

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
NOVEMBER 2026		
Wednesday 11/4/26	Earliest date for the affixing of signatures on candidate filing forms for an office on the ballot in 2027 (not prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the office will appear on the ballot).	KRS 118.125(2) KRS 118.165 KRS 118.315(2) KRS 118A.060(2) KRS 83A.045
Beginning Wednesday 11/4/26	County Clerks, within five (5) business days following the date of receiving a candidate's nomination papers, shall transmit the candidate's information to the Secretary of State. The information shall include: the candidate's name, title of office sought, the district number of the office sought (if applicable), his or her email address or post office box address, political party (if partisan), and the date of receiving his or her nomination papers. <u>*This information shall be prominently displayed on the Secretary of State's official website as well as the County Clerk's official website.</u>	KRS 118.205 KRS 118.205(2)(b) & (3) KRS 118.387
DECEMBER 2026		
Tuesday 12/1/26	Last day for County Board of Elections to notify a Local Board of Education that it intends to designate one (1) or more school buildings as voting places. *The CBOE shall specify which school buildings will be used and the expected dates and times of use.	KRS 117.065(3)
Thursday 12/31/26	Last day to change political party affiliation and be eligible to vote in that political party's upcoming primary election	KRS 116.055
JANUARY		
Friday 1/8/27 4:00 PM	Candidate filing deadline: last day to file nomination papers for candidates who must run in primary to file a statement of candidacy form with the same office at which nomination papers are filed (first Friday following the first Monday in January).	KRS 118.165 KRS 83A.045 KRS 118A.060(2)
Monday 1/11/27	When city boundaries extend beyond single county, County Clerk shall certify names as required by KRS 83A.047 (on the day following candidate filing deadline) to Clerk of the county into which the boundaries of the city extend.	KRS 83A.047
Thursday 1/14/27 2:00PM	Public drawing for ballot positions in offices of Secretary of State and County Clerks (the Thursday following the filing deadline for the primary).	KRS 118.225(2), (3) KRS 118A.060(4)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Tuesday 1/19/27	Last Day for the County Board of Elections to submit their Election Petitions to allow consolidation of precincts (County Election Plans) for the upcoming election year if they are consolidating precincts and election officers. - Plans can be amended up to this day. - These petitions will be approved by the SBE at a future Board Meeting before or after this date depending on time of submission. *Monday, 1/18/27 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day so petitions can be submitted by 1/19/27	KRS 117.066 (3), (4), & (5)
Monday 1/25/27	Secretary of State to certify candidates' names to County Clerks (the third Monday after the filing deadline for the primary).	KRS 118.215(1)(a) KRS 118A.060(5)
Tuesday 1/26/27	Last Day to file a petition for local option to have the question on the Primary Ballot.	KRS 242.030 (4)
*Wednesday 1/27/27 - Thursday 5/13/27	County Clerks are required to test automatic tabulating equipment. This can be performed on any day after ballots have been certified by the Secretary of State as provided in KRS 118.215, and <u>petitions to allow consolidation of precincts have been approved</u> by the State Board of Elections as provided in KRS 117.066, but not less than five (5) days prior to the Election Day. *Prior to proceeding: A County's Petition to allow consolidation of precincts must be approved by SBE. Any petition filed if applicable should be reviewed and added to the county's ballot.	KRS 117.389
FEBRUARY		
Tuesday 2/23/27	Last day for county clerks to notify the State Board of Elections if there are too many certified candidates to be accommodated on the voting machines (last Tuesday in February).	KRS 118.215(5)
MARCH		
Monday 3/15/27	Last day for Republican and Democratic County executive committees to submit names for appointment of precinct officers to county boards of elections (March 15 each year).	KRS 117.045(2)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Saturday 3/20/27	The last day for county boards of elections to appoint precinct officers (March 20 each year).	KRS 117.045(1)
