

## Ballot Processing Timeline

Below is a general timeline for ballots being sent to voters and the deadlines for vote by mail ballots to be received and processed. This is not meant to be a comprehensive list of deadlines. If you have any specific questions, please contact your [county elections office](#).

- 60 days before Election Day
  - First day county elections officials send ballots to military or overseas voters. County elections officials have until the 45th day before Election Day to send these ballots.
- 29 days before Election Day
  - Deadline for all counties to mail every active registered voter a vote-by-mail ballot. This day is also the first day that county election officials may begin to process vote by mail ballots.
- Election Day
  - Deadline to drop off ballots at a polling location or a ballot drop-off box. This is also the deadline for military and overseas voters to submit a ballot via fax.
  - Beginning at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day and continuously until completed, the county elections official conducts the semifinal official canvass of votes and report totals to the Secretary of State at least every two hours.
- Two days after Election Day
  - County elections officials send the Secretary of State an initial report containing the estimated number of outstanding unprocessed ballots.
  - County elections officials begin the official canvass of the votes.
  - County elections officials must also post updated information regarding the election on their website at least once per week. This process must be completed by the 30th day after Election Day.
- Seven days after Election Day
  - Deadline for any vote-by-mail ballots to be returned by mail if the ballot was postmarked by Election Day.
- Eight days after Election Day at 5:00 p.m.
  - Last day for a county elections official to forward a ballot, which was delivered to a different county.
- Two days before certification of the election
  - Last day for an elections official to receive a signature cure form for ballot envelopes that have a missing or noncomparing signature.
- 30 days after Election Day
  - Deadline for county elections official to complete the canvass, certify its results, and submit it to the board of supervisors.