

2026 December

Special School Board Election Timeline

October

October 9

Written Notice of December Special School Board Elections by Board of Education to Municipal Clerks and County Board of Election

(no less than 60 days prior to election)

N.J.S.A. 19:60-2

October 9 by 10:00 a.m.

Secretary of the Board of Education Forwards Certified Statement Designating the Public Question to be Voted Upon to County Clerk

(By 10 a.m., 60 days preceding a special school election)

N.J.S.A. 19:60-4

October 13

Publication of Notice of Mail-In Ballot Availability for December Special School Board Elections by County Clerks

(prior to the 55th day before election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-6

October 18 - November 16

Publication of Notice of December Special School Board Elections by County Boards of Election

(once during the 30 days next preceding the voter registration deadline)

N.J.S.A. 19:12-7

November

November 17

Voter Registration Deadline for December Special School Board Elections

(21 days before election)

N.J.S.A. 19:31-6

November 17

Deadline for Filing Challenger Appointments for Special School Election

(Third Tuesday preceding election)

N.J.S.A. 19:7-3

November 29 - December 5

Publication of Notice of December Special School Board Elections by County Boards of Election

(once during the calendar week prior to election)

N.J.S.A. 19:12-7

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December

December 1

Publication of Challenge and Complaint Procedures for December Special School Board Elections by County Boards of Election

(7 days before election)

N.J.S.A. 19:12-9

December 1

Deadline to apply for a Mail-In Ballot by Mail for December Special School Board Elections

(not less than 7 days prior to election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-3

December 2

Mailing of Sample Ballots for December Special School Board Elections

(on or before 12 noon on Wednesday preceding election)

(Consistent with requirements prior to the implementation of early voting which does not apply to school elections)

N.J.S.A. 19:14-25

December 3

Last Day for Testing of Electronic Scanning Equipment for Tabulation of Paper Ballots for December Special School Board Elections

(A county board of elections may begin opening the inner envelopes for each mail-in ballot and canvassing each mail-in ballot from the inner envelope no earlier than five days prior to the day of the election- December 8)

(notice to be given 48 hours prior to the start of testing)

N.J.S.A. 19:53A-8; 19:63-22 (b)

December 4

Deadline for Application to Receive December Special School Board 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

December 7 by 3:00 p.m.

Deadline for In-Person Mail-In Ballot Applications for December Special School Board Election

(up to 3:00 p.m. on the day before election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-3

December 7

Publication of Challenge and Complaint Procedures for December Special School Board Elections by County Boards of Election

(1 day before election)

N.J.S.A. 19:12-9

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December 8

December Special School Board Elections

(2nd Tuesday in December)

N.J.S.A. 19:60-2

December 8

Deadline for Post Office Receipt of Mail-In Ballots from the December Special School Board Election

December 8

Deadline for in Person Submission of December Special School Board Election Mail-In Ballots to County Boards of Election or to Authorized Ballot Drop Boxes

(by 8:00 p.m. on the day of election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-16; N.J.S.A. 19:63-16.1(a)

December 10

Deadline for Receipt by County Boards of Elections of Mail-In Ballots by delivery of the United States Postal Service that DO NOT Bear a Postmark of Delivery

(no later than 48 hours (2 days) after the time of the closing of the polls for the election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-22

December 14

Deadline for Receipt of Timely Mailed Postmarked Mail-In Ballots to County Boards of Election

(no later than 144 hours (6 days) after the time of the closing of the polls for the election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-22

December 21

Deadline for Receipt of Cure Form to County Boards of Election

(no later than 48 hours (2 days) prior to the final certification of the results of the election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-17

December 23 – 12 p.m.

Meeting of County Board of Canvassers for December Special School Board Elections

(15 days after the election)

N.J.S.A. 19:19-1, N.J.S.A. 19:19-4, N.J.S.A. 19:19-6

December 26

Deadline for Preparation of Emergency and Provisional Ballot Reports by Each County Board of Election for the December Special School Board Election

(3 days after the certification of the results of the election)

N.J.S.A. 19:53B-21; N.J.S.A. 19:53C-21

December 26

Deadline for Recount Applications for December Special School Board Elections

(within 3 days after the certification of the results of the election)

N.J.S.A. 19:28-1

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January 2027

January 11

Deadline for Filing of Election Contest Petitions for December Special School Board Election

(not later than 32 days after election)

N.J.S.A. 19:29-3