 48 hours before voting begins in an election. (Section 129.023). ([See Note 15](#), above).

Early Voting Dates: Monday, October 20, 2025 - Friday, October 31, 2025 ([See Note on Early Voting Rosters](#))

Monday, October 20, 2025 (15th day before election day)

First day to vote early in person. (Sec. 85.001(a), (c)).

NOTE - The early voting period for elections held on the November uniform election date in odd- numbered years begins 17 days before election day, but because this day falls on a weekend (Saturday, October 18, 2025), it is extended to the next regular business day (Monday) under Section 85.001(c). See [Note 22 on Early Voting Rosters](#).

NOTE - Voting by limited ballot must be done during the early voting period at the main early voting polling place (or by mail). (Sec. 112.002(a)).

NOTE - Counties: Early voting in person at the main early voting polling place must be conducted on each weekday of the early voting period that is not a legal state holiday and for a period of at least nine (9) hours, except that voting may not be conducted earlier than 6:00 AM or later than 10:00 PM. (Sec. 85.005(a)).

NOTE - Political Subdivisions Other than Counties: Early voting in person must be conducted at least nine (9) hours each weekday that is not a legal state holiday unless the political subdivision has fewer than 1,000 registered voters, in which case early voting in person must be conducted at least four (4) hours per day. (Sec. 85.005(b)). This rule only applies to the main early voting location. If entities are conducting early voting by personal appearance jointly, [see Note 7](#) regarding joint elections generally.

NOTE - Cities are **not** required to choose two weekdays for the main early voting polling place location to be open for at least 12 hours during the regular early voting period. (Sec. 85.005).

NOTE - Section 85.005(c) requires that in **ALL** counties (regardless of population), voting in a special election ordered by the Governor shall be conducted at the main early voting polling place **for at least 12 consecutive hours on each of the last two days of the early voting period**. Voting may not be conducted earlier than 6:00 AM or later than 10:00 PM. (Sec. 85.005(c)).

NOTE - Independent School Districts: Despite the change in state law that allows an ISD to be closed on school holidays during the mandatory office hours period, you are **required to be open** during the entire early voting period, except on legal state and national holidays. (Sec. 85.005(b)).

NOTE - Section 85.064 establishes uniform early voting requirements **for all counties regardless of population size**. Any established temporary branch location must remain open for at least 8 hours on each of the days that voting is required to be conducted at the main early voting location.

Deadline to receive an FPCA **without** a postmark. If an FPCA is received by this date **without** a postmark to prove mailing date, the early voting clerk will accept the FPCA and mail the applicant a full ballot even if the applicant is **not** a permanently registered voter but meets the requirements under Title 2 of the Election Code, unless the voter marks the [FPCA form \(PDF\)](#) “**my intent to return is uncertain,**” in which case the voter receives a federal-only ballot. (Sec. 101.052(i)(1)).

Last day to notify election judges of duty to hold election ([Writ of Election \(PDF\)](#)). Notice must be given by the 15th day before the election or the 7th day after the day the election is ordered, whichever is later. The Writ of Election must be given to each presiding judge and include:

1. The judge’s duty to hold the election;
2. The type and date of election;
3. The polling place location at which the judge will serve;
4. The polling place hours; and
5. The maximum number of clerks the judge may appoint. (Sec. 4.007).

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 (14th day before election day)

NOTE for Counties: Deadline to file a [petition \(PDF\)](#) to require the early voting clerk of a county to conduct extended early voting on Saturday, October 25, 2025. (Sec. 85.006(d)). [Notice of weekend voting \(PDF\)](#) must be posted beginning no later than Wednesday, October 22, 2025, and continuing through Friday, October 24, 2025. (Sec. 85.007(c)).

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 (13th day before election day)

Counties - Weekend Early Voting Hours - Notice Requirement: Last day to post notice on county website, if early voting will be conducted on Saturday, October 25, 2025. (Sec. 85.007). If the county does not maintain a website, notice must be posted on the bulletin

board used for posting notice of meetings of the commissioners court. Notice must be posted at least 72 hours before early voting begins on a Saturday or Sunday. Notice (including the days and hours of early voting) must also be posted to the political subdivision's website, if one is maintained. See [Notice for Early Voting on Saturday and/or Sunday \(PDF\)](#).

NOTE for Counties: If the county election officer on her/his own motion by written order orders early voting on Saturday or Sunday OR if the county election officer orders Saturday or Sunday voting after being petitioned to do so by at least 15 registered voters, such voting need not be included in the regular order or notice of the election. (Secs. 85.006(b), (d), 85.007(b), (c)).

NOTE - All Political Subdivisions, Except Counties: Voting on any Saturday or Sunday must be included in the order and notice of election. City secretaries no longer have the authority to order Saturday or Sunday early voting 72 hours immediately preceding the first hour that voting will be conducted. Local political subdivisions must have early voting on Saturday or Sunday, if a written request (PDF) is received from at least 15 registered voters of the political subdivision prior to the election being ordered. (Secs. 85.006, 85.007).

NOTE for Counties: Deadline to file a [petition \(PDF\)](#) to require the early voting clerk of a county to conduct extended early voting on Sunday, October 26, 2025. (Sec. 85.006(d)). [Notice of weekend voting \(PDF\)](#) must be posted beginning no later than Thursday, October 23, 2025, and continuing through Saturday, October 25, 2025. (Sec. 85.007(c)).

Thursday, October 23, 2025 (12th day before election day; day before the last day to apply for a ballot by mail)

First day a voter who becomes sick or disabled on or after Thursday, October 23, 2025, may submit an application for a late ballot if the sickness or physical condition prevents the voter from appearing at the polling place without the likelihood of needing personal assistance or of injuring his or her health. (Sec. 102.001). See [Application for Emergency Early Voting Ballot Due to Sickness or Physical Disability \(PDF\)](#). Applications may continue to be submitted until 5:00 p.m. on election day. (Sec. 102.003).

Counties - Weekend Early Voting Hours - Notice Requirement: Last day to post notice on county website if early voting will be conducted on Sunday, October 26, 2025 (Sec. 85.007). If the county does not maintain a website, notice must be posted on the bulletin board used for posting notice of meetings of the commissioners court. Notice must be posted at least 72 hours before early voting begins on a Saturday or Sunday. Notice (including the days and hours of early voting) must also be posted to the political

subdivision's website, if one is maintained. See [Notice for Early Voting on Saturday and/or Sunday \(PDF\)](#).

