

JUNE 5, 2012 PRIMARY ELECTION - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All references are to California Elections Code Sections, unless otherwise stated. Gov. references the California Government Code, Ed. references the California Education Code.

Below the dates, "E" stands for Election Day, followed by the number of days prior to (-) or after (+) Election Day.

Asterisk (*) dates indicate that the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday; in most cases, the deadline will move forward to the next business day.

Dates and events exclusive to candidate filing are posted in blue.

Candidate Intention Statement (Form 501)

Candidates and officeholders are required to file a Candidate Intention Statement (Form 501) prior to solicitation or receipt of any contribution, or expenditures of any personal funds used for this election. The form must be filed for each election, including reelection to the same office. This form is not required if you will not solicit or receive contributions from other persons and the only expenditure will be from your personal funds used for the filing fee and/or the candidate statement of qualifications. For further details contact the Fair Political Practices Commission. A fine of \$10 per day, up to a maximum of \$100, may be assessed for the late filing of Form 501.

Gov. §§85200, 91013

Statement of Organization/Campaign Bank Account (Form 410)

A person or group that receives \$1,000 or more in contributions in a calendar year qualifies as a recipient committee (includes candidates & officeholders), and must file the Statement of Organization Form 410, within 10 days of reaching the \$1,000 threshold. Form 410 identifies the name of the committee and provides the public information regarding the campaign bank account and the committee's purpose and officers. A fine of \$10 per day, up to a maximum of \$100, may be assigned for the late filing of Form 410.

Gov. §§84101, 85201, 91013

Dec 26 County Holiday (Christmas) – Office Closed

Dec 27 to Dec 30 County Furlough Days – Office Closed

Anytime Prior To Jan 31 Consolidation of Election - Early Submission of Resolutions
Anytime prior to this day, local jurisdictions are urged to submit the resolution to consolidate their election with the June 5, 2012 Primary Election and submit any measure text and a 75 word ballot question, to the Merced County Elections Office.

§§10403, 10403.5, 10401, 13247

Dec 30 to Feb 8 E-158 to E-118 Petition In Lieu of Filing Fees – Candidates for Judge of the Superior Court
Between these dates, candidates for the office listed above may obtain Petition In Lieu of Filing Fee forms from the Merced County Elections Office for circulating petitions to secure signatures to alleviate all or part of the filing fee.

The petition must be filed no later than 5 p.m. February 8, 2012 with the Merced County Elections Office. Within 10 days of filing, the candidate will be notified of any deficiency. The candidate may then submit by March 9, 2012 a supplemental petition, or pay a pro rata portion of the filing fee to cover the deficiency.

§§8061, 8105, 8106

Dec 30 to Feb 23
E-158 to E-103

Petition In Lieu of Filing Fee – Candidates for County Offices

Between these dates, candidates for county offices may obtain Petition In Lieu of Filing Fee forms from the Merced County Elections Office for circulating petitions to secure signatures to alleviate all or part of the filing fee.

The petitions must be filed no later than 5 p.m. February 23, 2012 with the Merced County Elections Office. Within 10 days of filing, the candidate will be notified of any deficiency. The candidate may then submit by March 9, 2012 a supplemental petition, or pay a pro rata portion of the filing fee to cover the deficiency.

§§8061, 8105, 8106

Jan 2

County Holiday (New Year’s Day) – Office Closed

Jan 3
E-154

New Political Party Qualification – Last Day to Register

The last day any person may register to vote and declare intention to affiliate with a particular party in order to qualify that party to participate in the primary election candidate nominating process. For information on how to qualify a new political party, see the Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.ca.gov.

§2187(d1)

Jan 16

County Holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr.) – Office Closed

Jan 23*
E-135

Report of Voter Registration – 154 Day County Reporting

On or before this day, each county elections official shall prepare and send to the Secretary of State a summary statement of the number of persons registered by party affiliation, by county and each political subdivision as of January 3, 2012.

