

TEXAS MUNICIPAL CLERKS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



Election Calendar

For a City's General Election on November 4, 2025

(last updated June 6, 2025)

Abbreviations are the same as those in the *Texas Municipal Election Law Manual* (6th edition) [M] with a green cover. This calendar is subject to correction and legislative change. **Please note that this calendar presumes that SB 2753 (2025) will NOT be implemented for the November election. SB 2753 eliminates the gap between early voting by personal appearance and election day voting, among other things.**

This calendar does not apply to all elections. For example, to prepare a calendar for a special election to fill a vacancy in office (even one on a uniform election date), see M §12.03; for a special election on a measure, see M §12.12. This calendar omits actions that vary from one city to another (for example, preparation of voting equipment). Each city secretary should use the chart at M §1.62 to create a personal election calendar.

Dates in column 1 are 2025 unless noted otherwise. Actions in column 2 relate to general elections (those in *italics pertain to early voting*). Actions are typically taken by the city secretary, but deviations appear in column 3. Column 4 is a cross reference to the Elections Manual. If this cross reference includes a year, then refer to the updated page, not the originally printed one.

“ED Interval” in column 5 indicates the time between the date of the action and election day. For example, the notation “-50” in the entry for September 15 means mandatory office hours begin the 50th day before election day; the notation “+10” in the entry for November 14 means that the LAST DAY for the presiding judge of the early voting ballot board to mail voters notices of rejected mail ballots is the 10th day after election day. An asterisk (*) in this column indicates the time stated is not required by statute.

When a statutory provision prescribes the LAST DAY for the performance of an act, the number in column 5 reflects that day. Notes indicate if the statutory date is moved because of a Saturday, Sunday, or state or national holiday [M §1.52(b); endnote 6]. Not all due dates revolve around election day and are so noted.

The last column has been reserved to show completion of the event in column 2. A dashed line in the table between entries indicates separate events that fall on the same day.

When reading the Election Code, read the chapter and subchapter titles to determine if the section applies to cities. Not all sections apply. Note that counties cannot order elections of their own in May of even-numbered years and may decline to contract with cities at that time.

