

Special District Formation Elections							
District	County Road	Ambulance	Rural Fire Protection	Sanitary	Irrigation	Watershed	Water Project
SDCL	31-12A	34-11A	34-31A	34A-5	46A-4	46A-14	46A-18
Initiation	By petition w/ survey and map; county commission calls election (SDCL 31-12A-2; 31-12A-3; 31-12A-6).	By petition w/ survey and map or by governing body; county commission calls election (SDCL 34-11A-1; 34-11A-7).	By petition w/ survey and map or by governing body; county commission calls election (SDCL 34-31A-2; 34-31A-8).	By petition w/ survey and map; county commission calls election (SDCL 34A-5-3; 34A-5-6; 34A-5-7).	By petition w/ map; Board of Water and Natural Resources calls election (SDCL 46A-4-3; 46A-4-4; 46A-4-4.1).	By petition w/ map; conservation district supervisors call election (SDCL 46A-14-5; 46A-14-11; 46A-14-15).	By petition w/ map and documents; Board of Water and Natural Resources calls election (SDCL 46A-18-2; 46A-18-10; 46A-18-12; 46A-18-14).
When	Within sixty days of the county commission's call for an election.	Within sixty days of the county commission's call for an election.	Within sixty days of the county commission's call for an election.	Within sixty days of the county commission's call for an election.	Within sixty days of the Board of Water and Natural Resources' call for an election.	Within sixty days of the conservation district supervisors' call for an election.	Within sixty days of the Board of Water and Natural Resources' call for an election.
Where	At a meeting (<1,000 eligible voters) or at an election (>1,000 eligible voters).	At a meeting (<1,000 eligible voters) or at an election (>1,000 eligible voters).	At a meeting (<1,000 eligible voters) or at an election (>1,000 eligible voters).	At a meeting (<1,000 eligible voters) or at an election (>1,000 eligible voters).	At a meeting (<1,000 eligible voters) or at an election (>1,000 eligible voters).	At a meeting (<1,000 eligible voters) or at an election (>1,000 eligible voters).	At a meeting (<1,000 eligible voters) or at an election (>1,000 eligible voters).
How	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16
Who Votes	Landowners; one vote, regardless of lots owned (SDCL 31-12A-1.2).	Registered voters who have resided in the district for at least thirty days.	Registered voters who have resided in the district for at least thirty days.	Registered voters who have resided in the district for at least thirty days.	Landowners w/ at least thirty-five acres in the district (SDCL 46A-4-2).	Landowners; corporate landowners receive one vote (SDCL 46A-14-15.1).	Registered voters who reside in the district or landowners (SDCL 46A-18-2.1; 46A-18-2.2).
Notices	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16-4.	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16-4.	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16-4.	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16-4.	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16-4.	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16-4.	Pursuant to SDCL 6-16-4.
Hours	N/A (<1,000 eligible voters) or 7am to 7pm (>1,000 eligible voters).	N/A (<1,000 eligible voters) or 7am to 7pm (>1,000 eligible voters).	N/A (<1,000 eligible voters) or 7am to 7pm (>1,000 eligible voters).	N/A (<1,000 eligible voters) or 7am to 7pm (>1,000 eligible voters).	N/A (<1,000 eligible voters) or 7am to 7pm (>1,000 eligible voters).	N/A (<1,000 eligible voters) or 7am to 7pm (>1,000 eligible voters).	N/A (<1,000 eligible voters) or 7am to 7pm (>1,000 eligible voters).
Absentee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Margin	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	60%	60%
Note: Special district formation elections are conducted under the provisions of SDCL 6-16 unless otherwise noted.							
Note: If the formation of a special district is approved, the election of a board of trustees will take place either immediately (<1,000 eligible voters) or within sixty days of the official canvass (>1,000 eligible voters).							

Special District Trustee Elections							
District	County Road	Ambulance	Rural Fire Protection	Sanitary	Irrigation	Watershed	Water Project
SDCL	31-12A	34-11A	34-31A	34A-5	46A-4	46A-14	46A-18
When	Annually, on the first Tuesday in May (SDCL 31-12A-15).	Annually, during the first quarter of the year (SDCL 34-11A-29).	Annually, during the first quarter of the year (SDCL 34-31A-43).	Annually, on any Tuesday in the month following the anniversary date of the first election (SDCL 34A-5-20).	Annually, on the last Tuesday in October (SDCL 46A-4-25).	Annually, before the first day of May (SDCL 46A-14-37).	Annually, before the first day of May (SDCL 46A-14-37).
Where	At an annual meeting.	At an annual meeting.	At an annual meeting.	At a polling place.	At a polling place or by mail.	At an annual meeting.	At an annual meeting.
How	Pursuant to SDCL 8-3.	Pursuant to SDCL 8-3.	Pursuant to SDCL 8-3.	Pursuant to SDCL 9-13.	Pursuant to SDCL 46A-4-32 through 46A-4-38.	Pursuant to SDCL 46A-14-37 through 46A-14-38.	Pursuant to SDCL 46A-18-23 through 46A-18-25.
Who Votes	Landowners; one vote, regardless of lots owned (SDCL 31-12A-1.2).	Registered voters who have resided in the district for at least thirty days.	Registered voters who have resided in the district for at least thirty days.	Registered voters who have resided in the district for at least thirty days.	Landowners w/ at least thirty-five acres in the district (SDCL 46A-4-2).	Landowners; corporate landowners receive one vote (SDCL 46A-14-15.1).	Registered voters who reside in the district or landowners (SDCL 46A-18-2.1; 46A-18-2.2).
Who Can Serve	Landowners	Residents	Residents	Residents	Electors who reside within twenty-five miles of the district boundary (SDCL 46A-4-27).	Landowners	Residents
Notices	Pursuant to SDCL 31-12A-15.1.	Pursuant to SDCL 34-11A-29.	Pursuant to SDCL 34-31A-43.	Pursuant to SDCL 9-13 and SDCL 34A-5-21.3.	Pursuant to SDCL 46A-4-31.	Pursuant to SDCL 46A-14-43.	Pursuant to SDCL 46A-18-23.
Method of Nomination	Petition (SDCL 31-12A-17).	Pursuant to SDCL 8-3.	Pursuant to SDCL 8-3.	Petition (SDCL 34A-5-21).	Petition (SDCL 46A-4-28).	Application (SDCL 46A-1-38).	Petition (SDCL 46A-18-25).
Hours	N/A	N/A	N/A	7am to 7pm	7am to 7pm	N/A	N/A
Absentee	Pursuant to SDCL 8-3.	Pursuant to SDCL 8-3.	Pursuant to SDCL 8-3.	Yes (SDCL 9-13-21).	Yes (SDCL 46A-4-32).	Yes (SDCL 46A-14-38).	Not specified in SDCL 46A-18.
Board Person	Trustee	Director	Director	Trustee	Director	Manager	Director
Note: Special district trustee elections are based on township elections, which are conducted under the provisions of SDCL 8-3.							