Secretary of State
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2012 South Dakota Election Calendar

Tuesday, November 1, 2011	Deadline for filing initiated measure petitions. (SDCL 2-1-2)
Monday, November 7, 2011	Deadline for filing petitions to place constitutional amendments on the ballot. (Constitution, Art. XXIII, Sec. 1)
Sunday, January 1, 2012	Earliest day for June Primary Election or independent candidates to circulate nominating petitions, including independent presidential candidates. (SDCL 12-6-4.1, 12-7-1.1) Earliest day for independent candidates to file nominating petitions. (SDCL 12-7-1) First day a June Primary Election candidate may file nominating petitions. (SDCL 12-6-4)
Wednesday, February 1, 2012	Last day for statewide candidates, state office holders, ballot question committees, political party committees and political action committees to file year-end Campaign Finance reports of receipts and expenditures for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. (SDCL 12-27-22)
March 5 - 10 & 12-17, 2012	Weeks in which county auditor must publish the notice of deadline for filing nominating petitions. (ARSD 5:02:04:17) (SDCL 12-12-1) See NOTE 1.
Tuesday, March 27, 2012	Last day to file Primary Election nominating petitions. (SDCL 12-6-4) Last day nominees for party precinct committeeman and precinct committeewoman may file statement of candidacy with the county auditor. (SDCL 12-5-4) Last day for a new political party to file petitions declaring organization with the Secretary of State to participate in the Primary Election. (SDCL 12-5-1)

	Last day for Presidential candidates to file on their behalf a statement of intent to be a candidate. (SDCL 12-5-3.14)
	Last day for political parties to certify slates of national convention delegates to the Secretary of State to participate in the Primary Election. (SDCL 12-5-3.8)
	Last day for sheriff candidates who filed a primary nominating petition to file a certificate of qualification with county auditor. (SDCL 23-3-43.1)
Thursday, March 29, 2012	Last day for candidates to file for withdrawal from the Primary Election. (ARSD 5:02:07:05) (SDCL 12-6-8.1)
Friday, March 30, 2012	Drawing for position on the ballot for the Primary Election will be held in the office of the Secretary of State at 9:00 a.m. (SDCL 12-16-8)
Wednesday, April 11, 2012	Last day for candidate to file "Statement of Financial Interest" if nominating petition was filed on last day. This statement must be filed within fifteen days after filing nominating petitions. (SDCL 12-25-28, 12-25-30)
	Last day for candidate to file a Campaign Finance "Statement of Organization" if nominating petition was filed on last day and if the candidate committee has not already filed a 2012 Statement of Organization. This statement must be filed within fifteen days after filing nominating petitions. (SDCL 12-27-3)
Wednesday, April 18, 2012	Deadline for Primary Election ballots to be printed and in the county auditor's possession. (SDCL 12-16-1, 12-16-17, 12-19-3)
Friday, April 20, 2012	Absentee voting may begin. (SDCL 12-16-1, 12-16-17, 12-19-3)
Monday, April 23, 2012	Deadline for county central committees to submit names to the county auditor to be used as election board workers. (SDCL 12-15-1)
Tuesday, May 1, 2012	Deadline for county auditor to fill requests for precinct lists by parties and candidates. (SDCL 12-4-24.1)
April 30-May	Weeks for notice of voter registration deadline.

