

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1							1			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
														30	31												

  

May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																					31						

  

September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
														30													



# 2025-2026 BALLOT ISSUE CALENDAR

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2026																											
GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3																											
January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31				26	27	28	29	30			
May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4									1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31																					30	31					
September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		



## 2025-2026 Ballot Issue Calendar

Montana Secretary of State

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### Citizens' Initiated Legislative Referendum *(Overturn a law passed by the Legislature)*

DEADLINE DEADLINES ARE 5 PM	ACTION	LAW
April 30, 2025	Adjournment sine die of the 2025 regular legislative session. <b>(Some calculated dates are based on this date.)</b>	
After adjournment of the regular legislative session	File a proposed petition with the Secretary of State.	"The people may approve or reject by referendum any act of the legislature except an appropriation of money." <a href="#">Article III, Section 5, MT Constitution</a> , <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-217</a>
When MCA requirements have been met	The Secretary of State sends a sample petition form, etc., to the person submitting the proposed ballot issue.  <b>Signature gathering may not begin until after the Secretary of State approves and issues the final petition form.</b>	"When the requirements...are complete and the proposed statewide ballot issue has been found legally sufficient..." "A signature gatherer may circulate the petition only in the form of the sample prepared by the secretary of state." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-233</a>
October 2, 2025	Final date for submission of signed petition sheets with original signatures to county election administrators.	"[N]o later than 4 weeks before the final date for filing the petition with the secretary of state." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-301</a>
October 30, 2025	Deadline for county election administrators to file a referendum petition with the Secretary of State.	"[N]o later than six months after adjournment of the legislature which passed the act." <a href="#">Article III, Section 5, MT Constitution</a>
After the county election administrators' filing deadline	The Secretary of State considers and tabulates signatures on petitions certified by the proper county official, then certifies to the Governor if the completed petition qualifies for the ballot.	"When a petition containing a sufficient number of verified signatures has been filed with the secretary of state within the time required..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-307</a> , <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-308</a>
NOVEMBER 3, 2026	2026 GENERAL ELECTION	"[F]irst Tuesday after the first Monday in November." <a href="#">MCA, 13-1-104(1)</a>



## 2025-2026 Ballot Issue Calendar

Montana Secretary of State

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### Citizens' Initiated Ballot Petitions (Statutory and Constitutional)

DEADLINE ALL DEADLINES ARE 5 PM	ACTION	LAW
May 12, 2025	First day to submit a proposed statutory initiative to the Secretary of State(There is no first date requirement for constitutional initiatives.)	"...10 days after the adjournment sine die of the regular legislative session..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-216</a> "[N]ext business day..." <a href="#">MCA, 1-1-307</a>
June 19, 2025	First day to circulate constitutional and statutory initiative petitions  <b>Signature gathering may not begin until after the Secretary of State approves and issues the final petition form.</b>	"...1 year prior to the final date for filing the signed petition with the county election administrator." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-243</a>  "...A signature gatherer may circulate the petition only in the form of the sample prepared by the secretary of state." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-233</a>
October 17, 2025	First day to submit constitutional and statutory initiative petition sheets with original signatures to county election administrators.	"[N]o sooner than 9 months... before the final date for filing the petition with the secretary of state." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-301</a>
October 17, 2025	A petition sheet with a signature collected on or before <b>October 3, 2025</b> , must be submitted with an affidavit to the county election administrator on <b>October 17, 2025</b> .	"[A] signature sheet with a collected signature dated 287 days or more prior to the final date provided in 13-27-104 for filing the petition...shall submit... by 273 days before the final date..." <a href="#">SB226</a> , <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-302</a>
January 16, 2026	A petition sheet with a signature collected between <b>October 4, 2025</b> , and <b>January 2, 2026</b> , must be submitted with an affidavit to county election administrators by this date.	"...196 days or more prior to the final date provided in 13-27-104 for filing the petition...shall submit...by 182 days before the final date..." <a href="#">SB226</a> , <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-302</a>



