



# South Dakota Election Calendar 2016

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# 2016 South Dakota Election Calendar

- November 9, 2015** Deadline for filing petitions to place initiated measures and initiated constitutional amendments on the ballot. (Constitution, Art. XXIII, Sec. 1, SDCL 2-1-1.1, 2-1-1.2)
- January 1, 2016** Earliest day for June primary or independent candidates to circulate nominating petitions, including independent presidential candidates. (SDCL 12-6-4.1, 12-7-1.1)
- January 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)
- February 1** Last day for statewide candidates, state office holders, ballot question committees, political party committees and political action committees to file year-end reports of receipts and expenditures for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. (SDCL 12-27-22).
- March 7-12 & 14-19** 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.
- March 29** Last day to file primary election nominating petitions. (SDCL 12-6-4)
- Last day nominees for party precinct committeeman and 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 presidential primary election. (SDCL 12-5-1)
- Last day for sheriff candidates who filed a primary nominating petition to file a certificate of qualification. (SDCL 23-3-43.1)
- Last day for water development district candidates to file petitions. (SDCL 46A-3B-4)
- March 31** Last day for candidates to file for withdrawal from the primary election - ARSD 5:02:07:05. (SDCL 12-6-8.1)
- April 4** 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 12-16-3.1, 12-16-8)
- April 13** 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 "Statement of Organization" if nominating petition was filed on last day and if the candidate committee has not already filed a statement of organization. This statement must be filed within fifteen days after filing nominating petitions. (SDCL 12-27-3)

- April 20** Deadline for primary election ballots to be printed and in the auditor's possession. (SDCL 12-16-1, 12-16-17)
- April 22** Absentee voting begins on this day. (SDCL 12-19-1.2, 12-19-3)
- April 25** Deadline for county central committees to submit names to the county auditor to be used as election board workers. (SDCL 12-15-1) See NOTE 3
- April 26** Last day for independent candidates to file nominating petitions with the Secretary of State or county auditor for all offices. (SDCL 12-7-1)
- May 2-7 & May 9-13** Weeks for notice of voter registration deadline - ARSD 5:02:04:04. (SDCL 12-4-5.2) See NOTES 1 & 2.
- May 9** Last day for 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) See NOTE 3.
- May 26** Deadline for Attorney General to deliver an attorney general statement for each proposed amendment to the Constitution, each initiated measure and any referred measure from an **odd** year. (SDCL 12-13-9)
- May 18** 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 23-28 & May 30 - June 3** Weeks in which county auditor must publish the notice of election - ARSD 5:02:04:16. (SDCL 12-12-1).
- May 23** Deadline for voter registration for the primary election. (SDCL 12-4-5)
- May 24 - June 6** 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) See NOTE 3.
- May 27** 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. (SDCL 12-27-22)
- May 28** 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 30 - June 4** 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 elections - ARSD 5:02:05:02.01.

- June 6** No applications for absentee voting may be honored by a county auditor after 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the election. (SDCL 12-19-1.2, 12-19-2.1)
- June 7** **PRIMARY ELECTION DAY**  
(SDCL 12-2-1, 12-2-3) Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. legal time.
- 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 using an authorized messenger may be honored by the county auditor after 3:00 p.m. on election day. (SDCL 12-19-2.1)
- June 13** 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)
- June 14** Last day for convening the state board of canvassers. (SDCL 12-20-47)
- June 16** Last day for filing recount petition by a county candidate assuming county canvass was completed on June 13 - 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.
- June 17** Last day for filing recount petition by legislative and statewide candidates assuming state canvass was completed on June 14 - 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.
- July 15** Deadline for County Auditor to transmit voter election history from the primary election in Total Vote. (SDCL 12-4-37)
- August 2** Last day for candidates to withdraw nominations from general election - ARSD 5:02:07:05. (SDCL 12-6-55)
- Last Day for independent presidential candidates to file certificate of nomination. (SDCL 12-7-7)
- August 9** 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)
- Last day for an independent candidate for sheriff to file a certificate of qualification. (SDCL 23-3-43.1)
- August 12** Deadline for candidates whose name appears on the primary ballot, but does not appear on the general election ballot shall submit a post-primary non-winner campaign finance disclosure or a termination report. (SDCL 12-27-22)
- August 12** 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)

**August 16** Deadline for Secretary of State to certify copies of all ballot questions to the county auditors. (SDCL 12-13-1)

Last day for Secretary of State to certify to the county auditors the names of all candidates for state and district office to be placed on the general election ballot. (SDCL 12-8-8)

**SECONDARY ELECTION DAY (if needed) - See pages 6 & 7 for deadlines and publications**

**September 21** Deadline for general election ballots to be printed and in the auditor's possession. (SDCL 12-16-1, 12-16-17)

**September 23** Absentee voting begins on this day. (SDCL 12-19-1.2, 12-19-3)

Deadline for county central committees to submit names to the county auditor to be used as election board workers. (SDCL 12-15-1) See NOTE 3