§2187(a)(c)(d1)

Jan 23*
E-135

New Political Party Qualification Announcement

The last day for the Secretary of State to determine whether a new political party has qualified either by registration or by filing a petition.

§5100

Jan 23*
E-135

Political Parties to Adopt Rules for Unaffiliated Voters

Last day for a political party to notify the Secretary of State in writing that it has adopted a party rule that authorizes a voter who is not affiliated with a qualified political party to vote the ballot of that political party at the June 5, 2012 Primary Election.

§13102(c)

Jan 26
E-131

Statewide Ballot Propositions

Last day for statewide initiative or referendum measures, constitutional amendments, bond measures, or other legislative measures to qualify for the primary election ballot.

Cal. Const. Art. II §8(c) & E.C. §9040

Jan 30 to Feb 8
E-127 to E-118

Declaration of Intention – Judge of the Superior Court

Between these dates, candidates for Judge of the Superior Court must file a Declaration of Intention with the Merced County Elections Office. The nonrefundable filing fee represented by money, petitions in lieu of filing fee, or any prorated combination must be paid at the time of filing the Declaration of Intention.

§§8023, 8105

Jan 31 Date Fixed by Law	<p>County Central Committees – Democratic and Republican Parties No later than this day, the Merced County Elections Office shall compute the number of members to be elected to each party county central committee, by supervisorial district, based on total number of votes cast for Governor in the last Governor’s election.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§7200, 7226, 7400, 7421</p>
Jan 31 Date Fixed by Law	<p>Campaign Disclosure – Semi-Annual Reporting Last day to file semi-annual campaign disclosure statements, if required, by all candidates and committees for the period ending December 31, 2011.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Gov. §§84200, 84218</p>
Feb 1 E-125	<p>Qualified Political Parties No later than this day, the Secretary of State shall prepare and transmit to each county election official a notice designating the political parties qualified to participate in the primary election.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§12103</p>
Feb 1 E-125	<p>County Central Committees – American Independent Party No later than this day, the Secretary of State shall compute the number of central committee members to be elected in each county, by supervisorial district.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§7650, 7671</p>
Feb 9 to Feb 13 E- 117 to E-113	<p>Declaration of Intention Extension – Judge of the Superior Court If the incumbent Judge fails to file a Declaration of Intention to succeed to the same office by 5 p.m. February 8, 2012, qualified persons other than the incumbent may file such declaration for that office during the extension period. The nonrefundable filing fee represented by money, petitions in lieu of filing fee, or any prorated combination must be paid at the time of filing the Declaration of Intention.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§8023(b), 8105</p>
Feb 11 E-115	<p>County Central Committees/County Council – Green, Libertarian, and Peace and Freedom Parties No later than this day, the Secretary of State shall compute the number of central committee/county council members to be elected in each county, based on the report of registration to the Secretary of State as of the 135th day before the date of the election.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§7752-7754, 7771</p>
Feb 13 to Mar 9 E-113 to E-88	<p>Candidate Filing Period During this period, candidates may obtain and file their declaration of candidacy and nomination documents with the Merced County Elections Office.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§8020, 10603</p>
Feb. 13 to Mar. 9 E-113 to E-88	<p>No Candidate May Withdraw No candidate whose declaration of candidacy has been filed for any primary election may withdraw as a candidate at that primary election.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§8800</p>

**Feb 13 to Mar 9
E-113 to E-88**

Candidate Statement of Qualifications

Between these dates, candidates may prepare a Candidate Statement of Qualifications on the appropriate form provided by the Merced County Elections Office. The Candidate Statement of Qualifications will be printed in the Sample Ballot/Voter Information Booklet. The statement shall be filed and advance payment made at the time nomination documents are returned for filing. The statement may be withdrawn, but not changed, during the period for filing nomination documents and until 5 p.m. of the next working day after the close of the nomination period.

