

2012 Presidential Election Calendar

Updated: 8/22/2011

Date	Time ^{1,2}	Event Name	Description	Computation	Legal Authority ³
Tuesday, January 11, 2011		Begin Candidate Filing	First day candidates for the 2012 election can file a <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> .	1 year before the deadline to file a <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> .	SBE Policy
Monday, January 17, 2011		Martin Luther King's Birthday	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Wednesday, January 19, 2011	11:59 pm	Campaign Finance Report	Deadline to file annual campaign finance report for all political committees.	3rd Wednesday in January.	EL § 13-309(b)(2)
Monday, February 21, 2011		President's Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Monday, April 04, 2011		Early Voting Center Approval Form	Deadline for SBE to provide the local boards with the form for a proposed early voting center.	At least one year before a primary election.	COMAR 33.17.02.02A(1)
Monday, May 02, 2011	COB	Request for Advance Determination of Sufficiency for 2011 Referendum Petition Format	Deadline for petition sponsor to submit to SBE a request for advance determination of sufficiency of a referendum petition format.	At least 30 days before the deadline to file the petition.	EL § 6-210(a)(1)
Monday, May 09, 2011	COB	Determination of Referendum Petition Format Sufficiency	Deadline for SBE to determine sufficiency of a referendum petition format.	Within 5 days of receiving the request for advance determination.	EL § 6-210(a)(2)
Wednesday, May 11, 2011	COB	Notification of Outcome of Advance Determination of a Referendum Petition Format	Deadline for SBE to notify petition sponsor of the approval or deficiency of referendum petition format.	Within 2 business days after determining sufficiency of referendum petition format.	EL § 6-210(b)
Friday, May 27, 2011		Service Reduction Day	SBE and most local boards will be closed.	Friday before Memorial Day.	Executive Order 01.01.2010.11
Monday, May 30, 2011		Memorial Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Tuesday, May 31, 2011	11:59 pm	Filing Referendum Petition on Acts of the 2011 General Assembly	Deadline for petition sponsor to submit to Secretary of State at least one-third of the referendum petition signatures.	Petitions are filed with the Secretary of State before the 1st day of June.	MD Const. Art. XVI, § 3(b)
Monday, June 20, 2011	COB	Verification and Counting of Referendum Petition	Deadline for the local boards to verify and count the signatures on the referendum petition.	Within 20 days after the filing of the petition.	EL § 6-210(c)
Wednesday, June 22, 2011	COB	Certification of Referendum Petition	Deadline for SBE to certify the results of the first submission of the required signatures.	Within 2 business days after verification and counting is completed; deadline is extended if judicial review is pending.	EL § 6-210(d)
Thursday, June 30, 2011	11:59 pm	Filing Referendum Petition on Acts of the 2011 General Assembly	Deadline for petition sponsor to submit to Secretary of State the balance of referendum petition signatures.	Petitions are filed with the Secretary of State by the 30th day of June.	MD Const. Art. XVI, § 3(b)
Monday, July 04, 2011		Independence Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Tuesday, July 05, 2011	COB	Judicial Review of Referendum Petition Certification	Deadline to seek judicial review of referendum petition certification of the first submission of the required signatures.	10th day following SBE's determination (July 2, 2011) or 63rd day before the general election (September 4, 2012), whichever is earlier.	EL § 6-210(e)

¹ Under Maryland law, if a deadline is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the deadline is moved to the next regular business day. See EL § 1-301.

² COB means close of business. For SBE, the close of business is 5:00 p.m. Because the close of business varies by county, please contact the appropriate local board of elections to find out when the election office closes.

³ Most citations refer to the Election Law (EL) Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. COMAR refers to the Code of Maryland Regulations. USC refers to the United States Code.

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Wednesday, July 20, 2011	COB	Verification and Counting of Referendum Petition	Deadline for the local boards to verify and count the balance of the signatures on the referendum petition.	Within 20 days after the filing of the petition.	EL § 6-210(c)
Friday, July 22, 2011	COB	Certification of Referendum Petition	Deadline for SBE to certify the results of the full referendum petition verification.	Within 2 business days after verification and counting is completed; deadline is extended if judicial review is pending.	EL § 6-210(d)
Monday, August 01, 2011	COB	Judicial Review of Referendum Petition Certification	Deadline to seek judicial review of referendum petition certification.	10th day following SBE's determination (August 1, 2011) or 63rd day before the general election (September 4, 2012), whichever is earlier.	EL § 6-210(e)
Tuesday, August 02, 2011		Determination of Number of Registered Voters (Early Voting Centers)	Deadline for the State Administrator to determine the number of active registered voters for use when determining the number of early voting centers in each jurisdiction.	Tuesday that is 8 months before the primary election.	COMAR 33.17.02.01A(1)
Monday, August 08, 2011		Notice of Number of Early Voting Centers	Deadline for the State Administrator to provide the local boards with the number of early voting centers in each jurisdiction.	Within 5 days of determination of number of registered voters.	COMAR 33.17.02.01B
Friday, September 2, 2011		Service Reduction Day	SBE and most local boards will be closed.	Friday before Labor Day.	Executive Order 01.01.2011.08
Monday, September 05, 2011		Labor Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Tuesday, September 06, 2011		Early Voting Center Approval Form	Deadline for the local boards to submit to SBE a form for each proposed early voting center.	At least 7 months before a primary election.	COMAR 33.17.02.02A(2)
Saturday, September 17, 2011		Constitution Day and Citizenship Day	Commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution and require public schools to celebrate the day and instill in students knowledge of history, importance, and meaning of the U.S. Constitution and Maryland Constitution.	Anniversary of signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787.	Education Art., § 7-116
Friday, September 30, 2011	COB	Certification of Number of Convention Delegates	Deadline for political parties to certify to SBE the total number of convention delegates and alternate delegates that will represent the parties at the national conventions.	Not later than October 1st in the year preceding the election.	EL § 8-501(b)
Monday, October 03, 2011		Designation of Early Voting Centers	Deadline for SBE, in collaboration with the local boards, to designate early voting centers.	No later than 6 months before a primary election.	EL § 10-301.1(c)
Monday, October 10, 2011		Columbus Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Friday, November 11, 2011		Veteran's Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Wednesday, November 23, 2011		Service Reduction Day	SBE and most local boards will be closed.	Wednesday before Thanksgiving.	Executive Order 01.01.2011.08
Thursday, November 24, 2011		Thanksgiving	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201

