2014

NORTH DAKOTA ELECTION CALENDAR

North Dakota

✓otes

2014

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Section 1 – Election Dates – 2014

Township Elections .....Tuesday, March 18, 2014

School District Elections.....Between April 1 and June 30, 2014
Set at the discretion of the school board

City Elections .....Tuesday, June 10, 2014
Cities with home rule charters may have different election dates

June Election .....Tuesday, June 10, 2014
Federal, Statewide, District, and County Office Primary

General Election .....Tuesday, November 4, 2014

Section 2 – Township Elections

Township elections are held annually on the third Tuesday in March. The clerk must give proper notice of election at least 10 days before the March 18, 2014, election. NDCC § 58-04-01

Before the township electors proceed to elect township officers, the moderator shall proclaim the opening of the polls. A similar proclamation must be made of any adjournment and of the opening and closing of the polls until the election has ended. NDCC § 58-04-07

Offices on the Ballot

- Township Supervisor
- Township Treasurer
- Township Clerk
- Township Assessor

Section 3 – School District Elections

An individual seeking election to a school district board shall prepare and sign a document stating the individual's name and the position for which that individual is a candidate. A candidate shall also file a Statement of Interests as required by section 16.1-09-02.
NDCC § 15.1 -09-08

The statement setting forth the candidate's name and the position for which the person is seeking election and the Statement of Interests must be filed with the school district business manager, or mailed to and in the possession of the business manager by 4:00 p.m. of the 64th day before the election. This also applies when the school election is held in conjunction with the county.

Offices on the Ballot

- School Board Member

Section 4 – City Elections

Cities hold elections on the second Tuesday in June in each even numbered year. Thirty days prior to the candidate filing deadline, a city must post a public notice of the approaching filing deadline. Public notice of the election is made by publication 10 days before the election in the city's official newspaper. To hold the election (unless it is a special city election), the governing body of the city must enter into an agreement with the governing board of the county or counties in which the city lies. NDCC § 40-21-02

Candidates for city offices are required to collect signatures of 10 percent of the electors who voted for that office in the last city election; however, no more than 300 signatures are required.

The Petition/Certificate of Nomination must be filed before 4:00 p.m. on the 64th day before the election. A Petition/Certificate of Nomination may not be circulated or signed prior to January 1, 2014. NDCC § 40-21-07

Earliest day to begin circulating petitions ..... Wednesday, January 1, 2014

Earliest day to file Petitions ..... …….. Thursday, January 2, 2014*

*The first day to file petitions falls on a state holiday making the next business day the first permissible filing day.

Last day to file Petitions ..... 4:00 p.m., Monday, April 7, 2014

Offices that may be on the Ballot: (Depending on form of city governance)

Council Form

- Mayor
- Council Member at Large
- Council Member
- Municipal Judge

Commission Form

- Commission President
- City Commissioner
- Municipal Judge

Polling Hours

Polling locations cannot open earlier than 7:00 a.m. and must be open by 9:00 a.m. with the exception of those precincts in which fewer than 75 votes were cast in the last General Election. The governing body of the exempt polling locations may direct the polls to open no later than 12:00 noon. All polling locations must remain open until 7:00 p.m. and close no later than 9:00 p.m. NDCC § 16.1-01-03

Section 5 – Federal, State, and County Offices on Ballots in 2014

FEDERAL – CONGRESSIONAL

Representative in Congress .....2 year term

STATE

Statewide Political Party Ballot

Secretary of State.....4 year term
Attorney General .....4 year term
Agriculture Commissioner.....4 year term
Tax Commissioner .....4 year term
Public Service Commissioner .....6 year term
Public Service Commissioner ..... 2 year unexpired term

State Legislative District Seats

24 seats Senate (all odd numbered districts).....4 year term
48 seats House of Representatives (all odd numbered districts) .....4 year term

No-Party Ballot

Justice of the Supreme Court (statewide) .....10 year term
Judges of the District Court .....6 year term

