

MISSISSIPPI SECRETARY OF STATE

2011 ELECTIONS CALENDAR

ELECTIONS DIVISION 1-800-829-6786

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This calendar is for planning purposes only. Dates are subject to change or revision. Please refer to the proper citation in the Mississippi Code Annotated (Miss. Code Ann. (1972)), the Mississippi Constitution, Secretary of State Regulations, federal law, and other cited sources for more complete legal requirements of the calendar entries printed below. Contact the Secretary of State's Office for updates or further information.

Mississippi election officials are required by State and Federal law to perform certain duties. This calendar is intended to serve only as an informational tool for election officials and the general public. Omission of any date that requires action by election officials in the State of Mississippi does not relieve these officials of their obligations to perform these duties under the law.

JANUARY

1st Terms Begin: [Saturday] Circuit Court Judge, Chancery Court Judge, County Court Judge, Court of Appeals Judge, County School Board Member. (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 9-5-1, 9-7-1, 9-9-5, 9-4-5, 37-5-7 (1972)).

1st Candidate Qualifying Period Begins: This is the first day candidates may file qualifying papers and pay qualifying fees for elective offices in 2011. (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 23-15-299, 23-15-359 (1972)).

4th Legislature: Legislative session begins. ((Miss. Const.1890 §36 and Miss. Code Ann. 5-1-7 (1972)).

11th Purging: County Election Commissioners meet to purge rolls. (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-153(1)(a)).

24th Qualifying Deadline: Candidates in municipalities conducting Municipal School Board Trustee Elections must qualify by 5:00 pm. (Miss. Code Ann. §37-7-211 (1972)).

MARCH

1st Qualifying Deadline: The qualifying deadline for candidates running in the 2011 Primary and General Elections. **NOTE**: If the 2010 federal decennial census has not been received from the United States Secretary of Commerce by the Governor of the State of Mississippi by January 1, 2011, then the qualifying deadline for legislative offices shall be changed to 5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2011. (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-299, 23-15-359 (1972)).

3rd Candidate Lists: Deadline for the Secretary of State to receive from all political parties and Circuit Clerks a certified list of candidates qualifying for the 2011 Primary and General Elections, with mailing address and office sought. (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-296 (1972)).

5th Municipal School Trustee: Election for this office in some municipalities. (Miss. Code Ann. §37-7-215 (1972)).

19th Municipal School Trustee: Runoff election, where required, for this office in some counties. (Miss. Code Ann. 37-7-215 (1972)).

APRIL

3rd *Legislative Session Ends*: sine die. (Miss. Const.1890 §36)

MAY

10th Campaign Finance: All candidates and political committees must submit Periodic Reports by 5:00 p.m. on this date. All county candidates file their reports with the Circuit Clerk's Office in their respective counties. Statewide candidates, multi-county candidates, and all legislative candidates, including those in single county districts, must file reports with the Secretary of State's Office. (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-807 (1972)).

JUNE

1st Qualifying Deadline for Legislative Offices (if applicable): If the 2010 federal decennial census has not been received from the United States

Secretary of Commerce by the Governor of the State of Mississippi by January 1, 2011, then the qualifying deadline for legislative offices shall be changed from 5:00 p.m. on March 1, 2011 to 5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2011. (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-299 (1972)).

3rd Permanently Physically Disabled Voters List: Deadline for Circuit Clerks to deliver to the Election Commission the list of permanently physically disabled voters who receive absentee ballots automatically for the August 2nd Primary Election. The Election Commission is then charged with examining the roll for purposes of purging and maintenance. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-629(3) (1972)).

3rd Absentee Ballot Applications: Circuit clerks should have absentee ballot applications available for the August 2 Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-625 (1972)).