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Friday, November 25, 2011		American Indian Heritage Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Monday, December 12, 2011	COB	Request for Advance Determination of Sufficiency for U.S. Presidential Primary Election Candidacy Petition Format	Deadline for U.S. Presidential candidate to submit to SBE a request for advance determination of sufficiency of the candidacy petition format. Petition is only required for Presidential primary election candidates not recognized by the Secretary of State for automatic ballot placement.	At least 30 days before the deadline to file the petition but not more than 2 years and one month before the deadline to file petition.	EL § 6-210(a)(1)
Monday, December 19, 2011	COB	Determination of U.S. Presidential Candidacy Petition Format Sufficiency	Deadline for SBE to determine sufficiency of a U.S Presidential candidacy petition format.	Within 5 days of reviewing the request of advance determination.	EL § 6-210(a)(2)
Wednesday, December 21, 2011	COB	Notification of Outcome of Advance Determination of U.S. Presidential Candidacy Petition Format	Deadline for SBE to notify candidate of the approval or deficiency of candidacy petition format.	Within 2 business days after determining sufficiency of candidacy petition format.	EL § 6-210(b)
Friday, December 23, 2011		Service Reduction Day	SBE and most local boards will be closed.	Friday before Christmas.	Executive Order 01.01.2011.08
Monday, December 26, 2011		Christmas	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Friday, December 30, 2011		Service Reduction Day	SBE and most local boards will be closed.	Friday before New Year's Day.	Executive Order 01.01.2011.08
Monday, January 02, 2012		New Year's Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Tuesday, January 03, 2012		Determination of Number of Registered Voters (Nomination Petition)	Deadline for SBE to determine the number of registered voters required to satisfy the requirement for a nomination by petition.	January 1st of the year of the primary election for which the nomination is sought.	EL § 5-703(e)(3)
Tuesday, January 03, 2012		Alternate Early Voting Center	Deadline for the local boards to submit to SBE a form for each proposed alternate early voting center.	At least 3 months before a primary election.	COMAR 33.17.02.02G(4)
Tuesday, January 03, 2012	COB	Polling Place Change	Deadline for the local boards to create or change a precinct boundary or polling place.	Tuesday that is 13 weeks before a primary election.	EL § 2-303(b)
Tuesday, January 03, 2012	COB	Appointment of Election Judges	Start of term of office for election judges.	Beginning the Tuesday that is 13 weeks before a primary election.	EL § 10-203(c)
Tuesday, January 03, 2012		Request to Waive Absentee Mailing Deadline	Deadline for SBE to submit a request to the Federal Voting Assistance Program for a waiver of the deadline to mail absentee ballots to certain voters.	At least 90 days before an election.	42 USC 1973ff-1(g)(3)
Wednesday, January 11, 2012	9:00 pm	Candidate Filing Deadline	Deadline to file a <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i>.	Not later than the Wednesday that is 83 days before a primary election.	§ 5-303(a)(2)
Wednesday, January 11, 2012	9:00 pm	Filing U.S. Presidential Candidacy Petition	Deadline for U.S. Presidential candidates not recognized by the Secretary of State to file with SBE a <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> and petition.	Not later than the Wednesday that is 83 days before the day of the election.	EL § 8-502(d)
Friday, January 13, 2012	COB	Withdrawal of Candidacy	Deadline for a candidate to withdraw his or her candidacy before the primary election.	Within 2 days after the deadline to file a <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> .	EL § 5-502(a)
Monday, January 16, 2012		Martin Luther King's Birthday	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201

