2026 ELECTIONS CALENDAR

WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE

ELECTIONS DIVISION

Revised July 10, 2026

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2026 Elections in West Virginia:

PRIMARY ELECTION – May 12, 2026
GENERAL ELECTION – November 3, 2026

Races on the ballot in 2026:

- U.S. Senate
- U.S. House of Representatives
- WV Supreme Court of Appeals (Unexpired Term)
- Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals
- State Senate
- House of Delegates
- State Executive Committee
- County Commission
- Board of Education
- Greater Huntington Park & Recreation District
- Conservation District Supervisor
- County Executive Committee
- District Executive Committee

Computation of Time

"If any applicable provision of this code or any legislative rule or other administrative rule or regulation . . . designates a particular date on, before or after which an act, event, default or omission is required or allowed to occur, and if the particular date designated falls on a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or designated day off, then the date on which the act, event, default or omission is required or allowed to occur is the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or designated day off."

- W. Va. Code § 2-2-1(e)

"When a proceeding is directed to take place or any act to be done on any particular day of the month or within any period of time prescribed or allowed . . . if that day or the last day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday . . . the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday . . . shall be deemed to be the one intended . . . ."

- W. Va. Code § 2-2-2(a)

"Accordingly, in the opinion of the Attorney General, where the last day upon which an act must, or may, be done falls upon a Sunday, the Monday following should be considered as the last day upon which the act can be done."

- See Report and Opinions of the Attorney General, pages 216-17 (1941)

Primary Election Dates	
December 15, 2025	**Optional: County Executive Committees May Nominate Community Voting Locations for Primary Election** The county executive committees representing the two major political parties may nominate locations to serve as community voting sites during the early voting period. Such proposals must be submitted in writing to the County Clerk and delivered no later than **150 days** prior to election day. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-2a - CSR § 153-13-3
January 1 - May 6, 2026	**Accept Absentee Ballot Applications for Primary Election from Eligible Voters** Eligible voters may submit an absentee ballot application to the County Clerk during the designated period. The application must be completed in the voter's own handwriting and can be submitted in person, by mail, or electronically. Applications may be received starting **January 1** in the year of the Primary Election and not later than **6 days** before the Primary Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(b)(2)
January 1 - May 6, 2026	**Accept Absentee Ballot Applications for Primary from Military and Overseas Voter (UOCAVA)** UOCAVA voters may submit an absentee ballot application to the County Clerk during the designated period. The application can be submitted in person, by mail, or electronically. Applications may be received starting **January 1** in the year of the Primary Election and not later than **6 days** before the Primary Election. **UOCAVA absentee applications are valid for all elections held in the year they are submitted.** They do not need to re-apply for the General Election if they have already submitted an application for that calendar year. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(b)(1)

January 1 – January 7, 2026	**4th Quarter Report** Reports are due on **January 1 of each year** and must be filed within **6 days thereafter.** This report covers transactions from October 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5(b) - CSR § 146-3-8 Candidates, treasurers, and financial agents must file campaign finance reports as follows: • The Secretary of State for statewide races, legislature, offices to be filled by voters of more than one county, and judicial offices, excluding magistrate; • The County Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a single county, including magistrate; or • The Town Recorder or City Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a municipality.
January 10 - January 25, 2026	**Give Notice of Appointment of Ballot Commissioners** At least **5 days** before appointment of Ballot Commissioners the County Clerk notifies each chairman of the two county executive committees of the parties that cast the largest number of votes in the last preceding General Election of the time for making the appointment. Each chairman shall designate, in writing, a person to be appointed as Ballot Commissioner between **January 15** and **January 30**. If no appointment is made by the Committee, the County Clerk shall make the appointment. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-19
January 12, 2026	**List of Authorized Ballot Vendors Issued** On or before the **2nd Monday of January** of each year the Secretary of State provides a list of all vendors authorized to print ballots for state, county, and municipal elections to the County Clerk. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-21a

January 12 - January 31, 2026	**Candidate Filing Period** Not earlier than **2nd Monday in January** and not later than **last Saturday in January** preceding Primary Election, candidates for nomination or election in the Primary Election file certificates of announcement of candidacy and filing fee with: • The Secretary of State for statewide races, legislature, offices to be filled by voters of more than one county, and judicial offices, excluding magistrate; • The County Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a single county, including magistrate; or • The Town Recorder or City Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a municipality. **Hours for in-person filing on the final day, January 31, 2026:** • Secretary of State: 9:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. • County Clerk's office: 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. **Mailed Certificate of Announcement Deadline:** Must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service before **midnight E.S.T. on January 31, 2026**. Candidates unable to pay filing fee must provide an oath stating he or she is unable to pay fee due to a lack of financial resources and receive in-lieu-of-filing-fee petition forms and instructions on gathering signatures. Candidates shall file petitions with the required number of signatures by close of filing on **January 31, 2026**. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-7, 3-5-8, 3-5-8a
January 12, 2026	**Optional: County Clerk Proposal of Early Voting Community Voting Location in Addition to the Primary Location for Primary Election** No less than **120 days** prior to election day, the clerk shall submit a proposal for an early voting community voting location in writing to the County Commission for approval or disapproval. - W. Va. Code §3-3-2a - CSR §153-13-3

January 12, 2026	**Notice to the Public of Precinct Change for Primary Election** The County Commission must give notice at least **1 month before changing, dividing, or consolidating precincts**. The official order to make the change must be made at least **90 days** before the election. The notice of their intention to change precincts must be a Class II-0 legal notice published once each week for **2 successive weeks in 2 qualified newspapers of opposite politics** published in the publication area. **The ad must have run for 2 weeks by January 12**. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-7(b), 59-3-1 *et seq.*
January 15 – January 30, 2026	**Appoint Ballot Commissioners** Ballot Commissioners are appointed between **January 15 and January 30** in each year a General Election is held. The designees of each party shall be appointed if he or she meets the qualifications for a **2-year term** and cannot be a candidate for any office in any election during the term. The County Clerk serves as chairman and shall appoint the commissioners if the party county executive committees fail to appoint in a timely manner. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-19
January 31, 2026	**Candidate Filing Deadline** Certificate of announcement received in filing office or, if mailed postmarked, **before midnight.** **Hours for in-person filing on the final day, January 31, 2026:** • **Secretary of State: 9:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. County Clerk's office: 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m** - W. Va. Code § 3-5-7
February 1, 2026	**Term of Ballot Commissioners Begins** The **term is for 2 years**. Vacancies are filled in the same manner as original appointments. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-19

February 11, 2026 - 90 days before Primary Election	
February 11, 2026	**Deadline for Ordering Precinct Change for Primary Election** Last day for the County Commission (**after at least a 1-month notice**) to enter an order to change the boundaries of any precinct, divide any precinct into two or more precincts, consolidate two or more precincts into one, or change the location of any polling place whenever the public convenience may require it. Within **15 days after such order** is issued, the County Commission shall publish the order as a Class II-0 legal advertisement. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-7(b), 59-3-1 *et seq.*
February 11, 2026	**Adopt Policy Extending Emergency Absentee Voting for Primary Election** Last day the County Commission may adopt policy extending the emergency absentee voting procedures to: • Hospitals or other duly licensed health care facilities within an adjacent county or within **35** miles of the county seat; and • Nursing homes within the county; or • A voter who becomes confined, on or after the 7th day preceding an election, to a specific location within the county because of illness, injury, physical disability, immobility due to advanced age or other medical reason. The County Commission must adopt this policy **90 days** before the election and a copy of this policy must be filed with the Secretary of State. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5c(a)
February 11, 2026	**Petition for Suspension of Election Official** Petition seeking suspension of an election official must be filed with the County Commission at least **90 days** before an election. The petition must be signed by twenty-five registered voters of the precinct where the election official last served. Upon presentation of evidence of listed grounds, the County (Event description continued on next page)