10th Campaign Finance: All candidates and political committees must submit Periodic Reports by 5:00 p.m. on this date. All county candidates file their reports with the Circuit Clerk's Office in their respective counties. Statewide candidates, multi-county candidates, and all legislative candidates, including those in single county districts, must file reports with the Secretary of State's Office. (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 23-15-805, 23-15-807 (1972)).

13th State Executive Committee: Deadline for state executive committee of each political party to furnish to each county executive committee the names of all state district candidates and a sample official ballot to be used in the August 2nd Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-331 (1972)).

18th Permanently Physically Disabled Voter List: Last day for the County Election Commission to return the purged permanent disabled voter list to the Circuit Clerk. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-629 (1972)).

18th Absentee Ballots: Earliest day to vote absentee in the Circuit Clerk's Office for the first Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-715 (1972)). Absentee ballots should be available for voting in the Primary Election. [Saturday]

23rd Permanently Physically Disabled Voters: Last day for the Circuit Clerk to mail absentee ballots to voters on the permanent physically disabled list. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-629(4) (1972)).

27-30th Voter Registration-Primary Elections: Circuit Clerks' Offices may remain open from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., including the noon hour. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-37 (1972)).

JULY

1st Voter Registration-Primary Election: Circuit Clerks' offices may remain open from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., including the noon hour. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-37 (1972)).

2nd Voter Registration-Primary Election: Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open this Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon for voter registration. Last day to register to vote for the Primary Election in the Circuit Clerk's Office. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-37 (1972)).

3rd Mail-in Voter Registration: [Sunday] Mail-in voter registration forms must be postmarked no later than 5:00 p.m. this date to be accepted for the Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-47 (1972)). (Note: Since many post offices are closed weekends, applicants should mail or deliver applications no later than July 2 to avoid missing this deadline.)

4th Purging: County Election Commissioners meet to purge rolls. (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-153(1)(c)).

8th Campaign Finance: All candidates and political committees must submit Periodic Reports by this date. All county candidates file their reports with the Circuit Clerk's Office in their respective counties. Statewide candidates, multi-county candidates, and all legislative candidates, including those in single county districts, must file reports with the Secretary of State's Office. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807 (1972)). Since this deadline actually falls on Sunday, July 10, it is moved to Friday, July 8. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(e) (1972)).

12th Pollworkers: Deadline for Executive Committee to appoint trainers to instruct pollworkers in use of voting machines for August 2nd Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-417 (1972)).

19th Appointment of Poll Managers: Last day for County Executive Committees to meet and appoint pollworkers for Primary Elections. (Miss.

Code Ann. § 23-15-265 (1972)).

23rd Absentee Voting: Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open until noon for absentee voting for the first Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-653 (1972)).

23rd Voter Registration – UOCAVA: Deadline for voter registration for a uniformed or overseas citizen who registers to vote utilizing a Federal Postcard Application or a Federal Write-In-Absentee Ballot (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-677(2) (1972)).

24th Campaign Finance- 48 Hour Reports: (Sunday, 12:01 a.m. through Sunday, July 31st, 12:01 a.m.): For all Primary election candidates. **Note**: If a candidate receives a contribution of more than \$200.00 after the tenth day, but more than forty-eight (48) hours before 12:01 a.m. on the day of the election, the candidate must fully disclose the contribution by filing a “Forty-Eight Hour Report” with the appropriate office designated in Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-805 (1972) within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of the contribution. The notification shall be in writing, and may be transmitted by overnight mail, courier service, or other reliable means, including electronic facsimile (FAX), but the candidate or candidate's committee shall ensure that the notification shall in fact be received in the appropriate office within forty-eight (48) hours of the contribution. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(f)(i)(ii) (1972)).

26th Campaign Finance Pre-Election Reports: All county candidates and political committees who have accepted contributions or made expenditures for the first Primary Election must file re-Election Reports with the Circuit Clerk. Statewide candidates, multi-county candidates, and all legislative candidates, including those in single county districts, and all political committees required to be registered with the Secretary of State's Office must file reports with the Secretary of State's Office by 5:00 p.m. this day. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(b)(i) (1972)).

