



California

Secretary of State

Quick Facts for the November 3, 2026, General Election

Important Deadlines:

Last day for counties to begin mailing ballots...Oct. 5
Last day to register to vote.....Oct. 19
Conditional voter registration.....Oct. 20 - Nov. 3
All ballots must be returned*.....Nov. 3

*All ballots returned by mail must be postmarked on or before November 3.

How do I register to vote?

Register to vote or update your registration online at registertovote.ca.gov. If you would like to fill out a physical form, voter registration applications can be found at post offices, county elections offices, and libraries.

What if I miss the voter registration deadline?

If you miss the deadline to register to vote, you can still go to your county elections office, vote center, or polling place on or before Election Day to complete conditional voter registration (often referred to as "Same Day Voter Registration"). Contact your county elections office for more information or visit vote.ca.gov.

What if I need to check my voter registration status?

To check your voter registration status, you can use the "My Voter Status" tool at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.

When will I receive my ballot?

All active registered voters will be mailed a ballot for the November 3, 2026, General Election. October 5, 2026, is the last day for counties to begin mailing ballots.

When will I receive my State Official Voter Information Guide?

Registered voters will receive their State Official Voter Information Guide a few weeks before Election Day. It will also be available online at voterinfo.sos.ca.gov.

What if I need a replacement ballot?

If you did not receive your ballot in the mail, or your original ballot was lost or damaged, you may apply for a replacement ballot. The replacement ballot application can be found at <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/vote-by-mail/pdf/replacement-application.pdf>.

You may also request a replacement ballot from your county elections office by phone, email, fax, or other electronic means.

How can I return my ballot?

You can return your ballot:

- **By drop box:** You may personally deliver your ballot to any polling or ballot drop-off location in California by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- **In person:** Polling locations are established by county elections officials and are open from **7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2026**. To find a location to vote early before Election Day, visit caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov.
- **By mail:** Mail your ballot back as soon as possible after you receive it. To be counted, your ballot must be postmarked no later than Election Day. We recommend mailing it at least 7 days before Election Day. If you mail it closer to Election Day, take it to a United States Post Office and ask a postal employee for a manual postmark.

How do I find my nearest drop box, polling place, or vote center?

- Visit caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov to find your nearest drop box, polling place, or vote center location.
- Contact your county elections office.

How can I track my ballot to find out if it has been received and counted?

Voters can receive notifications on the status of their returned ballot by signing up for the "Where's My Ballot?" tool.

Sign up at wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov to receive automatic updates by text message (SMS), email, or voice call.

You can also go to voterstatus.sos.ca.gov to find out if your vote was counted.