

Key Dates for the 2026 Election Cycle

Tuesday, May 5, 2026 - State and County Primary Election

Primary elections may be held for state judicial offices and applicable county offices, subject to the call by political parties.

Monday, August 25, 2025 Deadline to Call Primary Deadline to Rescind Call for Primary Friday, November 21, 2025 Monday, December 22, 2025 First Day to Pick Up Petitions

Thursday, February 19, 2026, 12:00 Noon Qualifying Deadline*

* This qualifying deadline applies to primary candidates, candidates nominated by caucus, and independent candidates for the offices on the May primary ballot.

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 12:00 Noon Withdrawal Deadline

Voter Registration Deadline Monday, April 6, 2026

Wednesday, April 15 - Thursday, April 30, 2026 Early Voting Period

Absentee Ballot Request Deadline Saturday, April 25, 2026

Thursday, August 6, 2026 - Primary and General Election

Primary elections will be held for Governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Tennessee Senate (oddnumbered districts), Tennessee House, and Republican and Democratic State Executive Committees. General elections will be held for vacant state judicial offices and applicable county offices.

First Day to Pick Up Petitions Friday, January 9, 2026

Tuesday, March 10, 2026,12:00 Noon Qualifying Deadline*

* This qualifying deadline applies to primary and independent candidates for the

offices on the August primary ballot.

Withdrawal Deadline Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 12:00 Noon

Tuesday, July 7, 2026 Voter Registration Deadline

Friday, July 17 - Saturday, August 1, 2026 Early Voting

Absentee Ballot Request Deadline Monday, July 27, 2026

Tuesday, November 3, 2026 - State and Federal General Election

All candidates (including independents) for Governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Tennessee Senate (odd-numbered districts), and Tennessee House must follow the qualifying dates for the August election. For municipal elections held with the November election, the qualifying dates below apply.

Monday, June 22, 2026 First Day to Pick Up Petitions

Thursday, August 20, 2026, 12:00 Noon Qualifying Deadline Thursday, August 27, 2026, 12:00 Noon Withdrawal Deadline

Monday, October 5, 2026 Voter Registration Deadline

Wednesday, October 14 - Thursday, October 29, 2026 Early Voting

Saturday, October 24, 2026 Absentee Ballot Request Deadline