

2019-2020 LOCAL ELECTION CALENDAR

This calendar is intended only to be a summary of statutory deadlines for the convenience the Regular Local Election under the Local Election Act (LEA). In all cases the relevant sections of the law should always be consulted to verify dates and for a full statement of election officers. Unless otherwise indicated, all references are to New Mexico Statutes Annotated, 1978 compilation.

Candidates should contact their respected County Clerk or Municipality for further requirements.

Regular Local Election means the biennial local election at which local governing body members are elected pursuant to the provisions of the Local Election Act (LEA) 1-22-2 (E)

JANUARY 2019

<i>January 30, 2019</i>	<p>DEADLINE TO REQUEST EARLY VOTING LOCATION</p> <p>In a regular local election, a county clerk shall provide at least one alternate voting or mobile alternate voting location in a municipality when requested by a municipality in the county; provided that the: (A) municipality elects its municipal officers at the regular local election and submits a written request to the county clerk no later than January 30 of the year of the local election;</p>	1-22-19, NMSA 1978
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FEBRUARY 2019

<i>February 13, 2019- August 27, 2019</i>	<p>SPECIAL ELECTIONS</p> <p>No special election shall be held beginning the seventieth (70) day prior to any statewide election and until: (1) the one hundredth (100) day following a general or regular local election; or (2) the seventieth (70) day following a major political party primary or an election to fill a vacancy in the office of united states representative.</p>	1-24-1(C), NMSA 1978
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JUNE 2019

<i>June 30, 2019</i>	<p>DEADLINE FOR MUNICIPALIES TO OPT-IN</p> <p>Any municipality may by ordinance opt in to the election of its municipal officers in the regular local election if the municipality passes an ordinance and files the ordinance with the secretary of state no later than June 30th of the year in which the next regular local election is scheduled.</p>	1-22-3.1 (B), NMSA 1978
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JUNE 2019

<i>June 30, 2019</i>	<p>DEADLINE TO NOTIFY SOS OF RUN-OFF ELECTIONS</p> <p>A municipality whose laws provide for a runoff election shall conduct the election in the manner provided by the municipality's ordinance or charter; provided that a municipality may by ordinance choose between conducting a top-two runoff election and a ranked-choice runoff election. The ordinance shall be filed with the secretary of state no later than June 30 of the year the next regular local election is scheduled.</p>	1-22-16 (C), NMSA 1978
JUNE/JULY 2019		
<i>In June or July, 2019</i>	<p>PRECINCTS--DUTIES OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS</p> <p>For the conduct of any statewide election during the period beginning January 1 of the next succeeding even-numbered year until December 31 of the odd-numbered year thereafter, in June or July of each odd-numbered year, the board of county commissioners shall by resolution:</p> <p>A. designate the polling place of each precinct that shall provide individuals with physical mobility limitations an unobstructed access to at least one voting machine;</p> <p>B. consolidate any precincts pursuant to Section 1-3-4 NMSA 1978;</p> <p>C. designate any mail ballot election precincts pursuant to Section 1-6-22.1 NMSA 1978; and</p> <p>D. create additional polling places in existing precincts pursuant to Section 1-3-7.1 NMSA 1978.</p>	1-3-2, 1-3-8, NMSA 1978
<i>June 8, 2019 and no later than July 8, 2019</i>	<p>BOARD FILES PROCLAMATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE</p> <p>Between one hundred twenty (120) and one hundred fifty (150) days before the next regular local election, each local government shall notify the county clerk of the county in which the primary administrative office of the local government is situate of all local government positions that are to be filled at the next regular local election.</p>	1-22-4 (A), NMSA 1978
<i>July 16, 2019</i>	<p>COUNTY CLERK TO NOTIFY SOS OF ALL POSITION TO BE FILLED</p> <p>Each county clerk shall inform the secretary of state of all positions to be filled no later than one hundred twelve days (112) before the regular local election.</p>	1-22-4 (A), NMSA 1978
AUGUST 2019		
<i>August 7, 2019</i>	SOS ISSUES PROCLAMATION FOR LOCAL ELECTION	