28th Pollworker Training: Last day for County Executive Committee members to train poll workers for the August 2nd Primary Election. Notice of training must be announced to the general public five (5) days before the date upon which training session is to be conducted. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(b)(i) (1972)).

30th Absentee Voting: [Saturday] Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open until 12:00 noon for absentee voting for the first Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-653 (1972)). Today at 12:00 noon is the last day to vote by absentee in the Circuit Clerks' Offices for the first Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-715 (1972)).

AUGUST

1st Absentee Voting: [Monday] Mailed absentee ballots must be received by the Circuit Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. for the first Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-631 (1972)).

2nd **PRIMARY ELECTION**: Polls open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. for voting in the first Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-191 (1972)).

12th Tabulated Statement of Party Vote: Deadline for Executive Committee to transmit to the Secretary of State a tabulated statement of the party vote cast. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-599 (1972)).

13th Absentee Balloting (if applicable): [Saturday] Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open until noon today for absentee balloting for the second Primary Election on August 23rd. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-653 (1972)).

13th Voter Registration – UOCAVA: Deadline for voter registration for a uniformed or overseas citizen who registers to vote utilizing a Federal Postcard Application or a Federal Write-In-Absentee Ballot (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-677(2) (1972)).

14th **Campaign Finance 48 Hour Reports (if applicable)** (Sunday, 12:01 a.m. through Sunday, August 21, 12:01 a.m.): For all Primary Run-off Election Candidates. **NOTE**: If a candidate receives a contribution of more than \$200.00 after the tenth day, but more than forty-eight (48) hours before 12:01 a.m. on the day of the election, the candidate must fully disclose the contribution by filing a "Forty-Eight Hour Report" with the appropriate office designated in Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-805 (1972) within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of the contribution. The notification shall be in writing, and may be transmitted by overnight mail, courier service, or other reliable means, including electronic facsimile (FAX), but the candidate

or candidate's committee shall ensure that the notification shall in fact be received in the appropriate office within forty-eight (48) hours of the contribution. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(f)(i)(ii) (1972)).

16th Campaign Finance Pre-Election Reports (if applicable): All county candidates and political committees who have accepted contributions or made expenditures for the second Primary (Run-off) Election must file pre-election reports with the Circuit Clerk's Office. Statewide candidates, multi-county candidates, and all legislative candidates, including those in single county districts, and all political committees required to be registered with the Secretary of State's Office must file reports with the Secretary of State's Office, if participating in the run-off, by 5:00 p.m. (Miss Code Ann. § 23-15-807(b)(i) (1972)).

20th Absentee Balloting (if applicable): [Saturday] Circuit Clerk's Office must remain open until 12:00 noon today for absentee balloting for the second Primary (Runoff) Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-653 (1972)). Today at 12:00 noon is the deadline to vote absentee in the Circuit Clerk's Office for the second Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-631 & 715 (1972)).

22nd Absentee Voting (if applicable): [Monday] Mailed absentee ballots must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. for the second Primary Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-631 (1972)).

23rd PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION (if applicable): Polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the second Primary (Runoff) Election. (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15191 (1972)).

SEPTEMBER

2nd Tabulated Statement of Party Vote: Deadline for Executive Committee to transmit to the Secretary of State a tabulated statement of the party vote cast. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-599 (1972)).

9th Permanent Physically Disabled Voters: Last day for the Circuit Clerks to give the permanent physically disabled voter list to the Election Commission for purging prior to General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-629 (1972)).

9th Qualifying Deadline – County Special Elections: Last day for candidates in special elections to fill vacancies to qualify for the November 8th Special Election ballot. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-839 (1972)).

9th Absentee Ballot Applications: Circuit clerks should have absentee ballot applications available for the November 8 General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-625 (1972)).

