

# **2016**

# **ELECTION CALENDAR**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA**

**Tom Wolf**  
Governor

**Pedro Cortés**  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

# 2016

## JANUARY

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# 2017

## JANUARY

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## FEBRUARY

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## MARCH

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**2016  
PENNSYLVANIA ELECTIONS  
IMPORTANT DATES  
TO REMEMBER**

First day to circulate and file nomination petitions . . . . .	January 26
Last day to circulate and file nomination petitions . . . . .	February 16
First day to circulate and file nomination papers . . . . .	February 17
Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions . . . . .	March 2
Last day to REGISTER before the primary. . . . .	March 28
Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot . . . . .	April 19
Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots . . . . .	April 22
<b>GENERAL PRIMARY . . . . .</b>	<b>April 26</b>
First day to REGISTER after primary . . . . .	April 27
Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 P.M. on April 25) . . . .	May 3
Last day to circulate and file nomination papers . . . . .	August 1
Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated by nomination papers . . . . .	August 8
Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated at the primary. . . . .	August 15

Last day to REGISTER before  
the November election . . . . . October 11

Last day to apply for a civilian  
absentee ballot . . . . . November 1

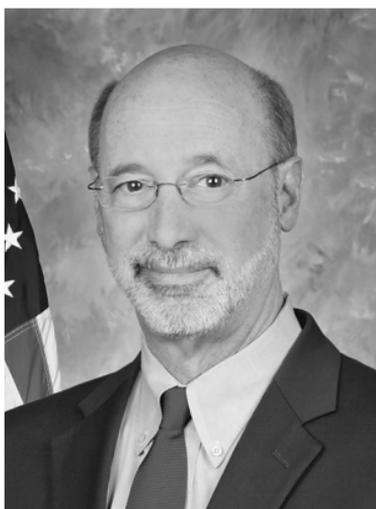
Last day for County Boards of  
Elections to receive voted  
civilian absentee ballots . . . . . November 4

**GENERAL ELECTION** . . . . . November 8

First day to REGISTER after  
November election . . . . . November 9

Last day for County Board of  
Elections to receive voted  
military and overseas absentee  
ballots (submitted for delivery  
no later than 11:59 P.M. on  
November 7) . . . . . November 15

***NOTE:*** *All dates in this calendar are subject to change without notice.*



COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

Dear Fellow Pennsylvanians,

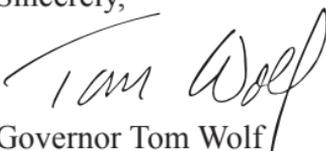
Voting is a pillar of America's democracy. By participating in elections, you decide who will represent you in Pennsylvania government. That's why we're prioritizing making it more convenient for Pennsylvanians to participate in the voting process. Last year, we launched [register.votespa.com](http://register.votespa.com) to allow Pennsylvanians to register to vote or change their registration online. We're focused on providing more reforms like this in the future.

During the 2016 election cycle, voters will elect a new president. In the commonwealth, we will cast ballots for members of the General Assembly and the three statewide row offices: attorney general, auditor general and treasurer. Together, our decisions will directly affect the course of our commonwealth and nation.

To enhance your understanding of the political process, it is my pleasure to provide the 2016 Election Calendar. Within its pages you will find an extensive list of important dates and deadlines for Pennsylvania's electoral system.

I hope you find this guide useful as we work together to maximize participation in our elections.

Sincerely,

  
Governor Tom Wolf



COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
HARRISBURG

Dear Fellow Pennsylvanians,

As citizens of the United States, there is no civic action we can take that is more powerful than going to the polls on Election Day and casting our ballot. In 2016, voters will elect a new President and also will vote for a variety of federal and state offices including U.S. Senator.

As the state's Chief Election Official, I am pleased to present the 2016 Pennsylvania Election Calendar. This comprehensive listing of important dates includes valuable information for voters, candidates, campaign workers and election officials.

With this guide, candidates and their campaign staffs will be able to easily keep track of important dates related to ballot access and campaign finance requirements. Detailed information on running for office can be found at the Department of State's website, [www.dos.pa.gov](http://www.dos.pa.gov).

For voters, the Election Calendar contains deadlines for registration as well as for requesting and submitting absentee ballots. Visit [www.votesPA.com](http://www.votesPA.com) to locate your polling place, download forms, verify registration status and find contact information for county election offices. Online voter registration makes the process more convenient, secure and accessible than ever. Go to [register.votespa.com](http://register.votespa.com) to register for the first time or update your information.

If you have election-related questions, I encourage you to contact the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation at 1-877-VOTESPA (1-877-868-3772).

I urge every eligible citizen of the commonwealth to register to vote. Then, exercise your most fundamental right as a citizen and cast your ballot in 2016.

