

2021 Idaho Election Calendar

Revised 12/04/2020

This edition of the 2021 Idaho Election Calendar is subject to amendatory changes during the 2021 session of the Idaho Legislature. If changes occur, an updated version will be published.

- Jan. 4 Election Register Examination: Deadline for county clerks to examine the election register, from the Nov. 3 election, and note challenges. [Sec. 34-432(1), Idaho Code]
- Jan. 15 Absentee Voter Report: Deadline for county clerks to submit report on General Election absentee voters to the secretary of state, as required by federal law. [34-1002, Idaho Code]
- Jan. 15 Early Voting Security Plan: Deadline for county clerks to submit their ballot security plan to the secretary of state. (*NOTE: The Early Voting Security Plan must be submitted at least 30 days prior to implementing an early voting plan.) [34-1013, Idaho Code]
- Jan. 19 Ballot Question Submission Deadline: School districts must supply ballot language (to the county clerk) for any bond or property tax levy questions — to be placed on the ballot — for the March 9 election. [34-106(8), Idaho Code]
- Jan. 22 Recall Notification Deadline: Political subdivisions must notify the county clerk if a recall election is ordered — for the March 9 election. [34-106(9), Idaho Code]
- Jan. 28 Voting Procedure Modifications: Deadline for county clerks to submit their plans to the secretary of state if they want to modify voting procedures (for a political subdivision) — for the March 9 election. [34-1413, Idaho Code]
- Jan. 28 Print Absentee Ballots: Last day for county clerk to print absentee ballots for the March 9 election. [Secretary of State Directive 2015-01]
- Feb. 8 Mail Absentee Ballots: County clerks must begin mailing absentee ballots — to voters who have requested absentee ballots — March 9 election. [Secretary of State Directive 2015-1]
- Feb. 9 Designate Polling Places: Deadline for county commissioners to designate polling places — for the March 9 election. [34-302, Idaho Code]
- Feb. 12 Preregistration Deadline: Voter registrations must be received by the county clerk — for the March 9 election. (Deadline is postmarked by this date for mailed paper applications, 5 p.m. for paper applications handed in to the county clerk’s office, or until midnight for online applications.) [34-408 and 34-410, Idaho Code]
- Feb. 16 Mail Ballot Precincts: County clerks may begin mailing ballots to voters located in designated mail ballot precincts — for the March 9 election. [34-308, Idaho Code]
- Feb. 22 Early Voting Must Begin: For the March 9 election in those counties that choose to conduct early voting. [34-1012, Idaho Code]
- Feb. 23 Mail Ballot Precincts: Deadline for county clerks to complete mailing ballots to voters in designated mail ballot precincts — for the March 9 election. [34-308, Idaho Code]
- Feb. 25 Poll Watchers: Deadline for pro and con representatives to submit a written request (to the county clerk) for the purpose of authorizing watchers to observe at polling places — for the March 9 election. [34-304, Idaho Code]
- Feb. 25 Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election — in the county’s official newspaper(s) — for the March 9 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [34-602 and 34-1406, Idaho Code]
- Feb. 26 Absentee Ballot Application Deadline: Applications must be received by the county clerk by 5 p.m. — for the March 9 election. [34-1002(7), Idaho Code]
- March 3 Voter Registration Cancellation: Last day for county clerk to cancel registration of those electors who have not voted in any election in the last four years. [34-435, Idaho Code]