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Tuesday, January 17, 2012	COB	Certification of Republican and Democratic Presidential Candidates	Deadline for the Secretary of State to certify to SBE the names of the candidates for U.S. President for the primary election.	Beginning 90 days before a primary election and ending 80 days before a primary election.	EL § 8-502(c)(1)
Tuesday, January 17, 2012	COB	Vacancy in Candidacy	Deadline for central committees to fill a vacancy for an office appearing on the primary election ballot.	5 days after the deadline to file <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> .	EL 5-901(e)
Tuesday, January 17, 2012	COB	Challenge Residency of Candidate	Deadline for a registered voter to file in circuit court a petition challenging the residency of a candidate.	6 days after the deadline to file <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> .	EL § 5-305(c)(1)
Wednesday, January 18, 2012	11:59 pm	Campaign Finance Report	Deadline to file annual campaign finance report for all political committees.	3rd Wednesday in January.	EL § 13-309(b)(2)
Wednesday, January 18, 2012	COB	Replacement Delegate	Deadline for a Presidential candidate to file with SBE a designation for a replacement delegate.	No later than 5 days after the withdrawal deadline.	EL § 8-501(b)(2)(iii)
Monday, January 23, 2012		Certification of Ballot	Deadline for SBE to prepare and certify content and arrangement of ballots for the primary election.	Not more than 11 days after the deadline to file a <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> .	EL § 9-207(a)(1)
Tuesday, January 24, 2012	COB	Display of Ballot	Deadline for SBE to display on its website the content and arrangement of each certified ballot.	Within 1 day of certifying the ballot.	EL § 9-207(c)
Wednesday, January 25, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of Content and Arrangement of Ballot	Deadline for a registered voter to seek judicial review of the content and arrangement or to correct any other error on the ballot.	Within 2 days of certifying the ballot.	EL § 9-209(a)
Friday, January 27, 2012		Printing of Ballots	SBE may begin printing ballots and correct noted errors.	After 2 days of public display of ballot.	EL § 9-207(e)
Friday, January 27, 2012		Security Plan for Early Voting Centers	Deadline for the local boards to submit to the State Administrator an early voting security plan.	At least 8 weeks before early voting begins.	COMAR 33.17.02.04A
Tuesday, January 31, 2012	COB	Verification and Counting of U.S. Presidential Candidacy Petition	Deadline for the local boards to verify and count the signatures on the U.S. Presidential candidacy petition.	Within 20 days after the filing of the petition.	EL § 6-210(c)
Thursday, February 02, 2012	COB	Certification of U.S. Presidential Candidacy Petition	Deadline for SBE to certify the results of the U.S. Presidential candidacy petition verification.	Within 2 business days after verification and counting is completed; deadline is extended if judicial review is pending.	EL § 6-210(d)
Monday, February 13, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of U.S. Presidential Candidacy Petition Certification	Deadline to seek judicial review of candidacy petition certification.	10th day following SBE's determination (February 11, 2012) or 63rd day before a general election (September 4, 2012), whichever is earlier.	EL § 6-210(e)
Saturday, February 18, 2012		Mailing Absentee Ballots	Deadline for the local boards to mail absentee ballots to certain voters unless the Federal Voting Assistance Program grants the State a waiver of the deadline.	At least 45 days before an election unless the Federal Voting Assistance Program grants the State a waiver of the 45 day mailing deadline.	42 USC 1973gg-1(a)(8)
Monday, February 20, 2012		President's Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Thursday, February 23, 2012		Public Education for Early Voting	SBE and local boards start public education about early voting.	30 days before early voting for a primary election.	EL § 10-301.1(f)

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Monday, February 27, 2012		Review of Early Voting Security Plan	Deadline for the State Administrator to review and provide feedback on a local board's early voting security plan.	Within 30 days of receipt of an early voting security plan.	COMAR 33.17.02.04C(2)
Tuesday, March 13, 2012	9:00 pm	Close of Registration & Party Affiliation Deadline	Deadline to register to vote or change party affiliation for the primary election.	21st day preceding an election.	EL § 3-302(a)
Tuesday, March 13, 2012	9:00 pm	Polling Place Reassignment	Deadline for elderly voters or voters with disabilities to submit a request to the local boards for reassignment to an accessible polling place.	No later than the close of registration before any election.	EL § 10-102(b)(1)
Tuesday, March 13, 2012	COB	Voter Registration Lists	Deadline for a registered voter to request a voter registration list. (New requests will not be taken until registration reopens.)	On or before the registration deadline.	COMAR 33.03.02.05B
Monday, March 19, 2012		Logic and Accuracy Testing - Early Voting	Deadline for the local boards to complete logic and accuracy testing of the voting units being used for early voting. (Note: A public demonstration of the test must be conducted before any voting units are delivered to an early voting center.)	At least 14 days before an election.	COMAR 33.10.02.14,16
Friday, March 23, 2012	COB	Voter Registration Lists	Deadline for SBE and the local boards to prepare a voter registration list that includes registrants through the registration deadline.	Within 10 days of the voter registration deadline.	COMAR 33.03.02.05C(2)
Friday, March 23, 2012	COB	Logic and Accuracy Testing - Election Day	Deadline for the local boards to complete logic and accuracy testing of the election management system and voting units being used for election day voting and absentee and provisional voting. (Note: A public demonstration of the test must be conducted before any voting units are delivered to an early voting center.)	At least 10 days before an election.	COMAR 33.10.02.14,16 COMAR 33.10.11.15,16
Friday, March 23, 2012	11:59 pm	Campaign Finance Report	Deadline to file the first pre-primary election campaign finance report.	2nd Friday immediately preceding a primary election.	EL § 13-309(a)(2)
Friday, March 23, 2012	11:59 pm	Affidavit of Contributions and Expenditures	Deadline for Presidential-designated political committees receiving and spending campaign funds of \$999.99 or less in a reporting period to file an affidavit.	On or before the deadline to file the first pre-primary election campaign finance report.	EL § 13-305
Saturday, March 24, 2012	10:00 am to 8:00 pm	Early Voting Begins	Early voting for the primary election begins. On Sunday, March 25th, early voting centers are open from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm.	2nd Saturday before an election through the Thursday before an election.	EL § 10-301.1
Monday, March 26, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of any Ballot Printing Errors	Deadline for a registered voter to seek judicial review if an error is discovered after the ballots have been printed and the local board fails to correct the error.	Not later than the 2nd Monday preceding an election.	EL § 9-209(c)
Monday, March 26, 2012		Notice of Election	Deadline for the local boards to provide notice of the primary election.	At least one week before an election.	EL § 8-102