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
June 19	Juneteenth Holiday/Emancipation Day Note: Mandatory office hours not yet effective. See Endnote 6.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
June 20	LAST DAY to post notice on bulletin board of the filing period for the general election (SOS Form 2-1). Note: Because the date falls on a holiday, it moves to the next business day. Early posting is recommended.	City Secretary	2.13(d)	-138 (30 days before 1st day to file)	
July 4	Independence Day Holiday Note: Mandatory office hours not yet effective. See Endnote 6.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
July 6	Recommended* period to obtain forms: candidate's application for place on ballot, appointment of campaign treasurer (candidate and specific-purpose committee), report of contributions and expenditures (candidate-officeholder and specific-purpose committee), application for mail ballot, administrative forms, and precinct forms.	City Secretary	5.31	*-121	
July 6 to July 28	Recommended* period to review M §1.62 for possible action: Steps 1-5 (revising election precincts, designating polling places, changing method of voting, and contracting, if any) and Step 12 (establishing or changing terms of election judges).	City Secretary and City Council	1.62 5.42 5.21 5.11 7.42	*-121 through *-99	
July 15	LAST DAY for timely filing of semi-annual report of contributions and expenditures.	City Secretary	3.12(b) 3.16	July 15	
July 19	FIRST DAY for filing application for place on general election ballot (SOS Form 2-49). Note: The first day does not move despite Saturday. Office hours not required. Filing for a general election may occur before the election is ordered (as opposed to a special election). Periods ends at 5 p.m., ED -78 days.	City Secretary	2.13(a)	-108 (30 days before filing deadline)	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
July 19	FIRST DAY for filing declaration of write-in candidacy (SOS Form 2-55). Note: Period ends at 5 p.m. ED -74 days.	City Secretary	2.18(b)	-108	
July 24 to Aug. 18	Recommended* period and statutory deadline for ordering a general election (SOS Form 1-2). Note: There is no statutory “first day;” avoid confusion and wait until after the prior election and runoff. Sometimes the phrase “calling election” is used. The deadline may be different for a special election on a measure. See endnote 2 for mock student elections. Home-rule cities see endnote 3. Cities contracting should informally notify their contracting partners as soon as possible.	Mayor	6.03	*-103 through -78	
Aug. 6	LAST DAY for small city in small county to apply for exception to accessibility requirements (SOS Form 16-1).	City Secretary	5.25(c)(3)	-90	
Aug. 15 midnight	Death and ballot preparation: If a candidate dies on or before this date, the City Secretary MUST remove the candidate’s name from ballot. Note: If a candidate dies after this date but on or before the filing deadline, see endnote 4.	City Secretary	6.23(c)	-81	
Aug. 18	LAST DAY for ordering a general (SOS Form 1-2) or special election (SOS Form 1-8) for Nov. Note: See endnote 2 for mock student elections. Home-rule cities see endnote 3.	Mayor	6.03 12.03(e)(2)	-78	
Aug. 18 5 p.m.	LAST DAY for filing application for place on a general election ballot (SOS Form 2-49). Note: City Secretary’s office should stay open until 5 p.m. Mailed applications are filed on receipt. A home-rule charter may not change this date. For deceased candidates, see endnote 4. If no candidate has filed in a city with four-year terms, the filing deadline is extended to ED -57 (except in Nov. of even-numbered years).	City Secretary	2.13(b) 2.14 6.23(c)	-78	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Aug. 18	Recommended* last day for notice designating election precincts and polling places. Note: These are likely to match the county's locations in a November election.	City Council	5.42(d)	*-78	
Aug. 18	Recommended* first day to provide 4-day notice of drawing to candidate. Note: Only written notice by mail is required 4 days before the drawing, but phone or email notice should follow the same timeline. Public notice must be posted (SOS Form 3-1) 72 hours before date of drawing.	City Secretary	6.22(a)(2)	*-78	
Aug. 21	Recommended* first day for preliminary work to appoint election judges.	City Secretary	7.01	*-75	
Aug. 21	Recommended* first day to post public's 72-hour notice of drawing for order of names on ballot (SOS Form 3-1).	City Secretary	6.22(a)(1)	*-75	
Aug. 22 5 p.m.	LAST DAY for a write-in candidate to declare candidacy in the general election (SOS Form 2-55). Note: City Secretary's office should stay open until 5 p.m. Mailed applications are filed when received. For deceased candidates, see endnote 4.	City Secretary	2.18(b) 2.18(c)	-74	
