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Canvassing of Mail-In Ballots for General Election to Begin October 13

ANNAPOLIS (October 12, 2026) — Tomorrow, October 13, 2026, marks the first day that mail-in ballots will be canvassed for the 2026 Gubernatorial General Election. Local boards of elections can begin the process of opening, reviewing, and counting ballots that have been returned by Tuesday, October 13.

According to Maryland law, local boards of elections may meet eight business days prior to the start of Early Voting – October 22 – to begin canvassing mail-in ballots that have been returned. Members of the public may observe the canvass.

Additional canvassing days may take place after this time, but are not to be held on Election Day, November 3. All mail-in ballots postmarked on or before November 3 will be canvassed. Results of the canvass are not made public until after polls close at 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Local boards post on their [websites](#) the dates, times and locations of their canvasses. For more information about a local board's canvassing timeline, please contact the local board. To learn more about the vote canvassing process in Maryland, visit SBE's [canvassing webpage](#).

"Mail-in voting continues to be a secure, transparent and convenient way for Marylanders to make their voices heard in this election," said State Administrator Jared DeMarinis. "Beginning October 13, local election officials will undertake the careful and deliberate process of canvassing eligible mail-in ballots cast in the General Election. This process is conducted with transparency and safeguards at every step to ensure the integrity of Maryland's elections. As canvassing gets underway, we encourage voters to rely on the Maryland State Board of Elections and their local election officials as trusted sources for accurate and timely election information."

Additional information about Maryland's General Election, including deadlines to return your voted ballot, can be found at vote.md.gov/vote2026 or by downloading the free Go Vote Maryland! app from the [Google Play store](#) or the [Apple store](#).

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