5 & May 7-11, 2012	(ARSD 5:02:04:04) (SDCL 12-4-5.2) See NOTES 1 & 2.
Monday, May 7, 2012	Deadline for Secretary of State to furnish envelopes to the county auditor for official election returns. (SDCL 12-20-37) Last day for county auditor to submit names of persons to be employed at an electronic voting system counting center to the county chairmen of each party to assure bipartisan representation. (SDCL 12-17B-11)
Tuesday, May 15, 2012	Deadline for Attorney General to deliver an attorney general statement for each amendment to the Constitution proposed by the Legislature, initiative, and any referred measure from an odd year. (SDCL 12-13-9, 12-13-25.1)
Wednesday, May 16, 2012	Deadline for the county auditor to appoint precinct superintendents and deputies for each election precinct. (SDCL 12-15-1, 12-15-2, 12-15-3)
May 21-26 & May 28-June 1	Weeks in which county auditor must publish the notice of election. (ARSD 5:02:04:16) (SDCL 12-12-1)
Monday, May 21, 2012	Deadline for voter registration for the Primary Election. (SDCL 12-4-5)
May 22 - June 4	Statewide candidates (does not include legislative candidates) and committees must file supplemental Campaign Finance statements with the Secretary of State if they receive an aggregate contribution of $500 or more within the fourteen days prior to the election. The report must be filed within 48 hours of receipt of the contribution. (SDCL 12-27-28)
Friday, May 25, 2012	Deadline for statewide candidates, legislative candidates, county candidates in counties with population greater than five thousand, political action committees and state party committees to file pre-primary Campaign Finance reports with the Secretary of State. Any statement filed shall be consecutive and shall cover contributions and expenditures since the last statement filed. (SDCL 12-27-22)
Saturday, May 26, 2012	First day for test of automatic tabulating equipment in counties using electronic voting systems. Notice of testing must be published at least 48 hours prior to the test. (ARSD 5:02:09:01.01) (SDCL 12-17B-5) See NOTE 2.
May 28 - June 1, 2012	Week for publication of facsimile ballot. (SDCL 12-16-16)

Instructions to voters regarding voting rights to be published with the facsimile ballot for Primary Election.
(ARSD 5:02:05:02.01)

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. legal time.
(SDCL 12-2-1, 12-2-3)

Ballots and election supplies must be delivered to the superintendent of each election precinct prior to the opening of the polls.
(SDCL 12-16-18)

No applications for absentee ballots may be honored by the county auditor after 3:00 p.m. on election day.
(SDCL 12-19-2.1)

Last day for independent sheriff candidates to file a certification of qualification with county auditor.
(SDCL 23-3-43.1)

Last day for independent candidates to file nominating petitions with the Secretary of State or county auditor for all offices except President.
(SDCL 12-7-1)

Monday, June 11, 2012

Last day for county canvass of returns.
(SDCL 12-20-36)

Certified copies of the official county canvass must be filed with the Secretary of State immediately following the official canvass.
(SDCL 12-20-38.1)

Tuesday, June 12, 2012

Last day for convening the state board of canvassers.
(SDCL 12-20-47)

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

Last day for Secretary of State to certify runoff candidates to county auditors if no candidate for nomination for United States Representative received thirty-five percent of the votes cast in the party primary election.
(SDCL 12-6-51.3)

Thursday, June 14, 2012

Last day for filing recount petition by a county candidate assuming county canvass was completed on June 11 with the county auditor.
(ARSD 5:02:19:05) (SDCL 12-21-10) NOTE: Above action must be initiated within three days following completion of the official county canvass.

Friday, June 15, 2012

Last day for filing recount petition by legislative and statewide candidates assuming state canvass was completed on June 12 with the Secretary of State.
(ARSD 5:02:19:05)

County auditor shall notify the Secretary of State of a legislative recount.