Monday 3/29/27	Deadline for printing of regular and absentee ballots for primary (50 days before primary).	KRS 117.085(5)(b) KRS 117.145(1) KRS 117A.150
APRIL		
Thursday 4/1/27 4:00 PM	Last day for independent, political organization and political group candidates, except candidates for federal office and candidates for mayor or legislative body in cities of the home rule class participating in partisan elections, to file a statement –of-candidacy form with the same office at which nomination papers are filed (not later than April 1 preceding the day fixed by law for holding of regular elections for the offices sought). *No person shall file a statement of candidacy form for more than one public office during an election cycle.	KRS 118.367(1)
Saturday 4/3/27*	Last day for county clerks to transmit absentee ballots to voters who request absentee ballots prior to the printing of the ballots (within 4 days of the receipt of the printed ballots). *Except for absentee ballot requests by military and overseas voters that are received at least 45 days before the election, absentee ballots that are requested after the receipt of the ballots by the county clerks shall be transmitted to the voter within 4 days of the receipt of the application.	KRS 117.085(5)(a)
Saturday 4/3/27	Last day for county clerks to transmit absentee ballots to military and overseas voters whose absentee ballot requests are received by that date (45 days before the election).	KRS 117A.080 52 USC §20302(a)(8)
Saturday 4/3/27	Online mail-in absentee request portal to open (45 days before the election).	KRS 117.085(1)(f)
Friday 4/16/27	Last day for candidates to submit lists of proposed challengers to the chair or secretary of county political party committee (not later than the third Friday in April).	KRS 117.315(1)
Monday 4/19/27	Last day to register to vote for the primary. • <u>Online Registrations must be received by 4:00PM Local Time;</u> • <u>Mailed Registrations can be Postmarked 4/19 and be counted.</u> • <u>Registrations returned to the Clerk's Office accepted by close of business.</u>	KRS 116.045(2) KRS 116.0452(1)
Tuesday 4/20/27 - Monday 5/24/27	Registration books are closed (fourth Tuesday preceding through first Monday following primary).	KRS 116.045(2)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Wednesday 4/28/27	Last day for lists of challengers to be submitted to county clerks (at least 20 days before primary).	KRS 117.315
Thursday 4/29/27	Last day for county clerks to notify county boards of elections that absentee machines are ready for use (not later than 4 business days preceding the date set to conduct excused in-person absentee voting). *in-person absentee voting begins on Wednesday, 5/5/27	KRS 117.165(2)
Thursday 4/29/27	Last day for county boards of elections to publish notice of time when the absentee voting machines are to be examined by the board (not less than 24 hours before examination).	KRS 117.165(2) KRS 424.130(1)(d)
Friday 4/30/27	Last day for county boards of elections to examine absentee machines (not later than 3 business days preceding the date set to conduct excused in-person absentee voting). *in-person absentee voting begins on Wednesday, 5/6	KRS 117.165(2)
Friday 4/30/27	Last day for State Board of Elections to furnish county clerks with lists of registered voters (at least 18 days before primary).	KRS 117.025(3)(b)
MAY		
Tuesday 5/4/27 11:59 PM	Online mail-in absentee request portal to close (14 days before the election).	KRS 117.085(1)(f)
Tuesday 5/4/27 - Tuesday 5/18/27	A voter or their legally authorized agent may submit a notarized paper application for an absentee ballot because of a medical emergency (within 14 days or less of an election).	KRS 117.077
Tuesday 5/4/27 - Tuesday 5/18/27	County Board of Elections or central counting board may meet to review and process the mail-in absentee ballots cast in the county (may begin up to 14 days prior to the day of a primary).	KRS 117.087(3)(a)
Wed., Thurs., & Friday 5/5, 5/6, & 5/7 Mon., Tues., & Wednesday 5/10, 5/11, & 5/12	Excused, In-Person Absentee Voting: any qualified voters may make application to cast an absentee ballot during normal business hours during the six (6) business days immediately preceding the Thursday of no-excuse in-person absentee voting period. MUST HAVE ONE OF THE DESIGNATED REASONS TO CAST A BALLOT DURING THIS PERIOD	KRS 117.076 (2)