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- March 4 Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the second notice of election — along with a facsimile sample ballot — for the March 9 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [§34-602 and §34-1406, Idaho Code]
- March 5 In-Person Absentee/Early Voting Ends: At 5 p.m. — for the March 9 election. [§34-1002(7) and §34-1012, Idaho Code]
- March 5-12 Publish Notification of Candidate Filing Deadline: County clerk (and city clerk, for municipal offices) must publish a notification of the candidate filing deadline for all taxing districts for which officers will be elected in the May 18 election — during this period. The notice should appear in the official newspaper of the political subdivision. [§34-1405 and §50-411, Idaho Code]
- March 9 Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: Voted absentee ballots must be received — by the county clerk — by 8 p.m. [§34-1005, Idaho Code]
- March 9 Election Day: Polling places — and the county clerk’s office — to be open 8 a.m.–8 p.m. (*County clerk may opt to open at 7 a.m.) Qualified individuals may register and vote at their designated polling place on election day. [§34-211, §34-408A, and §34-1101, Idaho Code]
- March 10 Voter Registration Reopens [§34-408, Idaho Code]
- March 19 Nonpartisan Candidate Filing Deadline: Petitions must be filed by 5 p.m. — with the clerk of the political subdivision — to nominate political subdivision candidates — for the May 18 election. [§34-1404, Idaho Code]
- March 19 County Canvass: Deadline for the board of county commissioners to meet and conduct the canvass — of the March 9 election. [§34-1205 and §34-1410, Idaho Code]
- March 19* County Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results of the March 9 election to the clerk of the political subdivision(s). (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the canvass.) [§34-1410, Idaho Code]
- March 26 Nonpartisan Nominee Certification: Deadline for the clerk of the political subdivision to certify nominees — to be placed on the ballot — for the May 18 election. [§34-1404, Idaho Code]
- March 26 Nonpartisan Write-In Candidates: Deadline for write-in candidates to file a declaration of intent with the clerk of the political subdivision for the May 18 election. [§34-1407, Idaho Code]
- March 29 Ballot Question Submission Deadline: Political subdivisions must submit ballot language (to the county clerk) for any bond, levy, initiative, referendum, or other question — to be placed on the ballot — for the May 18 election [§34-106, Idaho Code]
- April 2 Candidate Withdrawal Deadline: Last day nonpartisan candidates can withdraw from the May 18 election. [§34-1405A, Idaho Code]
- April 2 Recall Notification Deadline: Political subdivisions must notify the county clerk if a recall election is ordered — for the May 18 election. [§34-106(9), Idaho Code]
- April 5* Early Voting Security Plan: Deadline for county clerks to submit their ballot security plan to the secretary of state. (*NOTE: The Early Voting Security Plan must be submitted at least 30 days prior to implementing an early voting plan.) [§34-1013, Idaho Code]
- April 8* Recount Applications: Deadline — for supporters or opponents of a ballot measure — to apply to the county clerk for a recount of the March 9 election. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days of the canvass). [§34-2301, Idaho Code]
- April 8* Election Disputes: Deadline for electors to contest the results of the March 9 election. (*This date may vary; complaints must be filed in the proper court within 20 days of the county canvass.) [§34-2008, Idaho Code]

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- April 8 Voting Procedure Modifications: Deadline for county clerks to submit their plans to the secretary of state; if they want to modify voting procedures (for a political subdivision) — for the May 18 election. [[§34-1413](#), Idaho Code]
- April 16 Designate Polling Places: Deadline for county commissioners to designate polling places — for the May 18 election. [[§34-302](#), Idaho Code]
- April 19 Mail Absentee Ballots: County clerks must begin mailing absentee ballots — to voters who have requested absentee ballots — for the May 18 election. [Secretary of State Directive [2015-1](#)]
- April 23 Preregistration Deadline: Voter registrations must be received by the county clerk — for the May 18 election. (Deadline is postmarked by this date for mailed paper applications, 5 p.m. for paper applications handed in to the county clerk’s office, or until midnight for online applications.) [[§34-408](#) and [§34-410](#), Idaho Code]
- April 26 Mail Ballot Precincts: County clerks may begin mailing ballots to voters located in designated mail ballot precincts — for the May 18 election. [[§34-308](#), Idaho Code]
- April 30* Initiative Signature Deadline: Last day to circulate initiative petitions for signatures. (*This date may vary; the deadline can’t extend past the 18-month circulation period. [[§34-1802\(1\)](#), Idaho Code]
- May 1* Initiative Submission Deadline: Last day to submit signed petitions to the county clerk (by the close of business) for verification. (*This date may vary; the deadline can’t extend past the 18-month circulation period. [[§34-1802\(2\)](#), Idaho Code]
- May 3 Early Voting Must Begin: For the May 18 election in those counties that choose to conduct early voting. [[§34-1012](#), Idaho Code]
- May 4 Mail Ballot Precincts: Deadline for county clerks to complete mailing ballots to voters in designated mail ballot precincts — for the May 18 election. [[§34-308](#), Idaho Code]
- May 6 Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election — in the county’s official newspaper(s) — for the May 18 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [[§34-602](#) and [§34-1406](#), Idaho Code]
- May 6 Poll Watchers: Deadline for candidates and pro and con representatives to submit a written request (to the county clerk) for the purpose of authorizing watchers to observe at polling places — for the May 18 election. [[§34-304](#), Idaho Code]
- May 7 Election Register Examination: Deadline for county clerks to examine the election register, from the March 9 election, and note challenges. [[§34-432\(1\)](#), Idaho Code]
- May 7 Absentee Ballot Application Deadline: Applications must be received by the county clerk by 5 p.m. — for the May 18 election. [[§34-1002\(7\)](#), Idaho Code]
- May 13 Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the second notice of election — along with a facsimile sample ballot — for the May 18 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [[§34-602](#) and [§34-1406](#), Idaho Code]
- May 13 Emergency Absentee Ballots: County clerks may receive emergency absentee ballot applications from this date through 5 p.m. on May 18 from those who cannot be present for voting due to hospitalization if hospitalization began after 5 p.m. on May 7. [[§34-1002A](#), Idaho Code]
- May 14 In-Person Absentee/Early Voting Ends: At 5 p.m. — for the May 18 election. [[§34-1002\(7\)](#) and [§34-1012](#), Idaho Code]
- May 18 Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: Voted absentee ballots must be received — by the county clerk — by 8 p.m. [[§34-1005](#), Idaho Code]