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Tuesday, March 27, 2012	8 pm (mail) or 11:59 pm (fax/email)	Absentee Ballot Application Deadline	Deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail, fax, or email.	Tuesday before an election.	EL § 9-305(b); COMAR 33.11.02.02D
Wednesday, March 28, 2012		Late Absentee Ballot Application	Beginning of period to request absentee ballot using the late absentee ballot application.	Starting Wednesday before the election through 8:00 pm on election day.	EL § 9-305(c); COMAR 33.11.02.04A
Thursday, March 29, 2012	10:00 am to 8:00 pm	Early Voting Ends	Early voting for the primary election ends.	2nd Saturday before an election through the Thursday before an election.	EL § 10-301.1
Tuesday, April 03, 2012	7:00 am to 8:00 pm	Primary Election	Presidential Primary Election Day.	1st Tuesday in April in the year in which the President of the United States is elected.	EL § 8-201(a)(2)(ii)
Tuesday, April 03, 2012	8:00 pm	Extended Voter Registration Deadline	Extended deadline for receipt of voter registration applications sent by mail for voting in the primary election.	An application received by mail after the close of registration is timely if it is properly postmarked.	EL § 3-302(c); COMAR 33.05.04.01C, D
Tuesday, April 03, 2012	8:00 pm	Absentee Ballot Deadline	Deadline for the local boards to receive an absentee ballot.	An absentee ballot is timely received if it is received by the local board before 8:00 pm on election day.	COMAR 33.11.03.08B(1)
Thursday, April 05, 2012	10:00 am	Absentee Ballot Canvass 1	Local boards of canvassers are required to begin the 1st canvass of absentee ballots.	10:00 am on the Thursday after an election.	COMAR 33.11.04.03A(1)
Wednesday, April 11, 2012	10:00 am	Provisional Ballot Canvass	Local boards of canvassers are required to begin the canvass of provisional ballots.	10:00 am on the 2nd Wednesday after an election.	COMAR 33.16.05.02A
Friday, April 13, 2012	10:00 am	Extended Absentee Ballot Deadline	Deadline for the local boards to receive absentee ballots by mail.	10:00 am on the 2nd Friday after an election provided there is a proper postmark or date on voter oath.	COMAR 33.11.03.08B(2)
Friday, April 13, 2012	10:00 am	Absentee Ballot Canvass 2	Local boards of canvassers are required to begin the 2nd canvass of absentee ballots.	10:00 am on the 2nd Friday after an election.	COMAR 33.11.04.03A(2)
Friday, April 13, 2012		Post-Election Audit	Deadline for the local boards to conduct the post-election audit for 10% of precincts.	Before certifying the results of an election.	COMAR 33.10.02.38 COMAR 33.10.11.38
Friday, April 13, 2012		Verification of Vote Count	Deadline for the local boards of canvassers to verify the primary election vote count.	Within 10 days after an election and before certifying the results of an election.	EL § 11-308(a)
Friday, April 13, 2012		Certification of the Election	Deadline for the local boards of canvassers to certify the results of primary election.	After the verification of vote count is completed.	EL § 11-308(b)
Friday, April 13, 2012		Transmittal of Results	Local boards of canvassers must transmit certified copies of election results to the Governor, SBE, and appropriate Clerk of the Circuit Court.	2nd Friday after an election or if canvass is completed afterward, within 48 hours after completion.	EL § 11-401(c)
Monday, April 16, 2012		Voter Registration Reopens	Voter registration reopens.	11th day after an election.	EL § 3-302(a)
Tuesday, May 01, 2012	COB	Request for Advance Determination of Sufficiency for 2012 Referendum Petition Format	Deadline for petition sponsor to submit to SBE a request for advance determination of sufficiency of a referendum petition format.	At least 30 days before the deadline to file the petition.	EL § 6-210(a)(1)
Monday, May 07, 2012	COB	Determination of Referendum Petition Format Sufficiency	Deadline for SBE to determine sufficiency of a referendum petition format.	Within 5 days of receiving the request for advance determination.	EL § 6-210(a)(2)

