REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
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STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION
November 3, 2026
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Important Dates for Candidates & Districts

Updated March 20, 2026

The materials contained in this calendar represent the research and opinions of the staff at the Imperial County Registrar of Voters' (ROV) Office. The contents of this calendar and any legal interpretations contained herein are not to be relied upon as being correct either factually or as legal opinion. Reliance on the contest without prior submission to and approval of your appropriate public counsel is at the reader's risk.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
Deadline to File Resolution for Election EC §9160, 9222, 9280, 9311, 9313, 10002, 10403, 13247 / Ed Code §5322		
7/3/2026 E-123	District	Administrative deadline to file the resolution requesting election services and measure consolidation with the ROV and the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. Resolution shall include: (1) Request for ROV to provide services, (2) Question, propostion, or office to be voted upon at the election.
County Publishes Notice of Election EC §12109, 12112		
7/6/2026 - 8/5/2026 E-120 to E-90	ROV	Between these dates, the ROV shall publish a Notice of Election in a newspaper of general circulation in the district. The notice shall contain the date of the election, the offices to be filled, where nomination papers are available and the deadline for filing Declarations of Candidacy. The notice may be combined with the notice of identifying the central county place.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
Declaration of Candidacy and Nomination Period EC §8020, 8040, 8041, 8061, 8100, 8104, 8105, 8106, 13107		
7/13/2026 - 8/7/2026 E-113 to E-88	Candidates / ROV	Between these dates, a candidate must file a Declaration of Candidacy and Nomination Papers with the ROV. All candidates must pay their filing fee at the time they obtain their Nomination Papers.
Candidate Statement of Qualifications EC §13307, 13311		
7/13/2026 - 8/7/2026 E-113 to E-88	Candidates / ROV	Between these dates, candidates may prepare a Statement of Qualifications, not to exceed 200 words, to be included in the Voter's Information Guide. The statement will remain confidential until deadline for filing has passed. The statement may not be changed, but may be withdrawn up to 5:00 p.m. on August 10, 2026 if the contest closes on August 7, 2026 or August 11, 2026 if the contests closes on August 8, 2026 after the extension period. A written request to withdraw a Candidate Statement must be sent to the ROV Office prior to the deadline listed above.
Candidate Statement of Qualifications - State Legislative & Congressional Candidates EC §13307.5, GC §85601(c)		
7/13/2026 - 8/7/2026 E-113 to E-88	State & Federal Candidates / ROV	Between these dates, candidates for State Legislative and Congressional offices may prepare a statement of qualifications, not to exceed 250 words, to be included in the county Voter Information Guide. The statement may not be changed, but may be withdrawn up to 5:00 p.m. on August 10, 2026 if the contest closes on August 7, 2026 or August 11, 2026 if the contests closes on August 8, 2026 after the extension period.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
County Publishes Notice of Election - Measures EC §9163, 9205		
7/17/2026 E-109	ROV / District	For **special district, school district and county measures**, the ROV shall publish a notice that includes the election date, election location, ballot question, passage requirement, and argument and rebuttal deadlines. For **municipal measures**, the city clerk shall publish a public notice including the election date, election location, ballot question, passage requirements, and argument and rebuttal deadlines.
Arguments For and Against Filing Deadline for Measures EC §9162, 9282, 9315, 9316, 9600; Gov Code §57146		
7/27/2026 E-99	Proponents / Opponents	Last day set by the ROV to submit arguments in favor or against any measure. Arguments may not exceel 300 words. *10-Day Public Examination Period July 28 - August 10, 2026
24-Hour Contribution Reports GC 82036		
8/5/2026 - 11/3/2026 E-90 to E-Day	Candidates	During the 90 days immediately preceding an election and including Election Day, the following contributions that total in the aggregate of $1,000 or more must be reported within 24 hours to the Registrar of Voters. **Form 496**: File if independent expenditures of $1,000 or more are made. **Form 497**: File if a contribution of $1,000 or more in the aggregate is received from a single source. **Form 497**: File if a contribution of $1,000 or more in the aggregate is made to a candidate or measure being voted upon November 3, 2026, or to a political party committee. **Non-Monetary Contribution**: The recipient of a non-monetary contribution of $1,000 or more must file a Form 497 report within 48 hours from the time the contribution is received. File by personal delivery, email, guaranteed overnight service, fax or online if available.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
Rebuttals to Arguments For and Against Filing Deadline for Measures EC §9190, 9380, 10401, 10402, 10403		
8/6/2026 E-89	Districts	Last day set by the ROV for the same authors of the primary argument to file rebuttals with the ROV. Rebuttasl are limited to 250 words. *10-Day Public Examination Period: August 7 - 17, 2026.