§13307

In addition to the restrictions set forth in §13307, any candidate's statement submitted shall be limited to a recitation of the candidate's own personal background and qualifications, and shall not in any way make reference to other candidates for that office or to another candidate's qualifications, character, or activities. The elections official shall not cause to be printed or circulated any statement that the elections official determines is not so limited or that includes any reference prohibited by this section.

§13308

**Feb 13 to Mar 9
E-113 to E-88**

Statement of Economic Interests Form 700

Between these dates, all candidates (except candidates for federal office) must file a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) disclosing their investments, interests in real property, and any income received during the previous 12 months.

Gov. §87200 et seq.

Feb 13

Consolidation of Election - Final Submission of Resolutions

Final deadline for local jurisdictions to submit the resolution to consolidate their election with the June 5, 2012 Primary Election and submit any measure text and a 75 word ballot question to the Merced County Elections Office.

Date set by County Elections Official
§§10403, 10403.5, 10401, 13247

Feb 20

County Holiday (Presidents' Day) – Office Closed

**Mar 9
E-88**

Jurisdictional Boundary Changes

Last day for jurisdictions consolidating their elections with the June 5, 2012 Primary Election to make boundary changes to file them with the county elections official.

§12262

**Mar 9
E-88**

Mailed Ballot Precincts

Whenever, on the 88th day before the election, there are 250 or less voters in any precinct, the elections official may designate such precinct as a mailed ballot precinct. Each voter shall be furnished with an official ballot, as soon as ballots are available, along with a statement that there will be no polling place for the election. The voter shall not be required to file an application for the ballot.

§3005

**Mar 9
E-88**

Candidate Filing – Last Day

Last day for candidates to obtain and file their declaration of candidacy and nomination documents with the Merced County Elections Office. All nomination documents must be filed no later than 5 p.m. on this day.

§§8020, 10603

Mar 9 E-88	<p>Candidate Statement of Qualifications – Last Day Last day for candidates to obtain and file a Candidate Statement of Qualifications to be included in the Sample Ballot/Voter Information Booklet. The statement shall not exceed 200 words and the candidate will be required to pay the predetermined advance payment. The statement may be withdrawn but not changed up to 5 p.m. of the next working day after the close of the candidate filing period. If there is an extension to the candidate filing period, the extension applies to Candidate Statement of Qualifications also.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§13307</p>
Mar 9 E-88	<p>Form 700- Candidate Statement – Last Day Last day for filing the Form 700 – Candidate Statement. The statement must disclose the candidate’s investments, interests in real property, and any income received during the immediate preceding 12 months. Elected incumbents who have a statement on file for the same jurisdiction will not be required to file a Form 700 – Candidate Statement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Gov. §87200 et seq.</p>
Mar 10 to Mar 14 E-87 to E-83	<p>Candidate Filing - Extension If an incumbent, eligible to be elected, fails to file the required nomination documents by 5 p.m. on the last day to file nomination documents (March 9, 2012), anyone, (other than the incumbent) who is otherwise qualified shall have five (5) calendar days (until 5pm on the 83rd day before the election) to file for that office. This section does not apply when there is no incumbent eligible to be elected, or to County Central/County Council offices.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§8024, 10407, 10604</p>
Mar 10 to Mar 14 E-87 to E-83	<p>Candidate Filing Extension – Judge of the Superior Court If an incumbent of a judicial office dies on or before the last day prescribed for the filing of nomination documents (March 9, 2012), or files a declaration of intention but for any reason fails to file his or her nomination documents by the last day prescribed for the filing of the papers (March 9, 2012), an additional five (5) calendar days shall be allowed for the filing of nomination papers for the office. Any person other than the person who was the incumbent on March 9, 2012 may file nomination papers for the office during this extension, regardless of whether that person filed a Declaration of Intention, if otherwise qualified.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§8204</p>
Mar 15 11am E-82	<p>Candidate Name Placement – Randomized Alphabet Drawing The Secretary of State shall conduct a drawing of the letters of the alphabet to determine the order of the names of the candidates to appear on the ballot. The resulting random order of letters constitutes the alphabet for all offices other than multi-county state legislative offices. In addition, and only if applicable, the candidate’s names will be rotated pursuant to E.C. §13111.</p> <p>For candidates for multi-county state legislative offices, the county elections official shall conduct a randomized alphabet drawing. The result of each county’s drawing shall be used only to determine the order of the names of candidates for multi-county state legislative offices within such county.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§13112</p>
Mar 19 E-78	<p>Judicial Incumbent Only Nominee – Write-In Campaign In any county in which only the incumbent has filed nomination papers for the office of Judge of the Superior Court, his or her name shall not appear on the ballot unless there is filed with the elections official, within 10 days after the final date for filing nomination documents, a petition</p>