14th Sample Ballot: The Secretary of State furnishes county Election Commissions with the sample of the official ballot for the November 8th General Election, containing the names of statewide and multi-county candidates and any statewide ballot issues. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-367 (1972)).

24th Absentee Ballots – UOCAVA: Deadline to transmit an absentee ballot to UOCAVA voters that have requested an absentee ballot. (42 U.S.C.A. §1973ff-1).

24th Permanently Disabled Voters: Deadline for Election Commission to return the list of permanently disabled voters to Circuit Clerk's Office for the November 8th General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-629(3) (1972)).

24th Absentee Balloting: Earliest day to vote absentee in the Circuit Clerk's Office for the November 8th General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-715 (1972)).

OCTOBER

3-7th Voter Registration – General Election: Circuit Clerks' Offices may remain open from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., including the noon hour. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-37 (1972)).

8th Voter Registration: [Saturday] Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open until 12:00 noon for voter registration for the General Election. This is the last day to register to vote in the Circuit Clerk's Office to be able to vote in the November 8th General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-37 (1972)).

9th Mail-in Voter Registration: [Sunday] Mail-in voter registration forms must be postmarked no later than this day to be accepted for the General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-47 (1972)). (Note: Since many post offices are closed on weekends, applicants should mail or deliver applications no later than October 7th to avoid missing this deadline.)

10th Campaign Finance: All candidates and political committees must submit Periodic Reports by 5:00 p.m. this day. All county candidates file their reports with the Circuit Clerk's Office in their respective counties. Statewide candidates, multi-county candidates, and all legislative candidates, including those in single county districts, must file reports with the Secretary of State's Office. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807 (1972)).

18th Pollworkers: Deadline for Election Commissioners to appoint trainers to instruct pollworkers in use of voting machines for the November 8th General Elections. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-417 (1972)).

29th Absentee Balloting: [Saturday] Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open until 12:00 noon this day for absentee voting for the General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-653 (1972)).

29th Voter Registration – UOCAVA: Deadline for voter registration for a uniformed or overseas citizen who registers to vote utilizing a Federal Postcard Application or a Federal Write-In-Absentee Ballot (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-677(2) (1972)).

30th Campaign Finance 48 Hour Reports (Sunday, 12:01 a.m. through Sunday, November 6, 12:01 a.m.) For all General & Special Election Candidates. **NOTE**: If a candidate receives a contribution of more than \$200.00 after the tenth day, but more than forty-eight (48) hours before 12:01 a.m. on the day of the election, the candidate must fully disclose the contribution by filing a "Forty-Eight Hour Report" with the appropriate office designated in Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-805 (1972) within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of the contribution. The notification shall be in writing, and may be transmitted by overnight mail, courier service, or other reliable means, including electronic facsimile (FAX), but the candidate or candidate's committee shall ensure that the notification shall in fact be received in the appropriate office within forty-eight (48) hours of the contribution. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(f)(i)(ii) (1972)).

NOVEMBER

1st Campaign Finance Pre-Election Reports: All county candidates and political committees who have accepted contributions or made expenditures for the first General Election must file Pre-Election Reports with the Circuit Clerk. Statewide candidates, multi-county candidates, and all legislative candidates, including those in single county districts, and all political committees required to be registered with the Secretary of State's Office must file reports with the Secretary of State's Office by 5:00 p.m. this day. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(b)(i) (1972)).

3rd Pollworker Training: Last day for Election Commissioners and Circuit Clerks to train pollworkers for the General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-239 (1972)).

5th Absentee Balloting: [Saturday] Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open until 12:00 noon for absentee voting for the General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-653 (1972)). Today at noon is the last day to vote by absentee ballot in the Circuit Clerk's Office for the General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-715 (1972)).

7th Absentee Voting: [Monday] Mailed absentee ballots must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. to be accepted for the General Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-631 (1972)).

8th GENERAL ELECTION: Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. for voting in the General Election. (§102 Miss. Const. of 1890).