Sincerely,

*Pedro A. Cortés*

Pedro A. Cortés  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

## 2016 CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING DATES

*(Not applicable to candidates running for Federal offices.)*

TYPE REPORT	COMPLETE AS OF	FILING DEADLINE**
2015 Annual Report	December 31, 2015	February 1, 2016
*6th Tuesday Pre-Primary	March 7, 2016	March 15, 2016
2nd Friday Pre-Primary	April 11, 2016	April 15, 2016
30-Day Post-Primary	May 16, 2016	May 26, 2016
*6th Tuesday Pre-Election	September 19, 2016	September 27, 2016
2nd Friday Pre-Election	October 24, 2016	October 28, 2016
30-Day Post-Election	November 28, 2016	December 8, 2016
2016 Annual Report	December 31, 2016	January 31, 2017

\* Only statewide candidates and committees supporting statewide candidates are required to file these reports.

\*\* Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.

## AUDITS

Audits of campaign finance reports will be made upon the petition of five (5) electors of the Commonwealth or of the political division. Such petition(s) must be presented to the appropriate Court within ninety (90) days after the last day for filing the report.



# **2016 Election Calendar**

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION CALENDAR FOR 2016

*(All time set forth in this calendar is prevailing time.)*

**NOTE:** ALL DATES IN THIS CALENDAR ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE IN THE EVENT OF PASSAGE OF ANY AMENDATORY LEGISLATION DURING THE SESSIONS OF 2015–2016.

**APRIL 26, 2016** . . . . . **GENERAL PRIMARY**  
**NOVEMBER 8, 2016** . . . . . **GENERAL ELECTION**

**DECEMBER 28, 2015** Last day for the Secretary of any political party to file in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a certified copy of the party rules.

**JANUARY 11** Last day for a presidential candidate to notify the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** that he or she authorizes delegates and alternate delegates (if party rules provide for committed delegates) to pledge their support for him or her.

**JANUARY 26** Last day for each county board of elections to transmit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a list of the organizations which qualify as political parties within the county pursuant to Section 801(b) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 2831 (b).

**JANUARY 26** Last day for the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** to transmit to each county board of elections a list of the organizations which qualify as political parties within the State pursuant to Section 801(a) of the Election Code, 25 P.S. § 2831 (a).

**JANUARY 26** Last day for the chairmen of county committees (and in Philadelphia the chairmen of the city committees) of each party to send to each county board of elections a written notice setting forth all party offices to be filled in the county at the ensuing primary.

**JANUARY 26** Last day for the chairmen of the State Committees of political parties to forward to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** and to the respective county boards of elections, a written notice setting forth the number of members of the State Committee and the number of delegates and alternate delegates to be elected at the said primary in each county or in any district or part of a district within each county.

**JANUARY 26** Last day for the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** to send to the county boards of elections a written notice designating the public offices for which candidates are to be nominated at the ensuing primary and for which nominations candidates are required to file nomination petitions in the office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**.

**JANUARY 26** First legal day to circulate and **FILE** nomination petitions.

**JANUARY 27** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must prepare an election notice to be used in conjunction with the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB).

**FEBRUARY 1** Last day for all candidates and all political committees and lobbyists to file annual expense reports in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county boards of elections. Such reports shall be complete as of **December 31, 2015**.

**FEBRUARY 2** Not earlier than this day nor later than **February 9**, the county boards of elections shall begin to publish in newspapers the names of all public offices for which nominations are to be made and the names of all party offices for which candidates are to be elected at the ensuing primary.

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day for any business entity which was awarded non-bid contracts from the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions during 2015 to report to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** an itemized list of all political contributions made during 2015 by (1) any officer, director, associate, partner, limited partner, individual owner or member of their immediate family when the contribution exceeded an aggregate of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) by any individual; or (2) any employee or members of his/her immediate family when the contribution exceeded an aggregate of one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day to circulate and **FILE** nomination petitions.

**FEBRUARY 16** Last day for **STATE LEVEL PUBLIC OFFICE CANDIDATES** to **FILE** "Statements of Financial Interests" with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470. A copy of the "Statement" must also be appended to the nomination petition. Last day for candidates for county or local level public office to file the "Statement" with the governing authority of the political subdivisions in which they are candidates. A copy of the "Statement" must also be appended to the nomination petition.

**FEBRUARY 17** First legal day to circulate and **FILE** nomination papers nominating inde-

pendent candidates of political bodies or candidates of minor political parties.

**FEBRUARY 23** Last day to file **OBJECTIONS** to nomination petitions.

**FEBRUARY 24** Day for casting of lots in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** for position of names upon the primary ballot.

**FEBRUARY 26** Last day that may be fixed by the Court of Common Pleas or the Commonwealth Court for hearings on objections that have been filed to nomination petitions.

**MARCH 2** Last day, if possible, for the Court of Common Pleas or the Commonwealth Court to render decisions in cases involving objections to nomination petitions.