	The secretary of state shall by resolution issue a public proclamation in Spanish and English calling a regular local election. The proclamation shall be issued and filed by the secretary of state in the office of the secretary of state ninety (90) days preceding the date of the regular local election, and upon filing the proclamation, the secretary of state shall post the proclamation and certify it to each county clerk.	1-22-4 (B), NMSA 1978
<i>No Later Than August 22, 2019</i>	COUNTY CLERKS SHALL POST THE-ELECTION PROCLAMATION FOR LOCAL ELECTION IN SPANISH AND ENGLISH ON COUNTY CLERK’S WEBSITE After receipt of the proclamation from the secretary of state, the county clerk shall post the entire proclamation on the county clerk's website and, not less than seventy-five (75) days before the date of the election, shall publish portions of the proclamation relevant to the county at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the county.	1-22-4 (D), NMSA 1978
<i>August 27, 2019</i>	AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION--TIME LIMITATION The resolution authorized under Section 22-25-3 NMSA 1978 shall be adopted within the time frames required by the Election Code and pursuant to the requirements of the property tax division of the taxation and revenue department.	22-25-4, 22- 26-4, NMSA 1978
<i>August 27, 2019- September 3-2019</i>	LOCAL GOVERNMENT MUST ADOPT ANY ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS TO ESTABLISH BALLOT QUESTIONS Whenever a local government ballot question is to be submitted to the voters of a local government on a general election or regular local election ballot, not less than seventy (70) days before the election at which the ballot question is proposed to be submitted to the voters, the local government shall file a resolution proposing the ballot question with the county clerk of each county containing any precinct in which votes may be cast for or against the local government ballot question. Not less than sixty-seven (67) days before the election, each county clerk shall certify the local government ballot question to the secretary of state.	1-16-3 (B), NMSA 1978
SEPTEMBER 2019		
<i>August 27, 2019</i>	CANDIDATE FILING DAY FOR LOCAL ELECTION WITH COUNTY CLERKS A. A candidate for a position that will be filled at a regular local election shall file a declaration of candidacy with the proper filing officer-between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the seventieth (70) day before the date of the regular local election.	1-22-7 (A) (B) (C) (D), NMSA 1978

	<p>B. A candidate shall file for only one position in the same local government but may file for a position in more than one local government on the same filing day.</p> <p>C. A declaration of candidacy shall not be amended after it has been filed with the proper filing officer.</p> <p>D. Each declaration of candidacy shall be delivered for filing in person by the eligible candidate or by a person acting by virtue of written authorization. The proper filing officer shall not accept for filing from any one individual more than one declaration of candidacy.</p>	
<i>September 3, 2019</i>	<p>WRITE-IN CANDIDATE FILING DAY</p> <p>The declaration shall be filed between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the sixty-third (63) day preceding the date of the election.</p>	1-22-8.1 (C), NMSA 1978
<i>September 3, 2019</i>	<p>LAST DAY FOR CANDIDATES TO WITHDRAW</p> <p>A candidate's name shall not be printed on the ballot if at least sixty-three (63) days before a regular local election: (1) the candidate files with the proper filing officer a signed and notarized statement of withdrawal as a candidate in that election;</p>	1-10-6 (C), NMSA 1978
<i>September 6, 2019</i>	<p>NOTIFY CANDIDATES OF QUALIFICATION FOR APPEARANCE ON THE BALLOT</p> <p>The proper filing officer shall place the candidate's name on the ballot for the position specified in the declaration of candidacy and notify each candidate in writing no later than 5:00 p.m. on the sixtieth (60) day before the local election.</p>	1-22-10, NMSA 1978
<i>September 21, 2019</i>	<p>TRANSMISSION OF UNVOTED MILITARY-OVERSEAS BALLOT TO FEDERAL QUALIFIED ELECTORS</p> <p>Not later than forty-five (45) days before an election, even if the forty-fifth (45) day before an election falls on a weekend or a holiday. The appropriate clerk shall transmit a ballot and balloting materials to all federal qualified electors who by that date submit a valid military-overseas ballot application.</p>	1-6B-7 (A), NMSA 1978
OCTOBER 2019		
<i>October 8, 2019 through November 2 at Clerk's office</i>	<p>VOTER REGISTRATION CLOSES FOR THE REGULAR LOCAL ELECTION</p> <p>To participate in an election, the deadline to register to vote or update an existing voter registration is twenty-eight (28) days prior to that election. This is applicable only to mail-in or online registration applications.</p>	1-4-8 (A), NMSA 1978