Saturday 5/8/27	Last day for county boards of elections to give precinct officers written notice of appointment (not less than 10 days before primary).	KRS 117.045(7)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Tuesday 5/11/27	Last day to apply for a military-overseas ballot (not later than close of business 7 days before primary). A covered voter may use the declaration accompanying a federal write-in absentee ballot as an application for a military-overseas ballot simultaneously with the submission of the federal write-in absentee ballot if the declaration is received by the appropriate election official by the close of business hours seven (7) days before the election. *An application for a military-overseas ballot for primary, whether timely, is effective as an application for a military-overseas ballot for the regular election.	KRS 117A.060(4) KRS 117A.070 KRS 117.085(1)(i)
Tuesday 5/11/27	Last day for any voter who has received an absentee ballot by mail but who knows at least 7 days before election day that they will be in the county on election day and who has not voted the absentee ballot to cancel his or her absentee ballot and return it to the county clerk's office (no later than 7 days before the election). Such voters shall vote in person.	KRS 117.085(8) KRS 117.085(10)
Wednesday 5/12/27- Tuesday 5/19/27	If a Military-Overseas application is received after seven (7) days before an election, the <u>applicant shall be informed</u> of his or her ability to utilize a federal write-in absentee ballot (FWAB) pursuant to KRS 117A.100.	KRS 117A.070
Thursday 5/13/27 - Saturday 5/15/27	In-person No-Excuse Absentee Voting to be conducted in the county clerk's office or other place designated by the county board of elections and approved by the State Board of Elections.	KRS 117.076(1)
Thursday 5/13/27	Last day for county clerks to notify county boards of elections that machines are ready for use (not later than Thursday before election).	KRS 117.165(1)
Thursday 5/13/27	Last day for county boards of elections to publish notice of time when voting machines are to be examined by the board (not less than 24 hours before examination).	KRS 117.165(1) KRS 424.130(1)(d)
Thursday 5/13/27	Last day for county clerks to publish a copy of ballot (not less than 3 days before primary).	KRS 424.290(1)
Friday 5/14/27	Last day for county boards of elections to examine machines (not later than the Friday before primary).	KRS 117.165(1)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Tuesday 5/18/27	• Primary Election Day (first Tuesday after third Monday in May) • Polls open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., prevailing time. • County boards of elections to be in session all day. • County boards of elections to meet at county clerk's office at 8 a.m. to count absentee ballots, but the absentee ballot results shall not be made public until after 6 p.m., prevailing time. • Mail-in absentee ballots must be received by the Clerk before 6 p.m. prevailing time. Information contained in an application for an absentee ballot shall not be made public until after the close of business hours on Election Day for which the application applies. There is no prohibition to disclose at any time, upon request, the total number of applications for absentee ballots that have been filed.	KRS 118.025(3) KRS 118.035(1) KRS 117.086(1)(b) KRS 117.087(3), (7) KRS 117.085(12)
Wednesday 5/19/27 – Thursday 6/17/27	Voting machines and ballot boxes to be locked 30 days following election and shall be under video surveillance.	KRS 117.295(1)
Wednesday 5/19/27 – Tuesday 5/25/27 12:00 PM	County Clerk's Election Hand-to-Eye Audit shall be completed by each county. The Secretary of State will provide a selected machine and race to be audited following the Election for each county. This Hand-to-Eye Audit must be completed not later than 12 p.m., prevailing time on the Tuesday following all elections.	KRS 117.383(8) KRS 118.425(4) KAR 031: 4:230
Friday 5/21/27	Last day for precinct sheriffs to file report (within 3 days after primary).	KRS 117.355(1)
Tuesday 5/25/27 12:00 PM	County must submit the SBE 49 form which provides the certified results of Election to the Secretary of State. This must take place following the conclusion of the hand-to-eye audit established in KRS 117.383(8) and not later than 12:00PM, prevailing time on the Tuesday following all elections.	KRS 117.383(8) KRS 118.425(4)
