



**2018 School and Special Purpose District Mail Ballot
Election Dates for Use on [Mail Ballot Election Timetable](#)**

Montana Secretary of State

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NOTE: Review [20-3-313](#), MCA for information regarding cancelling a school election and [13-1-502\(4\) and \(5\)](#), MCA, for information regarding cancelling a special district election.

Activity	Deadline
1 Copy of the following sent to the governing body: 1) written plan; 2) written statement informing the governing body of the decision to conduct the election by mail ballot; 3) list of reasons for the decision; and 4) statement regarding the right of the governing body to object under 13-19-204 , MCA	No date set by law, but should be at least no later than 60 days before election
2 Submission of written plan to SOS*	Enter the actual date submitted; must be received by SOS not later than Friday, March 9, 2018 , 60 days before the election
3 Last day for governing body to opt out	55 days before the election is March 14 .
4 Secretary of State approves, disapproves, or recommends changes to plan	Within 5 days of SOS receipt of plan
5 County election administrator publishes notices at least 3 times in the 4 weeks before the close of regular registration specifying close of voter registration and availability of late registration (For all non-school and school elections, to be published by the county election administrator at least 3 times in the 4 weeks preceding the close of registration, once per week. School clerks running school elections will need to coordinate with the county election administrator to have the county election administrator publish the notices of close of registration. 13-2-301)	School Election and Non-School Election: At least 3 times, once per week, between March 12 and April 8
6 Publish notice of election (For school elections, 20-20-204 , MCA: notice must be published at least once between 40 and 10 days before the election in a newspaper (if there is one in the district) and in 3 public places in the district, and for 10 days prior to the election, on the district's website, if the district has an active website) For non-school elections: 13-1-108 , MCA.)	School Election: At least once 40 – 10 days before election in a newspaper: choose and enter at least one date between March 29 and April 28 <hr/> Non-School Election: At least 3 times , once per week, between March 29 and April 28
7 Close of regular registration	April 9 (the 30th day before the election falls on a Sunday, so the deadline for registration moves to Monday).
8 Beginning of late registration	April 10 (the day after the close of registration)
9 Specific date on which ballots will be mailed	Choose and enter a single day between April 18 (20 days before election) and April 23 (15 days before election).
10 Election Day	May 8, 2018

*Please email your plan, timetable, and instructions to soselections@mt.gov.