Aug. 23	Recommended* date to deliver the certification of unopposed candidates to city council if a candidate does not have an opponent in an election considered to be a separate election (SOS Form 13-1).	City Secretary	6.12	*-73	
Aug. 24 to Aug. 28	Recommended* period to conduct drawing for order of names on ballot, prepare ballot format, and send it to the printer. Note: Notice of drawing (SOS Form 3-1) must be posted 72 hours before drawing. Ask candidates to proof their names and offices.	City Secretary	6.22(b) 6.25 6.26	*-72 through *-68	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Aug. 25 5 p.m.	LAST DAY for omitting a general election candidate's name from the ballot if the candidate withdraws (SOS Form 2-66) or is declared ineligible. Note: City Secretary's office should stay open until 5 p.m. A withdrawal submitted after this date is valid if it is submitted before the ballots are prepared AND if the public notice of the logic and accuracy test has not been published. Per EC §145.092(e), EC §1.006 does not apply to withdrawal deadlines. NEW LAW: SB 2166 (2025) requires L&A testing at least 48 days before election day and notice posted at least 48 hours before then.	City Secretary	2.31(b) 2.31(c)	-71	
Aug. 25	Recommended* first day to cancel (SOS Form 13-2). Note: Unopposed races must be cancelled if no opposed at-large race is on the ballot.	City Council	6.13	*-71	
Aug. 27	LBJ Day Holiday Note: Mandatory office hours not yet effective. See Endnote 6.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
Sept. 1	Labor Day Holiday Note: Mandatory office hours not yet effective. See Endnote 6.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
Sept. 5 to Nov. 4	Ethics Commission will defer an investigation of candidates until after election (or runoff).	City Secretary Texas Ethics Commission	3.01(b)(2)	-60 through ED or runoff	
Sept. 5	LAST DAY to deliver notice of the election to the county clerk and voter registrar of each county where the city is located. Note: This is not the publication or posting deadline. For counties with elections administrators, notice goes to them.	City Council (City Secretary)	6.54(a)	-60	
Sept. 5	Recommended* day to contact the county to get the initial list of voters who have submitted annual applications for ballot by mail (ABBM).	City Secretary	9.43	*-60	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Sept. 8	Extended deadline to file for a place on the ballot in a city office having 4-year terms if no candidate files by ED -78 days. Note: This extension is not applicable in Nov. of even-numbered years.	City Secretary	2.13(b)	-57	
Sept. 11 to Sept. 22	Recommended* period for appointing election judges (SOS Forms 4-15, 4-16, 4-17) plus members of the EVBB (SOS Forms 4-19) and SVC (SOS Form 10-12, 10-13, 10-14). Note: Home-rule cities see endnote 3. The SVC cannot meet until ED – 20 days. The EVBB can meet any time after ballots are returned and no later than ED – 9 days.	Mayor City Council Early Voting Clerk City Secretary	7.42(a)(2) 7.23-.24 7.33-.34	*-54 through *-43	
Sept. 14	Recommended* date to print ballots that have been prepared earlier.	City Secretary	6.25	*-51	
Sept. 15	FIRST DAY for mandatory office hours. Note: City Secretary must keep office open for at least 3 hours a day during regular office hours on regular business days. Period ends ED +40 days. See endnote 6.	City Secretary	6.80(a)	-50	
Sept. 15	LAST DAY for a challenge of a candidate application based on form, content, and procedure.	City Secretary	2.16(d)	-50	
Sept. 16	National Voter Registration Day. Note: Not a holiday recognized by the EC.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
Sept. 17	LAST DAY to conduct logic & accurate testing and test any automatic tabulating equipment used in a central counting station or polling place. Note: NEW LAW SB 2166 (2025). If testing cannot be done by this date, the SOS must be notified. Expect changes to SOS Forms 15-1 to 15-8. Notice for testing equipment must be posted on the city's website at least 48 hours before testing begins. Tabulators used in a central counting station must be tested again before and after each use.	City Secretary	6.63(d)(1) 6.63(d)(2) 6.64(c)	-48	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Sept. 20	<p><i>LAST DAY to mail ballots to FCPA voters and other voters who are eligible for early voting because they are voting from outside the United States. Note: If it is not possible to mail these ballots by this deadline, the City Secretary must notify SOS within 24 hours. SOS does not apply EC §1.006 to this deadline. Respond to FPCA applications received after this date within 7 days (the same as non-FPCA applications). Rosters must be posted to city website by 11 a.m. on the following day (SOS Forms 5-7 & 6-55).</i></p>	City Secretary	9.49(b) 9.81	-45	
