

Special Election Calendar
Special Primary Election March 19, 2024
U.S. Representative, 20th District (Kevin McCarthy)

12/31/23	(E-79)	1	VACANCY	
1/8/24	(E-71)	2	GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION On this date, the Governor issued his proclamation calling the special election. The date of the special primary election is calculated by counting back nine Tuesdays or, if the ninth Tuesday is the day of or following a state holiday, ten Tuesdays preceding the day of the special general election at which the vacancy is to be filled. If one candidate receives a majority of the votes (50% + 1), no special general election will be held.	§§ 10700, 10703(a)(2) ¹ ; Gov. Code § 1773 § 10704(a) § 10705
1/8/24 to 1/16/24	(E-71 to E-63)	3	IN-LIEU PETITIONS Period for candidates to obtain forms from the county elections official for securing signatures in lieu of all or part of the filing fee. Signatures shall be applied to the signature requirement for the office on the Nomination Papers.	§§ 8061, 8106(b), (d), 8106.5
1/16/24	(E-63)	4	IN-LIEU PETITIONS DEADLINE Last day to submit in-lieu filing fee petitions to the county elections official. Within 2 days after receipt of a petition, the county elections official shall notify the candidate of any deficiency.	§ 8106(b)(3)
1/16/24	(E-63)	5	NOTICE OF RANDOMIZED ALPHABET DRAWING Secretary of State to notify news media of the randomized drawing.	§ 13112(c), (d)
1/18/24	(E-61)	6	SIGNATURES IN LIEU OF FILING FEES — DETERMINE SUFFICIENCY Last day for the county elections official to determine the sufficiency of the in-lieu signatures submitted by the candidates. The candidate shall, at the time of obtaining nomination documents, pay a pro rata portion of the filing fee to cover any deficiency.	§§ 8061, 8106(b)(3), 8106.5
1/19/24 to 1/25/24	(E-60 to E-54)	7	DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY AND NOMINATION PAPERS Period for candidates to obtain and deliver Nomination Papers to the county elections official for filing. Candidates must also file a Declaration of Candidacy and Ballot Designation Worksheet during this period.	§§ 8040, 8041, 8062, 10704, 13107.3
1/19/24 to 1/25/24	(E-60 to E-54)	8	CANDIDATE STATEMENTS IN THE COUNTY VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE During this period, U.S. Representative candidates may purchase space for a 250-word candidate statement in the voter information guide of the county or counties in the jurisdiction.	Gov. Code § 85601(c)
1/22/24 to 3/5/24	(E-57 to E-14)	9	STATEMENT OF WRITE-IN CANDIDACY AND NOMINATION PAPERS Period for all write-in candidates to file their Statement of Write-In Candidacy and Nomination Papers with the county elections official.	§ 8601
1/25/24	(E-54)	10	DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY AND NOMINATION PAPERS FILED IN COUNTY Last day for any candidate to file the Declaration of Candidacy, Nomination Papers, and Ballot Designation Worksheet.	§§ 10704, 13107.3
1/25/24	(E-54)	11	CANDIDATE STATEMENTS IN THE COUNTY VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE Last day for U.S. Representative candidates to purchase space for a 250-word candidate statement in the voter information guide of the county or counties in the jurisdiction.	Gov. Code § 85601(c)
1/25/24	(E-54)	12	POLITICAL PARTY ENDORSEMENTS Last day for any qualified political party to submit to the county elections official a list of all candidates for voter-nominated office who will appear on any ballot in the county in question, and who have been endorsed by the party. The county elections official shall print any such list that is timely received from the state party chairperson in the voter information guide.	§ 13302(b)