indicating that a write-in campaign will be conducted for the office and signed by 100 registered voters qualified to vote with respect to the office. In addition to filing the petition, any judicial write-in candidate must file, between the 57th day and the 14th day before the election, a Statement of Write-In Candidacy and obtain and file the required nomination paper.
§§8203, 8600, 8601

Mar 22
Date Fixed by Law

Campaign Disclosure – First Pre–Election Reporting

Last day for candidates and committees to file campaign disclosure statements covering the period ending March 17, 2012.

Gov. §§84200.5, 84200.7

Mar 24*
E-73

Central Committee/County Council Names Printed on Ballot – Write-In Campaign

If the elections official, on the 73rd day prior to the Primary Election, finds that the number of candidates nominated for election to a committee does not exceed the number of candidates to be elected, the designation of the office and the names of the candidates shall not be printed on this party's ballot, unless there is filed with the elections official, not later than 20 days after the final date for filing nomination papers for the positions, a petition indicating that a write-in campaign will be conducted for the office and signed by 25 registered voters affiliated with the political party involved. In lieu thereof, the Board of Supervisors shall declare elected the candidates who have been nominated, and those candidates shall be entitled to receive certificates of election in the same manner as other candidates elected to a committee. In addition to filing the petition, any central committee/county council write-in candidate must file, between the 57th day and the 14th day before the election, a Statement of Write-In Candidacy and obtain and file the required nomination papers.

§§7228, 7423, 7673, 7772.1, 8600, 8601

Mar 29
E-68

Certified List of Candidates

Secretary of State to transmit the certified list of candidates to all county election officials no later than this date.

§§8120 – 8125, 8149

Apr 6 to Apr 9

County Furlough Days – Office Closed

Apr 6
E-60

Special Absentee Voters (Vote By Mail Applications)

The first day county elections officials may process applications for special absentee voters' ballots. The application must include the statement that the voter cannot vote an absentee ballot during the normal absentee voting period because of military or other contingencies that preclude normal mail delivery.

§§300(b), 3103

Apr 9 to May 22
E-57 to E-14

Write-In Candidate Filing Period

All non-presidential write-in candidates who desire to have his or her votes counted for a particular office must file a Statement of Write-In Candidacy along with the requisite number of signatures, if any, for such office. Nomination documents for write-in candidacy may be obtained from and delivered to the Merced County Elections Office between the 57th day and 14th day prior to the election.

§8601

- Apr 12
E-54** **54 Day Voter Registration Index – State/Local Central Committees/County Councils**
Upon written notification from the chair or vice chair of a party state central committee or of the chair of a party county central committee/county council, the county elections official may furnish to each committee, without charge, the index of registration on or after 54 days prior to the primary election.
§2185
- Apr 16
E-50** **Report of Voter Registration – 60 Day County Reporting**
On or before this day, each county elections official shall prepare and send to the Secretary of State a summary statement of the number of persons registered by party affiliation, by county and each political subdivision as of April 6, 2012.
§2187(a)(c)(d 2)
- Apr 26
E-40** **Inmate Registration & Voting**
Contact is made with the Merced County Sheriff’s office to set up inmate registration and voting services. Voter registration cards and vote by mail applications are provided to the Sheriff’s office with special instructions for the Utility Officer. Voting period starts May 7, 2012 and ends by 8 p.m. Election Day.
Date set by County Elections Official
- Apr 26 to May 15
E-40 to E-21** **Official Voter Information Guides (State Ballot Pamphlets)**
During this period, the Secretary of State’s Office shall mail the Official Voter Information Guide to voters who registered to vote on or before the 60th day before the election.
§9094(a)