Oct. 5	<p>FIRST DAY to begin posting continuous notice if SVC meets on first available date (ED – 20 days). Note: The first day is not extended if it falls on a weekend. The city council appoints (SOS Form 10-13) not later than 5 days after the City Secretary calls for appointment (SOS Forms 10-12). Post notice of appointment (SOS Form 10-14), notice of delivery (SOS Form 10-15), and notice of meeting (SOS Form 10-16).</p>	City Secretary	6.70(a) 7.33 7.34	-30	
Oct. 5	<p>Recommended* last day to request voter registrar to prepare lists of registered voters and furnish statement of residence forms to be used in conducting the election.</p>	City Secretary	4.34(a)	*-30	
Oct. 5	<p>Recommended* day to begin posting the notice of voting order priority on the city's website (SOS Form 7-38).</p>	City Secretary	10.23(c)	*-30	
Oct. 5 to Oct. 25	<p>Period for publishing notice of election (SOS Form 1-14). Note: Must be published at least once; perhaps more for a special election on a measure. The city attorney may apply EC §1.006 to publication deadlines, but SOS does not. Home-rule cities see endnote 3.</p>	Mayor	6.52(a)	-30 through -10	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Oct. 6 5 p.m. or midnight	LAST DAY for filing first report of campaign contributions and expenditures by opposed candidates and specific-purpose committees (commonly called the “30-day Report”). Note: Because the deadline falls on Sun., it moves to Mon. City Secretary’s office should stay open until 5 p.m. The deadline is extended to midnight for electronic filing. See endnote 5 for current threshold dollar amounts.	City Secretary	3.13(b)	-30	
Oct. 6	LAST DAY for submitting voter registration application in time to vote at the election or for requesting transfer of registration in time to vote in new precinct not in the same county and territory. Note: Because the deadline falls on Sun., it moves to Mon.	Registrar	4.07(f) 4.07(g)	-30	
Oct. 13	Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day Note: Mandatory office hours are in effect; see endnote 6.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
Oct. 14 to Nov. 4 at midnight	LAST DAY for posting notice of election (SOS Form 1-14) on the bulletin board used for posting notices of city council meetings and website. Note: For cities conducting special elections on measures, additional posting and publication requirements may apply. Home-rule cities see endnote 3.	City Secretary	6.52(a) 12.15(e)	-21 through ED	
Oct. 15	Type B cities: LAST DAY to post notice of election in 3 public places (SOS Form 1-14). Note: EC §1.006 does not apply to this LGC deadline.	City Secretary	6.52(b)(3)	-20	
Oct. 15	<i>FIRST DAY SVC may begin work.</i> Note: EC §1.006 does not apply to the starting date. EC §87.0271 requires SVC to inform voters of certain defects in the carrier envelope within 2 days of identification (SOS Forms 10-28 to 10-32).	Signature Verification Committee	6.70(a) 6.72	-20	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Oct. 15	<i>LAST DAY for unregistered FPCA applicant to apply and be eligible to vote a full ballot.</i>	City Secretary	9.61(b) 9.68(a)	-20	
Oct. 16 to Oct. 24	<i>Period when unregistered FPCA applicants receive a federal ballot only.</i> Note: This may mean that no ballot is sent.	City Secretary	9.61 9.68	-19 to -11	
Oct. 20	<i>FIRST DAY for early voting by personal appearance.</i> Note: Because the deadline falls on Sat., it moves to Mon. by operation of EC §85.005(a). Rosters must be posted by 11 a.m. on the day after voting. Period ends ED -4 days. If voting will be conducted on a Sat. or Sun., notice of same must be posted at least 72 hours before such voting begins. Early voting in May is ED -12 days.	City Secretary	9.14	-17	
Oct. 20	<i>LAST DAY to accept an FPCA without a postmark and mail the voter a full ballot.</i> Note: The voter only gets a federal ballot if checking “my intent to return is uncertain” or “my return is uncertain.”	City Secretary	9.66(b)	-15	
Oct. 20	LAST DAY for notifying judges of duty to hold the election (SOS Form 4-17).	Mayor	7.44(a)	-15	
Oct. 20	LAST DAY to challenge write-in candidate for form, content, and procedure.	City Secretary	2.18(f)	-15	