**Before October 1** Deadline for the county auditor to send by electronic transmission or mail to each official newspaper of the county a copy of all statewide measures and questions certified by the Secretary of State. (SDCL 12-13-2)

**Oct. 3-7 & 10-14** Weeks for notice of voter registration deadline - ARSD 5:02:04:04. (SDCL 12-4-5.2) See NOTES 1 & 2.

**October 7** Last day for 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) See NOTE 3.

**October 11-25** 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.

**October 19** 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)

**October 24** Voter registration deadline for the general election. (SDCL 12-4-5)

**Oct. 24 -29 & Oct. 31-Nov. 4** 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 25-November 7** Statewide candidates (does not include legislative candidates) and committees must file supplemental 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)

- October 28** Deadline for statewide candidates, legislative candidates, county candidates in counties with population greater than five thousand, 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)
- October 29** 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 31-  
November 5** Week for publication of facsimile ballots. (SDCL 12-16-16). Instructions to voters regarding voting rights to be published with the facsimile ballot for general elections – ARSD 5:02:05:02.01.
- November 7** No applications for absentee voting may be honored by a county auditor after 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the election. (SDCL 12-19-1.2, 12-19-2.1)
- November 8** **GENERAL ELECTION DAY**  
(SDCL 12-2-2, 12-2-3) Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. legal time.
- 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 using an authorized messenger may be honored by the county auditor after 3:00 p.m. on election day. (SDCL 12-19-2.1)
- November 14** 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)
- November 15** Last day for convening the state board of canvassers. (SDCL 12-20-47). See NOTE 3.
- November 17** Last day for filing a recount petition by county candidates, assuming the county canvass was completed on November 14 - 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. See NOTE 3.
- November 18** 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 legislative or statewide candidates, assuming state canvass was completed on November 15 - ARSD 5:02:19:05. County auditor shall notify the Secretary of State of a legislative recount. (SDCL 12-21-10, 12-21-11, 12-21-11.1, 12-21-12) See NOTE 3.
- November 24** Last day for a county candidate to initiate action to contest, assuming county canvass was completed on November 14 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.

**November 25** 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. See NOTE 3.

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 15 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. See NOTE 3.

**December 15** Deadline for County Auditor to transmit voter election history from the general election in Total Vote. (SDCL 12-4-37)

## **Secondary Election Procedures**

If a Secondary Election is required to be held, the Secretary of State's Office will provide more guidance in addition to the deadlines and publications listed below. **Note:** there may be additional publications and deadlines required that are not included in this list:

**June 13** Drawing for position on the ballot for the secondary 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)

**June 15** Last day for Secretary of State to certify runoff candidates to county auditors if no candidate for nomination for United States Senator, United States Representative or Governor received thirty-five percent of the votes cast in the party primary election. (SDCL 12-6-51.3)

**June 18-19** Days for Secretary of State to publish notice of secondary election and facsimile ballot in state newspapers that publishes on Saturday and Sunday. (SDCL 12-12-1)

**June 29** Deadline for Secondary Election ballots to be printed and in the auditor's possession. (SDCL 12-6-51.1, 12-16-1, 12-16-17)

**July 1** Absentee voting begins on this day for Secondary Election. (SDCL 12-6-51.1, 12-19-1.2, 12-19-3)

**July 11-15 & July 18-22** Weeks for notice of voter registration deadline for Secondary Election - ARSD 5:02:04:04. (SDCL 12-4-5.2) See NOTES 1 & 2.

**August 1** Deadline for voter registration for the Secondary Election. (SDCL 12-4-5)

**August 1-5 & 8-12** Weeks in which the county auditor must publish the notice of the Secondary Election - ARSD 5:02:04:05. (SDCL 12-12-1) See NOTES 1 & 2.

**August 15** No applications for absentee voting may be honored by a county auditor after 5:00

p.m. the day prior to the election. (SDCL 12-19-1.2, 12-19-2.1)

**August 16**

**SECONDARY ELECTION DAY**

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

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 using an authorized messenger may be honored by the county auditor after 3:00 p.m. on election day. (SDCL 12-19-2.1)

**August 22**

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

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

**August 23**

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

**September 30**

Deadline for County Auditor to transmit voter election history from the general election in Total Vote. This date is not set in state law but using SDCL 12-4-37 as a guideline.

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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)

NOTE 3: When a deadline falls on a holiday, Saturday or Sunday, an act may be performed on the next business day. If the period of time prescribed or allowed is less than seven days, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays shall be excluded in the computation. (SDCL 12-1-17)

**OFFICIAL SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HOLIDAYS – 2016**

January 1	New Year's Day
January 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 15	Presidents' Day
May 30	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
October 10	Native Americans' Day
November 11	Veterans' Day
November 25	Thanksgiving Day
December 25	Christmas Day



