2023 SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICT ELECTION CALENDAR

Montana Secretary of State

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2022-2023

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December '22						January '23							February '23							
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
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	March '23					April '23							May '23							
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		June '23				July '23							August '23							
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Deadline	Activity	Statute							
	2022								
December 8, 2022 145 days before election	Candidate Filing Opens for Special Purpose District Elections (excluding conservation districts; see 13-1-502(4)(b)).	13-1-502(1)							
2023									
February 6, 2023	Candidate Filing Closes at 5pm.	<u>13-1-502(1)</u>							
85 days before election	Deadline for a candidate to withdraw.	13-1-502(2)							
	Last day for Governing Body to pass an order or resolution calling for the election. The order or resolution shall specify whether the governing body is requesting that the election be conducted by mail.	13-1-504(4) and (5)							
February 16, 2023 75 days before election	Ballot certification deadline.	13-12-201							
February 27, 2023	Write-in candidates must file a declaration of intent by 5pm .	13-1-502(3)							
65 days before election	After 5pm, Election Administrator shall cancel election and immediately notify the governing body in writing of the cancellation, if the number of candidates is equal to, or less than, the number of positions to be filled. The governing body may require the election to be held by passing a resolution. (Since there is no deadline specified in law for such a governing body resolution, SOS recommends working closely with the governing body to determine in advance of March 2 whether the governing body plans to pass such a resolution.)	13-1-502(4)(a)							
March 3, 2023 60 days before election	Deadline for Secretary of State to receive written plans for May 2 mail ballot elections.	13-19-205(1)							
March 6 – April 2 Starting not earlier than four weeks before close of voter registration	Publish notice of close of regular registration and availability of late registration at least three times in the four weeks preceding the close of regular voter registration.	13-2-301(1)(b)							
March 23 – April 22 Between 10 and 40 days before election	Publish notice of election three times (if newspaper of general circulation is weekly, notice must be published two times).	13-1-108(1) and (2)							
April 3, 2023 30 days before election	Regular Voter Registration Closes.	13-2-301(1)(a)							
April 4, 2023	Late registration opens;	13-2-304(1)							
April 6, 2023 Within 3 days of the close of regular voter registration	Voter registration applications postmarked by April 3 and received by April 6 are accepted for regular voter registration.	13-2-301(3)							
April 12, 2023 20 days before the election	Absentee ballots must be available for voting; in a polling place election, electors on the absentee elector list, including absent military and overseas electors, are sent ballots automatically on April 12.	13-1-503(1)							
No sooner than April 12; no later than April 17	If election is conducted by mail ballot, ballots must be mailed on a single date during this range.	13-1-503(2)							
May 2, 2023	Election Day	13-1-504(1)							
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