


Office of the Secretary of State
Elections Division



OFFICIAL ELECTION BULLETIN

September 18, 2023

TO: County/Municipal Election Officials and County Registrars

FROM: Blake Evans, State Elections Director 

SUBJECT: ADJUSTED 2023 ELECTION DEADLINES DUE TO STATE HOLIDAYS

This communication explains the adjusted dates for the 2023 Election Cycle concerning the registration deadline, provisional ballot validation, absentee ballot cure, and county certification deadlines for the November 7, 2023, Municipal General Election.

Registration Deadline

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224, Monday, October 9, 2023, is the scheduled registration cutoff date to be eligible to vote at the November 7, 2023, Municipal General Election. Due to the Columbus Day holiday on Monday, October 9, 2023, the registration deadline is legally moved to Tuesday, October 10, 2023.

Absentee Ballot and Provisional Cure Deadline

Normally, the provisional ballot validation and absentee ballot curing deadlines fall three days after the election. See O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-386(a)(1)(C) and 21-2-419(c)(1)(2). After conferring with the Attorney General's office, we can report that Georgia law (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-14) requires that due to the Veteran's Day holiday on Friday, November 10, 2023, these deadlines are moved by operation of law to Monday, November 13, 2023.

County Certification of Results Deadline

The fact that Georgia law moves these deadlines this year creates a conflict with the county certification deadline, which is set by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-493(k) on Monday, November 13, 2023. Because of the provisional ballot validation and absentee ballot curing deadline extensions make the county certification deadline impossible for to meet, the deadline for counties to certify election results is also extended by 24 hours to Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 5:00pm by operation of law.

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To reiterate, Georgia law requires the below deadline adjustments due to the Veteran's Day holiday on Friday, November 10, 2023:

- The deadline in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386(a)(1)(C) for voters to cure timely submitted absentee ballots if they failed to sign the oath or their verification information did not match will fall on Monday, November 13, 2023.
- The deadline in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-419(c) for voters to validate cast provisional ballots will fall on Monday, November 13, 2023.
- The deadline in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-493(k) to certify your election results will fall on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 5:00 pm.