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1/25/24 [5:00 p.m.]	(E-54)	13 DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY AND NOMINATION PAPERS FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE Last day for the county elections official to certify and file the Declaration of Candidacy, Nomination Papers, and Ballot Designation Worksheet with the Secretary of State.	§§ 10704, 13107.3
1/26/24	(E-53)	14 NOTICE TO EACH CANDIDATE Secretary of State to notify each candidate for voter-nominated office of the names, addresses, offices, occupations, and party preferences of all other persons who have filed for the same office.	§ 8121
1/26/24	(E-53)	15 PARTY PREFERENCE HISTORY POSTING ON WEBSITE Secretary of State to post on its website the party preference history of each candidate for the preceding 10 years.	§ 8121
1/26/24	(E-53)	16 RANDOMIZED ALPHABET DRAWING On this date, the Secretary of State draws the randomized alphabet to determine the order for placing candidates' names on the ballots. This drawing will be used for the special primary election and special general election if such run-off is necessary.	§ 13112(d)
1/31/24	(E-48)	17 CERTIFIED LIST OF CANDIDATES Last day for the Secretary of State to send the Certified List of Candidates to the county elections official.	§ 8120
2/3/24* (Saturday)	(E-45)	18 MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTERS Last day for the county elections official to transmit ballots to military and overseas voters.	52 U.S.C. § 20302 (MOVE Act); § 3114
2/8/24 to 2/27/24	(E-40 to E-21)	19 COUNTY MAILS VOTER INFORMATION GUIDES Suggested first day for the county elections official to begin mailing a polling location notice and voter information guide to each registered voter. The polling location notice may state whether the polling location is accessible to the physically handicapped.	§§ 4005(a)(8)(B), 13300.7, 13303, 13304, 13305, 14282
2/19/24** to 3/12/24	(E-29 to E-7)	20 VOTE-BY-MAIL ISSUANCE Every active registered voter will be mailed a vote-by-mail ballot. No later than this date, the county elections official shall begin mailing each registered voter a vote-by-mail ballot, a vote-by-mail packet that includes an envelope with instructions on the use and return of the vote-by-mail ballot, and other information including the locations and hours of polling locations. The county elections official shall have five days to mail a ballot to each person who is registered to vote by this date and five days to mail a ballot to each person who is subsequently registered to vote.	§§ 3000.5, 3010 §§ 3000.5, 3001, 3010, 3102(e), 4005(a)(8)(A), (B) §§ 3000.5, 3001
2/19/24**	(E-29)	21 KERN and TULARE COUNTIES: PRECINCT BOARD MEMBERS AND POLLING LOCATIONS Last day for the county elections official to appoint the members of the precinct boards and designate the polling locations.	§ 12286
2/20/24 to 3/19/24	(E-28 to E)	22 ALL COUNTIES: DROP-OFF LOCATIONS OPEN By this date, all counties shall open ballot drop-off locations. These locations shall be open at least during regular business hours beginning not less than 28 days before the election through Election Day. At least one ballot drop-off location shall be an accessible, secured, exterior drop box that is available for a minimum of 12 hours per day, including regular business hours.	§§ 3025.5, 4005(a)(1)
2/27/24	(E-21)	23 COUNTY MAILS VOTER INFORMATION GUIDES — DEADLINE Last day for the county elections official to mail voter information guides to voters for the special primary election.	§§ 13300.7, 13303, 13304, 13305
3/4/24	(E-15)	24 VOTER REGISTRATION Last day to register to vote in the special primary election.	§§ 2102, 2170
3/5/24	(E-14)	25 STATEMENT OF WRITE-IN CANDIDACY AND NOMINATION PAPERS Last day to file as a write-in candidate.	§ 8601