	(SDCL 12-21-11, 12-21-11.1, 12-21-12) NOTE: Above action must be initiated within three days following completion of the official state canvass.
June 16-17, 2012	Days for Secretary of State to publish notice of secondary election and facsimile ballot in the state newspapers that publish on Saturday and Sunday. (SDCL 12-12-1)
Tuesday, June 26, 2012	SECONDARY ELECTION DAY. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. legal time. (SDCL 12-6-51.1) Ballots and election supplies must be delivered to the superintendent of each election precinct prior to the opening of the polls. (SDCL 12-16-18) No applications for absentee ballots may be honored by the county auditor after 3:00 p.m. on election day. (SDCL 12-19-2.1)
Monday, July 2, 2012	Last day to file conservation district director nominating petitions. (SDCL 38-8-39) Last day for county canvass of returns for secondary election. (SDCL 12-20-36) Certified copies of the official county canvass must be filed with the Secretary of State immediately following the official canvass. (SDCL 12-20-38.1)
Tuesday, July 3, 2012	Last day for convening of state board of canvassers for secondary election. (SDCL 12-20-47)
Thursday, July 5, 2012	Deadline for persons or committees working for or against the passage of a ballot question to file campaign finance reports of receipts and expenditures with the Secretary of State. (SDCL 12-27-23)
Tuesday, July 10, 2012	Deadline for Attorney General to deliver an Attorney General statement for each referred measure from an even year. (SDCL 12-13-9)
Tuesday, August 7, 2012	Last day for independent candidates to file nominating petitions for President. (SDCL 12-7-7) Last day for candidates to withdraw nominations. (ARSD 5:02:07:05) (SDCL 12-6-55)
Tuesday, August 14, 2012	Last day for party central committees to fill vacancies created by candidates who withdrew their nominations. (ARSD 5:02:07:06) (SDCL 12-8-6)

	Deadline for Secretary of State to certify copies of all ballot questions to the county auditor. (SDCL 12-13-1)
Thursday, August 16, 2012	Drawing for position on the ballot for the general election will be held in the office of the Secretary of State at 9:00 a.m. (SDCL 12-16-3.1, 12-16-8)
Tuesday, August 21, 2012	Last day for Secretary of State to certify to the county auditor the names of all candidates for state and district office to be placed on the General Election ballot. (SDCL 12-8-8)
Wednesday, September 19, 2012	Deadline for all General Election ballots to be printed and in the county auditor's possession. (SDCL 12-16-1)
Friday, September 21, 2012	Absentee voting may begin. (SDCL 12-16-1, 12-16-17, 12-19-3)
Monday, September 24, 2012	Deadline for county party central committees to submit names to the county auditor to be used as election board workers. (SDCL 12-15-1)
October 1-6 & October 8-12, 2012	Weeks for notice of voter registration deadline. (ARSD 5:02:04:04) (SDCL 12-4-5.2) See NOTES 1 & 2.
Monday, October 1, 2012	Deadline for county auditor to mail copies of all submitted questions to the official county newspaper. (SDCL 12-13-2)
~~**Tuesday, October 2, 2012**~~	~~Deadline for county auditor to fill requests for precinct lists by parties and candidates.~~ Repealed July 1, 2012 ~~(SDCL 12-4-24.1)~~
Monday, October 8, 2012	~~Last day for Secretary of State to furnish county auditor with an envelope for mailing official returns of votes to the office of the Secretary of State.~~ ~~(SDCL 12-20-37)~~ Repealed July 1, 2012
	Last day for county auditor to submit names of persons to be employed at an electronic voting system counting center to the county chairmen of each party to assure bipartisan representation. (SDCL 12-17B-11)
October 9-23, 2012	Time in which all official county newspapers must publish at least once the full text, statement, title, explanation and the recitation of effect of each submitted ballot question. (SDCL 12-13-3) See NOTE 2.

