



2020

January						
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December						
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Deadline	Activity	Statute
December 12, 2019 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)
2020		
February 10, 2020 85 days before election	Candidate Filing Closes at 5pm.	13-1-502(1)
	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 20 75 days before election	Ballot certification deadline.	13-12-201

Deadline	Activity	Statute
March 2 65 days before election	Write-in candidates must file a declaration of intent by 5pm After 5pm, Election Administrator shall cancel election and immediately notify the governing body in writing of the cancellation, <i>if the number of candidates is equal to, or less than, the number of positions to be filled.</i> The governing body may require the election to be held by passing a resolution. <i>(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 4 whether the governing body plans to pass such a resolution.)</i>	13-1-502(3) 13-1-502(4)(a)
March 6 (see April 1 - deadline per Governor's Directive on 3/25/2020) 60 days before election	Deadline for Secretary of State to receive written plans for May 5 mail ballot elections.	13-19-205(1)
March 8 – April 5 March 30-April 26 Starting not earlier than four weeks before close of VR	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. <i>(per the Governor's Directive these dates change as the close of registration was moved to April 27)</i>	13-2-301(1)(b)
March 26 – April 25 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 1 – no later than 5pm	Governor ordered extended deadline for the Secretary of State to receive written plans for May 5 mail ballot elections.	Executive Order issued 3/25/20
April 6 30 days before election	Regular Voter Registration Closes.	13-2-301(1)(a)
April 7	Late registration opens; ballots must be available for issuing to late registrants.	13-2-304(1)
April 9 Within 3 days of the close of regular voter registration	Voter registration applications postmarked by April 6 and received by April 9 are accepted for regular voter registration.	13-2-301(3)
April 15 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 15.	13-1-503(1)
No sooner than April 15; no later than April 20	If election is conducted by mail ballot, ballots must be mailed on a single date during this range.	13-1-503(2)
April 27	Regular Voter Registration Closes – per Governor's Directive on 3/25/2020. Close of registration moved to 10 days before the election, which is Saturday 4/25/20 per statute 1-1-307, MCA moved to the next weekday, Monday 4/27/2020	Executive Order issued 3/25/20
April 28	Late registration opens due to Governor's Directive as noted above.	
April 30	Voter registration applications postmarked by April 27 and received by April 30 are accepted for regular voter registration	13-2-301(3)
May 5, 2020	Election Day	13-1-504(1)