	<i>But see: SB 672 (2019):</i> During a statewide election, a qualified elector may register to vote or update an existing certificate of registration at the county clerk's office during the regular hours and days of business beginning on the twenty-eighth (28) day preceding the election and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the Saturday immediately prior to the date of the election.	
<i>October 8, 2019</i>	ABSENTEE VOTING BEGINS Mailed ballots shall be sent to applicants beginning twenty-eight (28) days before the election. Commencing on the twenty-eighth (28) day preceding the election during the regular hours and days of business at the county clerk's office and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the Saturday immediately prior to the date of the election.	1-6-5 (F) 1-6-5.7 (A), NMSA 1978
<i>October 19, 2019</i>	EARLY VOTING BEGINS Commencing on the twenty-eighth (28) day preceding the election during the regular hours and days of business at the county clerk's office and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the Saturday immediately prior to the date of the election.	1-6-5.7 (A), NMSA 1978
<i>October 29, 2019</i>	DEADLINE FOR CANDIDATES TO SUBMIT LIST OF WATCHERS TO COUNTY CLERKS An election-related organization may in a statewide or special election appoint watchers in a county if the organization provides a written notice to the secretary of state at least seven (7) days prior to serving as a watcher during early voting, the election date or the ballot qualification period for mailed ballots in a statewide or a special election and specifies the names of the qualified appointees.	1-2-27 (A) (B), NMSA 1978
NOVEMBER 2019		
<i>November 2, 2018</i>	EARLY VOTING ENDS During the regular hours and days of business at the county clerk's office and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the Saturday immediately prior to the date of the election.	1-6-5.7 (A), NMSA 1978
<i>November 5, 2019</i>	LOCAL ELECTION DAY	1-22-3, NMSA 1978

	<p>A regular local election shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each odd numbered year.</p> <p>Except as otherwise provided in the Local Election Act, local elections shall be called, conducted and canvassed as provided in the Election Code.</p>	
<p><i>November 11, 2019- November 15, 2019</i></p>	<p>LAST DAY FOR COUNTY CLERK TO COMPLETE CANVASS AND ISSUE CERTIFICATE OF CANVASS OF THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION</p> <p>The county canvassing board shall meet to approve the report of the canvass of the returns and declare the results no sooner than six (6) days and no later than ten (10) days from the date of the election. A county canvassing board in a county with more than one hundred fifty thousand voters shall meet to approve the report of the canvass of the returns and declare the results no sooner than six (6) days and no later than thirteen (13) days from the date of the election.</p> <p>The county canvassing board, immediately upon approval of the report of the canvass of the returns of an election, shall issue a certificate of canvass of the results of the election and send one copy of the certified results to: (1) the county clerk; (2) each local governing body with a candidate or ballot question receiving votes from any precinct in the county; (3) the secretary of state; (4) the state records center; (5) the state canvassing board, in the case of a statewide election or a special state election and the results are for candidates or ballot questions voted on by the voters of more than one county.</p>	<p>1-13-13 (A) (B), NMSA 1978</p>
NOVEMBER 2019		
<p><i>November 26, 2019</i></p>	<p>STATE CANVASS BOARD CANVASS</p> <p>The state canvassing board shall meet in the state capitol on the third Tuesday after each statewide election and proceed to approve the report of the canvass and declare the results of the election or nomination of each candidate voted upon by the entire state and by the voters of more than one county.</p>	<p>1-13-15 (A), NMSA 1978</p>

<i>November 29, 2019</i>	<p>SOS TO ISSUE CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION TO CANDIDATES AND CERTIFY QUESTIONS</p> <p>Upon receipt of the reports of the county canvass of a local election from each county, the secretary of state shall: (1) not sooner than the twenty-fourth (24) day after a regular local election, issue to those candidates entitled by law the appropriate certificate of election; (2) not sooner than the seventh (7) day following a top-two runoff election and no later than the last business day before the first day of the new term of office, issue to those candidates entitled by law the appropriate certificate of election; and (3) no later than the seventeenth (17) day following a special local election in which votes were cast.</p>	1-23-16 (C), NMSA 1978
DECEMBER 2019		
<i>December 20, 2019</i>	<p>SUBMIT CERTIFICATE OF CANVASS TO STATE RECORDS FOR PERMANENT RETENTION</p> <p>The certificate of results of the canvass of the election shall, forty-five (45) days after the election or recount after any contest has been settled by the court, be preserved as a permanent record in the state records center. A copy of the certificate of results of the canvass of the election shall be preserved as a permanent record in the office of the county clerk in a separate book maintained for recording the results of elections.</p>	1-22-17, NMSA 1978
JANUARY 2020		
<i>January 1, 2020</i>	<p>DATE CANDIDATE TAKES OFFICE WHEN ELECTED IN THE LOCAL ELECTION</p> <p>The term of office of a candidate elected in a regular local election or ensuing top-two runoff election shall begin on January 1 following the candidate's election, and the candidate to whom a certificate of election has been issued shall take the oath of office before entering upon the duties of office.</p>	1-22-18, NMSA 1978