Wednesday, October 17, 2012	Deadline for the county auditor to appoint superintendents and precinct deputies for each election precinct. (SDCL 12-15-1, 12-15-2, 12-15-3)
Monday, October 22, 2012	Voter registration deadline for the General Election. (SDCL 12-4-5)
October 22-27 & October 29-November 2, 2012	Weeks in which the county auditor must publish the notice of the General Election. (ARSD 5:02:04:05) (SDCL 12-12-1) See NOTES 1 & 2.
October 23-November 5, 2012	Statewide candidates (does not include legislative candidates), political action committee, ballot question committee or political party must file supplemental Campaign Finance reports with the Secretary of State if they receive an aggregate contribution of $500 or more within the fourteen days immediately preceding the election. The report must be filed within 48 hours of receipt of the contribution. (SDCL 12-27-28)
Friday, October 26, 2012	Deadline for statewide candidates, legislative candidates, county candidates in counties with population greater than 5,000, political action committees and political parties to file pre-general campaign finance reports of receipts and expenditures with the Secretary of State. (SDCL 12-27-22)
Saturday, October 27, 2012	First day for test of electronic voting system tabulating equipment. Notice of the time and place of the test must be published in the official newspaper at least 48 hours prior to testing. (ARSD 5:02:09:01.01) (SDCL 12-17B-5) See NOTE 2.
October 29-November 3, 2012	Week for publication of facsimile ballots. (SDCL 12-16-16) Instructions to voters regarding voting rights to be published with the facsimile ballot for the General Election. (ARSD 5:02:05:02.01) (SDCL 12-16-23)
Tuesday, November 6, 2012	**GENERAL ELECTION DAY** Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. legal time. (SDCL 12-2-2, 12-2-3) Ballots and election supplies must be delivered to the superintendent of each election precinct prior to the opening of the polls. (SDCL 12-16-18) No applications for absentee ballots may be honored by the county auditor after 3:00 p.m. on election day. (SDCL 12-19-2.1)

Monday, November 12, 2012	Last day for the county canvass of election returns. (SDCL 12-20-36) County auditors must immediately send a certified copy of the official county canvass to the Secretary of State as the official returns of the election. (SDCL 12-20-38.1)
Tuesday, November 13, 2012	Last day for convening the state board of canvassers. (SDCL 12-20-47)
Thursday, November 15, 2012	Last day for filing a recount petition by county candidates, assuming the county canvass was completed on November 12. (ARSD 5:02:19:05) (SDCL 12-21-10) NOTE: Above action must be initiated within three days following completion of the official county canvass. Last day for filing recount petition by legislative candidates, assuming county canvass was completed on November 12. (ARSD 5:02:19:05) County auditor shall notify the Secretary of State of a legislative recount. (SDCL 12-21-11, 12-21-11.1)
Friday, November 16, 2012	Deadline for petition for recount in precinct by voters of the precinct. (ARSD 5:02:19:06) (SDCL 12-21-8) Last day for filing recount petition by statewide candidates or other offices other than the Legislature that are voted upon in more than one county, assuming state canvass was completed on November 13. (ARSD 5:02:19:05) (SDCL 12-21-12) County auditor shall notify the Secretary of State of a non-legislative recount. (SDCL 12-21-12)
Thursday, November 22, 2012	Last day for a county candidate to initiate action to contest, assuming county canvass was completed on November 12 and no recount is in progress. (SDCL 12-22-5) NOTE: Above actions must be initiated within ten days following completion of the official county canvass.
Friday, November 23, 2012	Last day for filing petition for recount on a ballot question. (ARSD 5:02:19:07) (SDCL 12-21-14) NOTE: Above actions must be initiated within ten days following completion of the official state canvass. Last day for initiating a contest by a legislative or statewide candidate, or by citizens on behalf of a ballot question, assuming the state canvass was completed on November 13 and no recount is in progress. (SDCL 12-22-5) NOTE: Above actions must be initiated within ten days following completion of the official state canvass.

Friday, February 1, 2013	Last day for statewide candidates, legislative candidates, county candidates in counties with population greater than 5,000, political action committees and political parties to file year-end reports of campaign finance receipts and expenditures with the Secretary of State. Report covers information from last report through the last day of the preceding calendar year. (SDCL 12-27-22)

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NOTE 1: At least five days shall intervene between publications which are to be done during consecutive weeks.
(SDCL 17-2-17)

NOTE 2: Official notices may not be published on Sunday.
(SDCL 1-5-2)

OFFICIAL SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HOLIDAYS - 2012

Sunday, January 1st	New Year's Day
Monday, January 16th	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, February 20th	Presidents' Day
Monday, May 28th	Memorial Day
Wednesday, July 4th	Independence Day
Monday, September 3rd	Labor Day
Monday, October 8th	Native Americans' Day
Sunday, November 11th	Veterans' Day
Thursday, November 22nd	Thanksgiving Day
Tuesday, December 25th	Christmas Day

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