Tuesday 5/25/27 4:00 PM	Deadline to request recanvass (before 4 p.m. on Tuesday after primary).	KRS 117.305(1)
Thursday 5/27/27 9:00 AM	County boards of elections shall conduct any requested recanvass (at 9 a.m. on Thursday after the deadline to request a recanvass, and not sooner).	KRS 117.305(1)

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DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Friday 5/28/27	Last day for county boards of elections to file post-election reports with the State Board of Elections and county grand jury (within 10 days after primary).	KRS 117.355(2)
Friday 5/28/27	Last day for county clerks to send precinct rosters and recapitulation sheets to state board of elections (within 10 days after any primary or general election).	KRS 117.275(6) KRS 117.355(2)
JUNE		
Tuesday 6/1/27*	Last day for county boards of elections to issue certificates of nomination (not later than the second Monday after election). *Monday 5/31/27 is the Memorial Day Holiday	KRS 118.425(2)
Monday 6/7/27	Last day for state board of elections to meet to tabulate votes and make out certificates of nomination (not later than the third Monday after election).	KRS 118.425(5)
Tuesday 6/8/27	Candidate filing deadline: last day to file any petition, certificate, statement, or nomination papers that must be filed by the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding the election for the office sought.	KRS 118.365 KRS 83A.045(1)(b)
Wednesday 6/9/27	When city boundaries extend beyond single county, County Clerk shall certify names as required by KRS 83A.047 (on the day following candidate filing deadline).	KRS 83A.047
Thursday 6/10/27 2:00PM	Public drawing for ballot positions in offices of Secretary of State and county clerks (the Thursday following the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June preceding the regular election).	KRS 118.225(2), (3) KRS 118A.090(1)
AUGUST		
Tuesday 8/10/27	Candidate filing deadline: last day for independent, political organization, or political group candidates to file a petition due to a vacancy occurring after the June filing deadline but less than 3 months before the election (not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the regular election for the office sought).	KRS 118.375(2)
Tuesday 8/10/27	Last Day to file a petition for local options to have the question on the General Ballot.	KRS 242.030(5)
Tuesday 8/10/27 4:00PM	Filing deadline for Governor Candidates to designate their candidate for Lt. Governor to serve as his or her running mate on a slate.	KRS 118.126(1)
Monday 8/23/27	The last day to file a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate (on or before fourth Monday in August). *Statute says (a-c); however, (a) is n/a because no write-ins are allowed in Primary; (c) is for Presidential years only.	KRS 117.265(2) KRS 118.215 (1)(b) * KRS 118A.090(2)
Monday 8/23/27	Secretary of State to certify candidates' names to county clerks. (Not later than the fourth Monday in August)	KRS 118.215(1)(b) KRS 118A.090(2)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Tuesday 8/24/27 - Thursday 10/28/27	County Clerks are required to test automatic tabulating equipment. This can be performed on any day after ballots have been certified by the Secretary of KRS State as provided in 118.215, but not less than five (5) days prior to Election Day.	KRS 117.389
Tuesday 8/31/27	Last day for county clerks to notify State Board of Elections if there are too many certified candidates to be accommodated on the voting machine (last Tuesday in August).	KRS 118.215(5)
SEPTEMBER		
Monday 9/13/27	Deadline for printing of regular and absentee ballots (at least 50 days before election).	KRS 117.085(5)(b) KRS 117.145(1) KRS 117A.150
Friday 9/17/27	Last day for county clerks to transmit absentee ballots to voters who request absentee ballots prior to the printing of the ballots (within 4 days of the receipt of the printed ballots). * Except for absentee ballot requests by military and overseas voters that are received at least 45 days before the election, absentee ballots that are requested after the receipt of the ballots by the county clerk shall be mailed to the voter within 4 days of the receipt of the application.	KRS 117.085(5)(a)
Saturday 9/18/27	Last day for county clerks to transmit absentee ballots to military and overseas voters whose absentee ballot requests are received by that date (45 days before the election).	KRS 117A.080 52 USC §20302(a)(8)