**MARCH 2** Last day for candidates who have filed nomination petitions for the primary election to withdraw, by 5:00 P.M.

**MARCH 7** Last day for the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** to transmit to each county boards of elections a list of all candidates who filed nomination petitions with the Secretary and who are not known to have withdrawn or been disqualified.

**MARCH 7** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must begin to transmit ballots and balloting materials to all covered voters under the Uniformed Military and Overseas Voters Act (UMOVA) in extremely remote or isolated area of the world, who by that date, submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.

*[The preceding includes qualified electors who are Uniformed-Service voters (members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States who are on active*

*duty; members of the United States merchant marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States; members on activated status of the National Guard or Pennsylvania National Guard); spouses and dependants of uniformed service members; overseas voters; or veterans of a uniformed service who are bedridden or hospitalized due to illness or physical disability.]*

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to such electors within 48 hours after the application is received by the county board of elections.*

**MARCH 7** First day before the primary election on which official applications for civilian absentee ballots from certain persons listed below may be received by the county boards of elections.

*(The preceding includes qualified registered electors who will be absent from the Commonwealth or municipality of residence by reason of occupation, business or duties; persons unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability; persons observing a religious holiday; county employees with duties on election day relating to the conduct of the election; persons employed by the State or Federal government and their spouses or dependents who are within the territorial limits of the United States or the District of Columbia but absent from their municipality of residence. All other qualified absentee electors may apply at any time.)*

**MARCH 11** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must transmit ballots and

balloting materials to all covered voters under UMOVA who by this date submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.

*[The preceding includes qualified electors who are Uniformed-Service voters (members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States who are on active duty; members of the United States merchant marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States; members on activated status of the National Guard or Pennsylvania National Guard); spouses and dependants of uniformed service members; overseas voters; or veterans of a uniformed service who are bedridden or hospitalized due to illness or physical disability.]*

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to such electors within 48 hours after the application is received by the county board of elections.*

**MARCH 15** Last day for candidates for statewide offices and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists which have expended money for the purpose of influencing the nomination of such candidates to file campaign expense reports or statements due by the Sixth Tuesday before the primary election in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**. Such reports shall be complete as of **March 7**.

**NOTE:** *Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**MARCH 28** Last day to **REGISTER** before the primary election.

**NOTE:** *To be processed for the ensuing election a voter registration application must be received as follows:*

*\* Voter registration applications submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in conjunction with an application for or renewal of a motor vehicle driver's license must be received by the Department of Transportation not later than the deadline to register.*

*\* Voter Registration Mail Applications must be postmarked no later than the deadline to register. In the case of missing or illegible postmarks, the Voter Registration Mail Application must be received no later than five days after the deadline to register.*

*\* Voter registration applications submitted to offices in Pennsylvania that provide public assistance, to the county clerk of Orphan's Court, including the Marriage License Bureau, offices in Pennsylvania that provide State-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities and armed forces recruitment centers, must be submitted to the office not later than the deadline to register.*

*\* All other voter registration applications must be received by the deadline to register.*

**MARCH 28** Last day to change party enrollment or non-partisan enrollment before the primary election.

**APRIL 11** Last day before the primary election for any person to file a petition with the county registration commission appealing against rejection of registration.

**APRIL 12** As soon as possible after ballots are printed and in no event later than this day,

the county boards of elections must begin to deliver or mail all absentee ballots for the primary election.

*NOTE: As additional applications are received, the ballots must be mailed within 48 hours after approval.*

**APRIL 15** Last day for all candidates and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists which have expended money for the purpose of influencing the nomination of candidates to file campaign expense reports or statements due by the Second Friday before the primary in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** and/or the county boards of elections, as the case may be. Such reports shall be complete as of **April 11**.

*NOTE: Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**APRIL 16** Not earlier than this day nor later than **April 23**, the county boards of elections shall publish in newspapers, notice of the date and hours of voting for any special elections, the names of offices to be elected and the names of the candidates at such special elections, the texts and explanations of Constitutional Amendments and other questions to be voted upon, and the places at which such elections are to be held in the various election districts.

**APRIL 18** Last day before the primary election on which an elector, who suffered a physical disability which requires him/her to have assistance in voting, may personally make application to the county registration commission to have such fact entered on his/her registration card.

**NOTE:** *If the disability is not recorded on the elector's registration card, the elector may receive assistance if the elector completes a declaration in the polling place.*

**APRIL 18** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must prepare and submit a report to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** containing a statement of the total number of electors registered in each election district, together with a breakdown of registration by each political party or other designation.

**APRIL 19** Last day before the primary election on which official applications for civilian absentee ballots from certain persons listed as follows may be received by the county boards of elections, due at 5:00 P.M.