## 2025-2026 Ballot Issue Calendar

Montana Secretary of State

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March 27, 2026	A petition sheet with a signature collected between <b>January 3, 2026</b> , and <b>March 13, 2026</b> , must be submitted with an affidavit to county election administrators by this date.	"...126 days or more prior to the final date provided in 13-27-104 for filing the petition...shall submit... by 112 days before the final date..." <a href="#">SB226</a> , <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-302</a>
April 24, 2026	A petition sheet with a signature collected between <b>March 14, 2026</b> , and <b>April 10, 2026</b> , must be submitted with an affidavit to county election administrators by this date.	"...98 days or more prior to the final date provided in 13-27-104 for filing the petition...shall submit...by 84 days before the final date..." <a href="#">SB226</a> , <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-302</a>
June 19, 2026	A petition sheet with a signature collected between <b>April 11, 2026</b> , and <b>June 19, 2026</b> , must be submitted with an affidavit to county election administrators by this date.	"[N]o later than 4 weeks before the final date for filing the petition with the secretary of state." <a href="#">SB226</a> , <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-302</a>
June 19, 2026	Last day to submit proposed constitutional and statutory initiative petition sheets with signatures to county election administrators. <b>Last day to withdraw a signature from a petition</b>	"[N]o later than 4 weeks before the final date for filing the petition with the secretary of state." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-301</a>
July 17, 2026	Deadline for County Election Administrators to file certified constitutional and statutory initiative petitions to the Secretary of State.	"[T]he third Friday of the fourth month prior to the election..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-104</a>
After July 17, 2026	Secretary of State considers and tabulates signatures on petitions that are certified by the proper county official, then certifies to the Governor if the completed petition qualifies for the ballot.	"The secretary of state shall consider and tabulate only the signatures on petitions that are certified by the proper county official." "When a petition containing a sufficient number of verified signatures has been filed..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-307</a> , <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-308</a>
<b>NOVEMBER 3, 2026</b>	<b>2026 GENERAL ELECTION</b>	"[F]irst Tuesday after the first Monday in November." <a href="#">MCA, 13-1-104(1)</a>



## 2025-2026 Ballot Issue Calendar

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### VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET

July 14, 2026	Deadline for appointments of committee members for the Voter Information Pamphlet (VIP) and for submittal of their names to the Secretary of State.	"No later than 1 week before the deadline for filing arguments..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-403</a>
Within 5 days after notice of committee members' appointment, but not later than July 20	The Secretary of State shall notify VIP committee appointees by certified mail of the submission deadlines for the committee's arguments.	"Within 5 days after receiving notice under subsection (2), but not later than 5 days after the deadline set for appointment of committee members..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-403</a> , "[N]ext business day..." <a href="#">MCA, 1-1-307</a>
July 21, 2026	VIP Committee arguments due to the Secretary of State. (Deadline for filing arguments on the ballot issue.)	"[N]o later than 105 days before the election..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-406</a>
July 21, 2026	Deadline for appointed VIP committee members to fill vacancies for appointments not made by the required time.	"[U]p until the deadline for filing the arguments." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-403</a>
July 23, 2026	Deadline for submission to the Secretary of State of documents supporting factual statements made in the approval or rejection of a ballot issue.	"[W]ithin 2 business days of the date on which the statements are required to be filed..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-409</a>
July 31, 2026	Rebuttal arguments for VIP due to the Secretary of State.	"[N]o later than 10 days after the deadline for filing the original arguments." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-407</a>
August 4, 2026	Proponents/Opponents of a ballot issue must send supporting documents for factual statements made in rebuttals by this date.	"[W]ithin 2 business days of the date on which the statements are required to be filed" <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-409</a>
August 20, 2026	Ballot Certification by Secretary of State	"Seventy-five days before a general election..." <a href="#">MCA, 13-12-201(1)</a>
October 5, 2026	Deadline for county officials to mail the Voter Information Pamphlet.	"[N]o later than 30 days before the election." <a href="#">MCA, 13-27-410</a> "[N]ext business day..." <a href="#">MCA, 1-1-307</a>
<b>NOVEMBER 3, 2026</b>	<b>2026 GENERAL ELECTION</b>	"[F]irst Tuesday after the first Monday in November." <a href="#">MCA, 13-1-104(1)</a>