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Tuesday, May 08, 2012	COB	Statewide Certification of Results	Deadline for the State Board of Canvassers to convene to certify election results.	Within 35 days after a primary election.	EL § 11-503(a)(1)(ii)
Wednesday, May 09, 2012	COB	Notification of Outcome of Advance Determination of a Referendum Petition Format	Deadline for SBE to notify petition sponsor of the approval or deficiency of referendum petition format.	Within 2 business days after determining sufficiency of referendum petition format.	EL § 6-210(b)
Friday, May 11, 2012	COB	Petition for Recount	Deadline to file a petition for a recount of the votes cast for an office on the ballot.	Within 3 days after the results of the election have been certified.	EL § 12-101(d)
Friday, May 25, 2012		Service Reduction Day	SBE and most local boards will be closed.	Friday before Memorial Day.	Executive Order 01.01.2011.08
Monday, May 28, 2012		Memorial Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Thursday, May 31, 2012	11:59 pm	Filing Referendum Petition on Acts of the 2012 General Assembly	Deadline for petition sponsor to submit to Secretary of State at least one-third of the referendum petition signatures.	Petitions are filed with the Secretary of State before the 1st day of June.	MD Const. Art. XVI, § 3(b)
Wednesday, June 20, 2012	COB	Verification and Counting of Referendum Petition	Deadline for the local boards to verify and count the signatures on the referendum petition.	Within 20 days after the filing of the petition.	EL § 6-210(c)
Friday, June 22, 2012	COB	Certification of Referendum Petition	Deadline for SBE to certify the results of the first submission of the required signatures.	Within 2 business days after verification and counting is completed; deadline is extended if judicial review is pending.	EL § 6-210(d)
Friday, June 29, 2012	5:00 pm	Declaration of Intent	Deadline for a candidate who seeks nomination by a recognized non-principal political party to file a <i>Declaration of Intent</i> to seek nomination.	In the year in which the President of the United States is elected, must be filed by July 1st.	EL § 5-703.1(c)(3)(ii)
Friday, June 29, 2012	5:00 pm	Declaration of Intent	Deadline for an unaffiliated candidate or a candidate who is affiliated with a non-recognized political party who intends to seek nomination by petition to file a <i>Declaration of Intent</i> to seek nomination.	In the year in which the President of the United States is elected, must be filed by July 1st.	EL § 5-703(c)(3)(ii)
Saturday, June 30, 2012	11:59 pm	Filing Referendum Petition on Acts of the 2012 General Assembly	Deadline for petition sponsor to submit to Secretary of State the balance of referendum petition signatures.	Petitions are filed with the Secretary of State by the 30th day of June. The Secretary of State will be available to receive the referendum petition even though the deadline is a Saturday.	MD Const. Art. XVI, § 3(b)
Monday, July 02, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of Referendum Petition Certification	Deadline to seek judicial review of referendum petition certification of the first submission of the required signatures.	10th day following SBE's determination (July 2, 2012) or 63rd day before the general election (September 4, 2012), whichever is earlier.	EL § 6-210(e)
Wednesday, July 04, 2012		Independence Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Thursday, July 05, 2012	COB	Challenge Residency of Candidate	Deadline for a registered voter to file in circuit court a petition challenging the residency of a candidate.	6 days after the deadline to file a <i>Declaration of Intent</i> .	EL § 5-305(c)(2)

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Friday, July 06, 2012	COB	Request for Advance Determination of Sufficiency for Candidacy or New Party Petition Format	Deadline for candidate or petition sponsor to submit to SBE a request for advance determination of sufficiency of a candidacy or new party petition format.	At least 30 days before the deadline to file the petition but not more than 2 years and one month before the deadline to file petition.	EL § 6-210(a)(1)
Wednesday, July 11, 2012	COB	Determination of Candidacy or New Party Petition Format Sufficiency	Deadline for SBE to determine sufficiency of a candidacy or new party petition.	Within 5 days of receiving the request of advance determination.	EL § 6-210(a)(2)
Friday, July 13, 2012	COB	Request for Advance Determination of Sufficiency for Charter Amendment Petition Format	Deadline for petition sponsor to submit to the appropriate local board a request for advance determination on the sufficiency of a charter amendment petition format.	At least 30 days before the deadline to file the petition but not more than 2 years and one month before the deadline to file petition.	EL § 6-210(a)(1)
Friday, July 13, 2012	COB	Notification of Outcome of Advance Determination of a Candidacy or New Party Petition Format	Deadline for SBE to notify candidate or petition sponsor of the approval or deficiency of candidacy or new party petition format.	Within 2 business days after determining sufficiency of a candidacy or new party petition.	EL § 6-210(b)
Wednesday, July 18, 2012	COB	Determination of Charter Amendment Petition Format Sufficiency	Deadline for the local boards to determine sufficiency of a charter amendment petition format.	Within 5 days of receiving the request of advance determination.	EL § 6-210(a)(2)
Friday, July 20, 2012	COB	Verification and Counting of Referendum Petition	Deadline for the local boards to verify and count the balance of the signatures on the referendum petition.	Within 20 days after the filing of the petition.	EL § 6-210(c)
Friday, July 20, 2012	COB	Notification of Outcome of Advance Determination for Charter Amendment Petition Format	Deadline for the local boards to notify petition sponsor of the approval or deficiency of charter amendment petition format.	Within 2 business days after determining sufficiency of a charter amendment petition.	EL § 6-210(b)
Monday, July 23, 2012	COB	Certification of Referendum Petition	Deadline for SBE to certify the results of the full referendum petition verification.	Within 2 business days after verification and counting is completed; deadline is extended if judicial review is pending.	EL § 6-210(d)
Thursday, August 02, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of Referendum Petition Certification	Deadline to seek judicial review of referendum petition certification.	10th day following SBE's determination (August 2, 2012) or 63rd day before the general election (September 4, 2012), whichever is earlier.	EL §6-210(e)
Monday, August 06, 2012	5:00 pm	Filing Candidacy Petition and <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i>	Deadline for general election petition candidate to file with SBE the <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> and candidacy petition.	1st Monday in August.	EL § 5-703(d) & (f)
Monday, August 06, 2012	5:00 pm	Filing New Party Petition	Deadline for petition sponsor to file with SBE a new political party petition.	1st Monday in August.	EL § 4-102(c)(2)(i)
Monday, August 06, 2012	5:00 pm	Filing <i>Certificates of Nomination</i> and <i>Candidacy</i>	Deadline for candidates seeking nomination from a non-principal political party to file with SBE the <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> and <i>Certificate of Nomination</i> .	1st Monday in August.	EL § 5-703.1(d)(1)
Tuesday, August 07, 2012		Request to Waive Absentee Mailing Deadline	Deadline for SBE to submit a request to the Federal Voting Assistance Program for a waiver of the deadline to mail absentee ballots to certain voters.	At least 90 days before an election.	42 USC 1973ff-1(g)(3)