The Merced County Elections Office shall mail the Official Voter Information Guide to voters who registered to vote after the 60th day and before the 28th day before the election no later than 10 days before the election.
§9094(c)
- Apr 26 – May 15
E-40 to E-21** **Sample Ballot and Voter Information Booklets**
During this period, the Merced County Elections Office shall mail Sample Ballot and Voter Information Booklets to all voters who registered to vote at least 29 days prior to the election. The location of the polling place and its accessibility to persons with disabilities shall be indicated thereon.
§§13300, 13304
- May 7 to May 29
E-29 to E-7** **Vote by Mail Ballots Available**
Any registered voter may apply for a vote by mail ballot. Ballots must be obtained from and returned to the Merced County Elections Office either in person, via authorized representative, or by mail. Applications received prior to 29 days before the election will be processed during this period.
§§3001, 3003, 3006, 3009, 3017
- May 7
E-29** **Polling Places & Precinct Boards**
At least 29 days prior to the election, the county elections official shall establish precincts, define precinct boundaries, designate polling places for each precinct, and appoint precinct board members.
§12286

**May 7
E-29**

Mailed Ballot Precincts

The county elections official shall mail official ballots to voters residing in mailed ballot precincts beginning this day, along with a notice indicating there will be no polling place for this election. Voted ballots must be received no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day at any polling place in Merced County or at the Merced County Elections Office.

§3005

**May 20 to Jun 4
E-16 to E-1**

Campaign Disclosure - Late Contribution/Independent Expenditure Report

During this period, contributions or independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more shall be reported by facsimile transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery within 24 hours.

Gov. §§84203, 84204

**May 21
E-15**

Last Day to Register to Vote

Closing date for any qualified elector to register or re-register to vote in the upcoming election. A person who has moved, changed his or her name or wishes to change political party affiliation, must re-register by this date. A properly executed registration shall be deemed effective upon receipt of the form by the Merced County Elections Office if any of the following apply:

1. The affidavit is postmarked on or before the 15th day prior to the election and received by mail by the Merced County Elections Office.
2. The affidavit is submitted to the Department of Motor Vehicles or accepted by any other public agency designated as a voter registration agency pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. §1973gg) on or before the 15th day prior to the election.
3. The affidavit is delivered to the Merced County Elections Office by means other than those described in paragraphs (2) and (3) on or before 15th day prior to the election.

§§2102, 2107, 2115, 2116, 2152

**May 22
E-14**

Write-In Candidate Filing - Deadline

Last day for write-in candidate to file Statement of Write-in Candidacy and nomination documents by 5 p.m.

§8601

**May 22 to May 29
E-14 to E-7**

New Residents & New Citizens Registration

Registrations for new residents and citizens shall begin the 14th day prior to an election and end on the 7th day prior to election day.

This registration must be executed in the Merced County Elections Office, and the new resident shall vote a new resident's ballot in that office. For this election, new residents are only allowed to vote on state propositions or local measures.

§§332, 3400

A new citizen registering to vote after the close of registration shall provide the Merced County Elections Office with proof of citizenship prior to voting, and shall declare that he or she has established residency in California. New citizens vote a regular ballot.

§§331, 3500, 3501

**May 23 3pm
E-13**

Notice of Central Counting Place

Last day for the county elections official to submit a notice for legal publication specifying the public place to be used to tally votes when ballots are to be counted in a central counting place. The notice shall be published one time, no later than 10 days before the election.

