

# 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION CALENDAR

**AUGUST 26, 2024:**

- First day candidates can raise or spend money. §17-5-7(b)(2).
- An ordinance establishing the use of electronic vote counters must be adopted. No deadline is set, but the ordinance must be adopted far enough in advance to meet other election deadlines. §17-7-21.

**NOTE:** Only candidates running for municipal office who receive contributions or make expenditures in excess of \$1,000 are required to electronically file an Appointment of Principal Campaign Committee form. Act 2024-104.

**FEBRUARY 26, 2025:**

- Last day for the council to change the salaries for officials who will be elected in August. §§11-43-2(d) and 11-43-80(b).
- Last day for the council to decide whether to elect councilmembers at large or from districts. §§11-43-2(d) and 11-43-63.
- Last day where the council may, in municipalities with a population of less than 10,000, provide for a procedure for the appointment of additional election officials to receive, count and return absentee ballots cast at the election. §§11-46-27(d), 17-11-10(b)(4) and 17-11-11(c).

**MARCH 31, 2025:** Last day for councils elected at large to number the places for election purposes. §11-46-22(a).

**MAY 26, 2025:**

- Last day for the council to change its district lines. §11-46-23.
- Last day for the council to change the location of designated voting places or add an additional voting place. §11-43-63.

**MAY 28, 2025:** Last day a person can become a resident of the municipality and district in order to become a candidate. §§11-46-25(g) and 11-43-63.

**JUNE 5, 2025:** Last day on which the council may adopt an ordinance establishing qualification fees. §11-46-2.

**JUNE 10, 2025:**

- Mayor gives notice of the election. §11-46-22(a).
- Candidates may begin qualifying at city hall once notice is published. Qualifying forms are available from the municipal clerk. §11-46-22(a).
- Candidates must file a Statement of Economic Interests form with the ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION in order to appear on the ballot. §36-25-15(a).

For questions regarding the Statement of Economic Interests form, please call the Alabama Ethics Commission at **334-242-2997** or email at [candidates@ethics.alabama.gov](mailto:candidates@ethics.alabama.gov).

**JUNE 24, 2025:** Last day, by 5:00 p.m., to qualify to run for municipal office. §11-46-25(g).

**JUNE 27, 2025:** First day to conduct a training school for officials who will conduct an election using electronic voting machines. §17-8-9.

**JUNE 29, 2025:** Mayor must deliver absentee election supplies to the municipal clerk. §§17-11-12 and 11-46-32.

**JUNE 30, 2025:**

- Last day for a municipal clerk who receives qualification papers from candidates on June 24, to notify the ALABAMA ETHICS COMMISSION of the name of the candidate and the date on which the person became a candidate. §36-25-15(b).

- JULY 15, 2025:** Mayor must file a list of qualified voters with the clerk. §11-46-36(a). If the mayor is a candidate in the election, the council must appoint a qualified person to perform this duty. §11-46-37.
- JULY 25, 2025:** Last day to display sample ballot. §11-46-31.
- JULY 27, 2020:** Last day to establish residency to vote in the municipal general election. §11-46-38(b).
- AUGUST 11, 2025:**
  - Last day for the council to appoint election officials. §11-46-27(a). **NOTE:** The municipal clerk must hold an election school for the persons chosen as election officials and must notify the official that they have been selected at least 48 hours before the school is scheduled. §11-46-30.
  - Last day to register to vote for the municipal general election. §§11-46-38(b) and 17-3-50.
- AUGUST 12, 2025: Electronic Voting Rule** - First day to publicly test electronic vote counters. Rule 307-X-1-.04, Alabama Administrative Code.
- AUGUST 15, 2025:** Last day to publish lists of the election officers and the voting places to which they are assigned. §11-46-27(f).
- AUGUST 18, 2025:** Beginning on this day, any absentee applicant who has not included a copy of acceptable ID but who is otherwise qualified to vote shall be issued a provisional absentee ballot. §17-9-30(c).
- AUGUST 19, 2025:** Last day to receive an application for a regular absentee ballot by mail. §17-11-3(b).
- AUGUST 21, 2025:**
  - Last day for a voter to hand deliver an application for a regular absentee ballot. §17-11-3(b).
  - Last day to publish the list of qualified voters. §11-46-36(a).
  - Last day to conduct a training school for officials who will conduct an election using electronic voting machines. §17-8-9(a).
- AUGUST 25, 2025:**
  - Last day for a voter to apply for an emergency absentee ballot if he or she:
    - (1) is required by employer to be unavailable to vote at the polls;
    - (2) is a caregiver of a person who requires emergency treatment within five days of an election; or
    - (3) has a family member to the 2nd degree of kinship who dies within five days of the election. §17-11-3(e)(2).
  - Last day, up to the close of business, for a voter to deliver an absentee ballot (non-emergency). §§17-11-3(c) and 17-11-18.
  - The municipal clerk, along with two watchers, must inspect and seal voting tabulators which will be used in the election beginning no later than 9:00 a.m. §11-46-33(a)(6)(b).
- AUGUST 26, 2025 - ELECTION DAY:**
  - Regular municipal elections are held on the fourth Tuesday in August. §11-46-21(a).
  - **NOTE:** All polling places shall be open for voting from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. §11-46-28(a).
  - Election officials must meet at their respective polling places at least 30 minutes before polls open. §11-46-28(a).
  - **NOTE:** Candidates may appoint a poll watcher to observe voting procedures in the polling place. The appointment must be made in writing, signed by the candidate, and filed with the election officials at the polling place. §11-46-35.
  - The municipal clerk must ensure that all ballots, boxes and supplies are provided at each polling place. §11-46-33.
  - Precinct counters must be tested according to the manufacturer's instructions to ensure that they are set at zero and prepared for voting. Rule 307-X-1-.11, Alabama Administrative Code.

