

2020 Library Election FAQ

Q. When can elections for bonds, levy overrides, or plant facilities levies be held?

A. The uniform dates on which most library **elections** may be conducted are the ***third Tuesday in May of each year*** and the ***Tuesday following the first Monday in November of each year*** [Idaho Code sections [34-106\(1\)\(a\)](#) and [\(b\)](#)]. A possible exception would be an election to recall a library trustee. See below for library district trustee elections.

Q. How and when do I notify the County Clerk if we are having an election for a bond, or an override or plant facilities levy?

A. The Secretary of State compiles an [election calendar](#) each year.

A. Your County Clerk will contact you before November 30th each year for information on any elections your library might be holding [I.C. § [34-1405](#)].

A. If you decide to have an election during the year and fail to notify the County Clerk by November 30, you must let the county know at least 50 days before the proposed election [I.C. §§ [34-106](#) and [34-1404](#)].

Q. When are trustee elections?

A. Trustee elections shall be held on the uniform election date in May, in odd-numbered years only [I.C. §§ [33-2705](#) and [33-2715\(1\) and \(2\)](#)]. The procedure for nomination and election of trustees of a library district shall be as provided for in [chapter 14, title 34](#), Idaho Code, and in the general election laws of Idaho [I.C. § [33-2716](#)].

Q. How long does a district library trustee serve?

A. Library district trustee terms are for six (6) years.

- The terms of the two trustees elected in 2015 will end in 2021.
- The terms of trustees elected in 2017 will end in 2023.
- The terms of the two trustees elected in 2019 will end in 2025

Q. What if a trustee resigns mid-term?

- A. A declaration of vacancy on the library's board of trustees must be made at a regular or special meeting of the board of trustees. Within 60 days of declaring a vacancy, the board is required to appoint a person qualified to serve as trustee of the public library district. In the event that the board of trustees fails to exercise its authority, appointments shall be made by the board of county commissioners of the home county in which the district is located within thirty (30) days after the expiration of the sixty (60) days allowed for trustees for this action.
- A. Any person appointed as provided in I.C. § [33-2716](#) shall serve until the next election of public library district trustees following the appointment. At the election — held on the uniform election date in May, in odd-numbered years only — a trustee shall be elected to complete the unexpired term of the office which was declared vacant and filled by appointment [I.C. § [33-2715\(1\)](#)].
- A. The elected trustee shall assume office at the library board's annual meeting of the public library district following the election [I.C. § [33-2715](#)]. The annual meeting of a library district shall be on the date of its first regular meeting in June [I.C. § [33-2719](#)].

Q. Who pays for the election?

- A. With the exception of a district establishment election, the county pays election costs [I.C. § [63-802C](#)].

Q. How is election notification given?

- A. The county will make legal notifications for the election, including publishing the notice for petitions for candidacy.
- A. Petitions will be filed with the clerk of the library district [I.C. § [34-1404](#)].
- A. The county will publish the notice(s) of election [I.C. § [34-1406](#)].

Q. What if one candidate has been nominated for each position to be filled?

A. If after the expiration of the date for filing written nominations only one (1) candidate has been nominated for each position to be filled; and, there has been no declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate filed as provided in section [33-2717A](#), Idaho Code, no election will be conducted [I.C. §§ [33-2717](#) and [34-1407](#)].

Q. What if my district lies in more than one county?

A. Elections in a joint school district or other political subdivisions that extend beyond the boundaries of a single county shall be conducted jointly by the clerks of the respective counties, and the clerk of the home county shall exercise such powers as are necessary to coordinate the election [I.C. § [34-1401](#)].

Q. How do I know what my library district is responsible for and what the county is responsible for?

A. The county is responsible for: a) providing nominating petitions; b) taking care of the election process, including conducting the election and canvassing the vote; and c) notifying districts about deadlines and notification responsibilities [I.C. §§ [34-1401](#), [34-1404](#), and [34-1410](#)].

A. The clerk of the library district is responsible for: a) distributing and collecting petitions and acting as the liaison with the County Clerk; b) verifying the qualifications of the nominee; and c) issuing certificates of election [I.C. §§ [34-1404](#) and [34-1410](#)].

A. The Secretary of State will send out an election guide to the counties, who will then coordinate with districts within the county. The county will notify districts about deadlines and notification responsibilities.

Q. Where can I find more information?

A. Contact your County Clerk or the Secretary of State.

A. For the most current Idaho Code citations, check online at <https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/>.

2020 Library Election Timeline

This calendar may be updated due to changes made during the 2020 session of the Idaho Legislature.