§12109

May 24 E-12	Notice of Polling Places Last day for the county elections official to submit a notice for legal publication the list of polling places designated for each election precinct. The notice shall be published one time, no later than 7 days before the election.	§12105
May 24 Date Fixed by Law	Campaign Disclosure – Second Pre-Election Reporting The last day to file campaign disclosure statements for candidates and committees covering the period from March 18, 2012 through May 19, 2012.	Gov. §§84200.5, 84200.7
May 24 E-7 Business Days	Processing Vote By Mail Ballots First day the Merced County Elections Office may begin to process (open, prepare and tabulate) vote by mail ballots for the upcoming election. No results of ballot tabulation may be released until the polls close on Election Day.	§15101
May 25	County Furlough Day – Office Closed	
May 28	County Holiday (Memorial Day) – Office Closed	
May 29 E-7	Vote Count Program to Secretary of State The last day for county elections official to verify the vote count program, complete logic and accuracy testing and submit copies thereof to the Secretary of State's Office.	§§15000, 15001
May 29 E-7	Report of Registration – 15 Day County Reporting On or before this day, each county elections official shall prepare and send to the Secretary of State a summary statement of the number of persons registered by party affiliation, by county and each political subdivision as of May 21, 2012.	§2187(a)(c)(d3)
May 29 E-7	15 Day Voter Registration Index–State/Local Central Committees/County Councils Upon written notification from the chair or vice chair of a party state central committee or of the chair of a party county central committee/county council, the county elections official may furnish to each committee, without charge, the index of registration as of the 15 day close of voter registration.	§2185
May 29 E-7	15 Day Voter Registration Walking Lists Upon written application, and subject to approval, the county elections official may prepare the 15 day voter registration index that is available for purchase \$0.50 per 1,000 names.	§2184
May 30 to Jun 5 E-6 to E-0	Vote by Mail Ballots – Late Conditions On or between these dates, any voter may apply in person to obtain a vote by mail ballot from the Merced County Elections Office. Voters unable to request a ballot in person may designate, in writing, any person as an authorized representative to obtain and return the vote by mail ballot on their behalf.	§3021

Jun 5 E-0	<p>Vote by Mail Ballots Returned Vote by Mail ballots may be returned in person or by authorized representative no later than 8 p.m., either to the Merced County Elections Office or to any polling place in the county. Ballots returned by mail must be received by 8 p.m., postmarks are not accepted.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§3017, 3020</p>
Jun 5 E-0	<p>ELECTION DAY The polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day. Ballot tabulation will begin immediately after 8 p.m. and run continuously until all ballots are tabulated and results are posted on the website at www.MercedElections.org and submitted to the Secretary of State.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§14212, 15150, 15151</p>
Jun 6 E+1	<p>Official Canvass The county elections official will begin the tasks of the official canvass.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§335.5, 15301, 15302, 15360</p>
Jul 3 E+28	<p>Completion of Official Canvass & Certify Results No later than this date, the county elections official must complete the official canvass, certify the results, and submit it to the Board of Supervisors and to each jurisdiction that consolidated their election on the primary ballot.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§§15372, 15400</p>
Jul 4	<p>County Holiday (Independence Day) – Office Closed</p>
Jul 5 E+30	<p>Certificate of Election Approximately on this date, the elections official shall prepare and deliver to each person elected or nominated a certificate of election or nomination signed by the elections official.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§15401</p>
Jul 10 E+35	<p>Statement of Vote to Secretary of State No later than this date, the county elections official shall send, by registered mail, one complete copy of the Statement of Votes Cast to the Secretary of State.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">§15375</p>
Within 30 Days of Assuming Office	<p>Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) – All Newly Elected Officials All newly elected officials must complete and file a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) within 30 days of assuming office. Such statement shall not be required if the candidate has filed, within 60 days prior to assuming office, a statement for the same jurisdiction.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Gov. §87200 et seq.</p>
Jul 31 Date Fixed by Law	<p>Campaign Disclosure – Semi-Annual Reporting Last day to file semi-annual campaign disclosure statements, if required, by all candidates and committees for the period ending June 30, 2012.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Gov. §§84200, 84218</p>