NOTE - Section 87.0222 provides that not later than the ninth day before election day, the jacket envelopes containing early voting ballots voted by mail **MUST** be delivered to the early voting ballot board. **This requirement applies regardless of the county's population size.** Any jacket envelopes of early voting ballots voted by mail returned after delivery of the ballots to the early voting ballot board may be delivered to the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board between the end of the ninth day before election day and the closing of the polls on election day, or as soon after closing as practicable, at the time or times specified by the presiding judge. The early voting clerk shall post notice of each delivery of balloting materials that is to be made before the time for opening the polls on election day. The notice must be posted at the main early voting polling place continuously for at least 24 hours immediately preceding the delivery.

Please note that the mail ballots may not be counted until (1) the polls open on election day, or (2) in an election conducted by an authority of a county with a population of 100,000 or more or entities that are having joint elections with such a county or who are conducting their election with such a county through a contract for election services, the end of the period for early voting in person. (Secs. 87.0222, 87.0241). **NOTE - Results may not be released until the polls close on election day.**

NOTE - The county clerk/elections administrator must ensure that photocopies or electronic recordings of annual applications for ballot by mail have been delivered to the early voting clerk of every political subdivision holding an election before the ballots by mail are delivered to the early voting ballot board.

Friday, October 24, 2025 (11th day before election day)

Last day to receive an [FPCA \(PDF\)](#) from a registered voter. If the voter is **not** registered in the county (and/or marked intent to return "not certain"), **the voter is still eligible for a ballot containing federal offices only.** In a local (non-federal) election, this means there is **no ballot** to send the voter. (Secs. 101.052(b), (f), 114.004(c)).

Last day for early voting clerk to receive applications for a ballot to be voted by mail. (Sec. 84.007(c)). All applications to vote by mail must be received by the early voting clerk before the close of regular business or 12 noon, **whichever is later.** Applications to vote by mail must be submitted by mail, common or contract carrier, fax (if a fax machine is available in the office of the early voting clerk), or by electronic submission of a scanned application with an original signature. The early voting clerk's designated email address must be posted on the Secretary of State's website.

If an ABBM is faxed or emailed or if an FPCA is faxed, then the applicant must submit the ORIGINAL application BY MAIL to the early voting clerk so that the early voting clerk **receives the original no later than the 4th business day after receiving the emailed or faxed ABBM or faxed FPCA**. If the early voting clerk does not receive the original ABBM or FPCA by that deadline, then the emailed or faxed ABBM or faxed FPCA will be considered incomplete, and the early voting clerk may NOT send the applicant a ballot. The requirement to mail the original application does not apply to an **emailed FPCA**.

An applicant for a ballot to be voted by mail (ABBM or FPCA) may submit the application by delivering it in person to the early voting clerk if the application is submitted not later than the close of regular business in the clerk's office on Friday, October 24, 2025. (Sec. 84.008). For more information on submission of ABBMs and FPCAs, see [Note 17](#).

NOTE - Section 86.008 provides that if the early voting clerk determines that it would not be possible for the applicant to correct certain defects in a mail ballot application and return an application form by mail before the deadline, the clerk may notify the applicant by telephone or e-mail of the defect and inform the applicant that the applicant may come to the early voting clerk's office before the deadline and correct the defect in person. The clerk shall notify the applicant of a defect discovered and provide the information required to permit the applicant to correct the defect using the Secretary of State's online Ballot by Mail Tracker, if possible. [See Note 18](#).

NOTE - An application is considered submitted in the following calendar year if: 1) the applicant is eligible to vote in an election occurring in January or February of the next calendar year; and 2) the application is submitted in the last 60 days of a calendar year but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election. (Sec. 101.052).

Note for Counties: Last day for county clerk/elections administrator to deliver final list of voters that have submitted an annual application for ballot by mail to political subdivisions located within the county holding an election on November 4, 2025, for which the county clerk/elections administrator is not the early voting clerk via a joint election agreement or contract for election services. (Sec. 86.0015(c)).

Saturday, October 25, 2025 (10th day before election day)

Last day of period during which notice of election must be published if method of giving notice is **not** specified by a law outside the Election Code and **publication** is the selected method of giving notice. (Sec. 4.003(a)(1)). The notice for elections ordered by the governor, a county authority, or by an authority of a city or school district must be given by

publication in a newspaper in addition to any other method specified by a law outside the Election Code. (Sec. 4.003(a)(1), (c), (d)). [See Note 8](#).

NOTE - The election notice shall be posted on the political subdivision's website, if the political subdivision maintains a website.

Last day to mail a copy of the notice of election to each registered voter of the territory that is covered by the election and is in the jurisdiction of the authority responsible for giving the notice **if method of giving notice is not specified by a law outside the Election Code** and this method of giving notice is selected. (Secs. 1.006, 4.003(a)(3)).

Last day to post [notice \(PDF\)](#) of the precinct's consolidation and the location of the polling place in the consolidated precinct for each precinct that is combined to form a consolidated precinct under Section 42.008. This notice must be posted at the polling place used in the preceding general election **and** must remain posted continuously through election day. (Sec. 4.003(b)).

NOTE - The *recommended* time to include the notice of accepting voters with certain disabilities on a political subdivision's website is when the notice of election is also posted on the website. (Secs. 63.0015, 85.007(d)). [See Note 16](#) regarding notice on accepting voters with certain disabilities.

Monday, October 27, 2025 (8th day before election day)

NOTE - In counties with a population of 100,000 or more, the general custodian of election records shall implement a live-stream video surveillance system that retains a record of all areas containing voted ballots from the time the voted ballots are delivered to the central counting station, the signature verification committee, or early voting ballot board until the canvass of precinct election returns. (Sec. 127.1232). For more information, see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2022-10](#).

NOTE - Section 87.0222 provides that not later than the ninth day before election day, the jacket envelopes containing early voting ballots voted by mail **MUST** be delivered to the early voting ballot board. **This requirement applies regardless of the county's population size.** Any jacket envelopes of early voting ballots voted by mail returned after delivery of the ballots to the early voting ballot board may be delivered to the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board between the end of the ninth day before election day and the closing of the polls on election day, or as soon after closing as practicable, at the time or times specified by the presiding judge. The early voting clerk shall post notice of each delivery of balloting materials that is to be made before the time for opening the polls on election day. The notice must be posted at the main early voting polling place continuously for at least 24 hours immediately preceding the delivery.

Because the ninth day falls on Sunday, October 26, 2025, the deadline is extended to Monday, October 27, 2025. (Sec. 1.006).