	Commission may, upon majority vote, suspend the eligibility to serve as an election official for **2 years**. The County Commission may, on its own motion, suspend an election official for specific causes for **4 years**. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-28
February 11, 2026	**Notice of Emergency Precinct Change for Primary** In an emergency, and with the Secretary of State's approval, the County Commission shall give notice of any plan to change, divide, or consolidate voting precincts at least **1 month before the changes take effect**. The notice must be published once a week for **2 weeks in a row**, in **2 approved newspapers** of opposite politics, as a Class II-0 legal ad. The ad **must have run for 2 weeks by February 11**. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-7, 59-3-1 *et seq.*
February 11, 2026	**Early Voting Community Voting Location Approval or Disapproval for Primary Election** The county commission shall approve or disapprove community voting location proposals submitted by the County Clerk no less than **90 days** prior to election day. An early voting community voting location may continue to be used in subsequent elections without complying with the approval process if the county commission finds, and the County Clerk agrees, at least 50 days, but not more than 80 days, prior to the election, that the location continues to qualify. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-2a - CSR §153-13-3
February 17, 2026 (Deadline for committee)	**Executive Committees Fill Vacancies in Nomination by Appointment Due to No Candidate Filing for Primary** If no person in any party has filed to run for an available seat or available office or no person files for an executive committee seat by the close of the candidate filing period, (Event description continued on next page)

February 19, 2026 (Deadline for committee chair)	the relevant party executive committee may fill the vacancy. The certification of appointment, certificate of announcement, and filing fee must be submitted to the appropriate filing officer by the **3rd Tuesday after the candidate filing deadline**. If the executive committee fails to act, the committee chair may appoint someone for the Primary Election ballot. The certification of appointment, certificate of announcement, and filing fee must be submitted to the appropriate filing officer **no later than two days following the deadline for the executive committee.** - W. Va. Code § 3-5-11
February 17, 2026 - 84 days before Primary Election	
February 17, 2026	**Last Day for Candidate to Withdraw from Primary Election** To withdraw from the Primary Election ballot, a candidate must file a notarized statement of withdrawal with the same officer with whom the certificate of announcement was filed no later than the close of business on the **3rd Tuesday following the close of the candidate filing period.** - W. Va. Code § 3-5-11(b)(1)
February 17, 2026	**County Commission Notifies Political Parties of the Number of Poll Workers Needed for the Primary Election** The county commission must notify the two major political parties in writing at least **84 days** before the election about how many poll clerks and commissioners they can nominate. It is recommended that notice of the number of emergency absentee voting commissioners needed is also provided at this time. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-29

February 17, 2026	**Secretary of State Certifies and Posts Primary Election Candidates who have Filed with Him** By the **84th day** before the election the Secretary of State certifies and posts the list of all qualified candidates for the Primary Election. The Secretary of State begins determining and transmitting the certified candidates to be on the ballots in each county **before the ballot drawing on February 24.** - W. Va. Code § 3-5-9
February 21 – March 23, 2026	**Continued use of Community Voting Early Voting Location Agreement for Primary Election** An early voting community voting location may continue to be used in subsequent elections without complying with the approval process if the county commission finds, and the County Clerk agrees, at least 50 days, but not more than 80 days, prior to the election, that the location continues to qualify. - W. Va. Code §3-3-2a - CSR §153-13-3
February 24, 2026	**Secretary of State Emails and Certifies List of Primary Election Candidates to County Clerks** Before the start of the ballot drawing, the Secretary of State emails the lists of Primary Election candidates who have filed with him to the county clerks. Note: Emailing the lists before the ballot drawing is a standard practice used to ensure candidate names are transmitted to the county clerks in time for the ballot drawing.
February 24, 2026 (At 9:00 a.m.)	**Drawing for Order of Names on Primary Election Ballot** Beginning at **9:00 a.m.** on the **4th Tuesday** following the close of candidate filing, a drawing by lot shall be conducted in the office of the County Clerk of each county. The drawing determines the order of candidate names for partisan and (Event description continued on next page)

	non-partisan offices. Notice of the time and date is provided on the Certificate of Announcement. Important: Each county is responsible for holding its own ballot drawing. This includes any state and federal races that require a drawing. The Secretary of State does not hold a separate ballot drawing. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-13a
February 24, 2026 (Approximate)	**Proposed Order Calling for Levy Election Due to Governing Body** **77 days or more** before the election, the attorney gives proposed order calling the election to the appropriate person to be placed on the agenda for the governing body's meeting on or before **71 days** before the election. - W. Va Code § 6-9A-3
March 2, 2026 (Approximate)	**Governing Body Adopts Proposed Order to Place Levy Election on Primary Ballot** On or before **71 days** before the election, at a regular or special meeting, the governing body adopts an order set out as required by law for submitting the question to the voters at the regularly scheduled Primary Election. - W. Va Code §§ 11-8-16 and 13-1-4
March 3, 2026 - 70 days before Primary Election	
March 3, 2026	**Certification of Candidates to County Clerk** By the **70th day** before the election the County Clerk is to receive the certification of candidates by certified mail from the Secretary of State's Office. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-9
March 3, 2026	**Estimate Number of Absentee Ballots** No later than **70 days** before the election the County Clerk estimates the number of official absent and early voter's ballots required. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-11(a)

March 3, 2026	**Election Official Nominations Filed by County Executive Committees** At least **70 days** before the Primary Election, each county executive committee must send a written list to the County Commission. This list should include • The people the committee has officially chosen by majority vote at a proper meeting to serve as election officials. • The specific positions those people are nominated for. • A list of alternate nominees. The list can be submitted by the committee itself, or by its chairman or secretary on its behalf. Each party's number of alternates cannot be more than the total number of precincts in the county. - W. Va. Code §3-1-30
March 3, 2026 (Approximate date)	**Candidate Name Removed from Ballot Due to Death** Upon request of the candidate's family, the board of ballot commissioners may remove the name of a candidate who dies before the ballots are printed. If a candidate dies after the ballots are printed but before the election, the clerk of the county commission shall give a written notice which shall be posted with the sample ballot at each precinct with the county to the following effect: "To the voter: (name) of (residence), a candidate for (office) is deceased." - W. Va. Code § 3-5-11(c)
March 13, 2026 - 60 days before Primary Election	
March 13, 2026	**Emergency Order to Change Precincts** In case of an emergency and with the permission of the Secretary of State, the County Commission may enter an order to consolidate, divide or change the boundaries of a precinct within a county no later than **60 days** before the election. (Event description continued on next page)

	Within **15 days after such order** is issued, the County Commission shall publish the order as Class II-0 legal advertisement. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-7, 59-3-1 *et seq.*
March 13, 2026	**Emergency Order to Change Community Early Voting Location for Primary Election** In counties where community early voting locations are used, in the case of an emergency, the county commission may enter an order to move the community voting location with the clerk's approval no later than **60 days** before the election. Reasonable notice of the ordered change shall be given to the public in a clear and conspicuous manner, which may include but is not limited to public announcements, news media, social media, and posting on the county's website. - W. Va. Code §3-3-2a - CSR §153-13-3
March 17, 2026 - 56 days before Primary Election	
March 17, 2026	**County Clerk Notifies County Commission of the Number of Emergency Absentee Voting Commissioners Needed** **56 days** before the Primary Election, the County Clerk notifies the County Commission of the number of sets of emergency absentee ballot commissioners necessary. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5c(b)
March 24, 2026 - 49 days before Primary Election	
March 24, 2026	**County Commission Appoints Election Officials and Alternates** No later than **49 days** before the election, the County Commission shall appoint the election officials for each designated election board as follows: • Eligible persons nominated and timely filed by the (Event description continued on next page)

	executive committees as poll clerks, election commissioners; • Additional persons selected by the County Commission to serve as election commissioners; and • Persons to fill any positions for which no nominations were filed. The County Commission shall also appoint emergency absentee voting commissioners at the same meeting or at a subsequent meeting. The County Commission shall: • Appoint the alternates nominated by the executive committees; • Appoint additional alternates; and • Determine the number of persons who may be instructed to attend training as alternates. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-30, 3-3-5c
March 24, 2026	**Write-In Candidate Filing Deadline for Primary Election:** • Judicial races • Board of Education Member • Executive committee • Conservation District Supervisor • Greater Huntington Park & Recreation District Eligible persons who seek to be elected by write-in votes to an office which is to be filled at the Primary Election shall file a write-in candidate's certificate of announcement by the **49th day** before the Primary Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-6-4a
March 27, 2026 - 46 days before Primary Election	
March 27, 2026	**Delivery of Absentee Ballots to County Clerk** The board of ballot commissioners are to have the official absentee ballots printed and delivered to the County Clerk **46 days** before the election. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-11(a)