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Date	Time ^{1,2}	Event Name	Description	Computation	Legal Authority ³
Monday, August 13, 2012	COB	Filing Charter Amendment Petition	Deadline for petition sponsor to file with local government authority a charter amendment petition.	2nd Monday in August.	EL § 7-104(b)
Monday, August 13, 2012	COB	Certification of General Assembly Ballot Questions	Deadline for SBE to prepare and certify to the local boards ballot questions referred by the General Assembly to voters of one county or part of one county.	2nd Monday in August.	EL § 7-103(c)(2)
Monday, August 20, 2012	COB	Certification of Local Ballot Questions	Deadline for County Attorney or Baltimore City Solicitor to certify to the local boards each question to be voted on in the county or part of the county.	3rd Monday in August.	EL § 7-103(c)(3)
Monday, August 20, 2012	COB	Certification of Statewide Ballot Questions and Ballot Questions Petitioned to Referendum	Deadline for Secretary of State to certify to SBE statewide ballot questions and questions relating to Acts of the General Assembly petitioned to referendum.	3rd Monday in August.	EL § 7-103(c)(1)
Monday, August 27, 2012	COB	Alternate Certification of Local Ballot Questions	Deadline for Clerk of the Circuit Court to prepare and certify local ballot questions if the County Attorney or Baltimore City Solicitor does not do so.	4th Monday in August if County Attorney or Baltimore City Solicitor has not timely certified the ballot questions.	EL § 7-103(c)(3)(ii)
Monday, August 27, 2012	COB	Verification and Counting of Candidacy or New Party Petition	Deadline for the local boards to verify and count signatures on the candidacy or new party petition.	Within 20 days after the filing of the petition.	EL § 6-210(c)
Week of August 27th		Republican National Convention	Republican National Convention in Tampa, Florida.	Dates established by Republican National Committee.	
Tuesday, August 28, 2012	COB	Declination of Nomination	Deadline for a candidate in the general election to file a declination of nomination.	By the 70th day preceding the general election.	EL § 5-801(b)(2)(ii)
Wednesday, August 29, 2012	COB	Certification of Candidacy or New Party Petition	Deadline for SBE to certify the results of the candidacy or new party petition verification.	Within 2 business days after verification and counting is completed; deadline is extended if judicial review is pending.	EL § 6-210(d)
Friday, August 31, 2012		Service Reduction Day	SBE and most local boards will be closed.	Friday before Labor Day.	Executive Order 01.01.2011.08
Monday, September 03, 2012		Labor Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Week of September 3rd		Democratic National Convention	Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina.	Dates established by Democratic National Committee.	
Tuesday, September 04, 2012	COB	Verification and Counting of Charter Amendment Petition	Deadline for the local boards to verify and count signatures on a charter amendment petition.	Within 20 days after the filing of the petition.	EL § 6-210(c)
Tuesday, September 04, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of Candidacy Petition Certification	Deadline to seek judicial review of candidacy petition certification.	10th day following SBE's determination (September 8, 2012) or 63rd day before the general election (September 4, 2012), whichever is earlier.	EL § 6-210(e)(2)
Thursday, September 06, 2012	COB	Certification of Charter Amendment Petition	Deadline for the local boards to certify the results of the charter amendment petition verification.	Within 2 business days after verification and counting is completed; deadline is extended if judicial review is pending.	EL § 6-210(d)