NOTE - The EVBB can meet as soon as the county has received voted ballots by mail from voters and those materials are delivered to the ballot board. The ballot board does not have to wait until this ninth-day deadline to meet.

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 (4th business day before election day; 6th day before election day)

5:00 p.m. – Deadline to submit a [Request for Election Inspectors \(PDF\)](#) for election day, Tuesday, November 4, 2025, to the Secretary of State. (Sec. 34.001).

Thursday, October 30, 2025 (5th day before election day, day before last day of early voting)

NOTE - Section 85.005(c) requires that in **ALL** counties (**regardless of population**), voting in a special election ordered by the Governor shall be conducted at the main early voting polling **place for at least 12 consecutive hours on each of the last two days of the early voting**. Voting may not be conducted earlier than 6:00 AM or later than 10:00 PM. (Sec. 85.005(c)). For additional information, see [Note 10](#) regarding extended early voting hours. (Secs. 85.005(c), 85.067). For more information regarding early voting rosters, see [Note 22](#).

A voter is eligible to vote a late ballot if they will be out of the county of residence on election day due to a death in the immediate family (related within 2nd degree of consanguinity or affinity) that occurs on or after this day. The voter may submit the [Application for Emergency Early Ballot Due to Death in Family \(PDF\)](#) starting Saturday, November 1, 2025 (the day after early voting in person ends). (Secs. 103.001, 103.003(b)). An application may be submitted after the last day of the period for early voting by personal appearance and before the close of business on the day before election day. (Sec. 103.003).

Friday, October 31, 2025 (4th day before election day)

Last day to vote early by personal appearance. (Sec. 85.001(a)).

NOTE - Section 85.005(c) provides that in **ALL** counties (**regardless of population**), voting in a special election ordered by the Governor shall be conducted at the main early voting polling **place for at least 12 consecutive hours on each of the last two days of the early voting**. Voting may not be conducted earlier than 6:00 AM or later than 10:00 PM. (Sec. 85.005(c)). For additional information, see [Note 10](#) regarding extended early voting hours. (Secs. 85.005(c), 85.067). For more information regarding early voting rosters, see [Note 22](#).

Early voting clerk must post [Notice of Delivery of Early Voting Balloting Materials \(PDF\)](#) to the early voting ballot board if materials are to be delivered to the board on Saturday, November 1, 2025. Notice must be posted continuously for 24 hours preceding each delivery to the board. (Secs. 87.0221, 87.0222, 87.023, 87.024, 87.0241).

Counties with a Population of 100,000 or more:

After the polls close at the end of early voting by personal appearance, counties with a population of 100,000 or more (or local subdivisions conducting a joint election with such a county or conducting an election through a contract for election services with such a county) may convene their early voting ballot board and begin **counting** ballots; **however, the results may not be announced until after the polls close.** (Secs. 87.0222, 87.0241).

NOTE – NEW LAW: SB 2217 (2025, R.S.) - In an election using centrally counted optical scan ballots, the presiding judge of the central counting station shall prepare a report regarding the total number of ballots scanned by each optical scanner from each data storage device. The presiding judge of the central counting station shall prepare one report for the total number of ballots from each specific data-storage device. The presiding judge of the central counting station must prepare the report for the data-storage device before the information from the storage device is read into a central accumulator. The report prepared before the opening of polling locations on election day may not contain information on the number of votes cast for any candidate or for or against any proposition. (Sec. 127.1302).

Counties with a Population of Less than 100,000:

Counties may begin convening their early voting ballot board as the county has received voted ballots by mail from voters and those materials are delivered to the ballot board, **but cannot begin counting the ballots until the polls open on election day.** The early voting clerk shall continuously post notice for 24 hours preceding each delivery of voting materials that is to be made before the time for opening the polls on election day. (Secs. 87.0221, 87.023, 87.024, 87.0241). See [Notice of Delivery of Early Voting Balloting Materials \(PDF\)](#).

NOTE - The county elections officer must ensure that photocopies or electronic recordings of annual applications for ballot by mail have been delivered to the early voting clerk of every political subdivision holding an election before the ballots by mail are delivered to the early voting ballot board.

NOTE - Early Voting Ballot Board Actions for a Defective Carrier Envelope: Section 87.0411 provides that not later than the second day after the early voting ballot board discovers a defect(s) in a carrier envelope as described by Section 87.0411(a) and before

the board decides whether to accept or reject a timely delivered ballot under Section 87.041, the board must send the voter a notice of the defect and a corrective action form developed under Section 87.0411(c-1) by mail or by common or contract carrier. For more information on corrective action procedures, see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2023-13](#).

NOTE - In counties with a population of 100,000 or more, the general custodian of election records shall implement a live-stream video surveillance system that retains a record of all areas containing voted ballots from the time the voted ballots are delivered to the central counting station, the signature verification committee, or early voting ballot board until the canvass of precinct election returns. (Sec. 127.1232). For more information, see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2022-10](#).

November

Saturday, November 1, 2025 (3rd day before election day; day after early voting in person ends)

First day to submit an [Application for Emergency Early Ballot Due to Death in Family \(PDF\)](#) to vote a late ballot because of a death in the immediate family that occurred on or after Thursday, October 30, 2025, and will require absence from the county on election day. (Secs. 103.001, 103.003(b)). An application may be submitted after the last day of the period for early voting by personal appearance and before the close of business on the day before election day. (Sec. 103.003).

Sunday, November 2, 2025 (daylight savings time ends)

Monday, November 3, 2025 (day before election day)

NOTE - For November 3, 2026 Election: Chapter 2051 of the Government Code requires any political subdivision with the authority to impose a tax that maintained a publicly available Internet website at any time on or after January 1, 2019, to post on that website the requirements and deadline for filing for candidacy of each elected office of the political subdivision continuously for one year before the election day for that office. See [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2019-19](#).

Last day to submit an [Application for Emergency Early Ballot Due to Death in Family \(PDF\)](#). The application must be submitted by the close of business on this day. (Sec. 103.003(b)).

Last day for early voting clerk to mark the precinct list of registered voters with a notation beside each name of voter who voted early, and deliver list to election judges. The early voting clerk must also deliver the precinct early voting list. (Sec. 87.122). This may be delivered electronically if your county is using an electronic pollbook.

Delivery of Provisional Ballots and Forms: If the voter registrar wants to take possession of the provisional ballots and forms on election night, the voter registrar must inform the custodian of the election records and post a [Notice of Delivery of Provisional Ballots \(PDF\)](#) no later than Monday, November 3, 2025, 24 hours before election day. (1 T.A.C. § 81.174(d)(3)). However, under this type of delivery, the county voter registrar **must** go to the custodian of election records office and pick up the provisional ballots and forms.