Judicial District	Judgeship Number(s)
East Central	1, 5, 6 and 7
Northwest	2
North Central	1
Northeast	3 and 4
Northeast Central	4 and 5
South Central	1, 6, 7 and 8
Southeast	4 (term ending 12/31/2016)

COUNTY (Depending on county structure)

County Commissioners.....4 year term
County Auditor .....4 year term

- County Auditor/Treasurer
- County Auditor/Treasurer/Tax Director

County State's Attorney .....4 year term
County Recorder.....4 year term

- County Recorder/Clerk of District Court

County Treasurer .....4 year term

- County Treasurer/Recorder
- County Treasurer/Recorder/Clerk of District Court
- County Treasurer/Tax Director

County Sheriff .....4 year term
County Clerk of the District Court .....4 year term
Director, Southwest Water Authority (June Election only) .....4 year term
Bowman, Golden Valley, Hettinger, Mercer, Morton (one position outside Mandan city limits and one within the city of Mandan), Stark (one position outside Dickinson city limits and one within the city of Dickinson), each jurisdiction elects one director.
Supervisor, Soil Conservation District (November Election only) .....6 year term
Director, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District.....4 year term
Benson, Cass, McHenry, McLean, Pierce, Ramsey, Renville, Richland, Stutsman, Traill, Ward and Wells each elect one director.
Official County Newspaper .....4 year term
Some counties will vote on:

- A continuation of a $1 per line per month fee on telephone service for the costs associated with E-911 service. NDCC § 57-40.6-02

Section 6 – Primary Election – 2014

Congressional, Statewide, Legislative District, Judicial District, and County Offices

A. Election Date: June 10, 2014

The primary election is held on the second Tuesday in June. NDCC § 16.1-11-01

B. Placement of Candidate's Name on Ballot

To place his or her name on the ballot, a candidate may choose one of the following two options: Certificate of Endorsement (political party nominee) or Petition. The forms are available from either the Secretary of State or the County Auditor.

B.1 Certificate of Endorsement – Political Party Nominee

Candidates for statewide office who are nominees of a political party must file a Certificate of Endorsement with the Secretary of State. Candidates for legislative office who are nominees of a political party must file a Certificate of Endorsement with the Secretary of State. Certificates of Endorsement may not be filed with the Secretary of State prior to January 2, 2014* and must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 64th day before the Primary Election. NDCC §§ 16.1-11-06 and 16.1-11-11

B.1.a Filing Dates for Certificate of Endorsement

Earliest day to file Certificate of Endorsement ..... Thursday, January 2, 2014*

*The first day to file endorsements falls on a state holiday making the next business day the first permissible filing day.

Last day to file Certificate of Endorsement ..... 4:00 p.m., Monday, April 7, 2014

B.2 Petition

Congressional, Statewide, or Judicial Candidates: If the office sought is under a political party designation, signatures on petitions must be obtained from qualified electors equal to at least 3% of the total vote cast at the last General Election for that party's candidate for the same office. However, no more than 300 signatures are required. If the office sought did not have a candidate from that party on the ballot in the preceding General Election, or if the office sought has a no-party designation, at least 300 signatures are required on petitions. Candidates must file a petition with the Secretary of State to have their name placed on the ballot. Petitions may not be circulated or signed prior to January 1, 2014. Petitions may not be filed earlier than January 2, 2014 and must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 64th day before the election. NDCC §§ 16.1-11-06 and 16.1-11-15

Legislative Candidates: Petitions for legislative office must contain signatures of at least 1% of the total resident population of the legislative district; however, no more than 300 signatures are required. A candidate for these offices must file a petition with the Secretary of State. Petitions may not be circulated or signed prior to January 1, 2014. Petitions may not be filed earlier than January 2, 2014 and must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 64th day before the election. NDCC §§ 16.1-11-11 and 16.1-11-15.