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3/5/24	(E-14)	26 CERTIFIED LIST OF WRITE-IN CANDIDATES Secretary of State will prepare and send the Certified List of Write-In Candidates to the county elections official.	Date designated by Secretary of State
3/5/24	(E-14)	27 PARTY PREFERENCE HISTORY POSTING ON WEBSITE Secretary of State to post on its website the party preference history of each write-in candidate for the preceding 10 years.	§ 8121
3/5/24	(E-14)	28 BILINGUAL PRECINCT BOARD MEMBERS Last day to prepare a list of precincts to which bilingual officers were appointed. A copy of this list shall be made available to the public.	§ 12303(d)
3/5/24 to 3/19/24	(E-14 to E)	29 CONDITIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION PERIOD Period in which an individual can "conditionally" register and vote provisionally at the county elections office, a satellite office, vote center (Fresno and Kings counties) or polling location (Kern and Tulare counties) after the 15-day voter registration deadline.	§ 2170
3/5/24 to 3/19/24	(E-14 to E)	30 NEW CITIZEN REGISTRATION PERIOD Period in which new citizens may register to vote. A new citizen registering to vote after the close of registration shall provide the county elections official with proof of citizenship prior to voting and shall declare that they have established residency in California.	§§ 331, 3500, 3501
3/9/24** (Saturday)	(E-10)	31 PUBLICATION OF TALLY CENTER LOCATION On or before this date, a notice shall be published by the county elections official at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the district specifying the public location to be used as the central tally center for counting the ballots.	§ 12109
3/12/24 [5:00 p.m.]	(E-7)	32 COMPUTER PROGRAM TO SECRETARY OF STATE Last day for the county to verify their election night vote count computer programs and deposit copies thereof with the Secretary of State.	§ 15001
3/13/24 to 3/18/24 [5:00 p.m.]	(E-6 to E-1)	33 MILITARY OR OVERSEAS VOTER — RECALLED TO SERVICE Period in which a registered military or overseas voter recalled to service after March 12, 2024 (E-7), but before 5:00 p.m. on March 18, 2024 (E-1), may appear before the county elections official where they are registered and obtain a vote-by-mail ballot which may be voted in, or outside, the county elections official's office on or before the close of the polls and returned as are other voted vote-by-mail ballots.	§ 3111
3/18/24 [5:00 p.m.]	(E-1)	34 MILITARY OR OVERSEAS VOTER — RECALLED TO SERVICE Last day a registered military or overseas voter recalled to service after March 12, 2024 (E-7), but before 5:00 p.m. on March 18, 2024 (E-1), may appear before the county elections official where they are registered and obtain a vote-by-mail ballot which may be voted in, or outside, the county elections official's office on or before the close of the polls and returned as are other voted vote-by-mail ballots.	§ 3111

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3/19/24	(E)	35	<p>MILITARY OR OVERSEAS VOTERS Any registered military or overseas voter or any individual born outside of the United States or District of Columbia whose parent or legal guardian was a resident of California when the parent was last living in the United States who has returned to their county of registration on or before this day, and to whom a vote-by-mail ballot has been mailed but not voted, may apply to vote in the county elections official's office, vote center (Fresno and Kings counties) or in a polling location (Kern and Tulare counties).</p> <p>An unregistered military or overseas voter who was 1) released from service after the close of registration and who has returned to their county of residence or 2) required to move under official active duty military orders after the close of registration may apply in person to register with the county elections official and vote in the election. Documentary proof of release from service or official military orders are required. On the first day a vote center opens (Fresno and Kings counties) or before the day of the election (Kern and Tulare counties), the county elections official shall deliver to the precinct board a list of military or overseas voters registered under Elections Code section 3108.</p> <p>A military or overseas voter or any individual born outside of the United States or District of Columbia whose parent or legal guardian was a resident of California when the parent was last living in the United States who returns to the county after March 12, 2024 (E-7), may appear before the county elections official and apply for registration, a vote-by-mail ballot, or both. The county elections official shall register the voter, if not registered, and shall deliver a vote-by-mail ballot which may be voted in, or outside, the county elections official's office on or before the close of the polls on the day of the election and returned as are other voted vote-by-mail ballots.</p>	<p>§§ 300(b), 321, 3014, 3109</p> <p>§ 3108</p> <p>§ 3110</p>
3/19/24	(E)	36	<p>NEW CITIZEN REGISTRATION — DEADLINE Last day for new citizen registration.</p>	<p>§§ 331, 3500, 3501</p>
3/19/24	(E)	37	<p>CONDITIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION — DEADLINE Last day for conditional voter registration.</p>	<p>§ 2170</p>
3/19/24	(E)	38	<p>SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION AND VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOTS Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. Hand-delivered vote-by-mail ballots shall be received by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day at any vote center (Fresno and Kings counties) or polling location (Kern and Tulare counties), drop box, at the office of the elections official, or at any ballot dropoff location. If one candidate receives a majority of the votes (50% + 1), no special general election will be held.</p>	<p>§§ 3017, 10705, 14212</p>
3/19/24	(E)	39	<p>CHANGE OF ADDRESS WITHIN SAME COUNTY AND/OR CHANGE Last day for an elector, in lieu of executing a new affidavit of registration for a change of address within the same county and/or a change of political party preference, to submit a written request that discloses specific information. The written request shall be delivered to the county elections official's office or to any location that offers conditional voter registration and at which a ballot can be issued.</p>	<p>§§ 2119.5, 2152</p>
3/20/24	(E+1)	40	<p>VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOTS — NOTICE TO CURE NONCOMPARABLE SIGNATURE ON IDENTIFICATION ENVELOPE OR UNSIGNED IDENTIFICATION ENVELOPE By this date, the county elections official shall provide to all voters who have been identified as having a signature on the vote-by-mail identification envelope that did not compare with their signature(s) in their voter record a notice of the opportunity to verify their signatures no later than 5 p.m. on March 26, 2024 (E+7).</p> <p>By this date, the county elections official shall provide to all voters identified as having failed to sign the vote-by-mail identification envelope a notice of the opportunity to provide a signature no later than 5 p.m. on March 26, 2024 (E+7).</p>	<p>§ 3019(d)(1)</p> <p>§ 3019(e)(1)</p>