*(The preceding includes qualified registered electors who will be absent from the Commonwealth or municipality of residence by reason of occupation, business or duties; persons unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability; persons observing a religious holiday; county employees with duties on election day relating to the conduct of the election; persons employed by the State or Federal government and their spouses or dependents who are within the territorial limits of the United States or the District of Columbia but absent from their municipality of residence. Provided further that any of the preceding qualified electors who become ill or are called away from home by business or duties, which fact was not known or could not reasonably be known prior to the preceding date, are entitled to execute and file an Emergency Application any time prior to 5:00 P.M. on the Friday preceding the primary. The county boards of elections will supply the forms. Qualified electors who become ill or*

*are called away from home by reason of occupation, business or duties, which fact was not known or could not reasonably be known prior to 5:00 PM on the Friday preceding the primary, may file a request for an absentee ballot with the appropriate court of common pleas at any time prior to 8:00 PM on the day of the primary.)*

**APRIL 19** From this day, the county boards of elections shall make the Registered Absentee Voters File available for public inspection, until the day the county board certifies the returns.

**APRIL 19** From this day and until the returns are certified, the county boards of elections shall post the Military, Veterans and Emergency Civilian Absentee Voters' list.

**APRIL 21** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall make available for public inspection the forms of the ballots and ballot labels which shall be used in each election district at the primary election.

**APRIL 21** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections, upon request, shall furnish without charge to each candidate whose name is printed on the primary election ballot three specimen ballots for the entire district in which such candidate is to be voted for. *(The candidate may, at his/her own expense, have printed on different colored paper as many copies as he/she requires for conducting his or her campaign.)*

**APRIL 21** Not later than this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must publicly report the total number of registered electors for each political party or other designation in each county.

**APRIL 22** All absentee ballots, except those received from military and overseas electors

as defined by UMOVA and Sections 1301(a) to (h) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 3146.1(a) – (h), and those received from emergency absentee electors who become ill or are called away from home after 5:00 P.M. on this day, must be received by the county boards of elections not later than 5:00 P.M. on this day to be counted.

**APRIL 23** Not earlier than this day nor later than three-quarters of an hour before the time set for the opening of the polls for the primary election, the county boards of elections shall deliver to the judges of election the keys which unlock the operating mechanisms of the voting machines.

**APRIL 25** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall deliver the necessary ballots and supplies to the judges of election.

**APRIL 25** Not later than 11:59 P.M. this day, covered voters under UMOVA must submit their voted military-overseas ballots for mailing or other authorized means of delivery, at the place where the voter completes the ballot on the date immediately preceding the date of the election.

**APRIL 26 GENERAL PRIMARY:** Polls shall remain open continuously between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.

*NOTE: The Court of Common Pleas shall be in session from 7:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. except in judicial districts having only one judge, in which case the court shall be in session from 7:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon; from 2:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. and from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.*

**APRIL 27** By 2:00 A.M. on this day, the judges of election must return to the county boards of elections all envelopes; supplies, including all uncast provisional ballots; and returns,

including all provisional ballots and absentee ballots cast in the election district.

**APRIL 27** By 3:00 A.M. on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the Department of State returns received from the judges of election for each office for which a candidate must file a nomination petition with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

**APRIL 27** First day to **REGISTER** after the primary election.

**APRIL 27** First day to change party or non-partisan enrollment after the primary.

**APRIL 29** On this day, the Return Boards meet at 9:00 A.M. to canvass and compute the votes cast at the primary election.

***NOTE:** Any petition to open a ballot box or to recanvass the votes on a voting machine shall be filed no later than five (5) days after the completion of the computational canvassing of all the returns of the county by the county board of elections.*

**MAY 2** Last day for the county boards of elections to receive proof of identification that can be verified from an absentee elector whose proof of identification was not provided with the application or could not be verified by the board.

**MAY 3** A valid military-overseas ballot cast under Section 3509 of UMOVA, 25 Pa.C.S. § 3509, must be delivered by 5:00 P.M. to the address specified by the county board of elections to be counted.

***NOTE:** If, at the time of completing their military-overseas ballot, the voter affirms under penalty of perjury, that the ballot was timely submitted, the ballot **MAY NOT** be rejected on the basis of a late postmark, an unreadable postmark or no postmark.*

**MAY 3** No later than 5:00 P.M. on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** unofficial returns for all statewide offices and ballot questions that appeared on the ballot in every election district throughout the Commonwealth.

**MAY 4** On this day, the Return Boards meet to canvass absentee ballots received from military and overseas electors after 5:00 P.M. on **April 22** and no later than 5:00 P.M. on **May 3**.

**MAY 5** No later than 5:00 P.M. on this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must issue an order for a recount or recanvass if it is determined, based on the unofficial returns submitted by the county boards of elections, that a statewide candidate or ballot question that appeared on the ballot in every election district throughout the Commonwealth was defeated by a margin of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent or less.