Oct. 23	<i>FIRST DAY a voter who becomes sick, disabled, or confined due to childbirth on or after this date may apply for late (emergency) early voting ballot (SOS Form 5-32.</i> Note: Period ends at 5 p.m. on ED. For uniform election dates, the calculation is ED – 12 days, but for other elections, the period starts the day before the last day to apply for a ballot by mail.	Voter’s Agent & EVC	9.72(a)	-12	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Oct. 24 later of noon or close of business	<i>LAST DAY to accept applications for a ballot to be voted by mail, by 12 noon or close of business, whichever is later.</i> Note: If the deadline falls on a Sat., Sun., or legal holiday, then personal delivery must be the first regular business day preceding that day. Originals are due 4 days after fax or email (except emailed FCPA).	City Secretary	9.44(b)(1) 9.45(b-c) 9.68(a)	-11	
Oct. 24	<i>LAST DAY to accept an FPCA.</i> Note: The unregistered FPCA voter may only get a federal ballot, which may mean no ballot.	City Secretary	9.61 9.68(a, c)	-11	
Oct. 24	<i>LAST DAY for county clerk or elections administrator to deliver final list of voters that submitted an annual ABBM.</i>	City Secretary	9.43(a)(2)	-11	
Oct. 25	LAST DAY to publish notice of election. Note: The city attorney may apply EC §1.006 to publication deadlines, but SOS does not. Home-rule cities see endnote 3.	Mayor	6.52(a)	-10	
Oct. 27	<i>If the EVBB has not yet met, it must do so by this date.</i> Note: Because the deadline falls on a Sun., it moves to Mon. While the date the EVBB meets is now uniform regardless of county population, the EVBB may not count ballots until after the end of early voting by personal appearance unless there is a joint election in a county with population of 100,000 or more. 24-hour notice must be posted for each delivery of voting materials made before election day (SOS Forms 10-3 & 10-4). The board must provide notice of opportunity to cure certain defects in the carrier envelope within 2 days of identifying the deficiency (SOS Form 10-32).	Early Voting Ballot Board	9.57(a)(2) 10.03	-9	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Oct. 27 5 p.m. or midnight	LAST DAY for filing second report of campaign contributions and expenditures by 5 p.m. or midnight if filing electronically. Note: See endnote 5 for current monetary thresholds. Reports must be posted to the city's website no later than 10 business days after receipt..	City Secretary	3.13(c)	-8	
Oct. 30	<i>FIRST DAY for death in family to qualify for late (emergency) early voting (SOS Forms 5-28 & 5-29).</i> Note: While the death occurs on or after the day before the last day of early voting by personal appearance, the application cannot be submitted until the day after early voting by personal appearance ends. Voting by this method ends close of business the day before election day.	City Secretary	9.73(a)	-5	
Oct. 31	<i>LAST DAY of regular early voting by personal appearance.</i>	City Secretary	9.11(b)	-4	
Oct. 31 to Nov. 4 7 p.m.	<i>Once early voting by personal appearance is over until 7 p.m. on ED, early voting materials may be delivered to the EVBB for qualifying purposes if paper ballots are used or if automatically tabulated ballots are used at a central counting station (CCS).</i> Note: Ballots may not be counted until election day unless the election is held jointly with a county of 100,000 or more. Post notice of delivery continuously 24 hours before each delivery (SOS Forms 10-3 & 10-4). NEW LAW: SB 2166 (2025) requires testing before and after use of automatic tabulating equipment at CCS.	City Secretary Early Voting Ballot Board	9.57(a)(1) 9.57(a)(3)	-4 through close of polls on ED	
Nov. 1 to Nov. 3	<i>Period to apply for late (emergency) early voting because of death in family (SOS Forms 5-28 & 5-29).</i> Note: Requires absence from county on election day.	City Secretary	9.73(a)	-3 to -1	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Nov. 1 to Nov. 4	<i>Period to apply for late (emergency) early voting because of illness or disability originating on or after ED -12 days (SOS Form 5-32). Note: Application deadline ends at 5 p.m., but ballot can be returned until 7 p.m.</i>	City Secretary	9.72(b)	-3 through ED	
Nov. 2	Daylight savings time ends.	–	–	1st Sun. in Nov.	
Nov. 3	<i>LAST DAY to deliver precinct list of registered voters, with the early voting voters marked, to presiding judges and recommended* date for delivery of supplies to presiding judges.</i>	City Secretary	9.82(e)	-1	
Nov. 3	One-year deadline to post certain candidacy information on the city's website. Note: See endnote 1 (item 4).	City Secretary	2.13(d)(2)	Nov. 3, 2026 – 365 days	
Nov. 3	Recommended* date for delivery of equipment to polling places. Note: The statutory deadline is 6 a.m. on election day.	City Secretary	6.65(b)	*-1	
Nov. 3	Recommended* date to post notice of council meeting to canvass the returns if canvass will be on 3rd day after election. Note: Notice must be posted at least 72 hours before time of meeting.	City Secretary	11.13	*-1	