Declaration of Candidacy and Nomination Period EC §8020, 8040, 8061, 8100, 8104, 8105, 8106, 13107		
8/7/2026 E-88	Candidates / Registrar of Voters	Deadline for a candidate to file a Declaration of Candidacy and Nomination papers with the ROV.
No Candidate May Withdraw After Filing Deadline EC §8800, 8020.5		
8/7/2026 E-88	Candidates	No candidate whose declaration of candidacy has been filed for any primary election may withdraw as a candidate at that primary election after filing deadline.
Extension of Nomination Period EC §8022, 8024, 8204		
8/8/2026 - 8/12/2026 E-87 to E-83	Candidates / ROV	Extension period for anyone other than the incumbent to file a Declaration of Candidacy and Nomination Petition if the incumbent did not file by August 7, 2026. This provision does not apply if there is no incumbent eligible to be elected.
Public Exam of Candidate Statements EC §13313		
3/7/2026 - 3/16/2026 E-87 to E-78	Candidates / ROV	During this 10-day period, the ROV will make candidates' statements available for public examination.
Letter Designation Assignment EC §13116		
8/10/2026 E-85	ROV	ROV will assign measure letter designations to district that have measures on the ballot.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
Randomized Alphabet Drawing EC §13112		
8/13/2026 E-82	Secretary of State / Registrar of Voters	The Secretary of State shall conduct the randomized alphabet drawing to determine the order in which the candidates will appear on the primary election ballot. On the same day, the County ROV shall conduct a randomized alphabet drawing for State Senate and Assembly offices.
Notice of Whether Election Will be Held EC §10515		
8/13/2026 E-82	ROV	If there are insufficient nominees for the offices to be filled, and a petition requesting the election be held has not been presented to the officer conducting the election, then the election shall not be held. The ROV shall request the Board of Supervisors to appoint the qualified candidate(s) to such office. If there are no candidates, the supervising authority shall appoint a qualified person to each office. Persons appointed shall qualify and serve as if elected.
Military or Overseas Vote-by-Mail Ballot Applications EC §300(b), 3102, 3105		
9/4/2026 E-60	ROV	First day the ROV may process applications for military or overseas voter ballots. Any applications received by the ROV prior to this day shall be kept and processed on or after this date. If the applicant is not a resident of the county to which he or she has applied, the ROV receiving the application shall forward it immediately to the proper county.
Report of Registration: 60 Day County Report EC §2187(a) & (c)(2)		
9/4/2026 - 9/14/2026 E-60 to E-50	ROV	During this period, the ROV shall prepare and send to the Secretary of State a summary statement of the number of persons registered by party affiliation, by county and by each political division.
9/7/2026	**Labor Day Holiday - Office Closed**	
Nomination Period for Write-In Candidates EC §8600, 8601 et seq.		
9/7/2026 - 10/20/2026 E-57 to E-14	Candidates / ROV	Nomination papers for write-in candidacy will be available beginning September 7, 2026 and must be filed with the Registrar of Voters no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 20, 2026.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
Filing Period for First Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure Statement		
9/24/2026 E-40	Candidates / Committees / ROV	Last day to file campaign statements for candidates and committees covering the period between July 1 to September 19, 2026. Statements must be sent by personal delivery or first class mail.
Voter Information Guide Mailing EC §9094, 13303, 13304		
9/24/2026 - 10/13/2026 E-40 to E-21	Secretary of State / ROV	Between these dates, the ROV shall mail a Voter Information Guide and Sample Ballot with a polling place notice to each registered voter. Between these dates the Secretary of State shall mail state Voter Information Guides to each registered voter.
Last Day to Register to Vote to Ensure Receipt of Sample Ballot by Mail EC §9094, 13303		
10/5/2026 E-29	Voters	This is the last day voters may register to vote in order to ensure the receipt of a Voter Information Guide by mail. Voter registration cards received by this date will be added to the rolls and the voters will receive a Voter Information Guide booklet prepared by the ROV. Voters who submit cards after this date will not receive a County Voter Information Guide and Sample Ballot by mail; however, they will receive notification of registration received.
Vote-by-Mail Ballot Distribution EC §3001, 3003		
10/5/2026 E-29	ROV	On this day, the ROV will begin to mail vote-by-mail ballots to all active registered voters.
