2020 Primary Election Timeline

April

April 8
Deadline for Filing Certificate to Fill Vacancy of a Primary Election Candidate by the Appointed Vacancy Committee
(55 days before election)
N.J.S.A. 19:23-12

April 8
Deadline for Determination of Petition Challenges for Primary Election Candidates
(9 days after the last day for filing nomination petitions)
N.J.S.A. 19:13-11

April 9
Deadline for Municipal Clerk to Certify to the County Clerk the Names of the Candidates who filed Primary Election Nomination Petition with Municipal Clerk
(54 days before election)
N.J.S.A. 19:23-14

April 9
Transmittal of Secretary of State Certification of Federal and State Primary Election Candidates to County Clerks
(54 days before election)
N.J.S.A. 19:23-21

April 9
County & Municipal Clerk Drawings for Ballot Positions for Primary Election Candidates
(54 days before election)

April 10
Transmittal of County Clerk Certification of All Candidates to be Placed on the Primary Election Ballot to Municipal Clerks, the County Clerk Shall also Transmit such List, but for Federal Candidates; to Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC)
(53 days before the election)
N.J.S.A. 19:23-22

April 13
Deadline for Filing in Superior Court to Protect Primary Election Candidate’s Rights
(12 days after petition filing deadline)
N.J.S.A. 19:13-12

April 26 - May 2; May 3 - May 9
Publication of Notice of Requirements to Vote in Primary Election by County Commissioner of Registration
(notice to be published once during each of the two calendar weeks next preceding the week of the 55th day before the election)
N.J.S.A. 19:23-45.1
2020 Primary Election Timeline

May

May 12
Publication of Notice of Mail-in Ballot Availability for Primary Election by County Clerks
(prior to the 55th day before election)
_N.J.S.A. 19:63-6_

May 13
Deadline for Change of Party Affiliation Declaration Forms for Primary Election to be Filed
with County Commissioners of Registration
(55 days before election)
_N.J.S.A. 19:23-45_

May 17 – June 15
Publication of Notice of Primary Election by County Boards of Election
(within 30 days before close of registration for election)
_N.J.S.A. 19:12-7_
*Under current law the Primary Election is held only for the Democratic and Republican parties. N.J.S.A. 19:5-1

May 18*
Deadline for Preparation of Official Primary Election Ballot for Printing
(50 days before election)
_N.J.S.A. 19:14-1_
* County Commissioner of Registration is to provide notice to the two County Chairpersons of the date to inspect voting machines after they have been prepared for the upcoming election. This date will vary from county to county. N.J.S.A. 19:48-6

May 23
Commencement of Sending UOCAVA Ballots for Primary Election
(45 days before election)

May 30
Commencement of Mailing Regular Mail-In Ballots for Primary Election
(38 days before election)

June

June 15
Certification of Polling Places by County Boards of Election
_N.J.S.A. 19:8-4_

June 15
Filing of Certification of Accessible Polling Places to the Secretary of State by the County
Boards of Election
_N.J.S.A. 19:8-3.4_

June 16
Voter Registration Deadline for Primary Election
(21 days before election)
_N.J.S.A. 19:31-6_
June 16
Mandated Evening Voter Registration Available for Primary Election in Offices of County Commissioners of Registration
(optional for Municipal Clerk)
(21 days before election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:31-2*

June 23
Deadline for Filing of Challenger Appointments for Primary Election
(second Tuesday preceding election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:7-3*

June 28 – July 4
Publication of Notice of Primary Election by County Boards of Election
(once during the calendar week prior to election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:12-7*

June 30
Publication of Challenge and Complaint Procedures for Primary Election by County Boards of Election
(7 days before election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:12-9*

June 30
Deadline to apply for a Mail-In Ballot by Mail for Primary Election
(not less than 7 days prior to election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:63-3*

**July**

July 1
Mailing of Sample Ballots for Primary Election
(on or before 12 noon on Wednesday preceding election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:23-34*

July 3
Deadline for Application to Receive Primary Election Mail-In Ballots by Electronic Means for Qualified Overseas Civilian and Military Voters
(4th day before election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:59-4*

July 6 – by 3:00 p.m.
Deadline for In-Person Mail-In Ballot Applications for Primary Election
(up to 3:00 p.m. on the day before election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:63-3*

July 6
Publication of Challenge and Complaint Procedures for Primary Election by County Boards of Election
(1 day before election)
*N.J.S.A. 19:12-9*
2020 Primary Election Timeline

July 7
Primary Election Day
(Moved from the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June by Executive Order 120)

July 7
Last day for Testing of Electronic Scanning Equipment for Tabulation of Paper Ballots for Primary Election
(day of election) (notice to be given 48 hours prior to the start of testing)
N.J.S.A. 19:53A-8

July 7
Deadline for Post Office Receipt of Mail-In Ballots from the Primary Election

July 7
Deadline for in Person Submission of Primary Election Mail-In Ballots to County Boards of Election
(by 8:00 p.m. on the day of election)
N.J.S.A. 19:63-16

July 8 - July 24
Impoundment Period for Voting Machines Used in the Primary Election
(17 days following election) (to comply with P.L. 2018, c.72)
N.J.S.A. 19:52-6

July 9
Deadline for Receipt of Timely Mailed Postmarked Mail-In Ballots to County Boards of Election
(no later than 48 hours after the time of the closing of the polls for the election)
N.J.S.A. 19:63-16

June 14
Deadline for Filing of Acceptance of Nomination by Successful Primary Election Write-in Nominee
(7 days after election)
N.J.S.A. 19:23-16

July 14
Filing of Acceptance of One Nomination where Primary Election Nominee Receives More Than One Nomination for Same Office
(7 days after election)
N.J.S.A. 19:14-9

July 15
Deadline for Municipal Clerk to Certify to County Clerk and County Board of Elections the Names of Duly Elected County Committee Members
(within 8 days after primary election)
N.J.S.A. 19:23-54

July 17
Deadline for Filing of Election Contest Petitions for Primary Election
(up to 10 days after election)
N.J.S.A. 19:29-3

Reissued on April 8, 2020
2020 Primary Election Timeline

July 19
Canvass of Primary Election Votes by County Clerks
(12 days after the election)
N.J.S.A. 19:23-55

July 24
Deadline for Recount Applications for Primary Election
(within 17 days after election)
N.J.S.A. 19:28-1

July 24
Deadline for Applications for Recheck of Voting Machines Used in the Primary Election
(within 17 days after election) (to comply with P.L. 2018, c.72)
N.J.S.A. 19:52-6

July 24
Deadline for Preparation of Emergency and Provisional Ballot Reports by Each County Board of Election for the Primary Election
(within 17 days after the election or 3 days after the certification of the results of the election)