Nov. 4 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.	ELECTION DAY. <i>Note: Early voting clerk's office must remain open for early voting activities.</i> Voting by sick or disabled voters may occur at the main early voting place where electronic voting systems are used at precinct polling place (SOS Form 6-57).	City Secretary	ch 10 10.13(c)(1)	ED	
Nov. 4	<i>Deliver early voting ballots, etc., to EVBB.</i> Note: Second key to ballot box is delivered by chief of police or marshal.	City Secretary Judge EVBB (sets time)	10.13(c)(1) 9.57(b)(1)	ED	
Nov. 4 5 p.m.	<i>LAST HOUR for late applications for ballots (SOS Form 5-32) from voters who became ill or disabled on or after ED -12 days.</i> Note: Can still receive ballot until ED 7 p.m.	City Secretary	9.72(b)	ED	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Nov. 4 7 p.m.	<i>LAST HOUR for receiving ballots from voters who became ill or disabled ill or disabled on or after ED -12 days.</i>	City Secretary	9.72(b)	ED	
Nov. 4 7 p.m.	<i>LAST HOUR to receive mailed ballots with no postmark, except overseas and armed forces ballots and certain ballots placed for delivery before this deadline. Note: Check mailbox at 7 pm regardless of regular delivery schedule. See deadline ED +1 day.</i>	City Secretary	9.50(a)	ED	
Nov. 4 after 7 p.m.	Receive precinct records, voted ballots, etc. Note: Chief of police or marshal receives keys to ballot boxes containing voted ballots.	City Secretary Mayor	10.13(c) 10.32(d)	ED	
Nov. 4 after 7 p.m.	Prepare unofficial tabulation of results. Note: Presiding judge must notify city secretary if counting will not be complete by 2 a.m.	City Secretary	10.34 10.32(b)	ED	
Nov. 5 5 p.m.	<i>LAST DAY to receive mailed ballots if the carrier envelope arrives before 5 p.m. and has a cancellation mark indicating it was placed for delivery at or before 7 p.m. local time for the place of election. Note: This deadline applies to voters who applied for a ballot by mail and cast a by-mail ballot from within the U.S. Check your mailbox at 5 p.m.</i>	City Secretary	9.50(a)	+1	
Nov. 5	LAST DAY to deliver provisional ballots to voter registrar of each county in which city is located.	City Secretary	10.30(a)(2)	+1	
Nov. 7 to Nov. 15	<i>Recommended* period to complete report of early votes cast for each candidate or measure, by election precinct. Note: must occur before canvass.</i>	City Secretary	11.04(b)	*+3 through *+11	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Nov. 7 to Nov. 18	Period for official canvass. Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TIMING: canvass may occur only if all FPCA and provisional ballots have been counted, and there are no deficiencies in mailed ballot carrier envelopes. ● PERIOD: 11 days except even Novembers (14 days). ● QUORUM: 2 but see runoff note. ● WINNER: cannot assume office (accept Type A cities) until canvass & oaths. ● PIA: images of voted ballots or cast vote records are publicly available the day after the canvass. See SOS Advisory 2025-20 for redaction guidance. ● RECOUNTS: petition is due 2 p.m. 1st day (expedited) or 5 p.m. 3rd day after canvass. ● RUNOFF (not a tie): order the runoff not later than 5 days after the canvass. It is recommended that the runoff be ordered and notice issued at the canvass meeting (which would require a normal quorum). 	Mayor (sets time) City Secretary (records results) City Council (takes action)	11.12 6.72	+3 through +14	
Nov. 7 to Nov. 18	After canvass, recommended* period to issue certificates of election (SOS Form 23-1), official statement of elected officer (SOS Form 23-3), and oath of office (SOS Form 23-2). Note: If a recount is requested documents are not issued until after the recount.	Mayor City Secretary	11.20 11.21	*+3 through *+14	
Nov. 7 to Nov. 25	Period for partial manual count of electronically counted ballots. Note: This must begin no later than 72 hours after the polls close on ED and be completed by ED +21.	City Secretary	11.31	+3 through +21	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Nov. 10	Type A cites: FIRST DAY elected officials may qualify and assume duties of office. Note: LGC §22.006 states 5th day after election not counting Sun. The resulting day is the 6th day after. Officials may not take office until the canvass is complete unless the election was cancelled. EC §1.006 does not apply to LGC.	Candidate with City Secretary	11.23(a)	+6 Doesn't move	
Nov. 10	<i>LAST DAY to receive a ballot from military or non-military voters casting from outside the U.S. who submitted an ABBM, IF cancellation mark indicates ballot was placed for delivery by 7 p.m. on ED.</i> Note: Because the date falls on Sun., the deadline moves to Mon. EC §1.006.	City Secretary	9.50(b)(1) 9.68 11.02	+5	
