

Checks and Balances in New Hampshire: Important Dates for the 2024 November Election

New Hampshire's elections are governed by a number of laws and regulations that ensure there are checks and balances throughout the process. Bipartisan teams of election workers at the local, county, and state level go through a meticulous list of steps to verify the count and check for accuracy.

Below we detail the dates each of these steps occur to offer greater transparency about the rigorous efforts underway to deliver a free and fair election in New Hampshire. For greater detail about verifying mail ballot applications and ballots, as well as the post-election process, [please visit the rest of our series on checks and balances in New Hampshire elections.](#)

Importantly, this is nonpartisan educational research intended for 501(c)(3)-compliant purposes only. It is *not* to be used for any partisan, political, or electioneering activities by any organization.

Voting by Mail

- [Saturday, September 21](#) - Deadline to mail UOCAVA voters their ballots if the request was submitted before this date. Requests made after this date must be fulfilled without delay.
- **Monday, November 4** -
 - [3 p.m. - 5 p.m.](#) - Clerks' offices must be open to accept delivery of mail ballots
 - [After 5 p.m.](#) - Clerks can no longer issue or accept mail ballots at their offices
- **Tuesday, November 5 - Election Day** -
 - [2 hours after polls open \(1 p.m. at the latest\)](#) - Clerks may begin processing and verifying mail ballots
 - [5 p.m.](#) - General deadline by which mail ballots must be received

In-Person Voting (Election Day)

- [Tuesday, November 5](#) - Election Day.
 - [Voters may register at their polling place.](#)
 - **11 a.m.** - Latest time a municipality can open polls

- **7 p.m.** - Earliest time a municipality can close polls

Counting, Canvassing, & Certification

- **Tuesday, November 5 - Election Day**
 - [Close of polls](#) - Counting of mail and in-person ballots may begin.
 - [Counting continues until it is completed](#)
 - [At completion of counting](#) - Moderators must announce results at their polling place and transfer to the clerk
- [Wednesday, November 6](#) - Clerks must send a copy of results to the secretary of state no later than 8 a.m.
- [Tuesday, December 3 \(or earlier if candidates waive right to challenge results\)](#) - Governor may begin to issue certificates of election.
- [Wednesday, December 11](#) - Deadline for the governor to issue a certification of ascertainment of the state's presidential electors for the certification to be treated as conclusive at the January 6 joint session of Congress to certify the presidential election.
- [Tuesday, December 17](#) - Presidential electors meet at the state capitol to cast their votes.

Recounts & Election Contests

- [Friday, November 8](#) - Deadline for a candidate who received general election votes to apply to the secretary of state for a recount.
- [Wednesday, November 13](#) - Last day the secretary of state may begin a recount.
- [Monday, November 25](#) - Ballot Law Commission meets to hear disputes.
- [Saturday, November 30](#) - Deadline to file an appeal of a decision of the Ballot Law Commission.

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