March 27, 2026 – May 7, 2026 if application received by May 6	**County Clerk Mails Absentee Ballots** On **the 46th day** before the election, county clerks must mail absentee ballots to voters who have already applied. After that date, ballots must be mailed **within 1 business day** of receiving a completed application. **The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is May 6**. When an application is received and accepted, the clerk must check if all legal requirements are met. If they are, the clerk must send the absentee ballot, return envelopes, voting instructions, and any other required materials. If the requirements are not met, the clerk must still send the ballot materials but must also notify the voter that their ballot will be counted as provisional. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5
March 27, 2026	**Approved Voter Registration Program for Eligible High School Students** No later than **45 days** before the election, the County Clerk shall conduct an approved program of voter registration services for eligible high school students at each high school within the county. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-8(b)(2)
March 31, 2026 (Deadline depends upon date of appointment)	**Notice Mailed to Election Officials** Within **7 days** following an appointment, the County Commission notifies, by first-class mail, all election commissioners, poll clerks and alternates of their appointment, including a response form. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-30(h)
April 1 – April 7, 2026	**1st Quarter Report** Reports are due on **April 1 of each year** and must be filed within **6 days thereafter** This report covers transactions from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5(b); - CSR § 146-3-8 (Event description continued on next page)

	Candidates, treasurers, and financial agents must file campaign finance reports as follows: • The Secretary of State for statewide races, legislature, offices to be filled by voters of more than one county, and judicial offices, excluding magistrate; • The County Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a single county, including magistrate; or • The Town Recorder or City Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a municipality.
April 7, 2026 (Deadline depends upon date of appointment)	**Election Officials Respond to Notification from County Clerk confirming ability to serve.** When an election official or alternate fails to return the response notice (or otherwise confirm to the County Clerk his or her agreement to serve within the required time, the position shall be considered vacant, and the County Clerk shall proceed to fill the vacancies within **14 days** following the date of appointment. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-30(i)
April 12, 2026 (within 30 days of election)	**Instructional Program for Election Officials** Within **30 days** before the election, the County Clerk must hold a training session for all election officials. The training must include the official video from the Secretary of State, which illustrates, how to properly conduct the election, the duties of each type of election official, and how the voting process works - W. Va. Code § 3-1-46
April 16 – 22, 2026	**Publish Sample Ballot for Early Voting** Not more than **26 nor less than 20 days** preceding the Primary Election, the Ballot Commissioners publish sample official primary ballots as follows: • For counties in which **2 or more** qualified newspapers publish a daily newspaper, publish a Class I-0 legal advertisement in the **2** qualified daily newspapers of different political parties within the county having the largest circulation • For counties having no more than **1** daily newspaper, or having only **1 or more** qualified weekly newspapers, (Event description continued on next page)

	publish sample as Class I legal advertisement in qualified newspaper having largest circulation - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-10, 59-3-1 *et seq.*
April 21, 2026	**Voter Registration Deadline** Voter registration for an election shall close **21 days** before the election, or on the **1st day** thereafter which is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. Completed application of eligible voter for registration, transfer, change of political party or other change submitted by the close of voter registration will be effective for any subsequent election, if the verification notice (if required under W. Va. Code § 3-2-16) to the applicant is not returned as undeliverable, and if the application is: • Received at office of the County Clerk, no later than the hour of the close of registration; • Accepted by a designated agency or motor vehicle licensing office no later than the close of registration; • Accepted through a registration outreach program and received by the County Clerk no later than the close of registration; • Addressed to the appropriate County Clerk and postmarked by the postal service no later than the date of the close of registration; or • Accepted through an approved electronic voter registration system and received no later than 11:59 p.m. Voters must change party affiliation by the close of registration in order to participate in that party's Primary Election. No party affiliation voters may participate in a party's Primary if the party chooses to allow. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-6
	Inspection of Ballots, Electronic Poll Books, and ExpressVotes One inspection can be performed for Early Voting and Election Day materials, or they can be performed separately if Election Day materials are not ready by the time of the Early Voting inspection. (Event description continued on next page)

3 days before inspection April 22, 2026 April 24, 2026 3 days before inspection May 5, 2026 May 7, 2026	**Important:** Vote-recording devices used during early voting can also be used on Election Day if they are retested according to all required procedures. Public notice must be given after early voting ends and before the devices are placed at precincts. **Deadlines for Early Voting Inspection or Early Voting and Election Day Testing if Performed at Same Time:** • Public notice of inspection must be published as a Class I-0 legal ad no later than **3 days before inspection.** • No later than **7 days before Early Voting** the County Clerk must notify the County Commission and Ballot Commissioners that ballots, electronic poll books, and vote-recording devices are ready. • No later **than 5 days before Early Voting** the County Commission and Ballot Commissioners must meet to inspect the ballots, devices, and poll books to confirm they meet legal requirements. **Deadlines for Election Day Inspection if performed separate from Early Voting:** • Public notice of inspection must be published as a Class I-0 legal ad no later than **3 days before inspection.** • No later than **7 days before Election Day** the County Clerk must notify the County Commission and Ballot Commissioners that ballots, electronic poll books, and vote-recording devices are ready. • No later than **5 days before Election Day** the County Commission and Ballot Commissioners must meet to inspect the ballots, devices, and poll books to confirm they meet legal requirements. - W. Va. Code §§3-4A-13, 59-3-1 *et seq.*
April 22 – May 11, 2026	**Authorized Late Voter Registration Accepted from Certain Uniformed and Overseas Voters** Between the **20th day** before the election and **1 day** before the election, members of the uniformed services and overseas citizens whose employment supports national security, who have been discharged **60 days** preceding an (Event description continued on next page)

	election, and spouses/dependents **residing** with said individuals, may register to vote in person at the County Clerk's Office. Appropriate documentation/affidavit must be presented as required by law. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-6a; - CSR § 153-44-1 *et seq*.
April 24, 2026	**Accept Voter Registration Card by Mail without Postmark** If a voter registration application is received by mail with a missing or unreadable postmark, it can still be accepted as long as it arrives no later than **3 days** after the close of voter registration and is addressed to the correct County Clerk. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-6(b)(2)(A)
April 24, 2026	**Correct Incomplete Applications for Voter Registrations** The County Clerk can fix incomplete voter registration applications if the applicant provides the missing information within **4 business days** after voter registration closes. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-6(b)(1)
April 27 – May 1, 2026	**Primary Report** Reports are due on the **15th day preceding the Primary** Election and must be filed within **4 days thereafter.** This report covers transactions from April 1, 2026 through April 26, 2026. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5(b); - CSR § 146-3-8 Candidates, treasurers, and financial agents must file campaign finance reports as follows: • The Secretary of State for statewide races, legislature, offices to be filled by voters of more than one county, and judicial offices, excluding magistrate; • The County Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a single county, including magistrate; or • The Town Recorder or City Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a municipality.

