



**Holiday Notice:** The Office of the Texas Secretary of State will be closed on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The office will resume normal operating hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Electronic filing and business document searches are available through [SOSDirect](#) 24/7.

**Election Outlook:** [Secretary Pablos Wants Texans To Be Ready To Vote](#) | [More about Identification Requirements for Voting](#) | [Election Night Returns](#) | [Voter Information](#) | [Voting Issues for Texas Harvey Evacuees](#)

Note - Navigational menus along with other non-content related elements have been removed for your convenience. Thank you for visiting us online.

## Important 2018 Election Dates

### March 6, 2018 - Primary Election

**Note:** This calendar reflects state law as it exists prior to the end of the 2017 special legislative session. This calendar will be subsequently updated, if necessary, to reflect any changes made by the state legislature.

First day to file for a place on the Primary ballot for precinct chair candidates.	Tuesday, September 12, 2017
First day to file for all other candidates for offices that are regularly scheduled to be on the Primary ballot.	Saturday, November 11, 2017
Filing deadline for candidates; filing deadline for independent candidates to file declaration of intent.	Monday, December 11, 2017 at 6:00 PM
First day to apply for a ballot by mail using Application for a Ballot by Mail (ABBM) or Federal Postcard Application (FPCA).	Monday, January 1, 2018*  *First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday. An "Annual ABBM" or FPCA for a January or February 2018 election may be filed earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.

Last Day to Register to Vote	Monday, February 5, 2018*  *Actual deadline falls on Sunday but moves to the next business day.
First Day of Early Voting	Tuesday, February 20, 2018*  *First business day after Presidents' Day
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, not Postmarked)	Friday, February 23, 2018
Last Day of Early Voting	Friday, March 2, 2018
Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, March 6, 2018 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is <b>not</b> postmarked, <b>OR</b> Wednesday, March 7, 2018 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) <sup>4</sup>

**May 5, 2018 - Uniform Election Date**

Authority Conducting Elections	Local Political Subdivisions  (County-ordered elections may not be held on this date. County Election Official may, but is not required to, contract to provide election services to political subdivisions.)
Deadline to Post Notice of Candidate Filing Deadline (Local Political Subdivisions Only) <sup>1</sup>	Monday, December 18, 2017 for local political subdivisions that have a first day to file for their candidates <sup>1</sup>
First Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail	Monday, January 1, 2018*  <i>*First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday.</i>

	<i>An "Annual ABBM" or FPCA for a January or February 2018 election may be filed earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.</i>
First Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Political Subdivisions Only) <sup>1</sup>	Wednesday, January 17, 2018
Last Day to Order General Election or Special Election on a Measure	Friday, February 16, 2018
Last Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Political Subdivisions Only) <sup>2</sup>	Friday, February 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. See note below relating to four-year terms <sup>3</sup>
Last Day to File a Declaration of Write-in Candidacy (Local Political Subdivisions Only)	Tuesday, February 20, 2018
Last Day to Register to Vote	Thursday, April 5, 2018
First Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Monday, April 23, 2018
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail ( <b>Received, not</b> Postmarked)	Tuesday, April 24, 2018
Last Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Tuesday, May 1, 2018
Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Saturday, May 5, 2018 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is <b>not</b> postmarked, <b>OR</b> Monday, May 7, 2018 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) <sup>4</sup>

**May 22, 2018 – Primary Runoff Election**

First day to apply for a ballot by mail using Application for a Ballot by Mail (ABBM) or Federal Postcard Application (FPCA)	Monday, January 1, 2018*  <i>*First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday. An "Annual ABBM" or FPCA for a January or February 2018 election may be filed earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.</i>
Last Day to Register to Vote	Monday, April 23, 2018
First Day of Early Voting	Monday, May 14, 2018
Last Day to Apply by Mail ( <b>Received, not Postmarked</b> )	Friday, May 11, 2018
Last Day of Early Voting	Friday, May 18, 2018
Last Day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, May 22, 2018 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is <b>not</b> postmarked, <b>OR</b> Wednesday, May 23, 2018 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) <sup>4</sup>

**November 6, 2018 - Uniform Election Date**

Authority Conducting Elections	County Election Officers and Local Political Subdivisions
Deadline to Post Notice of Candidate Filing Deadline (Local Political Subdivisions Only) <sup>1</sup>	Thursday, June 21, 2018 for local political subdivisions that have a first day to file for their candidates <sup>1</sup>
First Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail	Monday, January 1, 2018*

	<p><i>*First day to file does not move because of New Year's Day holiday. An "Annual ABBM" or FPCA for a January or February 2018 election may be filed earlier, but not earlier than the 60th day before the date of the January or February election.</i></p>
First Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Political Subdivisions Only) <sup>1</sup>	Saturday, July 21, 2018
Last Day to Order General Election or Special Election on a Measure	Monday, August 20, 2018
Last Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Political Subdivisions Only) <sup>2</sup>	Monday, August 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. See note below relating to four-year terms <sup>3</sup>
Last Day to File a Declaration of Write-in Candidacy (Local Political Subdivisions Only)	Friday, August 24, 2018
Last Day to Register to Vote	Tuesday, October 9, 2018* <i>*First business day after Columbus Day</i>
First Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Monday, October 22, 2018
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, not Postmarked)	Friday, October 26, 2018
Last Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Friday, November 2, 2018
Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, November 6, 2018 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is <b>not</b> postmarked, <b>OR</b> Wednesday, November 7, 2018 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> **Under new law, most local entities now have a “first day” to file.**

For the few entities who do not have a first day to file: **For the May 5, 2018 election**, Wednesday, January 17, 2018 is the deadline to post notice of candidate filing deadline for local political subdivisions that do not have a first day to file for their candidates. **For the November 6, 2018 election**, Monday, July 23, 2018 is the deadline to post notice of candidate filing deadline for local political subdivisions that do not have a first day to file for their candidates. (If the 30th day before last day on which candidate may file falls on a Saturday, deadline moves to next business day).

Local political subdivisions include: cities, school districts, water districts, hospital districts, and any other local government entity that conducts elections. Many of these elections are conducted on the May uniform election date. Note: Counties may also be holding local proposition (measure) elections on May 5, 2018.

<sup>2</sup> Filing deadlines: generally, the filing deadline is the 78th day prior to Election Day. The Code may provide a different special election filing deadline. See Section 201.054 of the Texas Election Code (the “Code”). Write-in deadlines for general and special elections vary; the deadline for most local (city, school, other) general elections is now the same day as the filing deadline for application for a place on the ballot in a May election or November election; special election write-in rules vary, see long calendars for details.

<sup>3</sup> If no candidate for a **four-year term** has filed an application for a place on the ballot for a **city office**, the filing deadline for that office is extended to 5 p.m. of the 57th day before the election. For the May 5, 2018 election, this is Friday, March 9, 2018. For the November 6, 2018 election, this is Monday, September 10, 2018. See Section 143.008 of the Code.

<sup>4</sup> Please note that pursuant to House Bills 1151 and 929 (2017), different deadlines apply to the last day to receive ballots sent by the following: 1) non-military and military voters who mailed ballots from overseas and submitted a regular state Application for Ballot By Mail (“ABBM”), 2) non-military voters who mailed ballots from overseas and who submitted a Federal Postcard Application (“FPCA”), and (3) military voters who mailed ballots domestically or from overseas and who submitted an FPCA. See Secs. 86.007, 101.001 and 101.057 of the Code. Please contact the Elections Division of the Office of the Texas Secretary of State at 1-800-252-VOTE (8683) for additional information.