**MAY 11** Last day on which a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** can be scheduled to begin.

**MAY 13** On this day, candidates receiving tie votes at the primary election cast lots at 12 Noon before the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county boards of elections, as the case may be, to determine who will be entitled to the nomination. *(If the fact of the tie vote is not authoritatively determined until after **May 11**, the time for casting lots shall be 12 Noon on the second day after the fact of such tie vote is authoritatively determined.)*

**MAY 16** Last day to file a petition to contest the nomination of any candidate at the primary election. *(Not applicable to elections of the first class.)*

**MAY 16** Last day for the county boards of elections to file with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** returns from the primary election.

**MAY 17** No later than 12 Noon on this day, a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must be completed.

**MAY 18** By 12 Noon on the day after completion of a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**, but no later than 12 Noon on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** the results of the recount or recanvass.

**MAY 26** Last day for all candidates and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists to file campaign expense reports and statements due by 30 days after the primary election in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** and/or the county boards of elections as the case may be. Such report shall be complete as of **May 16**.

***NOTE:** Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**MAY 26** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall file with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a statement of expenses incurred preparing, handling, mailing, delivering, counting and storing such official Military, Veterans and other absentee ballots as they are entitled by law to receive compensation for in the sum of sixty cents each.

**MAY 26** Last day for each county board of elections to submit to the Bureau of Com-

missions, Elections and Legislation a report stating the total number of votes cast in each voting district for each candidate for any Statewide Office, United States Representative, State Senator and State Representative.

**JUNE 1** Not later than this day, members of a State Political Party Committee elected at the primary shall meet for organization at such hour and place as shall be designated by the State Chairman of each political party. The State Committee of each political party may make such rules for government of the party in the State not inconsistent with the law as it deems expedient. No such rules shall be effective until a certified copy thereof has been filed in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**.

**JUNE 6** On this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** shall select by lottery for audit of campaign expense reports three percent of the total number of public offices for which candidates must file nomination petitions or papers with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**.

**AUGUST 1** Last day to circulate and **FILE** nomination papers nominating political body candidates (including independent candidates) or minor political party candidates.

**AUGUST 1** Last day for **STATE LEVEL INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES AND MINOR POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES** to **FILE** "Statements of Financial Interests" with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470. A copy of the "Statement" must also be appended to the nomination papers. Last day for independent and minor political party candidates for

county or local level public office to file the “Statement” with the governing authority of the political subdivision in which they are candidates. A copy of the “Statement” must also be appended to the nomination papers.

**AUGUST 8** Last day for candidates who have filed nomination papers to withdraw.

**AUGUST 8** Last day to file objections to nomination papers nominating political body candidates (including independent candidates) or minor political party candidates.

**AUGUST 10** Not later than this day, the county board of elections must prepare an election notice to be used in conjunction with the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB).

**AUGUST 11** Last day that may be fixed by the Court for hearings on objections to nomination papers.

**AUGUST 15** Last day for candidates who were nominated at the primary election to withdraw.

**AUGUST 15** Last day for candidates nominated at the primary election by write-in votes to pay the filing fee; otherwise the party nomination will be declared vacant.

***NOTE:** State level write-in winners of nominations from the Primary Election must FILE “Statements of Financial Interests” with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470 within 30 days of having been nominated unless such person resigns nomination within that time. County and local level write-in winners of nominations from the primary election must file the “Statement” with the governing authority of the political subdivisions where they were nominated within 30 days of having been nominated unless such person resigns nomination within that time.*

**AUGUST 16** Last day, if possible, for the Court to render decisions in cases involving objections to nomination papers.

**AUGUST 25** Last day to file substituted nomination certificates to fill vacancies caused by the withdrawal of candidates nominated at the primary election or by nomination papers.

*(Substituted nomination certificates to fill vacancies caused by the death of candidates nominated at primaries or by nomination papers shall be filed prior to the day on which ballot printing is started. Objections to substituted nomination certificates must be filed within three days after the filing of the substituted nomination certificate.)*

**NOTE:** *State level candidates nominated by substituted nomination certificate, nomination certificate or nomination papers (see August 25, September 19 and September 26) must file a "Statement of Financial Interests" with the substituted nomination certificate, nomination certificate or nomination papers and with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470. County and local level candidates nominated by substituted nomination certificate, nomination certificate or nomination papers (see August 25, September 19 and September 26) must file a copy of the "Statement" with the substituted nomination certificate, nomination certificate or nomination papers and with the governing authority of the political subdivision where they are nominated.*

**AUGUST 30** Last day for the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** to transmit to each county board of elections a list, as known to exist at that time, of all candidates to be voted on at the November election and a copy of all Constitutional Amendments

and other questions to be voted on at the November election together with a statement of the form in which they are to be placed.