April 29 – May 9, 2026	**Early Voting in Person** Starting **13 days** before the election and ending **3 days** before the election, voters can vote early at the county courthouse, courthouse annex, or a designated community voting location during regular business hours. In addition, early voting must be available from **9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the last two Saturdays** before the Primary Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-3
April 21 – May 3, 2026 May 5, 2026	**Public Test of Tabulating Equipment** Window to publish public notice of tabulating equipment test as a Class I-0 legal notice (must be published **no more than 2 weeks but not less than 48 hours before test**). **1 week prior** to the start of the count of the votes, all automatic tabulating equipment must be tested to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes for all offices and on all measures. After processing preaudited ballots, the County Commission certifies the equipment to be free from error as determined by the test. Testing material and certification is to be placed in a sealed container until the start of canvass. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-4A-26, 59-3-1 *et seq*.
May 5 - May 11, 2026	**Instructional Program Make-Up Session** Within the last **7 days** before the election, County Clerk conducts make-up session for election officials unable to attend regular session. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-46(c)
May 5 - May 11, 2026	**Publish Official List of Candidates or Sample Ballot for Election Day** On the last day on which a newspaper is published immediately preceding the Primary Election, Ballot Commissioners publish the official list of candidates and issues, or the sample ballot, as follows: • For counties in which **2 or more** qualified newspapers (Event description continued on next page)

	publish a daily newspaper, publish as Class I-0 legal advertisement in the **2** qualified daily newspapers of different political parties within the county having the largest circulation; or • For counties having no more than **1** daily newspaper, or having only **1 or more** qualified weekly newspapers, publish as Class I legal advertisement in qualified newspaper having largest circulation. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-10, 59-3-1 *et seq*.
May 5 – May 12, 2026 (Deadline: Noon on May 12)	**Receive Requests for Emergency Absentee Ballot** No earlier than **7 days** preceding the election and no later than **noon** of Election Day, a voter or a member of the voter's immediate family (or in counties with an extended policy, a staff member of a nursing home) may request a ballot for voting emergency absentee. A voter may be eligible to receive an emergency absentee ballot in the following circumstances: • Voter in the hospital on Election Day; • Replacement poll worker appointed after the period for Early Voting; • Voter in licensed health care facilities within an adjacent county or within 35 miles of the county seat (county policy required); • Voter in nursing home within the county if he or she has resided there for a period of less than **30 days** (county policy required); or • Voter becomes confined, on or after the **7th day** preceding an election, to a specific location within the county because of illness, injury, physical disability, or immobility due to advanced age or other medical reason (county policy required). - W. Va. Code §§ 3-3-1, 3-3-5c(d)
May 6, 2026	**Deadline for Absentee Ballot Applications** County clerks must **receive** absentee ballot applications from voters no later than the **6th day** before the election. The County Clerk must mail ballots within one business day of receiving an absentee application from an eligible voter. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(b)(1), 3-3-5(e)(1)

May 9, 2026	**Deadline for Early Voting in Person** The last day to early vote is the **3rd day** before the election (occurs on a Saturday). - W. Va. Code § 3-3-3
May 11, 2026	**Deadline to Hand-Deliver Absentee Ballot to the Clerk's Office** The last day for County Clerk to accept hand delivered absentee ballots by mail is no later than **1 day** preceding the election. No person may personally deliver more than two absentee ballots in any election. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(k)
May 11, 2026	**Election Commissioners Receive Election Supplies** No later than **1 day** before Primary Election, the last day on which election commissioner(s) of each precinct, as designated by the County Commission, shall receive necessary election supplies from County Clerk. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-24(a), 3-4A-13(f)
May 11, 2026	**Failure to Pick Up Supplies, Delivery Thereof** If any election commissioner or poll clerk fails to appear at the County Clerk's office by close of business **1 day** before the election, the Board of Ballot Commissioners or its chairman (County Clerk) dispatches a special messenger to deliver all precinct materials. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-25
May 12, 2026	**PRIMARY ELECTION DAY** **Second Tuesday in May of even years**. Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-31, 3-5-1 In counties using electronic voting systems, the County Clerk must deliver vote recording devices to polling places not less (Event description continued on next page)

	than **1 hour** prior to polls opening. - W. Va. Code § 3-4A-16 If an appointed election official fails to appear at the polling place by 5:45 a.m., election officials shall contact the County Clerk for assistance in filling vacancy. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-30(k) Upon request by or for persons eligible to vote emergency absentee ballot made no later than noon of Election Day, emergency absentee voting commissioners deliver application and ballot to voter in hospital (or nursing home if authorized). - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5c A voter whose registration record lists one address but has since moved to another within the county may update the registration at the polling place and shall vote in the precinct of current residence using a provisional ballot. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-2-22(a)(6), 3-2-31(c) A voter whose legal name has changed may update their registration by filing an affidavit of change of legal name at the polling place on Election Day without using a provisional ballot. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-22(d)(2)
May 12, 2026	**Post Summary Returns** Upon completion of the count on election night, the returns are to be open to the public by posting a summary of the returns as have been tabulated at the central counting center. - W. Va. Code § 3-4A-27(e)

May 12, 2026 (Deadline: 7:30 PM)	**Absentee Ballots Received Electronically from Eligible Voters Accepted** No later than the close of polls Election Day, accept absentee ballots submitted electronically by eligible military and overseas voters, eligible first responders, and eligible voters with physical disabilities. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(i)
May 13, 2026	**Absentee Ballots without Postmark Accepted** Absentee ballots without a postmark can still be accepted if they are delivered by the US Postal Service or an express shipping service and received by the County Clerk no later than **1 day** after Election Day. This rule does not apply to UOCAVA voters (military and overseas voters). UOCAVA ballots may be accepted up to the start of canvass, even without a postmark. – W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(g)(1)
May 18, 2026	**Absentee Ballots Postmarked by Election Day and UOCAVA Ballots Accepted** Absentee ballots by mail will be accepted if they have a US Postal Service postmark **dated on or before Election Day**, and they are received by the County Clerk before the canvass begins. **UOCAVA** (military and overseas voter) ballots do not need a postmark but must still be **received before the start of canvass** to be counted. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-3-5(g)(2), 3-5-17
May 18, 2026	**Canvass Returns** The County Commission, as the board of canvassers, **must** meet to begin canvassing results on the **5th day**, excluding Sundays, after the Primary Election. If the 5th day falls on a Saturday or legal holiday, the canvass shall begin on the next business day. The board of canvassers shall meet from day to day adjourning no longer than is necessary until the canvass is complete. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-17, 3-6-9(a)(1) - CSR § 153-18-3

Deadline depends on date canvass is completed in all jurisdictions.	**Declare** Upon completion of canvass, the board of canvassers publicly declares the election results and waits **48 hours** to allow recount requests to be submitted before certifying. For **multi-county races**, they must wait until the last county declares results for the **48 hours** to begin. Notice of the start times will be provided by the Elections Division by email. When calculating the 48-hour period, Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are excluded. **Important:** The board of canvassers, the County Clerk, or the County Clerk's staff must notify the Elections Division right away by phone or email after each results declaration. Before the canvass, the Elections Division will send detailed instructions by email about how to notify them of declarations and certifications. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-17, § 3-6-9(a)(8)
Deadline depends on date results are declared	**Recount** **Candidates on the ballot in one county** may request a recount within **48 hours of the declaration** of results. When calculating the 48-hour period, Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are excluded. **Candidates on the ballot in more than one county** may request a recount **until the final county** in which the candidate is on the ballot has **certified** the election results. If a recount has been demanded, the board of canvassers shall have **48 hours** in which to send notice to all candidates who filed for the office in which a recount has been demanded. Such recount shall be set for no sooner than **3 days** after serving the notice. After the notice is served, candidates so served shall then have an additional **24 hours** in which to demand a recount of precincts not requested to be recounted by candidate originally requesting recount. The recount is open to the public. However, only those authorized may handle election materials. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-17, 3-6-9

Deadline depends on the date results are declared and recounts	**Certify** **For single county races, 48 hours** after the declaration, **certify** election results in races where no recount has been requested. For **multi-county races**, **48 hours** after the last county containing the race declares, **certify** election results where no recount has been requested. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-17, 3-6-9, 3-6-10
Deadline depends on date of election certification	**Contest Primary Election** Within **10 days** after the results of the election are **certified**, a candidate may contest the Primary Election before the County Commission in which any primary procedures, practices or results may be in issue. A contest is a legal proceeding. Legal counsel *should* (but not mandatorily) be obtained by the parties involved. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-20, 3-7-1, 3-7-6

General Election Dates, Transmission of Primary Certifications, and Primary Voter History Deadline