Nov. 10	<i>LAST DAY to receive an FPCA ballot from a member of the U.S. Armed Services, Merchant Marines, or a spouse or dependent of a member.</i> Note: NO cancellation or receipt mark showing date placed for delivery is required on these ballots.	City Secretary	9.50(b)(2) 9.68 11.02	+6	
Nov. 10	<i>LAST DAY for a vote-by-mail voter to cure certain deficiencies in the carrier envelope.</i> Note: Because the deadline falls on Veteran's Day, it moves to Tues. EC §1.006.	Voter	6.72	+6	
Nov. 10	LAST DAY for provisional voter to present ID to voter registrar or execute required affidavit.	Voter	11.01(d) 6.21(f) 9.26	+6	
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day Note: Mandatory office hours are in effect; see endnote 6.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
Nov. 11	<i>FIRST DAY a mailed ballot can be rejected if (1) the carrier envelope was not properly executed or is missing a statement of residence, and (2) the signatures do not match; provided the voter has been notified.</i> Note: EC §1.006 does not apply to first days.	Early Voting Ballot Board	6.72 11.03(a)	+7	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Nov. 13	LAST DAY for the EVBB to convene for counting the provisional ballots or any mail ballots timely and properly received after ED. Note: This deadline is the 13th day for elections in Nov. of even-numbered years.	Early Voting Ballot Board	11.01(b)	+9	
Nov. 13	Deadline to register for runoff election.	Voter	4.07(f-g)	Runoff -30	
Nov. 13 to Dec. 3	Period to publish notice of the runoff election. Note: The runoff must be ordered first. See note for the canvass period. SOS does not apply EC §1.006.	City Secretary	6.52(a)	Runoff -30 to -10	
Nov. 14	LAST DAY for presiding judge of EVBB to mail notices of rejected mail ballots to voters (SOS Form 6-2).	Judge of EVBB	11.03(a)	+10	
Nov. 14	LAST DAY for voter registrar to complete the review of provisional ballots. Note: The period is one day longer for elections in Nov. of even-numbered years	Voter Register	10.30(d)	+10	
Nov. 17 to Nov. 28	Period during which notice of outcome of provisional ballots (SOS Form 9-9) must be mailed to voters. Note: EC §1.006 arguably does not apply to a timeframe set by rule, 1 TAC 81.176(e).	Judge of EVBB or City Secretary	11.01(f)	Varies, by 10th day after canvass	
Nov. 19	Election records must be available in an electronic format no later than this day, for a fee of not more than \$50.00.	City Secretary	11.70(c)	+15	
Nov. 22	LAST DAY to post notice of the runoff. Note: SOS does not apply EC §1.006.	City Secretary	6.52	Runoff -21	
Nov. 25	LAST DAY for mailing results of manual count to secretary of state.	City Secretary	11.31(c)	+21	
Nov. 27	Thanksgiving Holiday Note: Mandatory office hours are in effect; see endnote 6.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
Nov. 28	Day after Thanksgiving Holiday Note: Mandatory office hours are in effect; see endnote 6.	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Dec. 1	FIRST DAY of early voting in person for the runoff. NOTE: Early voting cannot be split over Thanksgiving.	Voter	9.11	Runoff -17 days	
Dec. 2	LAST DAY to receive application for ballot by mail for the runoff election.	City Secretary	9.44(b)(1) 9.45(b-c) 9.68(b) chart		
Dec. 4	Type A cites: LAST DAY elected officials may qualify and assume duties of office; if they fail to qualify by this day, the office is considered vacant.	Candidate with City Secretary	11.23(a)	+30	
Dec. 9	LAST DAY of early voting in the runoff.	Voter	9.44	Runoff -11	
Dec. 13	RUNOFF ELECTION DAY	Voter	12.01(d)	Set by SOS	
Dec. 14	LAST DAY of mandatory office hours. Note: SOS does not apply EC §1.006.	City Secretary	6.80(a)	+40	
Dec. 15	LAST DAY to receive returned ballot by mail for runoff with a postmark on or before December 13, 2025.	City Secretary			
Dec. 19	LAST DAY to receive mailed ballots from FPCA voters	City Secretary			
Dec. 24	LAST DAY to canvass the runoff.	City Secretary			
Dec. 25	Christmas Holiday	EC	1.52, 6.80	n/a	
Dec. 31	NEW LAW: SB 1494 (2025) permits a city to move its general election to November in odd-numbered years no later than this date.	City Council	–	–	
Jan. 4 2026	FIRST DAY for transfer of voted ballots from the locked ballot box to another secure container. Note: EC §1.006 does not apply to the first day.	City Secretary	11.70(e)	+61	
Jan. 15 2026	LAST DAY for timely filing of semiannual report of contributions and expenditures.	City Secretary	3.12(b)	Jan. 15	
Dec. 31 2026	NEW LAW: HB 1620 (2025) allows certain cities to move their general elections to November by this date.	City Council	–	–	