County or Multi-County Candidates: Petitions for Director, Southwest Water Authority must contain signatures equal to not less than 2% of the qualified electors of the county as determined by the number of votes cast in the county for that office at the most recent election at which the office appeared on the ballot. Petitions for Director, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District must contain not less than 50 signatures of qualified electors of the

county. Petitions for Soil Conservation District Supervisor must contain not less than 25 signatures of qualified electors of the district. Petitions for the remaining county offices must contain signatures of not less than 2% or more than 5% of the votes cast for the same office in the last General Election. A candidate for these offices must file a petition with the County Auditor in their county of residence. Petitions may not be circulated prior to January 1, 2014. Petitions may not be filed earlier than January 2, 2014 and must be in the physical possession of the County Auditor no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 64th day before the election. NDCC §§ 16.1-11-11, 16.1-11-15, 61-24-03, 61-24.5-06 and 4-22-17

B.2.a – Circulating and Filing Dates for Petition

Earliest day to begin circulating petitions ..... Wednesday, January 1, 2014

Earliest day to file petitions..... Thursday, January 2, 2014*

Last day to file petitions.....4:00 p.m., Monday, April 7, 2014**

*The first day to file petitions falls on a state holiday making the next business day the first permissible filing day.
**The last day for candidates to file for Southwest Water Authority and Garrison Diversion Conservancy District offices should be understood as April 7, 2014. Due to an oversight in the legislative process, candidates wanting to fill a vacancy on the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District and candidates running as Mandan or Dickinson city representatives for the Southwest Water Authority still have a filing deadline of the 60th day before the election, which is Friday, April 11, 2014. (See N.D.C.C. §§ 61-24-03.1 and 61-24.5-07 for specific details. Please contact the Elections Unit of the Secretary of State's office if you are unsure if this applies to you.)

C. Notice of Offices to be Nominated

Between March 1 and April 1, the Secretary of State must provide each County Auditor with a notice of the offices to be nominated in their respective county at the next primary election. NDCC § 16.1-11-05

D. Certified List of Nominees

No later than 55 days before the Primary Election, the Secretary of State must certify to the County Auditors the names and addresses of the nominees for congressional, statewide, and district office, and if applicable, the party represented by each. NDCC § 16.1-11-20

Last day by which Secretary of State
must certify list of nominees..... Wednesday, April 16, 2014

E. Certificate of Write-In Candidacy

A person who intends to be a write-in candidate for a congressional, statewide, or judicial district office at the Primary Election must file a Certificate of Write-In Candidacy with the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 21st day before the Primary Election. A person who intends to be a write-in candidate for legislative office at the Primary Election shall file a Certificate of Write-In Candidacy with the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 4th day before the Primary Election. The sworn Certificate of Write-In Candidacy must contain the complete post-office address of the candidate. Forms are available from the Secretary of State. Write-in candidates for multi-county district, county, city, or school district offices are not required to file these forms. NDCC § 16.1-12-02.2

Last day to file Congressional, Statewide, or Judicial District
Certificate of Write-In Candidacy ..... 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Last day to file Legislative
Certificate of Write-In Candidacy .....4:00 p.m., Friday, June 6, 2014

F. Absentee Ballots Available

Absentee ballots are made available to military voters and their families stationed away from their North Dakota residence and residents residing overseas (UOCAVA voters) on the 46th day before the Primary Election. Absentee ballots for all other North Dakota residents (domestic voters) are made available on the 40th day before the Primary Election.