June 2, 2026 – October 12, 2026 (Deadline for committee; depends on when vacancy due to death occurs) June 4, 2026 – October 14, 2026 (Deadline for chair; depends on when vacancy due to death occurs)	**Executive Committee Appointment to Fill Vacancy Due to Death of Candidate** If a certified nominee for a partisan office passes away after the Primary and on or before the **25th day** before the General Election, the party executive committee may appoint a replacement to appear on the ballot. The replacement must be certified to the proper filing officer by **21 days after the date of death,** or **22 days before the general election**, whichever date occurs first. If this occurs after absentee ballots have been cast, a notice should be sent to the voters who have cast their ballot with a replacement ballot or instructions on how to request a replacement ballot. If the committee does not act, the chairperson may appoint a candidate no later than **2 days following the executive committee deadline.** - W. Va. Code § 3-5-19

June 8, 2026	**Optional: County Executive Committees May Nominate Community Voting Locations for General Election** The county executive committees representing the two major political parties may nominate locations to serve as community voting sites during the early voting period. Such proposals must be submitted in writing to the County Clerk and delivered no later than 150 days prior to election day - W. Va. Code §3-3-2a - CSR §153-13-3
June 11, 2026	**Transmit Primary Election Certificates of Results** The certification of the results of the Primary Election should be sent to the Secretary of State **as soon as possible** but no later than **30 days** after the Primary Election. The board of canvassers transmits a set of certificates of election results for all offices to be filled by the voters of more than one county to the Secretary of State, along with copies of certificates of results for county candidates. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-17, 3-5-18
July 1, 2026	**Terms of Board of Education and Soil Conservation District Supervisors Begin** New members of the Board of Education and Soil Conservation District elected to full terms and unexpired terms to take office. – W. Va. Code §§ 18-5-1b, 19-21A-6
July 1 – July 7, 2026	**2nd Quarter Report** Reports are due on **July 1 of each year** and must be filed within **6 days thereafter.** This report covers transactions from April 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5(b) - CSR § 146-3-8 (Event description continued on next page)

	Candidates, treasurers, and financial agents must file campaign finance reports as follows: • The Secretary of State for statewide races, legislature, offices to be filled by voters of more than one county, and judicial offices, excluding magistrate; • The County Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a single county, including magistrate; or • The Town Recorder or City Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a municipality.
July 6, 2026	**Optional: County Clerk Proposal of Early Voting Community Voting Location in Addition to the Primary Location for General Election** No less than **120 days** prior to election day, the clerk shall submit a proposal for an early voting community voting location in writing to the County Commission for approval or disapproval. - W. Va. Code §3-3-2a - CSR § 153-13-3
July 6, 2026	**Notice to the Public of Precinct Change for General Election** The County Commission must give notice at least **1 month before changing, dividing, or consolidating precincts.** The official order to make the change must be made at least **90 days** before the election. The notice of their intention to change precincts must be a Class II-0 legal notice published once each week for **2 successive weeks** in **2 qualified newspapers of opposite politics** published in the publication area. **The ad must have run for 2 weeks by July 6**. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-7(b), 59-3-1 *et seq.*
July 11, 2026	**Report Failure to File Financial Statement to Prosecuting Attorney** **60 days** after Primary Election the Secretary of State and the County Clerk is to give notice of the failure of any candidates, agents or treasures to file required, detailed, itemized (Event description continued on next page)

	financial statements of transactions connected with Primary Election to Prosecuting Attorney where candidate resides. - W. Va. Code § 3-8-7(a) **Report Failure to File Financial Statement to Secretary of State** **60 days** after Primary Election the County Clerk is to give notice of the failure of any candidates, agents or treasures to file required, detailed, itemized financial statements of transactions connected with Primary Election to the Secretary of State. - W. Va. Code § 3-8-7(b)(1) **Written notification to candidates/committees that failed to file financial statements** **60 days** after the Primary Election, a written notice is to be sent by certified mail to candidates/committees that failed to file the required finance reports relating to the Primary Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-8-7(e)
July 31, 2026 (Deadline for Primary)	**Voter History** After each primary, general, municipal, or special election, the County Clerk shall enter the voting records into the statewide voter registration database within **80 days** after the election. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-18(e)
August 3, 2026	**Deadline for No Party Organization/Unaffiliated Candidates to File Nominating Petitions, Certificate of Announcements and Pay Filing Fee** No later than **August 3** preceding the General Election, certificates nominating candidates are to be filed with the Secretary of State or the County Clerk, depending upon the office being sought. If the nomination certificate is not timely filed and filing fee not (Event description continued on next page)

	timely paid, they may not be accepted by the filing office. **Note:** The deadline in code is August 1. However, that deadline falls on a Saturday in 2026, so the deadline is extended to the next business day per W. Va. Code § 2-2-2. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-23, 3-5-24
August 3 - 18, 2026	**Special Filing Period for Board of Education Vacancy Occurring after Close of Filing for Primary Election** No earlier than the **first Monday in August** and no later than **77 days** before the General Election, candidate filing period for unexpired term of Board of Education to fill vacancy which occurs after the close of the Primary Election candidate filing but not later than **84 days** before the General Election. The certificate of announcement and filing fee shall be remitted to the County Clerk no earlier than **August 1** and no later than **77 days** before the General Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-19(c)
August 5, 2026 - 90 days before the General Election	
August 5, 2026	**Deadline for Ordering Precinct Change for General Election** Last day for the County Commission (**after at least a 1-month notice**) to enter an order to change the boundaries of any precinct, divide any precinct into two or more precincts, consolidate two or more precincts into one, or change the location of any polling place whenever the public convenience may require it. Within **15 days after such order is** issued, the County Commission shall publish the order as a Class II-0 legal advertisement. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-7(b), 59-3-1 *et seq.*

August 5, 2026	**Adopt Policy Extending Emergency Absentee Voting for General Election** Last day the County Commission may adopt policy extending the emergency absentee voting procedures to: • Hospitals or other duly licensed health care facilities within an adjacent county or within 35 miles of the county seat; and • Nursing homes within the county; or • A voter who becomes confined, on or after the 7th day preceding an election, to a specific location within the county because of illness, injury, physical disability, immobility due to advanced age or other medical reason. The County Commission must adopt this policy **90 days** before the election and a copy of this policy must be filed with the Secretary of State. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5c(a)
August 5, 2026	**Petition for Suspension of Election Official** Petition seeking suspension of an election official must be filed with the County Commission at least **90 days** before an election. The petition must be signed by twenty-five registered voters of the precinct where the election official last served. Upon presentation of evidence of listed grounds, the County Commission may, upon majority vote, suspend the eligibility to serve as an election official for **2 years**. The County Commission may, on its own motion, suspend an election official for specific causes for **4 years**. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-28
August 5, 2026	**Notice of Emergency Precinct Change for General** In an emergency, and with the Secretary of State's approval, the County Commission must give notice of any plan to change, divide, or consolidate voting precincts at least **1 month before the changes take effect**. The notice must be published once a week for **2 weeks in a row**, in **2 approved newspapers** of opposite politics, as a Class II-0 legal ad. The (Event description continued on next page)

	ad **must have run for 2 weeks by August 5**. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-7, 59-3-1 *et seq.*
August 5, 2026	**Early Voting Community Voting Location Approval or Disapproval for General Election** The County Commission shall approve or disapprove community voting location proposals submitted by the County Clerk no less than **90 days** prior to election day. An early voting community voting location may continue to be used in subsequent elections without complying with the approval process if the County Commission finds, and the County Clerk agrees, at least 50 days, but not more than 80 days, prior to the election, that the location continues to qualify. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-2a - CSR § 153-13-3
August 11, 2026 - 84 days before General Election Day	
August 11, 2026	**Last Day for Candidate to Withdraw from General Election** To withdraw from the General Election ballot, a candidate must file a notarized statement of withdrawal with the same officer with whom the certificate of announcement was filed no later than the close of business **84 days** before the General Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-11(b)(2)
August 11, 2026	**County Commission Notifies Political Parties of the Number of Poll Workers Needed for the General Election** The County Commission must notify the two major political parties in writing at least **84 days** before the election about how many poll clerks and commissioners they can nominate. (Event description continued on next page)

