

# 2026 ELECTION SCHEDULE

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026  
PRIMARY ELECTION**

**TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026  
SECOND PRIMARY (if necessary)**

## **GENERAL ELECTION**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

**FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**





## 2026 ELECTION SCHEDULE

Friday, January 2, 2026	17-year-olds who will be 18 by the date of the General Election (11/03/26) are eligible to be registered as of this date (G.S. 163-59)
Monday, January 12, 2026	Absentee by-mail ballots available to be mailed; Military & Overseas ballots available to be distributed for the Primary Election (G.S. 163-227.10) (G.S. 163-258.9(a))
Sunday, February 1, 2026	30-Day Residency Deadline for Primary Election (G.S. 163-82.15(a))
Friday, February 6, 2026	Voter Registration Deadline Primary Election: Forms must be postmarked or delivered in person by 5 PM (G.S. 163-82.20(h)) (G.S. 163-82.6) Deadline for voters to change party affiliation (G.S.163-82.17(d))
Thursday, February 12, 2026	Early Voting begins at 8 AM (G.S. 163.166.40(b))
Tuesday, February 17, 2026	Last day to request an absentee by-mail ballot by 5 PM for Primary Election (G.S. 163-230.1(a)) (S.L. 2024-57)
Saturday, February 28, 2026	Early Voting ends at 3 PM (G.S. 163.166.40(b))
Monday, March 2, 2026	Last day for Military & Overseas voters to register and request an absentee by-mail ballot by 5 PM for the Primary Election (G.S. 163-258.6(a)(d)) Last day to request an absentee by-mail ballot due to sickness or disability by 5 PM for the Primary Election (G.S. 163-230.1(b)) (S.L. 2024-57)
<b>Tuesday, March 3, 2026 Election Day - Primary Election</b>	Polls open at 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM (G.S. 163-166.25) Deadline for all absentee by-mail ballots to be returned by 7:30 PM (G.S. 163-231(b)(1)) (G.S. 163-258-10)) Deadline for Unaffiliated Petition Signatures for State & County Candidates to be submitted by 12 PM (G.S. 163-122(a))
Friday, March 6, 2026	Deadline for Absentee voters to submit Cure documentation by 12 PM for Primary Election (S.L. 2024-57) Deadline for Provisional voters to submit HAVA document by 12 PM for Primary Election (S.L.2024-57 Section 3A.4(d))
Friday, March 13, 2026	Canvass 11 AM (G.S. 163-291(5))

Monday, March 23, 2026	Absentee by-mail ballots available to be mailed; Military & Overseas ballots available to be distributed for the Primary Election (if 2nd Primary) (G.S. 163-227.10) (G.S. 163-258.9(a))
Thursday, April 23, 2026	Early Voting begins at 8 AM (if 2 <sup>nd</sup> Primary) (G.S. 163-166.40(b))
Tuesday, April 28, 2026	Last day to request an absentee by-mail ballot by 5 PM for Primary Election (if 2 <sup>nd</sup> Primary) (G.S. 163-230.1(a)) (S.L. 2024-57)
Saturday, May 9, 2026	Early Voting ends at 3 PM (if 2 <sup>nd</sup> Primary) (G.S. 163-166.40(b))
<b>Tuesday, May 12, 2026</b> <b>Election Day – Second Primary (if necessary)</b>	Polls open at 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM (G.S. 163-166.25) Deadline for all absentee by-mail ballots to be returned by 7:30 PM (G.S. 163-231(b)(1)) (G.S. 163-258-10))
Friday, May 15, 2026	Deadline for Absentee voters to submit Cure documentation by 12 PM for Second Primary Election (if necessary) (S.L. 2024-57) Deadline for Provisional voters to submit HAVA document by 12 PM for Second Primary Election (if necessary) (S.L. 2024-57 Section 3A.4(d))
Friday, May 22, 2026	Canvass 11 AM (if necessary) (G.S. 163-291(5))
Monday, June 8, 2026	Soil & Water Conservation Filing Period Begins at 12 PM
Tuesday, June 30, 2026	Last Day to Withdraw Soil & Water Candidacy by 5 PM
Monday, July 6, 2026	Soil & Water Conservation Filing Period Ends at 5 PM
Wednesday, August 5, 2026	Deadline for Write-In Petition Signatures to be submitted by 12 PM (G.S. 163-123(c))
Friday, September 4, 2026	Absentee by-mail ballots available to be mailed; Military & Overseas ballots available to be distributed for the General Election (G.S. 163-227.10) (G.S. 163-258.9(a))
Friday, September 18, 2026	Deadline for Unaffiliated Petition Signatures for Municipal Candidates to be submitted by 12 PM (G.S. 163-122(a)(4))
Sunday, October 4, 2026	30-Day Residency deadline for General Election (G.S. 163-82.15(a))
Friday, October 9, 2026	Voter Registration Deadline General Election: Forms must be postmarked or delivered in person by 5 PM (G.S. 163-82.20(h)) (G.S. 163-82.6) Deadline for voters to change party affiliation (G.S. 163-82.17(d))
Thursday, October 15, 2026	Early Voting begins at 8 AM (G.S. 163-166.40(b))
Tuesday, October 20, 2026	Last day to request an absentee by-mail ballot by 5 PM for General Election (G.S. 163-230.1(a)) (S.L. 2024-57)
Saturday, October 31, 2026	Early Voting ends at 3 PM (G.S. 163-166.40(b))

<p>Monday, November 2, 2026</p>	<p>Last day for Military &amp; Overseas voters to register and request an absentee by-mail ballot by 5 PM for the General Election (G.S. 163-258.6(a)(d))  Last day to request an absentee by-mail ballot due to sickness or disability by 5 PM for the General Election (G.S. 163-230.1(b)) (S.L. 2024-57)</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, November 3, 2026</b>  <b>Election Day – General Election</b></p>	<p>Polls open at 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM (G.S. 163-166.25)  Deadline for all absentee by-mail ballots to be returned by 7:30 PM  (G.S. 163-231(b)(1)) (G.S. 163-258-10))</p>
<p>Friday, November 6, 2026</p>	<p>Deadline for Absentee voters to submit Cure documentation by 12 PM for General Election (S.L. 2024-57)  Deadline for Provisional voters to submit HAVA document by 12 PM for General Election (S.L. 2024-57 Section 3A.4(d))</p>
<p>Friday, November 13, 2026</p>	<p>Canvass 11 AM (G.S. 163-291(5))</p>