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- May 18 Election Day: Polling places — and the county clerk’s office — to be open 8 a.m.–8 p.m. (*County clerk may opt to open at 7 a.m.) Qualified individuals may register and vote at their designated polling place on election day. [§34-211, §34-408A, and §34-1101, Idaho Code]
- May 19 Voter Registration Reopens. [§34-408, Idaho Code]
- May 28 County Canvass: Deadline for the board of county commissioners to meet and conduct the canvass — of the May 18 election. [§34-1410, Idaho Code]
- May 28* Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results — of the May 18 election — to the clerk of the political subdivision(s). (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the county canvass.) [§34-1410, Idaho Code.]
- May 28* Election Certificates: Deadline for the clerk of the political subdivision to issue certificates of election. (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the canvass, the deadline for which is May 28.)
- June 17* Recount Applications: Deadline — for candidates and supporters/opponents of a ballot measure, excluding county ballot measures — to apply to the county clerk for a recount of the May 18 election. Applications for a recount of county ballot measures must be filed with the Attorney General. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days of the county canvass). [§34-2301, Idaho Code]
- June 17* Election Disputes: Deadline for electors to contest the results of the May 18 election. (*This date may vary; complaints must be filed in the proper court within 20 days of the county canvass. [§34-2008, Idaho Code]
- July 12 Ballot Question Submission Deadline: School districts must supply ballot language (to the county clerk) for any bond or property tax levy questions — to be placed on the ballot — for the Aug. 31 election. [§34-106, Idaho Code]
- July 16 Election Register Examination: Deadline for county clerks to examine the election register, from the May 18 election, and note challenges. [Sec. 34-432(1), Idaho Code]
- July 16 Recall Notification Deadline: Political subdivisions must notify the county clerk if a recall election is ordered — for the Aug. 31 election. [§34-106(9), Idaho Code]
- July 19* Early Voting Security Plan: Deadline for county clerks to submit their ballot security plan to the secretary of state. (*NOTE: The Early Voting Security Plan must be submitted at least 30 days prior to implementing an early voting plan.) [§34-1013, Idaho Code]
- July 22 Voting Procedure Modifications: Deadline for county clerks to submit their plans to the secretary of state; if they want to modify voting procedures (for a political subdivision) — for the Aug. 31 election. [§34-1413, Idaho Code]
- July 30 Designate Polling Places: Deadline for county commissioners to designate polling places — for the Aug. 31 election. [§34-302, Idaho Code]
- Aug. 2 Mail Absentee Ballots: County clerks to begin mailing absentee ballots — to voters who have requested absentee ballots — for the Aug. 31 election. [Secretary of State Directive 2015-1]
- Aug. 6 Preregistration Deadline: Voter registrations must be received by the county clerk — for the Aug. 31 election. (Deadline is postmarked by this date for mailed paper applications, 5 p.m. for paper applications handed in to the county clerk’s office, or until midnight for online applications.) [§34-408 and §34-410, Idaho Code]
- Aug. 9 Mail Ballot Precincts: County clerks may begin mailing ballots to voters located in designated mail ballot precincts — for the Aug. 31 election. [§34-308, Idaho Code]
- Aug. 16 Early Voting Must Begin: For the August 31 election in those counties that choose to conduct early voting. [§34-1012, Idaho Code]
- Aug. 17 Mail Ballot Precincts: Deadline for county clerks to complete mailing ballots to voters in designated mail ballot precincts — for the Aug. 31 election. [§34-308, Idaho Code]