	It is recommended that notice of the number of emergency absentee voting commissioners needed is also provided at this time. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-29
August 11, 2026	**Disqualification for failure to file Primary Financial Statements** Late financial statements must be received in the filing office by close of business on this day. Failure to file by the **84th day** before the General Election is automatic disqualification, and the candidate's name will be removed from the ballot. If disqualified, the executive committee may appoint according to the provisions of §3-5-19(a)(4). - W. Va. Code § 3-8-7(c)(1)
August 11 – October 28, 2026	**Accept Absentee Ballot Applications for General Election from Eligible Voters** Eligible voters may submit an absentee ballot application to the County Clerk during the designated period. The application must be completed in the voter's own handwriting and can be submitted in person, by mail, or electronically. Applications may be received starting **84 days** before the General Election and not later than **6 days** before the General Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(b)
August 15 – September 14, 2026	**Continued use of Community Voting Early Voting Location Agreement for General Election** An early voting community voting location may continue to be used in subsequent elections without complying with the approval process if the County Commission finds, and the County Clerk agrees, **at least 50 days**, but **not more than 80 days**, prior to the election, that the location continues to qualify. - W. Va. Code §3-3-2a - CSR §153-13-3

August 17, 2026 (Deadline for committee) August 19, 2026 (Deadline for chair)	**Executive Committee or Chair Appointments to Fill General Election Ballot Vacancies in Nomination or Certain Partisan Offices** If a vacancy occurs no later than **84 days** before the General Election due to any of the reasons listed below, the political party's executive committee may appoint a candidate to appear on the General Election ballot no later than **78 days** before the election: • Automatic disqualification of a candidate for failure to file campaign finance statements; • Disqualification of a candidate by the State Election Commission; • Incapacity of a candidate; • Except as otherwise provided in W. Va. Code § 3-10-1 et seq., a vacancy occurs in a partisan office (excluding party executive committee) creating an unexpired term. If the committee does not act, the chairperson may appoint a candidate no later than **2 days** following the executive committee deadline. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-19
August 18, 2026 (Approximate)	**Proposed Order Calling for Levy Election Due to Governing Body** **77 days or more** before the election, the attorney gives proposed order calling the election to the appropriate person to be placed on the agenda for the governing body's meeting on or before **71 days** before the election. - W. Va Code § 6-9A-3
August 24, 2026 (Approximate)	**Governing Body Adopts Proposed Order to Place Levy Election on General Ballot** On or before **71 days** before the election, at a regular or special meeting, the governing body adopts an order set out as required by law for submitting the question to the voters at the regularly scheduled General Election. - W. Va Code §§11-8-16 and 13-1-4

August 24, 2026	**Secretary of State Transmits Certified List of General Election Candidates to County Clerks** After the deadline for filling vacancies and no later than the **71st day** before the election, the Secretary of State certifies to each county clerk the names of state and federal candidates who will appear on their General Election ballot. It is standard practice for the Secretary of State to first email the lists to the county clerks, so they receive them in time for the ballot drawing. The lists are also sent by mail. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-18
August 25, 2026 - 70 days before the General Election	
August 25, 2026 (at 9:00 a.m.)	**Drawing for Order of Names on General Election Ballot** Beginning at **9:00 a.m.** on the **70th day** before the General Election, a drawing by lot shall be conducted in the office of the County Clerk. The drawing determines the order of candidate names for any office or division for which more than one is to be elected and for any non-partisan office to be elected for an unexpired term. Important: Each county is responsible for holding its own ballot drawing. This includes any state races that require a drawing. The Secretary of State does not hold a separate ballot drawing. Additional Ballot Order Information: Names on the general election ballot should be listed by political party first in order of who received the highest number of votes in the last presidential election. No party, petition candidates, are listed next, in the order they submitted their final nomination certificates. - W. Va. Code § 3-6-2(d)
August 25, 2026	**Estimate Number of Absentee Ballots** No later than **70 days** before the election the County Clerk estimates the number of official absent and early voter's ballots required. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-11(a)

August 25, 2026	**Election Official Nominations Filed by County Executive Committees** At least **70 days** before the General Election, each county executive committee must send a written list to the County Commission. This list should include • The people the committee has officially chosen by majority vote at a proper meeting to serve as election officials. • The specific positions those people are nominated for. • A list of alternate nominees. The list can be submitted by the committee itself, or by its chairman or secretary on its behalf. Each party's number of alternates cannot be more than the total number of precincts in the county. - W. Va. Code §3-1-30
August 25, 2026 (Approximate date)	**Candidate Name Removed from Ballot Due to Death** Upon request of the candidate's family, the board of ballot commissioners may remove the name of a candidate who dies before the ballots are printed. If a candidate dies after the ballots are printed but before the election, the clerk of the County Commission shall give a written notice which shall be posted with the sample ballot at each precinct with the county to the following effect: "To the voter: (name) of (residence), a candidate for (office) is deceased." - W. Va. Code § 3-5-11(c)
September 4, 2026 - 60 days before General Election	
September 4, 2026	**Emergency Order to Change Precincts** In case of an emergency and with the permission of the Secretary of State, the County Commission may enter an order to consolidate, divide or change the boundaries of a precinct within a county no later than **60 days** before the election. (Event description continued on next page)

	Within **15 days after such order** is issued, the County Commission shall publish the order as Class II-0 legal advertisement. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-7, 59-3-1 *et seq*
September 4, 2026	**Emergency Order to Change Community Early Voting Location for General Election** In counties where community early voting locations are used, in the case of an emergency, the County Commission may enter an order to move the community voting location with the clerk's approval no later than **60 days** before the election. Reasonable notice of the ordered change shall be given to the public in a clear and conspicuous manner, which may include but is not limited to public announcements, news media, social media, and posting on the county's website. - W. Va. Code §3-3-2a - CSR §153-13-3
September 8, 2026 - 56 days before General Election	
September 8, 2026	**County Clerk Notifies County Commission of the Number of Emergency Absentee Voting Commissioners Needed** **56 days** before the General Election, the County Clerk notifies the County Commission of the number of sets of emergency absentee ballot commissioners necessary. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5c(b)
September 15, 2026 - 49 days before the General Election	
September 15, 2026	**County Commission Appoints Election Officials and Alternates** No later than **49 days** before the election, the County Commission shall appoint the election officials for each designated election board as follows:

	• Eligible persons nominated and timely filed by the executive committees as poll clerks, election commissioners; • Additional persons selected by the County Commission to serve as election commissioners; and • Persons to fill any positions for which no nominations were filed. The County Commission shall also appoint emergency absentee voting commissioners at the same meeting or at a subsequent meeting. The County Commission shall: • Appoint the alternates nominated by the executive committees; • Appoint additional alternates; and • Determine the number of persons who may be instructed to attend training as alternates. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-30, 3-3-5c
September 15, 2026	**Write-In Candidate Filing Deadline for General Election** Eligible persons who seek to be elected by write-in votes to an office which is to be filled at the General Election shall file a write-in candidate's certificate of announcement by the **49th day** before the General Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-6-4a
September 18, 2026 - 46 days before the General Election	
September 18, 2026	**Delivery of Absentee Ballots to County Clerk** The board of ballot commissioners are to have the official absentee ballots printed and delivered to the County Clerk 46 days before the election. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-11(a)

September 18 – October 29, 2026 if application is received by October 28	**County Clerk Mails Absentee Ballots** On **the 46th day** before the election, county clerks must mail absentee ballots to voters who have already applied. After that date, ballots must be mailed **within 1 business day** of receiving a completed application. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is **May 6**. When an application is received and accepted, the clerk must check if all legal requirements are met. If they are, the clerk must send the absentee ballot, return envelopes, voting instructions, and any other required materials. If the requirements are not met, the clerk must still send the ballot materials but must also notify the voter that their ballot will be counted as provisional. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5
September 22, 2026 (Deadline, depending on date of appointment)	**Notice Mailed to Election Officials** Within **7 days** following the appointment, the County Commission notifies, by first-class mail, all election commissioners, poll clerks and alternates of their appointment, including a response form. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-30(h)
September 29, 2026 (Deadline, depending on date of appointment)	**Election Officials Respond to Notification from County Clerk Confirming Ability to Serve** When an election official or alternate fails to return the response notice (or otherwise confirm to the County Clerk his or her agreement to serve within the required time, the position shall be considered vacant, and the County Clerk shall proceed to fill the vacancies within **14 days** following the date of appointment. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-30(i)
October 1 – October 7, 2026	**3rd Quarter Report** Reports are due on **October 1 each year** and must be filed within **6 days thereafter.** This report covers transactions from July 1, 2026 through September 30, 2026. (Event description continued on next page)