#### **ABSENTEE BALLOTS ON ELECTION DAY:**

- An absentee ballot returned by mail must be received no later than noon on the day of the election. §17-11-18(a).
- An emergency absentee ballot for a registered voter who requires emergency treatment by a licensed physician within 5 days of the election must return the absentee ballot by 12:00 noon on the day of the election. §17-11-3(d).
- Beginning at 7:00 a.m., the municipal clerk shall deliver the sealed affidavit envelopes containing absentee ballots to the absentee election officials. §17-11-10(b)(1).

- AUGUST 27, 2025:**
  - Deadline for the absentee election manager to notify voters, whose absentee ballots have become provisional due to the inspector's personal knowledge that voter was not eligible to vote, by mailing a copy of the challenge statement of the inspector by the day after the election. §17-10-2(c)(3)(b).
  - Deadline, no later than noon, the municipal clerk must deliver written affirmations of the provisional voters, inspector challenge statements, and all voter re-identification forms in a sealed envelope addressed to the board of registrars. §17-10-2(d).
- AUGUST 29, 2025:** Last day, no later than 5:00 p.m., for a provisional absentee voter, who was required to provide identification but failed to provide it before the election, to submit identification to the board of registrars to have the vote counted. §17-10-2(c)(1)(b)(3).
- SEPTEMBER 2, 2025 - CANVASSING OF ELECTION RESULTS:** Commencing at noon on the first Tuesday after the election, the council must canvass the election results. §§11-46-55(a) and 11-46-46. If a candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for the office, the council issues a certificate of election. If no candidate receives a majority, the council shall order a run-off election to be held on the fourth Tuesday following the regular election. §§11-46-55(d) and 11-46-21(a).
- SEPTEMBER 4, 2025:** Deadline for anyone with standing to contest the election to request a recount (must be within 48 hours of the official canvass on September 2). §11-46-55.1.
- SEPTEMBER 8, 2025:** Last day a candidate may contest the results of the general election. §11-46-69.
- SEPTEMBER 11, 2025:** Last day for the municipal clerk to file certificates of general municipal election with the probate judge, secretary of state and Alabama League of Municipalities. §11-46-55(g).

*See Municipal Run-Off Election Calendar on the flap of this publication for run-off election dates.*

## MUNICIPAL POST ELECTION CALENDAR

- NOVEMBER 3, 2025:**
  - Newly elected municipal officials take office on the first Monday in November following the election. §11-46-21(c).
  - Council meets for its organizational session. §11-43-44.
- JANUARY 31, 2026:** Deadline to file Fair Campaign Practices Act Annual Reports for candidates who have not dissolved their principal campaign committee shall be made on or before January 31. §17-5-8(b). **NOTE:** Because January 31 falls on a Saturday, these reports can be filed on the next business day, Monday, February 2.
- FEBRUARY 26, 2026**
  - The municipal clerk shall destroy the contents of the ballot boxes for the municipal general election unless there is notification that the election has been contested, six months after the election. §11-46-46.
  - Written notices for withdrawal of candidates in municipal general election must no longer be preserved, six months after the election. §11-46-25.
- MARCH 23, 2026**
  - The municipal clerk shall destroy the contents of the ballot boxes for the run-off election unless there is notification that the election has been contested, six months after the election. §11-46-46.
  - Written notices for withdrawal of candidates in municipal run-off election must no longer be preserved, six months after the election. §11-46-25.

# MUNICIPAL RUN-OFF ELECTION CALENDAR

Please refer to main 2025 Municipal Election Calendar for more detailed instructions applicable to these deadlines during the main election process.