§ = section

§§ = sections

Date	Activity	Idaho Code §§
Friday, March 20	Ballot Question Submission Deadline: Political subdivisions must submit ballot language (to the county clerk) for any bond, levy, initiative, referendum, or other question to be placed on the ballot for the May 19 primary.	<u>34-106</u>
Thursday, May 7	Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election in the county's official newspaper(s) for the May 19 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published or circulated in the county.)	<u>34-602</u> and <u>34-1406</u>
Thursday, May 14	Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the second notice of election along with a facsimile sample ballot for the May 19 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published or circulated in the county.)	<u>34-602</u> , <u>34-1406</u> , <u>34-2425</u> , Idaho Code, and Secretary of State Directive
Tuesday, May 21	Election Day, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. At Clerk's option, polling places may be opened at 7:00 a.m. County Clerk's office to remain open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., if the county is holding an election.	<u>34-106</u> and <u>34-1101</u> and <u>34-211</u>
Tuesday, June 2	Earliest time for results to be posted for May 19 Primary Election is 9:00 p.m. MST	

Friday, June 12	County Canvass: Deadline for the board of county commissioners to meet and conduct the canvass of the May 19 primary. (The deadline to conduct the canvass for political subdivisions is May 29. However, the Secretary of State's office recommends conducting both canvasses together.)	<u>34-1205</u> and <u>34-1410</u>
Friday, June 12	County Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results of the May 19 election to the secretary of state and the clerk of the political subdivision [library district or city]. (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the county canvass.)	<u>34-1208</u>
Tuesday, June 30	Initiative Signature Verification Deadline: Last day for county clerks to verify petition signatures. (*This date may vary; the deadline is 60 days from the submission deadline.	<u>34-1802(3)</u>
Thursday, July 2	Political Subdivision Recount Applications: Deadline for local candidates or supporters/opponents of a local ballot measure to apply to the county clerk for a recount of the May 19 election. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days of the county canvass).	<u>34-2301</u>
Friday, July 10	Recall Notification Deadline: Political subdivisions must notify the county clerk if a recall election is ordered for the August 25 election.	<u>34-106(9)</u>
Thursday, August 13	Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election in the county's official newspaper(s) for the August 25 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published or circulated in the county.)	<u>34-602</u> and <u>34-1406</u>
Thursday, August 20	Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the second notice of election along with a facsimile sample ballot for the August 25 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published or circulated in the county.)	<u>34-602</u> and <u>34-1406</u>

Tuesday, August 25	Election Day: Polling places and the county clerk's office (in counties holding an election) to be open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	<u>34-106</u> and <u>34-1101</u>
Friday, September 4	County Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results of the August 25 election to the clerk of the political subdivision (library district or city). (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the canvass.)	<u>34-1410</u>
Friday, September 4	Ballot Question Submission Deadline: Political subdivisions must submit ballot language (to the county clerk) for any bond, levy, initiative, referendum, or other question to be placed on the ballot for the November 3 election.	<u>34-106</u>
Friday, September 18	Recall Notification Deadline: Political subdivisions must notify the county clerk if a recall election is ordered for the November 3 election.	<u>34-106(9)</u>
Thursday, September 24	Recount Applications: Deadline for supporters or opponents of a ballot measure to apply to the county clerk for a recount of the August 25 election. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days of the canvass).	<u>34-2301</u>
Monday, October 19	Early Voting Begins: For those counties that choose to conduct early voting.	<u>34-1012</u>
Thursday, October 22	Publish First Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the first notice of election in the county's official newspaper(s) for the November 3 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published or circulated in the county.)	<u>34-602</u> and <u>34-1406</u>
Thursday, October 29	Publish Second Election Notification: Deadline for county clerk to publish the second notice of election along with a facsimile sample ballot for the November 3 election. (If possible, the notice should appear in at least two newspapers published or circulated in the county.)	<u>34-602</u> and <u>34-1406</u>

Tuesday, November 3	Election Day: Polling places and the county clerk's office to be open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (*County clerk may opt to open at 7 a.m.)	<u>34-211</u> and <u>34-1101</u> and
Friday, November 13	County Canvass: Deadline for the board of county commissioners to meet and conduct the canvass of the November 3 General Election. (This deadline also applies to the canvass for political subdivisions.)	<u>34-1205</u> and <u>34-1410</u>
Friday, November 13	County Election Certification: Deadline for county clerks to certify the results of the November 3 election to the secretary of state and to the clerk of the political subdivision [library district or city]. (*This date may vary; to be done immediately after the county canvass.)	<u>34-1207</u> and <u>34-1410</u>
Thursday, December 3	County Recount Applications: Deadline for county or political subdivision candidates or supporters/opponents of a county/local ballot measure to apply to the attorney general for a recount of the November 3 General Election. (*This date may vary; it must be done within 20 days of the county canvass.)	<u>34-2301</u>
Monday, December 14	Presidential Electors: Federal date for presidential electors to meet and vote.	<u>3 U.S.C. §7</u> and <u>§34-1503</u> , Idaho Code

For more information, visit <https://sos.idaho.gov/election-calendars/> or contact the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office <https://sos.idaho.gov/elections-division/>.