NOTE - The general custodian of election records (or the early voting clerk, if applicable) must post a [Notice of Delivery of Provisional Ballots \(PDF\)](#) at least 24 hours before delivery will occur. (1 T.A.C. § 81.174(b)(1)).

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 (Election Day)

7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Polls open. (Sec. 41.031).

Voter registrar's office is open. (Sec. 12.004(c)).

Early voting clerk's office is open for early voting activities. (Sec. 83.011). A voter may deliver a marked ballot by mail to the early voting clerk's office while the polls are open on election day. The voter must provide an acceptable form of identification under Section 63.0101 upon delivery. The identification procedure is the same as that used for personal appearance voting. (Secs. 63.0101, 86.006).

Sick and disabled persons may vote at the main early voting polling place if **electronic voting systems** are used at regular polling place(s) on election day **and** the voter has a sickness or condition that prevents the voter from voting in the regular manner without personal assistance or likelihood of injury. (Secs. 104.001, 104.003). However, if the early voting ballots by mail are processed at a location other than the main early voting polling place, the early voting clerk may require the voting to be conducted at that location. (Sec. 104.003).

5:00 p.m. Deadline for receiving [Application for Emergency Early Voting Ballot Due to Sickness or Physical Disability \(PDF\)](#) for late ballots to be voted by persons who became sick or disabled **on or after** Thursday, October 23, 2025. (Sec. 102.003(b)).

7:00 p.m. Regular deadline for receiving **early voting ballots** by mail. **BUT see [entry](#) for Wednesday, November 5, 2025, on “late domestic ballots,” and [entry](#) for Monday, November 10, 2025, on other “late” ballots.**

This is also the deadline to receive late ballots cast by voters who became sick or disabled **on or after** Thursday, October 23, 2025. (Secs. 86.007(a), 102.006(c)).

NOTE - Section 61.002 provides that immediately before the opening of the polls on election day, the presiding judge or alternate judge shall confirm that the public counters on each voting machine are set to zero and shall print the tape that shows that there are zero votes for each candidate or measure on the ballot. Immediately after the closing of the polls on election day, the presiding judge or alternate judge shall print the tape to show the number of votes cast for each candidate or measure. Each election judge and alternate judge shall sign the printed tapes. (Sec. 61.002).

NOTE - The presiding judge of the central counting station must provide and attest to a written reconciliation of votes and voters at the close of tabulation for election day and again after the central counting station meets for the last time to process late-arriving ballots by mail and provisional ballots. (Sec. 127.131). [Preliminary Election Reconciliation \(PDF\) – Unofficial Totals form \(Election Day\)](#). [Election Reconciliation Form \(PDF\) – Official Results \(Canvass Form\)](#). [See Note on Reconciliation](#).

NOTE - Receipt of Mail Ballots: All early voting ballots sent by mail from inside the United States that are received by 7:00 p.m. on election day, November 4, 2025, **must be counted on election night**. If the carrier envelope does not bear a cancellation mark or a receipt mark, the ballot must arrive before the time the polls are required to close **on election day**. (Sec. 86.007(a)(1)). If the early voting clerk cannot determine whether a ballot arrived before the deadline, the ballot is considered to have arrived at the time the place at which the carrier envelopes are deposited was last inspected for removal of returned ballots. (Sec. 86.007(b)). The early voting clerk **must** check the mailbox for early voting mail ballots at least once after the time for regular mail delivery. (Sec. 86.007(b)).

NOTE - An early voting mail ballot that is not received by 7:00 p.m. on election day may not be counted unless the ballot may be counted late, which applies to ballots mailed from outside the United States (Sec. 86.007(d)), late domestic ballots (Sec. 86.007(a)(2)), and ballots from members of the armed forces and merchant marine of the United States, Texas National Guard or the National Guard of another state or members of the Reserves, as well as their spouses and dependents (Sec. 101.057). See [entry](#) for Wednesday, November 5, 2025 and [entry](#) for Monday, November 10, 2025. See [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2018-02](#).

NOTE - Delivery of Early Voting by Personal Appearance and Mail Ballots: The early voting clerk delivers the voted ballots, the key to the double-locked ballot box, etc., to the early voting ballot board at the time or times specified by the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board, during the hours the polls are open or as soon after the polls close as practicable. (Secs. 87.021, 87.022). The custodian of the key to the second lock of the double-locked early voting ballot box delivers his or her key to the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board on request of the presiding judge. (Secs. 85.032(d), 87.025). The custodian is the sheriff for county elections; the chief of police or city marshal for city elections; and the constable of the justice precinct in which the political subdivision's main office is located (or the sheriff, if there is no constable), for other political subdivision elections. (Sec. 66.060). If ballots are to be delivered before election day, the early voting clerk must post [notice \(PDF\)](#) at least 24 hours before each delivery at the main early voting polling place. [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2022-10](#).

Note on Delivery of Early Voting Ballots to Early Voting Ballot Board Before Election

Day - Any jacket envelopes of early voting ballots voted by mail returned after delivery of the ballots to the early voting ballot board may be delivered to the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board between the end of the ninth day before election day and the closing of the polls on election day, or as soon after closing as practicable, at the time or times specified by the presiding judge.

Mail ballots may be qualified and processed (signatures verified, carrier envelopes opened, and the secrecy envelope containing the ballot placed in a secure location), but they may not be counted until election day. (Secs. 87.0221, 87.0222, 87.023, 87.024, 87.0241). If ballots are to be delivered before election day, the early voting clerk must post [notice \(PDF\)](#) at least 24 hours before each delivery at the main early voting polling place.

Exception: Counties with a population of 100,000 or more, or entities that are having joint elections with counties with a population of 100,000 or more or who are conducting an election through a contract for election services with such a county, may begin counting ballots no earlier than the end of the period for early voting by personal appearance; the

results may not be released until the polls close on election day. (Secs. 87.0221, 87.0222, 87.023, 87.024, 87.0241(b), 87.042). If ballots are to be delivered before Election Day, the early voting clerk must post [notice \(PDF\)](#) at least 24 hours before each delivery at the main early voting polling place. (Secs. 87.0221(b), 87.023(b), 87.024(b)).