	- W. Va. Code §§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5(b); - CSR § 146-3-8 Candidates, treasurers, and financial agents must file campaign finance reports as follows: • The Secretary of State for statewide races, legislature, offices to be filled by voters of more than one county, and judicial offices, excluding magistrate; • The County Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a single county, including magistrate; or • The Town Recorder or City Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a municipality.
October 4, 2026	**Instructional Program for Election Officials** Within **30 days** before the election, the County Clerk must hold a training session for all election officials. The training must include the official video from the Secretary of State, which illustrates, how to properly conduct the election, the duties of each type of election official, and how the voting process works. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-46
October 8 – 14, 2026	**Publish Sample Ballot for Early Voting** Not more than **26 nor less than 20 days** preceding the General Election, the Ballot Commissioners publish sample official general ballots as follows: • For counties in which **2 or more** qualified newspapers publish a daily newspaper, publish a Class I-0 legal advertisement in the **2** qualified daily newspapers of different political parties within the county having the largest circulation • For counties having no more than **1** daily newspaper, or having only **1 or more** qualified weekly newspapers, publish sample as Class I legal advertisement in qualified newspaper having largest circulation - W. Va. Code §§ 3-6-3, 59-3-1 *et seq.*
October 13, 2026	**Voter Registration Deadline** Voter registration for an election shall close **21 days** before the election, or on the **1st day** thereafter which is not a (Event description continued on next page)

	Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. Completed application of eligible voter for registration, transfer, change of political party or other change submitted by the close of voter registration will be effective for any subsequent election, if the verification notice (if required under W. Va. Code § 3-2-16) to the applicant is not returned as undeliverable, and if the application is: • Received at office of the County Clerk, no later than the hour of the close of registration; • Accepted by a designated agency or motor vehicle licensing office no later than the close of registration; • Accepted through a registration outreach program and received by the County Clerk no later than the close of registration; • Addressed to the appropriate County Clerk and postmarked by the postal service no later than the date of the close of registration; or • Accepted through an approved electronic voter registration system and received no later than 11:59 p.m. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-6
3 days before inspection October 14, 2026	**Inspection of Ballots, Electronic Poll Books, and ExpressVotes** One inspection can be performed for Early Voting and Election Day materials, or they can be performed separately if Election Day materials are not ready by the time of the Early Voting inspection. **Important:** Vote-recording devices used during early voting can also be used on Election Day if they are retested according to all required procedures. Public notice must be given after early voting ends and before the devices are placed at precincts. **Deadlines for Early Voting Inspection or Early Voting and Election Day Testing if Performed at Same Time:** • Public notice of inspection must be published as a Class I-0 legal ad no later than **3 days before inspection.** • No later than **7 days before Early Voting** the County (Event description continued on next page)

October 16, 2026 3 days before inspection October 27, 2026 October 29, 2026	Clerk must notify the County Commission and Ballot Commissioners that ballots, electronic poll books, and vote-recording devices are ready. • No later than **5 days before Early Voting** the County Commission and Ballot Commissioners must meet to inspect the ballots, devices, and poll books to confirm they meet legal requirements. **Deadlines for Election Day Inspection if performed separate from Early Voting:** • Public notice of inspection must be published as a Class I-0 legal ad no later than **3 days before inspection.** • No later than **7 days before Election** Day the County Clerk must notify the County Commission and Ballot Commissioners that ballots, electronic poll books, and vote-recording devices are ready. • No later than **5 days before Election Day** the County Commission and Ballot Commissioners must meet to inspect the ballots, devices, and poll books to confirm they meet legal requirements. - W. Va. Code §§3-4A-13, 59-3-1 *et seq.*
October 14 - November 2, 2026	**Authorized Late Voter Registration Accepted from Certain Uniformed and Overseas Voters** Between the **20th day** before the election and **1 day** before the election, members of the uniformed services and overseas citizens whose employment supports national security, who have been discharged **60 days** preceding an election, and spouses/dependents **residing** with said individuals, may register to vote in person at the County Clerk's Office. Appropriate documentation/affidavit must be presented as required by law. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-6a; - CSR § 153-44-1 *et seq*
October 16, 2026	**Accept Voter Registration Card by Mail without Postmark** If a voter registration application is received by mail with a missing or unreadable postmark, it can still be accepted as long as it arrives no later than **3 days** after the close of voter registration and is addressed to the correct County Clerk. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-6(b)(2)(A)

October 16, 2026	**Correct Incomplete Applications for Voter Registration** The County Clerk can fix incomplete voter registration applications if the applicant provides the missing information within **4 business days** after voter registration closes. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-6(b)(1)
October 19 - October 23, 2026	**General Report** Reports are due on the **15th day preceding the General** Election and must be filed within **4 days thereafter.** This report covers transactions from October 1, 2026 through October 18, 2026. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5(b); - CSR § 146-3-8 Candidates, treasurers, and financial agents must file campaign finance reports as follows: • The Secretary of State for statewide races, legislature, offices to be filled by voters of more than one county, and judicial offices, excluding magistrate; • The County Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a single county, including magistrate; or • The Town Recorder or City Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a municipality.
October 21 – October 31, 2026	**Early Voting in Person Conducted** Starting **13 days** before the election and ending **3 days** before the election, voters can vote early at the county courthouse, courthouse annex, or a designated community voting location during regular business hours. In addition, early voting must be available from **9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the last two Saturdays** before the General Election. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-3

October 13 – October 25, 2026 October 27, 2026	**Public Test of Tabulating Equipment** Window to publish public notice of tabulating equipment test as a Class I-0 legal notice (must be published **no more than 2 weeks but not less than 48 hours before test**). **1 week** prior to the start of the count of the votes, all automatic tabulating equipment must be tested to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes for all offices and on all measures. After processing preaudited ballots, the County Commission certifies the equipment to be free from error as determined by the test. Testing material and certification is to be placed in a sealed container until the start of canvass. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-4A-26, 59-3-1 *et seq*.
October 27 – November 2, 2026	**Instructional Program Make-Up Session** Within at least **7 days** before the election, County Clerk conducts make-up session for election officials unable to attend regular session. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-46(c)
October 27 – November 2, 2026	**Publish Official List of Candidates or Sample Ballot for Election Day** On the last day on which a newspaper is published immediately preceding the General Election, Ballot Commissioners publish the official list of candidates and issues, or the sample ballot, as follows: • For counties in which **2 or more** qualified newspapers publish a daily newspaper, publish as Class I-0 legal advertisement in the **2** qualified daily newspapers of different political parties within the county having the largest circulation; or • For counties having no more than **1** daily newspaper, or having only **1 or more** qualified weekly newspapers, publish as Class I legal advertisement in qualified newspaper having largest circulation. - W. Va. Code § 3-6-3, 59-3-1 *et seq*.