UOCAVA voters ballots made available.....Friday, April 25, 2014
Domestic voters ballots made available……..…Thursday, May 1, 2014

G. Publication of Sample Ballot

The County Auditor must publish in the official county newspaper, once each week for two consecutive weeks before the Primary Election, a notice of election and a sample ballot showing the names of the nominees. NDCC § 16.1-11-21

H. Publication of Measures Analysis

The County Auditor must publish in the official county newspaper, for two consecutive weeks before the sample ballot is published, an analysis of any constitutional amendment, initiated measure, or referred measure. NDCC § 16.1-01-07

I. Polling Hours

Polling locations cannot open earlier than 7:00 a.m. and must be open by 9:00 a.m. with the exception of those precincts in which fewer than 75 votes were cast in the last General Election. The governing body of the exempt polling locations may direct the polls to open no later than 12:00 noon. All polling locations must remain open until 7:00 p.m. and close no later than 9:00 p.m. NDCC § 16.1-01-03

J. County Canvassing Board

Members of the County Canvassing Board are the County Auditor, County Recorder, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, and at least one representative from each of the two political parties receiving the most votes in the last gubernatorial election, for a minimum of five members. In multi-legislative district counties, each political party may request additional representation on the canvassing board if there is equal representation from each political party. The appointed representatives from the political parties may not have served as election board members for that same election. The Board shall meet to canvass the results of the Primary Election six days following the election.
NDCC §§ 16.1-15-15 and 16.1-15-17

County Canvassing Board shall meet.....Monday, June 16, 2014

K. Auditor Certifies Results to Secretary of State

The County Auditor must certify the results of the election according to the reporting instructions provided by the Secretary of State within 10 days after the election.
NDCC § 16.1-15-22

Last day County Auditor may certify results..... Friday, June 20, 2014

L. State Canvassing Board

The members of the State Canvassing Board are the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, and Chairman, or designated representative, of the applicable state political parties. It must meet no later than 17 days after the Primary Election. NDCC §§ 16.1-15-33 and 16.1-15-35

The State Canvassing Board must meet on or before..... Friday, June 27, 2014

Section 7 – General Election – 2014

Congressional, Statewide, Legislative District, Judicial District, and County Officers

A. Election Date: November 4, 2014

The election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even numbered year. NDCC § 16.1-13-01

B. Placement of Candidate's Name on Ballot

Candidate names are placed on the General Election ballot by the following two options:

B.1 Primary Election – Statewide, Legislative, Judicial, and County

The statewide or legislative candidate nominated by a political party who received the highest number of votes for that office in the political party's Primary Election is automatically placed on the General Election ballot. The two candidates for a no-party statewide, judicial district, or county office receiving the most votes are automatically placed on the General Election ballot. No person may be deemed nominated as a candidate for any office at any Primary Election unless the person receives a number of votes equal to the number of signatures that were required to petition for the office at the Primary Election.

B.2 Certificate of Independent Nomination – Statewide and Legislative

To appear on the ballot as an independent candidate for a statewide office (excluding no-party identified offices); a candidate must file with the Secretary of State a Certificate of Independent Nomination. It must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 64th day before the election and it must contain the signatures of no fewer than 1,000 qualified electors of the state. To appear on the ballot as an independent candidate for a legislative office, a candidate must file with the Secretary of State a Certificate of Independent Nomination. It must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 64th day before the election and it must contain the signatures of a least 2% of the resident population of the legislative district, but in no case are more than 300 signatures required. A Certificate of Independent Nomination may not be circulated or signed more than 150 days before the date the petition must be filed with the applicable filing officer. Forms are available from the Secretary of State.

Earliest day to begin circulating petitions..... Friday, April 4, 2014

Last day to circulate and file petitions 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 2, 2014*

* The 64th day falls on Labor Day making the next business day the last permissible filing day.

Note: Independent nomination for no-party statewide, judicial, or county office is not allowed for the General Election. To appear on the General Election ballot, candidates for no-party offices must be one of two winners in the June Primary Election. NDCC §§ 16.1-12-02, 16.1-12-02.3, and 16.1-12-04

C. Notice of Officers to be Elected

At least 70 days before the General Election the Secretary of State must provide to the County Auditors a notice of the offices to be elected. NDCC § 16.1-13-03

Last day for Secretary of State's certification..... Tuesday, August 26, 2014

D. Withdrawal of Candidate's Name from Ballot

Nominees wishing to withdraw their names from the General Election ballot must do so in writing and file the letter with the appropriate filing officer, i.e., Secretary of State or County Auditor. The letter must be in the physical possession of the applicable filing officer at least 64 days before the General Election. NDCC § 16.1-12-07

Last day a candidate may withdraw.....4:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 2, 2014*

* The 64th day falls on Labor Day making the next business day the last permissible withdrawal day.