NOTE - In counties with a population of 100,000 or more, the general custodian of election records shall implement a live-stream video surveillance system that retains a record of all areas containing voted ballots from the time the voted ballots are delivered to the central counting station, the signature verification committee, or early voting ballot board until the canvass of precinct election returns. (Sec. 127.1232). For more information, see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2022-10](#).

NOTE – NEW LAW: SB 2217 (2025, R.S.) - In an election using centrally counted optical scan ballots, the presiding judge of the central counting station shall prepare a report regarding the total number of ballots scanned by each optical scanner from each data storage device. The presiding judge of the central counting station shall prepare one report for the total number of ballots from each specific data-storage device. The presiding judge of the central counting station must prepare the report for the data-storage device before the information from the storage device is read into a central accumulator. The report prepared before the opening of polling locations on election day may not contain information on the number of votes cast for any candidate or for or against any proposition. (Sec. 127.1302).

NOTE - Manual Examination of Ballots Before Processing on Automatic Counting Equipment: The central counting station manager shall direct the manual examination of all electronic voting system ballots to ascertain whether the ballots can be processed in the usual manner or if the ballots need to be duplicated to clearly reflect the voter's intent. (Sec. 127.125).

NOTE - Testing of Tabulating Equipment: The second test of automatic tabulating equipment used for counting ballots at a central counting station must be conducted immediately before the counting of ballots with equipment begins. The third test must be conducted immediately after the counting is completed. (Secs. 127.093, 127.097, 127.098). See [Note 15](#).

Transfer of Provisional Ballots to Voter Registrar Election Night: The county voter registrar may take possession of the ballot box(es) or transfer case(s) containing the provisional ballots (or provisional ballot affidavits when DRE systems are used) on election night (instead of on the next business day) by informing the custodian of election records and posting a notice of such election night transfer no later than 24 hours before election

day. Under this type of delivery, the voter registrar must go to the office of the custodian and pick up the ballot box(es) or transfer case(s) and associated forms. (Sec. 65.052; 1 T.A.C. §§ 81.172 – 81.174 & 81.176). See [Verification of Provisional Ballots and Serial Numbers \(PDF\)](#).

After the polling place is officially closed and the last person has voted, the presiding judge may from time to time make an unofficial announcement of the total number of votes counted for each candidate and/or for or against each proposition in the order that they appear on the ballot. (Sec. 65.015(a)). The announcement shall be made at the entrance to the polling place. (Sec. 65.015(c)).

NOTE - The authority conducting the election may require or prohibit such announcements. (Sec. 65.015(b)). Unofficial election results must be released by the central counting station as soon as they are available after the polls close, but the presiding judge of the central counting station, in cooperation with the county election officer, may choose to withhold the release of vote totals until the last voter has voted. (Sec. 127.1311).

NOTE - Precinct Election Returns: Precinct election returns are delivered to the appropriate authorities after completion. (Secs. 66.053(a), 127.065, 127.066, 127.067).

Last day to post notice of governing authority's meeting to canvass returns of election if canvass is to take place on Friday, November 7, 2025 (3rd business day after election). (Sec. 67.003(b)). This notice must be posted **at least three business days** before the scheduled date of the meeting. (Secs. 551.002, 551.041, 551.043, Government Code). The notice of a meeting of a governmental body must be posted in a place readily accessible to the general public at all times for at least three business days.

NEW LAW NOTE: HB 1522 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, modifies notice requirements for meetings conducted under the open-meetings law by changing the notice posting requirement from a minimum of 72 hours to at least three business days before the date of the scheduled meeting. (Sec. 551.043, Government Code).

NOTE - Section 67.003 provides that, except as provided by Section 67.003(c), each local canvassing authority shall convene to conduct the local canvass at the time set by the canvassing authority's presiding officer not later than the 11th day after election day and not earlier than the later of:

1. the **third day after election day**;
2. the date on which the early voting ballot board has verified and counted all provisional ballots, if a provisional ballot has been cast in the election; or

3. the date on which all timely received ballots cast from addresses outside of the United States are counted, if a ballot to be voted by mail in the election was provided to a person outside of the United States.

Counties, Cities, and School Districts: Section 65.016 provides for election results information which must be posted on county, city, and school district websites. A county that holds an election or provides election services for an election for a public entity must post certain information regarding election results on their website after the election. A city or independent school district that holds an election and maintains an Internet website must also post certain information on their website related to election results, even if the county is also posting. All entities must post the required information **as soon as practicable after the election**. For more information, see [Note 3](#).

Counties with a Population of 250,000 or more: Under Section 127.009 of the Election Code, counties with a population of 250,000 or more must forward a copy of the audit logs from the central counting station to the Secretary of State no later than the fifth day after voting is completed. The information may be forwarded to the Secretary of State by email, thumb drive, or by mail.

NOTE - NEW LAW: HB 521 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, makes several changes to curbside voting and assistance procedures. All curbside voters must fill out a form attesting that they are physically unable to enter the polling place. The form can be filled out either on an electronic pollbook or on a separate paper form. (Sec. 61.003).

When curbside voters are given transportation by another person, the election officer must ask the person providing transportation whether the person has assisted seven or more curbside voters during the entire voting period (meaning early voting and election day combined). If the driver indicates that they have assisted seven or more curbside voters, then he or she must complete and sign a form that contains the person's name and address and indicates whether the person is assisting the voter with voting as well. These forms must be delivered to our office as soon as practicable. (Sec. 64.009).

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 (1st business day after election day)

5:00 p.m. – Deadline to receive **late domestic ballots** mailed from **within** the United States from voters who submitted an **Application for Ballot by Mail** (“ABBM”) (**not** a Federal Post Card Application – “FPCA”), if the carrier envelope was placed for delivery by mail or common or contract carrier **AND** bears a cancellation mark of a postal service or a receipt mark of a common or contract carrier or a courier indicating a time not later than **7:00 p.m.** at the location of the election on election day, November 4, 2025. (Secs. 86.007,

101.057, 101.001). A late domestic ballot **cannot be counted** if it does **not** bear a cancellation mark or a receipt mark.

NOTE - Because of the deadline to receive late domestic ballots it is imperative that you check your mail at 5:00 p.m.

NOTE - This deadline does **not** apply to ballots sent by non-military voters who are overseas but applied for a ballot using an ABBM; these voters have until the 5th day after election day to return their ballots (or the next business day if the 5th day falls on a weekend or legal state or federal holiday). This deadline also does **not** apply to ballots mailed (domestically or from overseas) by certain members of the military who applied for a ballot using an FPCA, as well as members of the Texas National Guard or the National Guard of another state, or members of the Reserves, as well as their **spouses and dependents**; those voters have until the 6th day after election day to return their ballots. See entry for [Monday, November 10, 2025](#).