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- Aug. 19 Poll Watchers: Deadline for pro and con representatives to submit a written request (to the county clerk) for the purpose of authorizing watchers to observe at polling places — for the Aug. 31 election. [[§34-304](#), Idaho Code]
- Aug. 19 Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election — in the county’s official newspaper(s) — for the Aug. 31 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [[§34-602](#) and [§34-1406](#), Idaho Code]
- Aug. 20 Absentee Ballot Application Deadline: Applications must be received by the county clerk by 5 p.m. — for the Aug. 31 election. [[§34-1002\(7\)](#), Idaho Code]
- Aug. 20 - 27 Publish Notification of Candidate Filing Deadline: County clerk (and city clerk, for municipal offices) must publish a notification of the candidate filing deadline for all taxing districts for which officers will be elected in the Nov. 2 election — during this period. The notice should appear in the official newspaper of the political subdivision. [[§34-1405](#) and [§50-411](#), Idaho Code]
- Aug. 26 Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the second notice of election — along with a facsimile sample ballot — for the Aug. 31 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [[§34-602](#) and [§34-1406](#), Idaho Code]
- Aug. 26 Emergency Absentee Ballots: County clerks may receive emergency absentee ballot applications from this time through 5 p.m. on August 30 from those who cannot be present for voting due to hospitalization if hospitalization began after 5 p.m. on August 20. [[§34-1002A](#), Idaho Code]
- Aug. 27 In-Person Absentee/Early Voting Ends: At 5 p.m. — for the Aug. 31 election. [[§34-1002\(7\)](#) and [§34-1012](#), Idaho Code]
- Aug. 31 Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: Voted absentee ballots must be received — by the county clerk — by 8 p.m. [[§34-1005](#), Idaho Code]
- Aug. 31 Election Day: Polling places — and the county clerk’s office — to be open 8 a.m.–8 p.m. (*County clerk may opt to open at 7 a.m.) Qualified individuals may register and vote at their designated polling place on election day. [[§34-211](#), [§34-408A](#), and [§34-1101](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 1 Voter Registration Reopens [[§34-408](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 3 Nonpartisan Candidate Filing Deadline: Petitions must be filed by 5 p.m. — with the clerk of the political subdivision — to nominate political subdivision candidates — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-1404](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 10 County Canvass: Deadline for the board of county commissioners to meet and conduct the canvass — of the Aug. 31 election. [[§34-1410](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 10* County Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results — of the Aug. 31 election — to the clerk of the political subdivision(s). (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the canvass.) [[§34-1410](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 10 Nonpartisan Nominee Certification: Deadline for the clerk of the political subdivision to certify nominees — to be placed on the ballot — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-1404](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 10 Nonpartisan Write-In Candidates: Deadline for write-in candidates to file a declaration of intent with clerk of the political subdivision for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-1407](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 13 Ballot Question Submission Deadline: Political subdivisions must submit ballot language (to the county clerk) for any bond, levy, initiative, referendum, or other question — to be placed on the ballot — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-106](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 17 Nonpartisan Candidate Withdrawal Deadline: Last day nonpartisan candidates can withdraw from the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-1405A](#), Idaho Code]

