

2026

March Special School Board Election Timeline

January

January 9

Written Notice of March 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

January 9

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

January 13

Publication of Notice of Mail-In Ballot Availability for March Special School Board Elections by County Clerks
(prior to the 55th day before election)
N.J.S.A. 19:63-6

January 18 - February 16

Publication of Notice of March 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

February

February 17

Voter Registration Deadline for March Special School Board Elections
(21 days before election)
N.J.S.A. 19:31-6

February 19

Deadline for Filing Challenger Appointments for Special School Election
(Third Thursday preceding election)
N.J.S.A. 19:7-3

March

March 1 - March 7

Publication of Notice of March 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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March 3

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

(7 days before election)

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

March 3

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

(not less than 7 days prior to election)

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

March 4

Mailing of Sample Ballots for March 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

March 5

Last Day for Testing of Electronic Scanning Equipment for Tabulation of Paper Ballots for March 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-March 10)

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

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

March 6

Deadline for Application to Receive March 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

March 9 - by 3:00 p.m.

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

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

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

March 9

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

(1 day before election)

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

March 10

March Special School Board Elections

(2nd Tuesday in March)

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

March 10

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

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March 10

Deadline for in Person Submission of March 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; NJSA 19:63-16.1e

March 12

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

March 16

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

March 23

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

March 25– 12 p.m.

Meeting of County Board of Canvassers for March 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

March 28

Deadline for Preparation of Emergency and Provisional Ballot Reports by Each County Board of Election for the March 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

March 28

Deadline for Recount Applications for March Special School Board Elections

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

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

April

April 11

Deadline for Filing of Election Contest Petitions for March Special School Board Elections

(not later than 32 days after election)

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