Unless the county voter registrar has already taken possession of the provisional ballots prior to this date, the general custodian of election records must deliver the ballot box(es) or transfer case(s) containing the provisional ballots (or provisional ballot affidavits when DRE systems are used), along with the Summary of Provisional Ballots and the List of Provisional Voters for each precinct to the voter registrar by this day. The general custodian of election records makes this delivery to the voter registrar during the voter registrar office's regular business hours. (Secs. 65.052, 65.053; 1 T.A.C. §§ 81.172 – 81.174 & 81.176).

NOTE for Political Subdivisions Located in More than One County: A political subdivision will have to make delivery of the provisional ballots and forms to the county voter registrar in **each** county in which the political subdivision is located. (1 T.A.C. §§ 81.172 – 81.174).

NOTE - If the county voter registrar wants to take possession of the provisional ballots and forms on election night (Tuesday, November 4, 2025), the county voter registrar must inform the custodian of the election records and post a notice of the transfer no later than 24 hours before election day. However, under this type of delivery, the county voter registrar **must** go to the custodian of election records office and pick up the provisional ballots and forms. Also, note that the county voter registrar may take possession of provisional ballots prior to election night if ballots are kept separate and may be provided without unlawful entry into ballot box. (1 T.A.C. §§ 81.172 – 81.174).

Friday, November 7, 2025 (3rd day after election day)

Last day to begin the **partial manual count** for districts using electronic voting systems. This is the last day to **begin** manual recount of ballots in three precincts or one percent of precincts, whichever is greater, (Sec. 127.201(a), (g)). The count must be completed not later than the 21st day after election day. Results of the manual count must be delivered to the Secretary of State not later than the 3rd day after the manual count is completed. (Sec. 127.201(e)). No partial manual count needs to be done of ballots cast on DRE voting machines. (Sec. 127.201(g)). For additional information on the partial manual count, please see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2018-30](#).

The first possible day to conduct the official local canvass of returns by the governing authority of the political subdivision. However, the canvass may not be conducted until the early voting ballot board has verified and counted all provisional ballots, if a provisional ballot has been cast in the election, **AND** counted all timely received mailed domestic ballots cast from addresses within the United States, and all timely received mailed ballots cast from addresses outside the United States. Secs. 67.003, 86.007). Notice of canvass must be posted at least 72 hours continuously before the canvass is conducted. [See Note](#) for Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

NOTE - Section 1.012 provides that on the first day after the final canvass of an election is completed, the general custodian of election records shall make images of voted ballots and cast vote records available for public inspection. For information on the inspection of voted ballots, including ballot images and cast vote records, as well as guidelines on voter privacy, please see [Note 23](#), [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2024-05](#), and [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2024-20](#).

NOTE – Officially canvassed returns for the state constitutional amendment election must be delivered by the county election officer to the Secretary of State within 24 hours of the canvass. (Sec. 67.007(d)).

NOTE - If a recount petition has been filed and a winning candidate's race is involved in the recount, the certificate of election cannot be issued for that race until the recount has been completed. (Secs. 67.016, 212.0331).

Cities, Schools, and Other Political Subdivisions: First day that newly elected local officers may qualify and assume the duties of their offices. Please note that the canvass must have been completed before an officer can assume office. (Sec. 67.016). If a political subdivision was able to **cancel** its election, this is the first day its elected officials can take the oath of office and be issued a certificate of election. (Secs. 2.053(e), 67.003, 67.016). For information on who can administer an oath, please see Chapter 602 of the Government Code.

NOTE - This does not apply to officers of a Type A general law city, who cannot qualify until the 6th day after election day. See entry at [Monday, November 10, 2025](#).

Monday, November 10, 2025 (first business day after 5th day after election day; 6th day after election day)

NOTE - Last day a voter may come to the early voting clerk's office in person to correct certain defects on their carrier envelope. (Secs. 87.0271, 87.0411). See [Note 18](#).

First day that newly-elected officers of Type A general law city may qualify and assume duties of office. (Sec. 22.006, Local Government Code). But see **NOTE**, below.

NOTE - If a Type A municipal officer-elect fails to qualify for office within 30 days after the date of the officer's election, the office is considered vacant. (Sec. 22.007, Local Government Code). See entry for [December 4, 2025](#).

NOTE - Council members may take office anytime following the canvass. Section 22.006 of the Texas Local Government Code states that a newly-elected municipal officer of a Type A city may exercise the duties of office beginning the fifth day after the date of the election, excluding Sundays. However, **no newly elected official may qualify for office before the official canvass of the election has been conducted** (or would have been conducted, in the event of a canceled election). Section 22.036 of the Texas Local Government Code further requires that the newly elected governing body of the municipality "meet at the usual meeting place and shall be installed."

NOTE - If a recount petition has been filed and a winning candidate's race is involved in the recount, the certificate of election cannot be issued for that race until the recount has been completed. (Secs. 67.016, 212.0331).

Last day to receive ballots from **non-military and any military voters** casting ballots from outside of the United States, who submitted an **ABBM** (not an FPCA) **AND** who placed their ballots in delivery by 7:00p.m. on election day, Tuesday, November 4, 2025, as evidenced by a postal service cancellation mark or a receipt mark of a common or contract carrier or a courier (Secs. 86.007, 101.057, 101.001). A late overseas ballot sent by a voter who applied for a ballot using an ABBM (not an FPCA) **cannot be counted** if it does **not** bear a cancellation mark or a receipt mark. The deadline is extended to the next regular business day, which is Monday, November 10, 2025, due to the 5th day falling on a Sunday. (Secs. 1.006, 86.007(d-1)).

Last day to receive ballots from **non-military voters** casting ballots from **overseas** who submitted a **FPCA AND** who placed their ballots in delivery by 7:00 p.m. on election day, Tuesday, November 4, 2025. (Sec. 86.007(d), (e)). The deadline is extended to the next

regular business day, which is Monday, November 10, 2025, due to the 5th day falling on a Sunday. (Secs. 1.006, 86.007(d-1)).

Last day to receive carrier envelopes mailed domestically (within the United States) OR overseas from voters who submitted a **FPCA AND** who are **members of the armed forces of the United States, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the armed forces, members of the merchant marines of the United States, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the merchant marine**, members of the Texas National Guard, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the Texas National Guard, a member of the National Guard of another state, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the National Guard of another state, or members of the Reserves, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the Reserves. (Secs. 86.007, 101.057, 101.001).