E. Certified List of Candidates

No later than 55 days before the General Election the Secretary of State must certify to the County Auditors the names and addresses of the candidates for congressional, statewide, and district offices. NDCC § 16.1-12-04

Last day for Secretary of State's certification.....Wednesday, September 10, 2014

F. Absentee Ballots Available

Absentee ballots are made available to military voters and their families stationed away from their North Dakota residence and residents residing overseas (UOCAVA voters) on the 46th day before the General Election. Absentee ballots for all other North Dakota residents (domestic voters) are made available on the 40th day before the General Election.

UOCAVA voters ballots made available.....Friday, September 19, 2014
Domestic voters ballots made available……Thursday, September 25, 2014

G. Certificate of Write-In Candidacy

A person who intends to be a write-in candidate for congressional, statewide, or judicial district office at the General Election must file a Certificate of Write-In Candidacy with the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 21st day before the General Election. A person who intends to be a write-in candidate for a legislative office at the General Election must file a Certificate of Write-In Candidacy with the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 4th day before the General Election. The sworn Certificate of Write-In Candidacy must contain the complete post office address of the candidate. Forms are available from the Secretary of State. Write-in candidates for Soil Conservation District Supervisor, county, city, or school district offices are not required to file these forms. NDCC § 16.1-12-02.2

Last day to file Congressional, Statewide, or Judicial District
Certificate of Write-In Candidacy .....4:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 14, 2014

Last day to file Legislative
Certificate of Write-In Candidacy .....4:00 p.m., Friday, October 31, 2014

H. Publication of Sample Ballot

The County Auditor must publish in the official county newspaper, once each week for two consecutive weeks before the General Election, a notice of the election and a sample ballot. NDCC § 16.1-13-05

I. Publication of Measures Analysis

The County Auditor must publish in the official county newspaper, for two consecutive weeks before the sample ballot is published, an analysis of any constitutional amendment, initiated measure, or referred measure. NDCC § 16.1-01-07

J. Polling Hours

Polling locations cannot open earlier than 7:00 a.m. and must be open by 9:00 a.m. with the exception of those precincts in which fewer than 75 votes were cast in the last General Election. The governing body of the exempt polling locations may direct the polls to open no later than 12:00 noon. All polling locations must remain open until 7:00 p.m. and close no later than 9:00 p.m. NDCC § 16.1-01-03

K. County Canvassing Board

Members of the County Canvassing Board are the County Auditor, County Recorder, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, and at least one representative from each of the two political parties receiving the most votes in the last gubernatorial election, for a minimum of five members. In multi-legislative district counties, each political party may request additional representation on the canvassing board if there is equal representation from each political party. The appointed representatives from the political parties may not have served as election board members for that same election. The Board shall meet to canvass the results of the General Election six days following the election.
NDCC §§ 16.1-15-15 and 16.1-15-17

County Canvassing Board shall meet ..... Monday, November 10, 2014

L. Auditor Certifies Results to Secretary of State

The County Auditor must certify the election results according to the reporting instructions provided by the Secretary of State within 10 days after the election. NDCC § 16.1-15-25

Last day County Auditor may certify results..... Friday, November 14, 2014

M. State Canvassing Board

The members of the State Canvassing Board are the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, and Chairman, or designated representative of the applicable state political parties. It must meet no later than 17 days after the General Election.
NDCC §§ 16.1-15-33 and 16.1-15-35

The State Canvassing Board must meet on or before ..... Friday, November 21, 2014

Section 8 – Affidavit of Candidacy/Statement of Interests

Every candidate for elective office must file a Statement of Interests form with the applicable filing officer at the same time he or she files his or her Petition/Certificate of Nomination or Certificate of Endorsement.