8th REGULAR SPECIAL ELECTION DAY: Regular Special Election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-833 (1972)).

18th Canvass of Returns and Declaration of Results: Deadline for County Election Commissioners to canvass the returns, ascertain and declare results of the General Election and deliver certificates of elections to those elected. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-601 (1972)). No candidate shall be certified as elected to office unless all required campaign finance reports have been filed. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-811(1972)).

18th Delivery of Returns: Deadline for County Election Commissions to

transmit to the Secretary of State their counties' General Election returns, including: (1) certified recap sheets, (2) the electoral vote (which is the popular vote for the eight statewide offices by State House of Representatives district), and (3) the total number of votes cast in the county for each candidate. The certification of the election must be signed and dated by the majority of the commissioners of election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-603 (1972), §§ 140 and 143 of Miss. Const. of 1890).

19th Absentee Balloting (if applicable): [Saturday] Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open until 12:00 noon this day for absentee voting for the Special Election Run-off. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-653 (1972)). Today at noon is the last day to vote by absentee ballot in the Circuit Clerk's Office for the Special Election Runoff. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-715 (1972)).

19th Voter Registration – UOCAVA: Deadline for voter registration for a uniformed or overseas citizen who registers to vote utilizing a Federal Postcard Application or a Federal Write-In-Absentee Ballot (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-677(2) (1972)).

20th Campaign Finance 48 Hour Reports (Sunday, 12:01 a.m. through Sunday, November 27, 12:01 a.m.) For all Special Election Candidates. **NOTE:** If a candidate receives a contribution of more than \$200.00 after the tenth day, but more than forty-eight (48) hours before 12:01 a.m. on the day of the election, the candidate must fully disclose the contribution by filing a "Forty-Eight Hour Report" with the appropriate office designated in Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-805 (1972) within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of the contribution. The notification shall be in writing, and may be transmitted by overnight mail, courier service, or other reliable means, including electronic facsimile (FAX), but the candidate or candidate's committee shall ensure that the notification shall in fact be received in the appropriate office within forty-eight (48) hours of the contribution. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-807(f)(i)(ii) (1972)).

22nd Campaign Finance (if applicable): All county candidates and political committees who have accepted contributions or made expenditures for the Special Election Runoff, if such runoff is conducted, must file Pre-Election Reports with the Circuit Clerk. Multi-county candidates and all political committees required to be registered with the Secretary of State's Office must file reports with the Secretary of State's Office, if participating in such runoff election by 5:00 p.m. on this day. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-601

(1972)).

26th Absentee Balloting: [Saturday] Circuit Clerks' Offices must remain open until 12:00 noon today for absentee voting for the Special Election Run-off. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-653 (1972)). Today at 12:00 noon is the last day to vote by absentee ballot in the Circuit Clerk's Office for the Special Election Runoff. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-715 (1972)).

28th Absentee Voting: [Monday] Mailed absentee ballots must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. for the Special Election Runoff. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-631 (1972)).

29th **SPECIAL ELECTION RUNOFF (if required)**: Polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the second Special Election. (Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-833 (1972)).

30th Deadline for the Chairman of a party's State Executive Committee to notify the Secretary of State if the party intends to hold a presidential preference primary. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-1085 (1972)).

DECEMBER

8th Election Certification for November 8th General Election: Deadline for the Secretary of State to ascertain the results of the election for each office and declare each person duly elected. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-605 (1972)).

14th Purging: Deadline to systematically remove the names of ineligible voters from the official list of eligible voters for the March 13th Primary Election. (42 USC 1973gg-6(c)(2)(A)).

15th Residual Vote Report: Deadline for County Election Commission and party executive committees to provide the Secretary of State's Office with the Residual Vote Report. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-613 (1972)).

29th Elections Returns for Special Election Runoff (if necessary): Deadline for the Secretary of State to ascertain the results of the election for each office and declare each person duly elected. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-605 (1972)).