**AUGUST 30** Not later than this day, the county board of elections must begin to transmit ballots and balloting materials to all covered voters under the Uniformed Military and Overseas Voters Act (UMOVA) in extremely remote or isolated area, who by that date, submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.

*[The preceding includes qualified electors who are Uniformed-Service voters (members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States who are on active duty; members of the United States merchant marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States; members on activated status of the National Guard or Pennsylvania National Guard); spouses and dependants of uniformed service members; overseas voters; or veterans of a uniformed service who are bedridden or hospitalized due to illness or physical disability.]*

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to such electors within 48 hours after the application is received by the county board of elections.*

**SEPTEMBER 19** First day before the November election on which official applications for civilian absentee ballots from certain persons listed as follows may be received by the county boards of elections.

*(The preceding includes qualified registered electors who will be absent from the Commonwealth or municipality of residence by reason of occupation, business or duties; persons unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability; persons observing a religious holiday; county employees with duties on election day relating to the conduct of the election; persons employed by the State or Federal government and their spouses or dependents who are within the territorial limits of the United States or the District of Columbia but absent from their municipality of residence. All other qualified absentee electors may apply at any time.)*

**SEPTEMBER 19** Last day before the November election for political parties or minor political parties to file nomination certificates or for political bodies to file nomination papers in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**, or the county boards of elections, as the case may be, to fill vacancies in public offices which occur for any cause at a time when the Constitution or laws of Pennsylvania require them to be filled at the ensuing election, but at a time when such nominations cannot be made under any other provision of the Election Code (Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960).

**SEPTEMBER 22** Last day for withdrawal of candidates nominated under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960.

**SEPTEMBER 22** Last day to file objections to nomination certificates and papers under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960.

**SEPTEMBER 23** Not later than this day, the county board of elections must transmit bal-

lots and balloting materials to all covered voters under UMOVA who by this date submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.

*[The preceding includes qualified electors who are Uniformed-Service voters (members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States who are on active duty; members of the United States merchant marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States; members on activated status of the National Guard or Pennsylvania National Guard); spouses and dependants of uniformed service members; overseas voters; or veterans of a uniformed service who are bedridden or hospitalized due to illness or physical disability.]*

**NOTE:** *As additional applications are received, the county board of elections must transmit ballots and balloting materials to such electors within 48 hours after the application is received by the county board of elections.*

**SEPTEMBER 26** Last day for a court hearing on objections to nomination certificates and papers under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960.

**SEPTEMBER 26** Last day to file substituted nomination certificates under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960.

**NOTE:** *Substituted nomination certificates to fill vacancies caused by the death of candidates nominated under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, 25 P.S. §§ 2953-2960, must be filed in the Office*

of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county boards of elections, as the case may be, at any time prior to the day on which the printing of ballots is started. Objections to substituted nomination certificates, under the provisions of Sections 993-999.1 of the Election Code, must be filed within three days after the filing of the substituted nomination certificates.

**SEPTEMBER 27** Last day for candidates for statewide offices and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists, which have expended money for the purpose of influencing the election of such candidates, to file campaign expense reports and statements due by the Sixth Tuesday before the election in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**. Such report shall be complete as of **September 19**.

**NOTE:** *Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**OCTOBER 11** Last day to **REGISTER** before the November election.

**NOTE:** *To be processed for the ensuing election a voter registration application must be received as follows:*

\* *Voter registration applications submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in conjunction with an application for or renewal of a motor vehicle driver's license must be received by the Department of Transportation not later than the deadline to register.*

\* *Voter Registration Mail Applications must be postmarked no later than the deadline to register. In the case of missing or illegible postmarks, the Voter Registration Mail Applications must be received not later than five days after the deadline to register.*

*\* Voter registration applications submitted to offices in Pennsylvania that provide public assistance, to the county clerk of Orphan's Court, including the Marriage License Bureau, offices in Pennsylvania that provide State-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities and armed forces recruitment centers, must be submitted to the office not later than the deadline to register.*

*\* All other voter registration applications must be received by the deadline to register.*

**OCTOBER 11** Last day to change party enrollment or non-partisan enrollment before the November election.

**OCTOBER 24** Last day before the November election for any person to file a petition with the county registration commission appealing against a rejection of registration.

**OCTOBER 25** As soon as possible after ballots are printed and in no event later than this day, the county boards of elections must begin to deliver or mail all absentee ballots for the November election.

*NOTE: As additional applications are received, ballots shall be mailed within 48 hours after approval.*

**OCTOBER 28** Last day for all candidates and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists, which have expended money for the purpose of influencing the election of candidates, to file campaign expense reports or statements due by the Second Friday before the election in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** and/or the county boards of elections, as the case may be. Such reports shall be complete as of **October 24**.