Except for city, school board, and township candidates, all other candidates must also file an Affidavit of Candidacy.

Congressional candidates may file either a Statement of Interests form or a copy of their personal disclosure statement required by the Federal Election Commission. Any person who files a Statement of Interests or equivalent substitute in the case of Congressional candidates, for the Primary Election need not file another statement before the General Election.

The forms for this filing are available from the Secretary of State office or the County Auditor.
NDCC § 16.1-11-10 and NDCC § 16.1-09-02

Section 9 – Campaign Contribution Statements

Complete campaign finance information is found in NDCC § 16.1-08.1 and the Campaign Finance and Disclosure Requirements pamphlet available at the Secretary of State's web site www.nd.gov/sos/campfinance/discl-forms-pubs.html.

A. 2014 Campaign Contribution Report Filing Deadlines

Pre-primary report for January 1 through May 1

Earliest day to file report ..... Friday, May 2, 2014

Last day to file report ..... Friday, May 9, 2014

Pre-general report for January 1 through September 25

Earliest day to file report .....Friday, September26, 2014

Last day to file report ..... Friday, October 3, 2014

Year-end report for January 1 through December 31

Earliest day to file report .....Thursday, January 1, 2015

Last day to file report ..... Saturday, January 31, 2015

A.1 48-Hour Reports

Special Filing Deadline for Contributions Received Within 20 Days Prior to Election

If any candidate, political party, or political committee receives contributions in excess of $500 in the aggregate in the 39 day period before any election from any individual contributor, that candidate, political party, political committee, or person shall file a supplemental statement in the same form as required by NDCC § 16.1-08.1-02, § 16.1-08.1-03, § 16.1-08.1-03.1, § 16.1-08.1-03.3, § 16.1-08.1-03.8, § 16.1-08.1-03.9, § 16.1-08.1-03.10, or §16.1-08.1-03.11 stating the name and street address of the contributor and the aggregated amount of the contribution and file the statement in the appropriate office within 48 hours of the receipt of the contribution. NDCC § 16.1-08.1-04

A.2 Late Filing Fees

All campaign finance reports must be filed in a timely manner according to the applicable due date. A timely filing can be completed by hand-carrying the report to the filing officer, faxing it, or sending it with a postmark no later than the due date. If the report is not timely filed, a late filing fee must be charged. NDCC § 16.1-08.1-06.1

1. If filed within 6 days after the due date, the late fee is $25.
2. If filed within 11 days after the due date, the late fee is $50.
3. If filed 12 or more days after the due date, the late fee is $100.

A.3 Amendments to Filed Reports

NDCC § 16.1-08.1-06.1

A filing officer may require an amendment to be filed for any statement, registration, or report that is incorrect or incomplete. The amendment must be filed with the filing officer within 10 business days after the amendment has been requested in writing. If an amendment is not filed within the prescribed time, the filing officer is authorized to charge and collect a late fee as follows:

1. If filed within 6 days after the amendment was due, the late fee is $50.
2. If filed within 11 days after the amendment was due, the late fee is $100.
3. If filed 12 or more days after the amendment was due, the late fee is $200.

Section 10 – Additional Election Information

For more information about elections:

Elections Unit
North Dakota Secretary of State
600 East Boulevard Avenue Dept. 108, 1st Floor
Bismarck ND 58505-0500

(701) 328-4146
Toll Free – (800) 352-0867, ext. 8-4146

Fax - (701) 328-3413

Email - soselect@state.nd.us
Web Site - www.nd.gov/sos/electvote

The North Dakota Secretary of State's web site contains election publications, connections to other helpful election web sites, and state election forms which can be completed on line before printing and signing.