Processing Vote-by-Mail Ballots EC §15101		
10/5/2026 E-29	ROV	On this day, the ROV may begin to process vote-by-mail ballots including verifying the voter's signature on the vote-by-mail ballot return envelope, opening vote-by-mail ballot return envelopes, removing ballots, duplicating any damaged ballots, preparation of ballot to be machine read, or machine reading them. However, under no circumstances may a vote count be accessed or released until 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
15-Day Close of Voter Registration EC §300(b), 321, 2102, 3102; U.S.C. §20501 et. Seq.		
10/19/2026 E-15	ROV	Last day to register to vote in November 3, 2026 General Election. The Voter Registration form shall be mailed (postmarked by this date), received online by midnight, or delivered to the ROV by this date and is effective upon receipt. The Voter Registration form may also be submitted by this date to the Secretary of State, Department of Motor Vehicles, or any National Voter Registration Act designated agency. **Military and Overseas Voters**: A request for a vote-by-mail ballot from a military or overseas voter, if postmarked on or before this date, will be deemed an affidavit of registration and an application for permanent vote-by-mail status.
Conditional Registration Period EC §2170		
10/20/2026 - 11/3/2026 E-14 to E-Day	ROV	Voters who missed the voter registration deadline can still register and vote up to and including Election Day at the Imperial County Registrar of Voters' Office located at 940 West Main Street, Suite 206, El Centro, CA or any Vote Center. Ballots will be counted after the elections official verifies the voter's registration and confirms that they have not already voted in the election.
Filing Period for Second Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure Statement GC §84200.5, 84200.8		
10/22/2026 E-12	Candidates / Committees / ROV	Last day to file campaign statements for candidates and committees covering the period of September 20 - October 17, 2026. Statement must be sent by personal delivery or guaranteed overnight delivery.
11-Day Vote Centers Open EC §4005 (a)(4)(A)		
10/24/2026 - 11/3/2026 E-10 to E-Day	ROV	Beginning 10 days before Election Day, 1 Vote Center for every 50,000 registered voters as of the 88th day shall be open for a minimum of 8 hours and from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
4-Day Vote Centers Open EC §4005 (a)(3)(A)		
10/31/2026 - 11/3/2026 E-3 to E-Day	ROV	Beginning 3 days before Election Day, 1 Vote Center for every 10,000 registered voters as of the 88th day shall be open for a minimum of 8 hours and from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
Election Day		
11/3/2026 E-Day	ROV	Vote Centers open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m. Vote-by-Mail ballots may be turned in before the polls close at any Vote Center or any drop box within California, or postmarked on or before this date by the U.S. Postal Service.
Official Canvass EC §15301, 15372		
11/5/2026 - 12/3/2026 E+2 to E+30	ROV	The official canvass of precinct returns is to be completed during this time. Canvass shall be continued daily, Saturday, Sundays and holidays excepted, for not less than six hours each day until completed.
Vote-by-Mail Ballots Returned Via Post Office Deadline EC §3020		
11/10/2026 E+7	ROV	Vote-by-Mail ballots that are postmarked on or before Election Day or are date stamped by a bona fide private mail delivery company on or before Election Day, and received by the ROV no later than 7 days after Election Day shall be considered received on time. If the ballot has no postmark, a postmark with no date or an illegible postmark, the vote-by-mail ballot identification envelope must be signed and dated by the voter pursuant to Elections Code §3011 on or before Election Day in order to be considered received on time.
11/11/2026	**Veterans Day Holiday - Office Closed**	
11/26-27/2026	**Thanksgiving Holiday - Office Closed**	
Last Day to Cure Challenged Ballots EC §3019(e)(1)(B)		
11/25/2026	ROV	Last day to cure a vote-by-mail ballot received with no signature or a non-matching signature compared to the one file for the voter in the ROV Election Management System. Voters will have until 2 days before certification of the election to provide their signature on a statement and file it with the ROV.

DATE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DESCRIPTION
Recount May be Requested EC §15620-16542		
5 Days After Canvass	ROV	Within five (5) days after the completion of the official canvass, any voter may request a recount by filing a written request with the ROV, specifying which candidate(s) and/or measures are to be recounted. The petitioning voter shall, before commencement of each day's recount, deposit such sum as the ROV deems required to cover costs of the recount. "Completion of the canvass" shall be the time when the ROV signs the certified Statement of Vote.
Statement of Vote to Secretary of State EC §15375		
12/3/2026 E+30	ROV	No later than this date, the ROV shall send one copy of the Statement of Vote to the Secretary of State.
Certificates of Election or Nomination to be Prepared EC §8145, 8146, 8147		
12/4/2026 E+31	ROV	The county ROV will prepare certificates of election for each candidate elected for nonpartisan offices voted for wholly within one county. The Secretary of State will prepare certificates of nomination for Congressional and Legislative candidates.