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3/21/24	(E+2)	41	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNPROCESSED BALLOTS On this day, the county elections official shall send to the Secretary of State an initial report containing the estimated number of outstanding unprocessed ballots.	§ 15305(b)
3/25/24 to 3/28/24	(E+6 to E+9)	42	REPORT ON ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNPROCESSED Beginning on this day, the county elections official shall, on any day that the county elections official publicly releases updated election results, send to the Secretary of State a report on the estimated number of outstanding unprocessed ballots. The last report shall be delivered upon completion of the official canvass.	§ 15305(c)
3/26/24	(E+7)	43	VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOTS RETURNED BY MAIL — LAST DAY TO BE COUNTED Any vote-by-mail ballot cast shall be deemed timely if it is received by the county elections official via the United States Postal Service or a bona fide private mail delivery company no later than seven days after Election Day and either of the following is satisfied if: 1) the ballot is postmarked on or before Election Day or is time stamped or date stamped by a bona fide private mail delivery company on or before Election Day, or 2) if the ballot has no postmark, a postmark with no date, or an illegible postmark, the vote-by-mail ballot identification envelope is date stamped by the elections official upon receipt of the vote-by-mail ballot from the United States Postal Service or a bona fide private mail delivery company, and is signed and dated pursuant to Section 3011 on or before Election Day.	§§ 3011, 3017, 3020
3/26/24 [5:00 p.m.]	(E+7)	44	VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOTS — DEADLINE TO CURE NONCOMPARABLE SIGNATURE ON IDENTIFICATION Last day for the county elections official to receive from a voter, whose signature on their vote-by-mail identification envelope did not compare with their signature(s) in their voter record, a "signature verification statement;" this statement can be submitted in person, or by mail, email, or fax.	§ 3019(d)(4)
3/26/24 [5:00 p.m.]	(E+7)	45	VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOTS — DEADLINE TO CURE UNSIGNED IDENTIFICATION ENVELOPE Last day for a voter who did not sign the vote-by-mail ballot identification envelope to either sign the identification envelope at the office of the county elections official or complete and submit an "unsigned ballot statement" in person to the county elections official, or by mail, email, or fax.	§ 3019(e)(1)
3/28/24	(E+9)	46	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNPROCESSED BALLOTS — FINAL REPORT No later than this date, the last report on the estimated number of outstanding unprocessed ballots shall be delivered to the Secretary of State.	§ 15305(c)
3/28/24	(E+9)	47	OFFICIAL CANVASS — DEADLINE Last day for the county elections official to complete the official canvass and certify the results to the Secretary of State.	Date designated by Secretary of State
4/19/24	(E+31)	48	BALLOT REJECTION REPORT TO SECRETARY OF STATE By this date, the county elections official shall identify and provide to the Secretary of State the number of vote-by-mail ballots rejected, categorized according to the reason for the rejection. The Secretary of State shall publish a report containing the above information for every election, including local special elections, on the Secretary of State's internet website.	§ 15377(a) § 15377(b)

* Elections Code section 3114 and the federal MOVE Act require that ballots and ballot materials be transmitted to each military and overseas voter no later than 45 days prior to an election. E-45 is February 3, 2024, which is a Saturday; this deadline must be adhered to and does not move forward to the next business day.

** Date falls on a weekend or state holiday; it does not move forward to the next business day.

¹ All code references are to the California Elections Code unless otherwise stated.