NOTE - The carrier envelope or, if applicable, the envelope containing the carrier envelope sent by the members listed above who applied to vote by mail using the FPCA does NOT need to bear a cancellation or receipt mark in order to be counted.

Deadline for ID-related provisional voter to (1) present acceptable photo identification to county voter registrar; or (2) if the voter does not possess and cannot reasonably obtain acceptable photo identification, follow the Reasonable Impediment Declaration procedure at the county voter registrar; or
(3) execute an affidavit relative to “natural disaster” or “religious objection” in presence of county voter registrar, if applicable; or (4) qualify for the disability exemption, if applicable, with the county voter registrar. (Secs. 65.054, 65.0541).

Deadline for voter registrar to complete the review of provisional ballots. (1 T.A.C. § 81.175(a)(1)).

Tuesday, November 11, 2025 (7th day after election day, Veterans Day)

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 (8th day after election day)

Last day to post notice of governing authority’s meeting to canvass returns of election if canvass is to take place on Monday, November 17, 2025 (13th day after election). (Sec. 67.003(b)). This notice must be posted **at least three business** days before the scheduled date of the meeting. (Secs. 551.002, 551.041, 551.043, Government Code). The notice of a meeting of a governmental body must be posted in a place readily accessible to the general public at all times for at least three business days.

NEW LAW NOTE: HB 1522 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, modifies notice requirements for meetings conducted under the open-meetings law by changing the notice

posting requirement from a minimum of 72 hours to at least three business days before the date of the scheduled meeting. (Sec. 551.043, Government Code).

Thursday, November 13, 2025 (9th day after election day)

Deadline for custodian of election records or presiding judge of the early voting ballot board to retrieve provisional ballots from county voter registrar. (Sec. 65.051(a)).

Last day for **early voting ballot board** to convene to qualify and count the following ballots addressed below.

1. any late **domestic** ballots (from non-military and from any military voters who submitted an ABBM) that bear a cancellation mark or receipt mark indicating they were placed for delivery by mail or common or contract carrier not later than 7:00 p.m. on election day, November 4, 2025, and were received not later than 5:00 p.m. on the first business day after election day, on Wednesday, November 5, 2025. (Secs. 86.007(a), 87.125(a)).
2. any late ballots that were submitted from outside the United States by voters who applied for the ballot using an ABBM or by non-military voters who applied for the ballot using an FPCA, and which were received by Monday, November 10, 2025. (The deadline usually is the 5th day after election day, but for this election is extended to the next regular business day, which is Monday, November 10, 2025, due to the 5th day falling on a Sunday.). (Secs. 1.006, 87.125(a), 86.007(d)).
3. any ballots received by the 6th day after election day, Monday, November 10, 2025, from voters who are members of the armed forces of the United States, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the armed forces, members of the merchant marines of the United States, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the merchant marine, members of the Texas National Guard, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the Texas National Guard, a member of the National Guard of another state, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the National Guard of another state, or members of the Reserves, or the spouse or a dependent of a member of the Reserves, and who applied for a ballot using an FPCA. (Secs. 101.057, 87.125(a)).
4. any provisional ballots that have been reviewed by the voter registrar. (Sec. 65.051(a)).
5. ballots contained in defective carrier envelopes corrected by voters. (Sec. 86.011(d)).

NOTE - Ballots that do not qualify under 1-3 above should be treated as ballots not timely returned and should not be delivered to the ballot board.

NOTE - If the early voting ballot board needs to meet after this date, it will require a court order to do so.

The time the board reconvenes is set by the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board. (Secs. 86.007(d), 87.125).

NOTE - Section 65.0581 provides that provisional voting records do not become public information until after the provisional ballots and other voting records have been delivered back to the custodian of election records. (Sec. 65.0581).

NOTE - The presiding judge of the central counting station is required to provide and attest to a [written reconciliation \(PDF\)](#) of votes and voters at the close of tabulation for election day and again after the central counting station meets for the last time to process late-arriving ballots by mail and provisional ballots. (Sec. 127.131). See [Note 19 on Reconciliation](#).

Friday, November 14, 2025 (10th day after election day)

Last day for the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board to mail [Notice of Rejected Ballot \(PDF\)](#) to voters whose mail ballots were rejected. (Sec. 87.0431).

Monday, November 17, 2025 (13th day after election day; 10th day after first possible canvass date)

Last day for official canvass of returns by governing authority of political subdivision. Because the last day falls on Saturday, November 15, 2025, the deadline is extended to Monday, November 17, 2025. (Secs. 1.006, 67.003).

NOTE - Section 1.012 provides that on the first day after the final canvass of an election is completed, the general custodian of election records shall make images of voted ballots and cast vote records available for public inspection. For information on the inspection of voted ballots, including ballot images and cast vote records, as well as guidelines on voter privacy, please see [Note 23](#), [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2024-05](#), and [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2024-20](#).

NOTE – Official canvassed returns for the state constitutional amendment election must be delivered by the county election officer to the Secretary of State within 24 hours of the canvass. (Sec. 67.007(d)).

NOTE - If a recount petition has been filed and a winning candidate's race is involved in the recount, the certificate of election cannot be issued for that race until the recount has been completed. (Secs. 67.016, 212.0331).

Last day for the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board to mail [Notice of Outcome to Provisional Voter \(PDF\)](#) to provisional voters if the local canvass was held on Friday, November 7, 2025, the first day of the canvass period. These notices must be delivered to provisional voters by the presiding judge no later than the 10th day after the local canvass (Sec. 65.059; 1 T.A.C. § 81.176(e)).

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 (14th day after election day)

NOTE - Section 1.012 provides that on the first day after the final canvass of an election is completed, the general custodian of election records shall make images of voted ballots and cast vote records available for public inspection. For information on the inspection of voted ballots, including ballot images and cast vote records, as well as guidelines on voter privacy, please see [Note 23](#), [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2024-05](#), and [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2024-20](#).

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 (15th day after election day)

First day that the Governor may conduct the state canvass of the state constitutional amendment election. (Sec. 67.012).

Monday, November 24, 2025 (20th day after election day)

NEW LAW - HB 3526 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, makes this the last day for local entities that order an election to authorize a local government to issue bonds to submit a report to the [Texas Bond Review Board](#). The local government shall submit a report to the board that includes:

1. the date of the election;
2. the proposition number for each bond proposition;
3. the total estimated cost of the issuance of each proposed bond;
4. the estimated minimum dollar amount required to be annually expended for debt service;
5. a description of the purpose of each bond proposition; and
6. any other information the board determines necessary.