October 27 – Noon, November 3, 2026	**Receive Requests for Emergency Absentee Ballot** No earlier than **7 days** preceding the election and no later than **noon** of Election Day, a voter or a member of the voter's immediate family (or in counties with an extended policy, a staff member of a nursing home) may request a ballot for voting emergency absentee. A voter may be eligible to receive an emergency absentee ballot in the following circumstances: • Voter in the hospital on Election Day; • Replacement poll worker appointed after the period for Early Voting; • Voter in licensed health care facilities within an adjacent county or within 35 miles of the county seat (county policy required); • Voter in nursing home within the county if he or she has resided there for a period of less than **30 days** (county policy required); or • Voter becomes confined, on or after the **7th day** preceding an election, to a specific location within the county because of illness, injury, physical disability, or immobility due to advanced age or other medical reason (county policy required). - W. Va. Code §§ 3-3-1(d), 3-3-5c
October 28, 2026	**Deadline for Absentee by Mail Application** County clerks must **receive** absentee ballot applications from voters no later than the **6th day** before the election. The County Clerk must mail ballots within one business day of receiving an absentee application from an eligible voter - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(b)(1), 3-3-5(e)(1)
October 29, 2026 (By close of business at the filing office)	**Write-In Candidate Filing Deadline in Case of Death of Candidate** Vacancy occurs no earlier than **48 days (September 16)** and no later than **5 days (October 29)** before the General Election, the certificate shall be received no later than the close of business **5 days** before the election, or the close of business on the day following the occurrence of the vacancy, whichever is later. (Event description continued on next page)

	Write-in candidates file a certificate of announcement to become certified write-in candidates in case of the death of a candidate. - W. Va. Code § 3-6-4a(c)(2)
October 31, 2026	**Deadline for Early Voting in Person** The last day to early vote is the **3rd day** before the election (occurs on a Saturday). - W. Va. Code § 3-3-3
November 2, 2026	**Deadline to Hand-Deliver Absentee Ballots to the County Clerk's Office** The last day for the County Clerk to accept hand delivered absentee ballots by mail is no later than **1 day** preceding the election. No person may personally deliver more than two absentee ballots in any election. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(k)
November 2, 2026	**Election Commissioners Receive Election Supplies** No later than **1 day** before the General Election, the last day on which election commissioner(s) of each precinct, as designated by the County Commission, shall receive necessary election supplies from the County Clerk. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-24, 3-4A-13(f)
November 2, 2026	**Failure to Pick Up Supplies, Delivery Thereof** If any election commissioner or poll clerk fails to appear at the County Clerk's office by close of business **1 day** before the election, the Board of Ballot Commissioners or its chairman (County Clerk) dispatches a special messenger to deliver all precinct materials. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-25

November 3, 2026	**GENERAL ELECTION DAY** **Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even years.** Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-31 In counties using electronic voting systems, the County Clerk must deliver vote recording devices to polling places not less than **1 hour** prior to polls opening. - W. Va. Code § 3-4A-16 If an appointed election official fails to appear at the polling place by 5:45 a.m., election officials shall contact the County Clerk for assistance in filling the vacancy. - W. Va. Code § 3-1-30(k) Upon request by or for persons eligible to vote emergency absentee ballot made no later than noon of Election Day, emergency absentee voting commissioners deliver application and ballot to voter in hospital (or nursing home if authorized). - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5c A voter whose registration record lists one address but has since moved to another within the county may update the registration at the polling place and shall vote in the precinct of current residence using a provisional ballot. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-2-22(a)(6), 3-2-31(c) A voter whose legal name has changed may update their registration by filing an affidavit of change of legal name at the polling place on Election Day without using a provisional ballot. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-22(d)(2)

November 3, 2026	**Post Summary Returns** Upon completion of the count on election night, the returns are to be open to the public by posting a summary of the returns as have been tabulated at the central counting center. - W. Va. Code § 3-4A-27(e)
November 3, 2026 (Deadline: 7:30 PM)	**Absentee Ballots Received Electronically from Eligible Voters Accepted** No later than the close of polls Election Day, accept absentee ballots submitted electronically by eligible military and overseas voters, eligible first responders, and eligible voters with physical disabilities. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(i)
November 4, 2026	**Absentee Ballots Without Postmark Accepted** Absentee ballots without a postmark can still be accepted if they are delivered by the US Postal Service or an express shipping service and received by the County Clerk no later than **1 day** after Election Day. This rule does not apply to UOCAVA voters (military and overseas voters). UOCAVA ballots may be accepted up to the start of canvass, even without a postmark. - W. Va. Code § 3-3-5(g)(1)
November 9, 2026	**Absentee Ballots Postmarked by Election Day and UOCAVA Ballots Accepted** Absentee ballots by mail will be accepted if they have a US Postal Service postmark **dated on or before Election Day**, and they are received by the County Clerk before the canvass begins. **UOCAVA** (military and overseas voter) ballots do not need a postmark but must still be **received before the start of canvass** to be counted. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-3-5(g)(2), 3-5-17

November 9, 2026	**Canvass Returns** The County Commission, as the board of canvassers, **must** meet to begin canvassing results on the **5th day**, excluding Sundays, after the General Election. If the 5th day falls on a Saturday or legal holiday, the canvass shall begin on the next business day. The board of canvassers shall meet from day to day adjourning no longer than is necessary until the canvass is complete. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-17, 3-6-9(a)(1) - CSR § 153-18-3
Deadline depends on date canvass is completed in all jurisdictions.	**Declare** Upon completion of canvass, the board of canvassers publicly declares the election results and waits **48 hours** to allow recount requests to be submitted before certifying. For **multi-county races**, they must wait until the last county declares results for the **48 hours** to begin. Notice of the start times will be provided by the Elections Division by email. When calculating the 48-hour period, Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are excluded. **Important:** The board of canvassers, the County Clerk, or the County Clerk's staff must notify the Elections Division right away by phone or email after each results declaration. Before the canvass, the Elections Division will send detailed instructions by email about how to notify them of declarations and certifications. - W. Va. Code § 3-5-17, § 3-6-9(a)(8)
Deadline depends on date results are declared	**Recount** **Candidates on the ballot in one county** may request a recount within **48 hours of the declaration** of results. When calculating the 48-hour period, Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are excluded. **Candidates on the ballot in more than one county** may request a recount **until the final county** in which the candidate is on the ballot has **certified** the election results. (Event description continued on next page)

	If a recount has been demanded, the board of canvassers shall have **48 hours** in which to send notice to all candidates who filed for the office in which a recount has been demanded. Such recount shall be set for no sooner than **3 days** after serving the notice. After the notice is served, candidates so served shall then have an additional **24 hours** in which to demand a recount of precincts not requested to be recounted by candidate originally requesting recount. The recount is open to the public. However, only those authorized may handle election materials. - W. Va. Code § 3-6-9
Deadline depends on the date results are declared and recounts	**Certify** **For single county races, 48 hours** after the declaration, **certify** election results in races where no recount has been requested. For **multi-county races**, **48 hours** after the last county containing the race declares, **certify** election results where no recount has been requested. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-17, 3-6-9, 3-6-10
Deadline depends on date election results are declared	**Contest General Election** Within **10 days** after the results of the election are **certified**, a candidate may contest the General Election before the County Commission in which any general procedures, practices or results may be in issue. A contest is a legal proceeding. Legal counsel *should* (but not mandatorily) be obtained by the parties involved. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-7-1, 3-7-6
December 3, 2026	**Transmit General Election Certificates of Election Results** The certification of the results of the General Election should be sent to the Secretary of State **as soon as possible** but no later than **30 days** after the General Election. The board of canvassers transmits a set of certificates of election results for all offices to be filled by the voters of more (Event description continued on next page)

	than one county to the Secretary of State, along with copies of certificates of results for county candidates. - W. Va. Code § 3-6-11
January 1 – January 7, 2027	**4th Quarter Report** Reports are due on **January 1 of each year** and must be filed within **6 days thereafter.** This report covers transactions from October 19, 2026 through December 31, 2026. - W. Va. Code §§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5(b); - CSR § 146-3-8 Candidates, treasurers, and financial agents must file campaign finance reports as follows: • The Secretary of State for statewide races, legislature, offices to be filled by voters of more than one county, and judicial offices, excluding magistrate; • The County Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a single county, including magistrate; or • The Town Recorder or City Clerk for offices to be filled by voters of a municipality.
January 2, 2027 (Saturday)	**Report Failure to File Financial Statement to Prosecuting Attorney** (**60 days** after General Election) The Secretary of State and the County Clerk shall give notice of any failure of candidates, agents or treasurers to file required, detailed, itemized financial statements of transactions connected with General Election to Prosecuting Attorney where candidate resides. - W. Va. Code § 3-8-7(a)
January 22, 2027	**Voter History** After each primary, general, municipal, or special election, the County Clerk shall enter the voting records into the statewide voter registration database within **80 days** after the election. - W. Va. Code § 3-2-18(e)

Notes