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Date	Time ^{1,2}	Event Name	Description	Computation	Legal Authority ³
Monday, September 10, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of New Party Petition Certification	Deadline to seek judicial review of new party petition certification.	10th day after determination.	EL § 6-210(e)(1)
Tuesday, September 11, 2012		Certification of Ballot	Deadline for SBE to prepare and certify content and arrangement of ballots for the general election.	At least 55 days before a general election.	EL § 9-207(a)(2)(i)
Wednesday, September 12, 2012	COB	Display of Ballot	Deadline for SBE to display on its website the content and arrangement of each certified ballot.	Within 1 day of certifying the ballot.	EL § 9-207(c)
Thursday, September 13, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of Content and Arrangement of Ballot	Deadline for a registered voter to seek judicial review of the content and arrangement or to correct any other error on the ballot.	Within 2 days of certifying the ballot.	EL § 9-209(a)
Saturday, September 15, 2012		Printing of Ballots	SBE may begin printing ballots and correct noted errors.	After 2 days of public display of ballot.	EL § 9-207(e)
Monday, September 17, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of Charter Amendment Petition Certification	Deadline to seek judicial review of charter amendment petition certification.	10th day following SBE's determination (September 16, 2012) or 63rd day before the general election (September 4, 2012), whichever is earlier. Although the 63rd day is earlier, this date is <i>before</i> the petition is certified (September 6, 2012).	EL § 6-210(e)(2)
Monday, September 17, 2012		Constitution Day and Citizenship Day	Commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution and require public schools to celebrate the day and instill in students knowledge of history, importance, and meaning of the U.S. Constitution and Maryland Constitution.	Anniversary of signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787.	Education Art., § 7-116
Saturday, September 22, 2012		Mailing Absentee Ballots	Deadline for the local boards to mail absentee ballots to certain voters unless the Federal Voting Assistance Program grants the State a waiver of the deadline.	At least 45 days before an election unless the Federal Voting Assistance Program grants the State a waiver of the 45 day mailing deadline.	42 USC 1973gg-1(a)(8)
Thursday, September 27, 2012	COB	Vacancy in Nomination	Deadline for central committees to fill a vacancy in nomination if the vacancy occurred on or before the 45th day before the general election.	The later of the 40th day before the general election or the 5th day following the vacancy.	EL §§ 5-1002(b), 5-1003(b), & 5-1004(b)
Thursday, September 27, 2012		Public Education for Early Voting	SBE and local boards start public education about early voting.	30 days before early voting for a general election.	EL § 10-301.1(f)
Friday, October 05, 2012	COB	Presidential Electors	Deadline for the State political parties of the Presidential nominees to submit to SBE the names and addresses of 10 electors.	At least 30 days before the general election.	EL § 8-503(c)(3)
Monday, October 08, 2012		Columbus Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Tuesday, October 16, 2012	9:00 pm	Close of Registration	Deadline to register to vote for the general election.	21st day preceding the election.	EL § 3-302(a)

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Date	Time ^{1,2}	Event Name	Description	Computation	Legal Authority ³
Tuesday, October 16, 2012	9:00 pm	Polling Place Reassignment	Deadline for elderly voters or voters with disabilities to submit a request to the local boards for reassignment to an accessible polling place.	No later than the close of registration before any election.	EL § 10-102(b)(1)
Tuesday, October 16, 2012	COB	Voter Registration Lists	Deadline for a registered voter to request a voter registration list. (New requests will not be taken until registration reopens.)	On or before the registration deadline.	COMAR 33.03.02.05B
Monday, October 22, 2012		Logic and Accuracy Testing - Early Voting	Deadline for the local boards to complete logic and accuracy testing of the voting units being used for early voting. (Note: A public demonstration of the test must be conducted before any voting units are delivered to an early voting center.)	At least 14 days before an election.	COMAR 33.10.02.14,16
Friday, October 26, 2012	COB	Voter Registration Lists	Deadline for SBE and the local boards to prepare a voter registration list that includes registrants through the registration deadline.	Within 10 days after the voter registration deadline.	COMAR 33.03.02.05C(2)
Friday, October 26, 2012	11:59 pm	Campaign Finance Report	Deadline for the pre-general election campaign finance report for Presidential-designated political committees.	2nd Friday immediately preceding an election.	EL § 13-309(a)(2)
Friday, October 26, 2012	11:59 pm	Affidavit of Contributions and Expenditures	Deadline for Presidential-designated political committees receiving and spending campaign funds of \$999.99 or less in a reporting period to file an affidavit.	On or before the deadline to file the first pre-primary election campaign finance report.	EL § 13-305
Friday, October 26, 2012	COB	Logic and Accuracy Testing - Election Day	Deadline for the local boards to complete logic and accuracy testing of the election management system and voting units being used for election day voting and absentee and provisional voting. (Note: A public demonstration of the test must be conducted before any voting units are delivered to an early voting center.)	At least 10 days before an election.	COMAR 33.10.02.14, 16 COMAR 33.10.11.14, 16
Saturday, October 27, 2012	10:00 am to 8:00 pm	Early Voting Begins	Early voting for the general election begins. On Sunday, October 28th, early voting centers are open from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm.	2nd Saturday before an election through the Thursday before an election.	EL § 10-301.1
Monday, October 29, 2012	COB	Judicial Review of any Ballot Printing Errors	Deadline for registered voter to seek judicial review if an error is discovered after the ballots have been printed and the local board fails to correct the error.	Not later than the 2nd Monday preceding an election.	EL § 9-209(c)
Monday, October 29, 2012		Notice of Election	Deadline for the local boards to provide notice of the general election.	At least one week before an election.	EL § 8-102
Tuesday, October 30, 2012	8 pm (mail) or 11:59 pm (fax/email)	Absentee Ballot Application Deadline	Deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail, fax, or email.	Tuesday before an election.	EL § 9-305(b); COMAR 33.11.02.02D
Wednesday, October 31, 2012		Late Absentee Ballot Application	Beginning of period to request absentee ballot using the late absentee ballot application.	Starting Wednesday before the election through 8:00 pm on election day.	EL § 9-305(c); COMAR 33.11.02.04A

