

2026 Kentucky Election Calendar – Key Dates



Candidate Filing & Party Changes

- **November 5, 2025** – Earliest date candidates can begin collecting signatures.
- **January 9, 2026 (4 PM)** – Candidate filing deadline for Primary.
- **January 15, 2026 (2 PM)** – Ballot position drawing (statewide & county).
- **June 2, 2026 (4 PM)** – Final candidate filing deadline for General Election.
- **August 24, 2026 (4 PM)** – Write-in candidate declaration deadline.

Registration Deadlines

- **December 31, 2025** – Deadline to change party affiliation for 2026 Primary.
- **April 20, 2026 (4 PM)** – Last day to register for Primary Election.
- **October 5, 2026 (4 PM)** – Last day to register for General Election.

Absentee & Early Voting

- **Absentee ballot portal opens:**
 - *Primary:* April 4, 2026
 - *General:* September 19, 2026
- **Absentee portal closes.**
 - *Primary:* May 5, 2026
 - *General:* October 20, 2026 (11:59 PM)
- **Excused In-Person Absentee Voting:**
 - *Primary:* May 6–13, 2026
 - *General:* October 21–28, 2026
- **No-Excuse Early Voting:**
 - *Primary:* May 14–16, 2026
 - *General:* Oct 29–31, 2026

Election Days

- **Primary Election: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 (6 AM–6 PM)**
- **General Election: Tuesday, November 3, 2026 (6 AM–6 PM)**