**THESE DATES ONLY APPLY TO MUNICIPALITIES HOLDING A RUN-OFF ELECTION.**

- SEPTEMBER 5, 2025:** Last day to deliver absentee ballots and supplies to city clerk. §17-11-12.
- SEPTEMBER 8, 2025:**
  - Last day for the council to appoint election officials for run-off election. §§11-46-27 and 11-46-30.
  - Last day to register to vote for the run-off election. §§11-46-38 and 17-3-50.
- SEPTEMBER 9, 2025:** First day to publicly test electronic vote counters. Rule 307-X-1-.04, Ala. Admin Code.
- SEPTEMBER 15, 2025:** Beginning on this day, any absentee applicant who has not included a copy of acceptable ID but who is otherwise qualified to vote shall be issued a provisional absentee ballot. §17-9-30(c).
- SEPTEMBER 18, 2025:**
  - Last day for a voter to apply for a regular absentee ballot. §17-11-3(a).
  - Last day to publish the list of qualified voters. §11-46-36.
  - Last day to conduct a training school for officials who will conduct an election using electronic voting machines. §17-8-9.
- SEPTEMBER 22, 2025:**
  - Last day for a voter to apply for an emergency absentee ballot if he or she:
    - (1) is required by employer to be unavailable to vote at the polls;
    - (2) is a caregiver of a person who requires emergency treatment within five days of an election; or
    - (3) has a family member to the 2nd degree of kinship who dies within five days of the election. §17-11-3(e)(2).
  - Last day, up to the close of business, for a voter to deliver an absentee ballot (non-emergency). §§17-11-3(c) and 17-11-18.
  - The municipal clerk, along with two watchers, must inspect and seal voting tabulators which will be used in the election beginning no later than 9:00 a.m. §11-46-33(a)(6)(b).
- SEPTEMBER 23, 2025: RUN-OFF ELECTION DAY.** §§11-46-55(d) and 11-46-21(a).  
*See instructions under AUGUST 26 in the main 2025 Municipal Election Calendar.*
- SEPTEMBER 24, 2025:**
  - Deadline for the absentee election manager to notify voters, whose absentee ballots have become provisional due to the inspector's personal knowledge that voter was not eligible to vote, by mailing a copy of the challenge statement of the inspector by the day after the election. §17-10-2(c)(3)(b).
  - Deadline, no later than noon, the municipal clerk must deliver written affirmations of the provisional voters, inspector challenge statements and all voter re-identification forms in a sealed envelope addressed to the board of registrars. §17-10-2(d).
- SEPTEMBER 26, 2025:** Last day, no later than 5:00 p.m., for a provisional absentee voter, who was required to provide identification but failed to provide it before the election, to submit identification to the board of registrars in order to have the vote counted. §17-10-2(c)(1)(b)(3).
- SEPTEMBER 30, 2025: CANVASSING OF ELECTION RESULTS**
  - Election canvass commencing at noon. §§11-46-55 and 11-46-46.
- OCTOBER 2, 2025:** Deadline for anyone with standing to contest the election to request a recount (must be within 48 hours of the official canvass). §11-46-55.1.
- OCTOBER 6, 2025:** Last day a candidate may contest the results of the run-off election. §11-46-69.

# FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT (FCPA) DEADLINES

(FCPA forms are available from the secretary of state and can be downloaded at [sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes](http://sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes) )

All FCPA forms for municipal elections must be filed electronically with the secretary of state at [fcpa.alabamavotes.gov](http://fcpa.alabamavotes.gov). §17-5-9(b). NOTE: Only candidates running for municipal office who receive contributions or make expenditures in excess of \$1,000 are required to file an Appointment of Principal Campaign Committee form. Act 2024-104.

**For questions regarding the FCPA, call the Secretary of State's Election Division at **334-242-7210**. Be sure to say "I have a question about the FCPA".**

**AUGUST 26, 2024:**

- First day candidates for municipal elections can raise or spend money. §17-5-7(b)(2).
- Once a candidate reaches the disclosure threshold by raising or spending \$1,000\* or more, the PCC must file an **Appointment of Principal Campaign Committee** form. The PCC must also file **Campaign Finance disclosure reports** as follows:

**MONTHLY CAMPAIGN REPORT DEADLINES:**

<input type="checkbox"/> SEPTEMBER 4, 2024	<input type="checkbox"/> JANUARY 3, 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> MAY 2, 2025
<input type="checkbox"/> OCTOBER 2, 2024	<input type="checkbox"/> FEBRUARY 4, 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> JUNE 3, 2025
<input type="checkbox"/> NOVEMBER 4, 2024	<input type="checkbox"/> MARCH 4, 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> JULY 2, 2025
<input type="checkbox"/> DECEMBER 3, 2024	<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL 2, 2025	

**WEEKLY CAMPAIGN REPORT DEADLINES:**

(A candidate who is required to file a weekly report is not also required to file a monthly report the month of the election.)

<input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST 4, 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST 18, 2025
<input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST 11, 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST 25, 2025

**ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2026**

\* **Major Contribution Report** - candidates must disclose the receipt of any single contribution of \$20,000 or more within two business days of receiving the contribution if it is not included in a monthly or weekly report. §17-5-8.1(c)

**OTHER IMPORTANT FCPA DATES:**

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>DECEMBER 24, 2025:</b> Last day for candidates <u>not</u> involved in the run-off election to raise money to pay off their campaign debts, 120 days after the election. §17-5-7.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>JANUARY 21, 2026:</b> Last day for candidates involved in the run-off election to raise money to pay off their campaign debts, 120 days after the election. §17-5-7.