Date	Action	By or With Whom Taken	M §	ED Interval	✓
Sept. 6 2027	LAST DAY of preservation period for ballots and other precinct election records, except for candidate applications. Note: Because the deadline falls on Sat., it moves to Mon.	City Secretary	11.71(c)	day after +22 months	
Nov. 4 2027	LAST DAY of preservation period for candidate applications and certain petitions.	City Secretary	11.71(d)	day after +2 years	

Endnotes

1. Any city imposing ad valorem property tax must have a website. [Tax §26.18] The following information must be posted on a city’s website [M §2.13(d)]: (1) the city’s contact information, including a mailing address, telephone number, and email address; (2) each elected officer; (3) the date and location of the next election for officers; (4) the requirements and deadline for filing for candidacy of each elected office for the next election (posted one year prior to the date of that election); (5) notice of city council meetings; and (6) minutes of city council meetings. A city with population of less than 5,000 located in a county with population of less than 25,000 does not have to post (5) and (6). [GC §2051.201].
2. The city’s governing body may choose to conduct a mock student election under EC §276.007. The major steps taken for a general election should be taken for a student election. The student election may be held on the first day before the election, but results must not be published until after the polls close on election day.
3. Follow home-rule city’s charter provision, if any. However, a home-rule city cannot alter the candidate filing deadline. [EC 143.005(a)].
4. If a candidate on the ballot dies on or before the filing deadline, the City Secretary MAY choose to remove the candidate from the ballot, in which case, the filing deadline is extended 5 days. If that extended filing deadline for filing falls on a weekend or holiday, it moves to the next business day. Withdrawal deadlines after the extended filing deadlines will be impacted.
5. See Texas Ethics Commission rules [1 TAC §18.31] for the full list of reporting triggers and dollar amounts. Typically, these amounts are updated in January, but TEC is launching a two-year program to completely revise the rules. The following is a summary of the most common amounts [M Ch. 3]:

Election Code §	Threshold Description	Original Amount	2024 Amount	2025 Amount
253.031(b)	<i>PAC: amount of contributions or expenditures permitted before appointment of treasurer is required.</i>	\$500	\$1,050	\$1,080
254.036	<i>Electronic Filing Exemption: amount at or below which a filer may qualify.</i>	\$20,000	\$32,810	\$33,910
254.095	<i>Local officeholders, contributions: amount over which reporting is required.</i>	\$500	\$1,080	\$1,010
254.181 254.182 254.183	<i>Candidate or specific-purpose PAC, modified reporting: contribution or expenditure amount at or below which filers may avoid pre-election reports.</i>	\$500	\$1,080	\$1,010

6. See M §1.52 and §6.80 regarding holidays, deadlines, and office hours. NEW LAW: HB 640 (2025) defines a “regular business day” as a day when the city’s main office is regularly open for business. The following are Election Code holidays *unless noted otherwise in italics*:

Holidays in 2025	Date	Day
New Year’s Day	January 1	Wed
Confederate Heroes Day	January 19	Sun
Martin Luther King Jr. Day. (3rd Monday in January)	January 20	Mon
Presidents’ Day/Washington’s Birthday (3rd Monday in February)	February 17	Mon
Texas Independence Day	March 2	Sun
<i>Cesar Chavez Day</i>	<i>March 31</i>	<i>Mon</i>
<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>April 18</i>	<i>Fri</i>
San Jacinto Day	April 21	Mon
Memorial Day (last Monday in May)	May 26	Mon
Emancipation Day/Juneteenth	June 19	Thu
Independence Day	July 4	Fri
Lyndon Bains Johnson Day	August 27	Wed
Labor Day (1st Monday in September)	September 1	Mon
<i>National Voter Registration Day</i>	<i>September 16</i>	<i>Tue</i>
<i>Yom Kippur</i>	<i>October 1</i>	<i>Wed</i>
Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day (2d Monday in October)	October 13	Mon
Veteran’s Day	November 11	Tue
Thanksgiving Day (4th Thursday in November)	November 27	Thu
Friday after Thanksgiving	November 28	Fri
<i>Day before Christmas (not an Election Code holiday)</i>	<i>December 24</i>	<i>Wed</i>
Christmas Day	December 25	Thu
<i>Day after Christmas (not an Election Code holiday)</i>	<i>December 26</i>	<i>Fri</i>