*NOTE: Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**OCTOBER 29** Not earlier than this day nor later than **November 5**, the county boards of elections shall publish in newspapers, notice of the date and hours of voting for the November election, the names of offices to be elected, the names of the candidates, the texts and explanations of Constitutional Amendments and other questions to be voted upon, and the places at which the election is to be held in the various election districts.

**OCTOBER 31** Last day before the November election on which an elector, who has suffered a physical disability which requires him/her to have assistance in voting, may personally make application to the county registration commission to have such fact entered on his/her registration card.

*NOTE: If the disability is not recorded on the elector's registration card, the elector may receive assistance if the elector completes a declaration in the polling place.*

**OCTOBER 31** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections must prepare and submit a report to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** containing a statement of the total number of electors registered in each election district, together with a breakdown of registration by each political party or other designation.

**NOVEMBER 1** Last day before the November election on which official applications for civilian absentee ballots from certain persons listed as follows may be received by the county boards of elections.

*(The preceding includes qualified registered*

*electors who will be absent from the Commonwealth or municipality of residence by reason of occupation, business or duties; persons unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability; persons observing a religious holiday; county employees with duties on election day relating to the conduct of the election; persons employed by the State or Federal government and their spouses or dependents who are within the territorial limits of the United States or the District of Columbia but absent from their municipality of residence. Provided further that any of the above qualified electors who become ill or are called away from home by business or duties, which fact was not known or could not reasonably be known prior to the above date, are entitled to execute and file an Emergency Application any time prior to 5:00 P.M. on the Friday preceding the November election. The county boards of elections will supply the forms. Qualified electors who become ill or are called away from home by reason of occupation, business or duties, which fact was not known or could not reasonably be known prior to 5:00 PM on the Friday preceding the election, may file a request for an absentee ballot with the appropriate court of common pleas at any time prior to 8:00 PM on the day of the election.)*

**NOVEMBER 1** From this day, the county boards of elections shall make the Registered Absentee Voters' File available for public inspection until the day the county board certifies the returns.

**NOVEMBER 1** From this day and until the returns are certified, the county boards of elections shall post the Military, Veterans and Emergency Civilian Absentee Voters' list.

**NOVEMBER 3** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall make available for public inspection the forms of the

ballots and ballot labels which shall be used in each election district at the November election.

**NOVEMBER 3** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections, upon request, shall deliver, without charge, to county chairmen or other authorized representatives of each political party and political body in the county, two specimen ballots or diagrams for each election district in the county in which their candidates are to be voted for. *(Such political party or political body may, at its own expense, have printed on different colored paper as many copies as it requires for conducting its campaign.)*

**NOVEMBER 3** Not later than this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must publicly report the total number of registered electors for each political party or other designation in each county.

**NOVEMBER 4** All absentee ballots, except those received from military and overseas electors as defined by UMOVA and Sections 1301(a) to (h) of the Pennsylvania Election Code, 25 P.S. § 3146.1(a) – (h), and those received from emergency absentee electors who become ill or are called away from home after 5:00 P.M. on this day, must be received by the county boards of elections not later than 5:00 P.M. on this day to be counted.

**NOVEMBER 5** Not earlier than this day nor later than three-quarters of an hour before the time set for the opening of the polls for the November election, the county boards of elections shall deliver to the judges of elections the keys which unlock the operating mechanisms of the voting machines.

**NOVEMBER 7** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall deliver the

necessary ballots and supplies to the judges of election.

**NOVEMBER 7** By 11:59 P.M. covered voters under UMOVA must submit their voted military-overseas ballot for mailing or other authorized means of delivery, at the place where the voter completes the ballot on the date immediately preceding the date of the election.

**NOVEMBER 8 GENERAL ELECTION:** Polls shall remain open continuously between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.

*NOTE: The Court of Common Pleas shall be in session from 7:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. except in judicial districts having one judge, in which case the court shall be in session from 7:00 A.M. to 12 Noon; from 2:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. and from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.*

**NOVEMBER 9** By 2:00 A.M. on this day, the judges of election must return to the county boards of elections all envelopes; supplies, including all uncast provisional ballots; and returns, including all provisional ballots and absentee ballots cast in the election district.

**NOVEMBER 9** By 3:00 A.M. on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the Department of State returns received from the judges of election for each office for which a candidate must file a nomination petition with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

**NOVEMBER 9** First day to **REGISTER** after the election.

**NOVEMBER 9** First day to change party or non-partisan enrollment after the election.

**NOVEMBER 14** On this day, the Return Boards meet at 9:00 A.M. to canvass and compute the votes cast at the November election.

***NOTE:** Any petition to open a ballot box or to canvass the votes on a voting machine shall be filed no later than five (5) days after the completion of the computational canvassing of all the returns of the county by the county board of elections.*

**NOVEMBER 14** Last day for the county boards of elections to receive proof of identification that can be verified from an absentee elector whose proof of identification was provided with the application or could not be verified by the board.