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- Sept. 17 Recall Notification Deadline: Political subdivisions must notify the county clerk if a recall election is ordered — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-106\(9\)](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 17 Candidate Withdrawal Deadline: Last day nonpartisan candidates can withdraw from the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-1405A](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 20* Early Voting Security Plan: Deadline for county clerks to submit their ballot security plan to the secretary of state. (*NOTE: The Early Voting Security Plan must be submitted at least 30 days prior to implementing and early voting plan.) [[§34-1013](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 23 Voting Procedure Modifications: Deadline for county clerks to submit their plans to the secretary of state; if they want to modify voting procedures (for a political subdivision) — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-1413](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 30* Recount Applications: Deadline — for supporters or opponents of a ballot measure — to apply to the county clerk for a recount of the Aug. 31 election. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days of the canvass.) [[§34-2301](#), Idaho Code]
- Sept. 30* Election Disputes: Deadline for electors to contest the results — of the Aug. 31 election. (*This date may vary; complaints must be filed in the proper court within 20 days of the canvass.) [[§34-2008](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 1 Designate Polling Places: Deadline for county commissioners to designate polling places — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-302](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 4 Mail Absentee Ballots: County clerks must mail absentee ballots — to voters who have requested absentee ballots — for the Nov. 2 election. [Secretary of State Directive [2015-1](#)]
- Oct. 8 Preregistration Deadline: Voter registrations must be received by the county clerk — for the Nov. 2 election. (Deadline is postmarked by this date for mailed paper applications, 5 p.m. for paper applications handed in to the county clerk’s office, or until midnight for online applications.) [[§34-408](#) and [§34-410](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 11 Mail Ballot Precincts: County clerks may begin mailing ballots to voters located in designated mail ballot precincts — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-308](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 18 Early Voting Must Begin: For the Nov. 2 election in those counties that choose to conduct early voting. [[§34-1012](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 19 Mail Ballot Precincts: Deadline for county clerks to complete mailing ballots to voters in designated mail ballot precincts — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-308](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 21 Poll Watchers: Deadline for candidates or pro and con representatives to submit a written request (to the county clerk) for the purpose of authorizing watchers to observe at polling places — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-304](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 21 Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election — in the county’s official newspaper(s) — for the Nov. 2 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [[§34-602](#) and [§34-1406](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 22 Absentee Ballot Application Deadline: Applications must be received by the county clerk by 5 p.m. — for the Nov. 2 election. [[§34-1002\(7\)](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 28 Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the second notice of election along with a facsimile sample ballot — for the Nov. 2 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published in the county. If not possible, it should be published in one newspaper published or circulated in the county.) [[§34-602](#) and [§34-1406](#), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 28 Emergency Absentee Ballots: County clerks may receive emergency absentee ballot applications through 5 p.m. on November 1 from those who cannot be present for voting due to hospitalization if hospitalization began after 5 p.m. on October 22. [[§34-1002A](#), Idaho Code]

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- Oct. 29 Election Register Examination: Deadline for county clerks to examine the election register, from the Aug. 31 election, and note challenges. [~~§34-432~~(1), Idaho Code]
- Oct. 29 In-Person Absentee/Early Voting Ends: At 5 p.m. — for the Nov. 2 election. [~~§34-1002~~(7) and ~~§34-1012~~, Idaho Code]
- Nov. 2 Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: Voted absentee ballots must be received — by the county clerk — by 8 p.m. [~~§34-1005~~, Idaho Code]
- Nov. 2 Election Day: Polling places — and the county clerk’s office — to be open 8 a.m.–8 p.m. (*County clerk may opt to open at 7 a.m.) Qualified individuals may register and vote at their designated polling place on election day. [~~§34-211~~, ~~§34-408A~~, and ~~§34-1101~~, Idaho Code]
- Nov. 3 Voter Registration Reopens [~~§34-408~~, Idaho Code]
- Nov. 12 County Canvass: Deadline for the board of county commissioners to meet and conduct the canvass — of the Nov. 2 election. (This deadline also applies to the canvass for political subdivisions.) [~~§34-1205~~ and ~~§34-1410~~, Idaho Code]
- Nov. 12* County Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results of the Nov. 2 election to the clerk of the political subdivision(s). (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the county canvass.) [~~§34-1410~~, Idaho Code]
- Nov. 12* Election Certificates: Deadline for the clerk of the political subdivision to issue certificates of election. (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the county canvass.) [~~§34-1410~~, Idaho Code]
- Dec. 2* Recount Applications: Deadline — for candidates and supporters/opponents of a ballot measure, excluding city candidates and city or county ballot measures — to apply to the county clerk for a recount of the May 18 election. Applications for a recount of city elections or county ballot measures must be filed with the Attorney General. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days of the county canvass). [~~§34-2301~~, Idaho Code]
- Dec. 2* Election Disputes: Deadline for electors to contest the results of the Nov. 2 election. (*This date may vary; complaints must be filed in the proper court within 20 days of the county canvass. [~~§34-2008~~, Idaho Code]
- Dec. 2 City Runoff Elections: If authorized by city ordinance, last day for a runoff city election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast if no candidate received a majority of the votes cast. [~~§50-612~~ and ~~§50-707B~~, Idaho Code]
- Dec. 31 2022 Election Calendar Publication Deadline: County clerks to publish the 2022 election calendar. [~~§34-1405~~(2), Idaho Code]