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Date	Time ^{1,2}	Event Name	Description	Computation	Legal Authority ³
Wednesday, October 31, 2012	5:00 pm	Write-in Candidate	Deadline for write-in candidates to file a <i>Certificate of Candidacy</i> . Only filed write-in candidates will have their votes reported on the official canvass.	Wednesday preceding the election or within 7 days after expenditure of \$51 to promote candidacy.	EL § 5-303(c)
Thursday, November 01, 2012	10:00 am to 8:00 pm	Early Voting Ends	Early voting for the general election ends.	2nd Saturday before an election through the Thursday before an election.	EL § 10-301.1
Tuesday, November 06, 2012	7:00 am to 8:00 pm	General Election	Presidential General Election Day.	Tuesday after the first Monday in November.	MD Const. Art. XV, § 7, EL § 8-301
Tuesday, November 06, 2012	8:00 pm	Extended Voter Registration Deadline	Extended deadline for receipt of voter registration applications sent by mail for voting in the general election.	An application received by mail after the close of registration is timely if it is properly postmarked.	EL § 3-302(c); COMAR 33.05.04.01C, D
Tuesday, November 06, 2012	8:00 pm	Absentee Ballot Deadline	Deadline for the local boards to receive an absentee ballot.	An absentee ballot is timely received if it is received by the local board by 8:00 pm on election day.	COMAR 33.11.03.08B(1)
Thursday, November 08, 2012	10:00 am	Absentee Ballot Canvass 1	Local boards of canvassers are required to begin the 1st canvass of absentee ballots.	10:00 am on the Thursday after an election.	COMAR 33.11.04.03A(1)
Monday, November 12, 2012		Veteran's Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Wednesday, November 14, 2012	10:00 am	Provisional Ballot Canvass	Local boards of canvassers are required to begin the canvass of provisional ballots.	10:00 am on the 2nd Wednesday after an election.	COMAR 33.16.05.02A
Friday, November 16, 2012	10:00 am	Extended Absentee Ballot Deadline	Deadline for the local boards to receive absentee ballots by mail.	10:00 am on the 2nd Friday following an election provided there is a proper postmark or date on the voter oath.	COMAR 33.11.03.08B(2)
Friday, November 16, 2012	10:00 am	Absentee Ballot Canvass 2	Local boards of canvassers are required to begin the 2nd canvass of absentee ballots.	10:00 am on the 2nd Friday after an election.	COMAR 33.11.04.03A(2)
Friday, November 16, 2012		Post-Election Audit	Deadline for the local boards to conduct the post-election audit for 10% of precincts.	Before certifying the results of an election.	COMAR 33.10.02.38 COMAR 33.10.11.38
Friday, November 16, 2012		Verification of Vote Count	Deadline for the local boards of canvassers to verify the general election vote count.	Within 10 days after an election and before certifying results of an election.	EL § 11-308(a)
Friday, November 16, 2012		Certification of the Election	Deadline for the local boards of canvassers to certify the results of the general election.	After the verification of the vote count is completed.	EL § 11-308(b)
Friday, November 16, 2012		Transmittal of Results	Local boards of canvassers must transmit certified copies of election results to the Governor, SBE and the appropriate Clerk of the Circuit Court.	2nd Friday after an election or if canvass is completed afterward, within 48 hours after completing the canvass.	EL § 11-401(c)
Monday, November 19, 2012		Voter Registration Reopens	Voter registration reopens.	11th day after an election.	EL § 3-302(a)
Wednesday, November 21, 2012		Service Reduction Day	SBE and most local boards will be closed.	Wednesday before Thanksgiving.	Executive Order 01.01.2011.08
Thursday, November 22, 2012		Thanksgiving	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201

Primary Election - April 3, 2012
 General Election - November 6, 2012

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Maryland State Board of Elections
 151 West Street - PO Box 6486
 Annapolis, MD 21401-0486

Date	Time ^{1,2}	Event Name	Description	Computation	Legal Authority ³
Friday, November 23, 2012		American Indian Heritage Day	State holiday.		State Personnel & Pensions Art., § 9-201
Tuesday, November 27, 2012	11:59 pm	Campaign Finance Report Due	Deadline to file post-general election campaign finance report for Presidential-designated political committees.	On or before the 3rd Tuesday after an general election.	EL § 13-309(a)(4)
Tuesday, November 27, 2012	11:59 pm	Affidavit of Contributions and Expenditures	Deadline for Presidential-designated political committees receiving and spending campaign funds of \$999.99 or less in a reporting period to file an affidavit.	On or before the deadline for post-general election campaign finance report.	EL § 13-305
Tuesday, December 11, 2012	COB	Statewide Certification of Results	Deadline for the State Board of Canvassers to convene to certify election results.	Within 35 days after a general election.	EL § 11-503(a)(1)(ii)
Friday, December 14, 2012	COB	Petition for Recount	Deadline to file a petition for a recount of the votes cast for an office or question on the ballot.	Within 3 days after the results of the election have been certified.	EL § 12-101(d)
Monday, December 17, 2012		Meeting of the Presidential Electors	Official casting of votes by members of the Electoral College.	1st Monday after the 2nd Wednesday in December.	3 U.S.C. § 7