Saturday 9/18/27	Online mail-in absentee request portal to open (45 days before the election).	KRS 117.085(1)(f)
OCTOBER		
Monday 10/4/27	Last day to register to vote for the general election. • <u>Online Registrations must be received by 4:00PM Local Time;</u> • <u>Mailed Registrations can be Postmarked 10/4 and be counted.</u> • <u>Registrations returned to the Clerk's Office accepted by close of business.</u>	KRS 116.045(2) KRS 116.0452(1)
Tuesday 10/5/27- Monday 11/8/27	Registration books are closed (Fourth Tuesday preceding through first Monday following election).	KRS 116.045(2)
Wednesday 10/13/27	Last day for lists of challengers to be submitted to county clerks (at least 20 days before election).	KRS 117.315(2), (3) & (5)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Thursday 10/14/27	Last day for county clerks to notify county boards of elections that absentee machines are ready for use (not later than 4 business days preceding the date set to conduct excused in-person absentee voting). *in-person absentee voting to begin Wednesday, 10/20	KRS 117.165(2)
Thursday 10/14/27	Last day for county boards of elections to publish notice of time when the absentee voting machines are to be examined by the board (not less than 24 hours before examination).	KRS 117.165(2)
Friday 10/15/27	Last day for county boards of elections to examine absentee machines (not later than 3 business days preceding the date set to conduct excused in-person absentee voting). *in-person absentee voting to begin Wednesday, 10/20	KRS 117.165(2)
Friday 10/15/27	Last day for State Board of Elections to furnish county clerks with lists of registered voters (at least 18 days before election).	KRS 117.025(3)(c)
Tuesday 10/19/27 11:59 PM	Online mail-in absentee request portal to close (14 days before the election).	KRS 117.085(1)(f)
Tuesday 10/19/27 - Tuesday 11/2/27	Voters or their legally authorized agent may submit a notarized paper application for an absentee ballot because of a medical emergency (within 14 days or less of an election).	KRS 117.077
Tuesday 10/19/27- Tuesday 11/2/27	The County Board of Elections or central counting board may meet to review and process the mail-in absentee ballots cast in the county (may begin up to 14 days prior to the day of a general).	KRS 117.087(3)(a)
Wed., Thurs., & Friday 10/20, 10/21, & 10/22 Mon., Tues., & Wednesday 10/27, 10/28, & 10/29	Excused, In-Person Absentee Voting: qualified voters may make applications to cast an absentee ballot during normal business hours during the six (6) business days immediately preceding the Thursday of no-excuse in-person absentee voting period. MUST HAVE ONE OF THE DESIGNATED REASONS TO CAST A BALLOT DURING THIS PERIOD	KRS 117.076 (2)
Saturday 10/23/27	Last day for county boards of elections to send election officers written notice of appointment (not less than 10 days before election).	KRS 117.045(7)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Tuesday 10/26/27	Last day to apply for a military-overseas ballot (not later than close of business 7 days before election). A covered voter may use the declaration accompanying a federal write-in absentee ballot as an application for a military-overseas ballot simultaneously with the submission of the federal write-in absentee ballot if the declaration is received by the appropriate election official by the close of business hours seven (7) days before the election. *An application for a military-overseas ballot for primary, whether timely, is effective as an application for a military-overseas ballot for the regular election.	KRS 117A.060(4) KRS 117A.070 KRS 117.085(1)(i)
Tuesday 10/26/27	Last day for any voter who has received an absentee ballot by mail but who knows at least 7 days before election day that he or she will be in the county on election day and who has not voted the absentee ballot to cancel his or her absentee ballot and return it to the county clerk's office (no later than 7 days before the election). Such voters shall vote in person.	KRS 117.085(8) KRS 117.085(10)
Wednesday 10/27/27- Tuesday 11/3/27	If a Military-Overseas application is received after seven (7) days before an election, the <u>applicant shall be informed</u> of his or her ability to utilize a federal write-in absentee ballot (FWAB) pursuant to KRS 117A.100.	KRS 117A.070