**NOVEMBER 15** A valid military-overseas ballot cast under Section 3609 of UMOVA, 25 Pa.C.S. § 3509, must be delivered by 5:00 P.M. to the address specified by the county board of elections, to be counted.

***NOTE:** If, at the time of completing their military-overseas ballot, the voter affirms under penalty of perjury, that the ballot was timely submitted, the ballot **MAY NOT** be rejected on the basis of a late postmark, an unreadable postmark or no postmark.*

**NOVEMBER 15** No later than 5:00 P.M. on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** unofficial returns for all statewide offices and ballot questions that appeared on the ballot in every election district throughout the Commonwealth.

**NOVEMBER 16** On this day, the Return Boards meet to canvass absentee ballots received from military and overseas electors after 5:00 P.M. on **November 4** and no later than 5:00 P.M. on **November 15**.

**NOVEMBER 17** No later than 5:00 P.M. on this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must issue an order for a recount or canvass if it is determined, based on the

unofficial returns submitted by the county boards of elections, that a statewide candidate or ballot question that appeared on the ballot in every election district throughout the Commonwealth was defeated by a margin of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent or less.

**NOVEMBER 23** Last day on which a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** can be scheduled to begin.

**NOVEMBER 28** On this day, candidates receiving tie votes at the election shall cast lots at 12 Noon before the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** or the county boards of elections, as the case may be, to determine the winner. (*If the fact of the tie vote is not authoritatively determined until after November 23, the time for casting lots will be 12 Noon on the second day after the fact of such tie is determined.*)

**NOVEMBER 28** Last day to file petitions to contest the election of any candidate. (*Not applicable to elections of the first class.*)

**NOVEMBER 28** Last day for the county boards of elections to file with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** returns from the November election.

**NOTE:** *State level write-in winners of elections from the November election must file "Statements of Financial Interests" with the State Ethics Commission, Room 309 Finance Building, P.O. Box 11470, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1470 within 30 days of having been elected unless such person resigns within that time. County and local level public office write-in winners of elections must file the "Statement" with the governing authority of the political subdivision where they were elected within 30 days of having been elected unless such person resigns within that time.*

**NOVEMBER 29** No later than 12 Noon on this day, a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** must be completed.

**NOVEMBER 30** By 12 Noon on the day after completion of a recount or recanvass ordered by the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**, but no later than 12 Noon on this day, the county boards of elections must submit to the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** the results of the recount or recanvass.

**DECEMBER 8** Last day for all candidates and treasurers of political committees and lobbyists to file campaign expense reports or statements due 30 days after the election in the Office of the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** and/or the county boards of elections as the case may be. Such report shall be complete as of **November 28**.

***NOTE:** Postmarks are acceptable as proof of timely filing where the report is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service no later than the day prior to the filing deadline.*

**DECEMBER 8** Not later than this day, the county boards of elections shall file with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** a statement of expenses incurred preparing, handling, mailing, delivering, counting and storing such official Military, Veterans' and other absentee ballots as they are entitled by law to receive compensation for in the sum of sixty cents each.

**DECEMBER 8** Last day for each county board of elections to submit to the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation a report stating the total number of votes cast in each voting district for each candidate for any Statewide Office, United States Representative, State Senator and State Representative.

**DECEMBER 19** Presidential electors meet at the State Capitol, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, at 12 noon.

**DECEMBER 19** On this day, the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH** shall select by lottery for audit of campaign expense reports three percent of the total number of public offices for which candidates must file nomination petitions or nomination papers with the **SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**.

## **FILING FEES AND SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS**

The filing fees and the number of signatures that are required on nomination petitions for offices to be filled at the 2016 elections are as follows:

OFFICE	FEE	NUMBER OF SIGNATURES
1. President of the United States	\$200	2,000
2. United States Senator	\$200	2,000
3. Attorney General 4. Auditor General 5. Treasurer	\$200	1,000 (including at least 100 from each of at least five counties)
6. Representative in Congress	\$150	1,000
7. Senator in the General Assembly	\$100	500
8. Representative in the General Assembly	\$100	300
9. Delegate to a National Party Convention	\$25	250
10. Alternate Delegate to a National Party Convention	\$25	250

### **Candidates who file Nomination Papers to access the General Election Ballot.**

Signature requirements for nomination papers (filed by candidates of minor political parties or political bodies) for those public offices listed above may be obtained by calling the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation, Department of State, 210 North Office Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120, at 717-787-5280. For information regarding local offices, contact your county board of elections.



**Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation  
North Office Building, Room 210  
401 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0500**

**1-877-VOTES PA (1-877-868-3772)  
(717) 787-5280**

**[www.dos.state.pa.us](http://www.dos.state.pa.us)**