For more information on this requirement, please contact the [Texas Bond Review Board](#). (Sec. 1231.025, Government Code).

Tuesday, November 25, 2025 (21st day after election day)

Last day to complete the partial manual count. (Sec. 127.201(a)).

NEW LAW NOTE: SB 827 (2025, R.S.) - Not later than the third day after the date the count is completed, the general custodian of election records shall deliver a written report of the results of the count to the Secretary of State and post the results of the count on the county's website in the same location that the county provides information on election returns and election results. (Sec. 127.201(e)).

Thursday, November 27, 2025 (23rd day after election day, Thanksgiving Day)

Friday, November 28, 2025 (24th day after election day, day after Thanksgiving Day)

December

Monday, December 1, 2025 (27th day after election day)

Last day for the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board to mail [Notice of Outcome to Provisional Voter \(PDF\)](#) to provisional voters if the local canvass was held on Monday, November 17, 2025, the last day of the canvass period. (Sec. 65.059; 1 T.A.C. § 81.176(e)). Such notices must be delivered to provisional voters by the presiding judge no later than the 10th day after the local canvass. This deadline is extended to the next regular business day, which is Monday, December 1, 2025, due to the 10th day after November 17, 2025 falling on Thanksgiving Day, a legal holiday. (Sec. 1.006).

Last day for the general custodian of election records to deliver a written report of the results of the count to the Secretary of State and post the results of the count on the county's website in the same location that the county provides information on election returns and election results if the post-election hand count was completed on Tuesday, November 25, 2025. (Sec. 127.201(e)). This deadline is extended to the next regular business day, which is Monday, December 1, 2025, due to the 3rd day after November 25, 2025 falling on the day after Thanksgiving Day, a legal holiday. (Sec. 1.006).

Thursday, December 4, 2025 (30th day after election day)

NOTE – NEW LAW: SB 2217 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, requires the general custodian of election records for an entity that uses an electronic pollbook system for an election to produce certain reports from the pollbook system no later than the 30th day after election day. Those reports must include a combination form report and a report

listing all the voters who were accepted to vote in the election, including the voter's polling place and precinct. (Secs. 31.014, 63.0011, 65.057, 66.006, 125.0635, 127.1302, 127.133).

The custodian must prepare a report within 30 days after Election Day that describes all the information required to be included on a combination form that combines any form used in connection with the acceptance of voters at polling places with each other and to produce a copy of the list of all voters who were accepted to vote, including a reference to the voter's county election precinct and polling location where the voter was accepted to vote.

Post-Election Reconciliation: Not later than the 30th day after election day, the general custodian of election records shall prepare a reconciliation of the total number of votes cast and the total number of voters accepted to vote by personal appearance at each polling place in the custodian's county during the early voting period and on election day respectively. The general custodian of election records shall post the results of this reconciliation on the county's website in the same location that the county provides information on election results. (Sec. 66.005).

NOTE - NEW LAW: HB 521 (2025, R.S.), effective September 1, 2025, provides that not later than the 30th day after election day, county election officers must forward to the Secretary of State's Office (1) the name and address of the person assisting the voter; (2) the relationship to the voter of the person assisting the voter; and (3) whether the person assisting the voter received or accepted any form of compensation or other benefit from a candidate, campaign, or political committee of any individual who assisted a total of seven or more voters during the early voting period and on election day combined.

If a Type A municipal officer-elect fails to qualify for office within 30 days after the date of the officer's election, the office is considered vacant. (Sec. 22.007, Local Government Code).

Last day for governor to conduct the state canvass for the state constitutional amendment election. (Sec. 67.012). Last day to file **electronic** precinct-by-precinct returns with the Secretary of State. (Sec. 67.017).

NOTE - Local political subdivisions no longer have to submit this information to the Secretary of State.

Last day for the general custodian of election records to electronically submit to the Secretary of State the record of each voter participating in the election. (Sec. 18.069).

Sunday, December 14, 2025 (40th day after election day)

Last day of the period for mandatory office hours. See entry for [Monday, September 15, 2025](#). (Sec. 31.122).

January

Thursday, January 1, 2026 (1st day after the end of the calendar year in which the election was held)

First day that surveillance video of areas containing voted ballots from the November 4, 2025 election may be destroyed IF there is no unresolved election contest.

NOTE - In counties with a population of 100,000 or more, the general custodian of election records shall implement a live-stream video surveillance system that retains a record of all areas containing voted ballots from the time the voted ballots are delivered to the central counting station, the signature verification committee, or early voting ballot board until the canvass of precinct election returns. (Sec. 127.1232). For more information, see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2022-10](#).

Sunday, January 4, 2026 (61st day after election day)

NOTE - Section 1.012 provides that, on the 61st day after election day, the general custodian of election records shall make the original voted ballots available for public inspection.

First day that ballot box(es) may be unlocked and its voted ballots may be transferred to another secure container for the remainder of the preservation period. (Sec. 66.058(b)).

NOTE - Our office recommends that the county elections office work closely with its county attorney and its public information division in ensuring that records have been properly redacted before being made publicly available. Please direct any questions about the procedures for responding to a public information request, including the timeframes for such responses, to the Office of the Attorney General via its Open Government Hotline, (877) OPEN TEX (673-6839). See [Note 23](#) and [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2024-20](#).

NOTE - For guidance on retention of electronic voting system media, please see [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2019-23](#).

2027

Sunday, September 5, 2027 (day after 22 months after November 4, 2025 election day)

Contents of ballot box(es) may be destroyed **IF** no contest or criminal investigation has arisen (Secs. 1.013, 66.058), and **IF** no open records request has been filed ([Tex. Att'y Gen. ORD-505 \(1988\)\(PDF\)](#)).

ALL election records must be preserved for 22 months from election day, even when there is no federal office on the ballot. (Sec. 66.058).

Notable Exceptions:

Permanent Records: Election results must be **permanently** maintained in the election register. (Sec. 67.006).

Electronic Voting Systems: See advisories on our website for preservation procedures for electronic voting systems. See [Tex. Sec'y of State Election Advisory No. 2019-23](#).

Friday, November 5, 2027 (day after two years after November 4, 2025 election day)

NOTE - Retention of Voter Registration List: County voter registrar must maintain **copy** of each voter list prepared for each countywide election for two years after election day. (Sec. 18.011).

NOTE - Retention of Candidate Applications: Candidate applications must be retained by the governing body for two years after date of election. (Sec. 141.036).