Thursday 10/28/27 - Saturday 10/30/27	In-person No-Excuse Absentee Voting to be conducted in the county clerk's office or other place designated by the county board of elections and approved by the State Board of Elections.	KRS 117.076 (1)
Thursday 10/28/27	Last day for county clerks to notify county boards of elections that machines are ready for use (Thursday before election).	KRS 117.165(1)
Thursday 10/28/27	Last day for county boards of elections to publish notice of time when voting machines are to be examined by the board (not less than 24 hours before examination).	KRS 117.165(1)
Friday 10/29/27	Last day for county clerks to publish a copy of ballot (not less than 3 days before election).	KRS 424.290(1)
Friday 10/29/27	Last day for county boards of elections to examine machines (not later than Friday before election).	KRS 117.165(1)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
NOVEMBER		
Tuesday 11/2/27	• General Election Day (first Tuesday after first Monday in November). • Polls open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., prevailing time. • County boards of elections to be in session all day. • County boards of elections to meet at county clerk's office at 8 a.m. to count absentee ballots, but the absentee ballot results shall not be made public until after 6 p.m., prevailing time. • Mail-in absentee ballots must be received by the County Clerk before 6 p.m. prevailing time. Information contained in an application for an absentee ballot shall not be made public until after the close of business hours on Election Day for which the application applies. There is no prohibition to disclose at any time, upon request, the total number of applications for absentee ballots that have been filed.	Ky. Const. §148 KRS 118.025(4) KRS 118.035(1) KRS 117.086(1)(b) KRS 117.087(3), (7) KRS 117.085(12)
Wednesday 11/3/27- Thursday 12/2/27	Voting machines and ballot boxes to be locked for 30 days following election and shall be under video surveillance.	KRS 117.295(1)
Wednesday 11/3/27 – Tuesday 11/9/27 12:00 PM	County Clerk's Election Hand-to-Eye Audit shall be completed by each county. The Secretary of State will provide a selected machine and race to be audited following the Election for each county. This Hand-to-Eye Audit must be completed not later than 12:00PM, prevailing time on the Tuesday following all elections.	KRS 117.383(8) KRS 118.425(4) KAR 031: 4:230
Wednesday 11/3/27	Earliest date for the affixing of signatures on candidate filing forms for an office on the ballot in 2028 (not prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the office will appear on the ballot).	KRS 118.125(2) KRS 118.165 KRS 118.315(2) KRS 118A.060(2) KRS 83A.045
Friday 11/5/27	Last day for precinct sheriffs to file reports (within 3 days after election).	KRS 117.355(1) KRS 446.030 (1)(b)
Tuesday 11/9/27 12:00 PM	County must submit the SBE 49 form which provides the certified results of Election to the Secretary of State. This must take place following the conclusion of the hand-to-eye audit established in KRS 117.383(8) and not later than 12:00PM, prevailing time on the Tuesday following all elections.	KRS 117.383(8) KRS 118.425(4)
Tuesday 11/9/27 4:00 PM	Deadline to request recanvass (before 4 p.m. on Tuesday after election).	KRS 117.305(1)

2027 KENTUCKY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	AUTHORITY
Thursday 11/11/27 9:00 AM	County boards of elections shall conduct any requested recanvass (9 a.m. on the Thursday following the filing deadline to request a recanvass).	KRS 117.305(3)
Friday 11/12/27	Last day for county boards of elections to file post-election reports with the State Board of Elections and county grand jury (within 10 days after election).	KRS 117.355(2)
Friday 11/12/27	Last day for county clerks to send precinct rosters and recapitulation sheets to the State Board of Elections (within 30 days after any primary or general election).	KRS 117.275(6) KRS 117.355(2)
Monday 11/15/27	County boards of elections (except counties containing cities of the first class; see KRS 118.425(3)) shall issue certificates of election (not later than second Monday after the election).	KRS 118.425(2)
Monday 11/22/27	Last day for State Board of Elections to meet to tabulate votes and make out certificates of election (not later than third Monday after election).	KRS 118.425(5)
DECEMBER		
Friday 12/31/27	Last day to change political party affiliation and be eligible to vote in that political party's upcoming primary election	KRS 116.055