

**TOWN MEETING/ELECTION – March 8, 2016**  
**ALTERNATE TOWN MEETING/ELECTION– May 10, 2016**  
**STATE PRIMARY ELECTION – September 13, 2016**  
**GENERAL ELECTION – November 8, 2016**  
**TOWN MEETING/ELECTION –March 14, 2017**  
**ALTERNATE TOWN MEETING/ELECTION – May 9, 2017**

**652:21 Authority; Format.** Prior to the state primary election, the secretary of state with the advice and approval of the attorney general shall prepare a political calendar for state and town elections setting forth the dates when action required under the election laws must be taken. Any action taken by any candidate or official in connection with the election laws which shall be taken in accordance with the dates set forth in said calendar shall be deemed to be duly performed for the purposes of the election laws. The expense of printing said political calendar shall be a charge upon the appropriation for the office of the secretary of state.

#### **Time Computation**

**652:17 Uniform System.** For the purposes of the election laws, a uniform system of computation of time shall be maintained.

**652:18 Days Included and Excluded.** I. Except where specifically stated to the contrary, **when a period or limit of time is to be reckoned from a day or date, that day or date shall be excluded from and the day on which an act should occur shall be included** in the computation of the period or limit of time.

II. Whenever the election laws refer to a period or limit of time, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays shall be included, except as provided in paragraph I. However, when the last day for performing any act under the election laws is a Saturday, Sunday or official state holiday, the act required shall be deemed to be duly performed if it is performed on the following business day.

**652:20 End of Day.** Whenever the election laws require a filing with or an action by an official, such filing or action shall be performed before 5 o'clock in the afternoon of the stipulated day. During the afternoon of the stipulated day, the school district clerk or his designee, or **the town clerk or his designee, shall arrange his time so as to be available between the hours of 3 o'clock and 5 o'clock.**

# TOWN MEETING/ELECTION – 2016

## 2016

### January 8

at least 10 days  
prior to session

Supervisors should post checklist showing party registration at town or city clerks office or at town or city hall; checklist must show place and time for session for correction of the checklist. **RSA 654:33**

### January 12

at least 7 days prior

Last day to publish notice in newspaper with general circulation in town of **January 19** session for correction of the checklist for town election. **RSA 654:27; 669:5**

### January 19

day prior to filing

Supervisors must hold session for correction of checklist from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and for extended hours at the discretion of the supervisors for town election. Change in party registrations may be accepted. **RSA 669:5.**

### January 20-January 29

7th Wed. before to  
Fri of following week

Filing period for town offices in towns using non-partisan ballot system. Any candidate filing on last day must file in person. Clerks must be available between 3p.m. and 5 p.m. on last day of filing period. **RSA 669:19; 652:20**

Declarations of candidacy. All candidates filing on the last day must file in person. **RSA 669:19**

[put at bottom of page] **These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

### January 29

not later than 6th fri  
before

Last day for party caucus to nominate candidates for town office in towns using partisan system. **RSA 669:39**

### February 2

not later than 5th Tues  
before

Last day for 2 percent of voters of a town to petition selectmen to place referendum on ballot to increase or decrease membership of board of selectmen. **RSA 41:8-b, 8-d**

Last day for 25 or more voters or 2% of the voters, whichever is less, in the town to apply to selectmen to include a warrant article. **RSA 39:3**

### February 9

not later than 4th Tues  
before

Last day for supervisors to post town election checklist at town clerks office or at town hall; notice of day, hour and place of upcoming checklist sessions must be posted with checklist. **RSA 654:26, 27, 669:5**

at least 7 days before

### February 19

Last day to publish notice of **February 27** session for correction of checklist for town election. **RSA 654:27, 669:5.**

at least 14 days  
before town  
election

### February 22

Last day for selectmen to post **warrant** at all polling places and at town clerks office and at town hall; warrant shall prescribe place, day, hour of election, the time polls are to open and the time before which polls may not close; warrant shall specify which items will be voted on by ballot. **RSA 39:5, 669:2.**

[put at bottom of page] **These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

Sat 10 days prior

### February 27

Session of supervisors for correction of checklist as a minimum requirement between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. **RSA 654:27, 28; 669:5.**

Last day for town clerk/supervisors to accept voter registration applications. ***No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session***, until election day, except as provided in **RSA 659:12. RSA 654:8, II**

Reports of transfer; reports of death; removal of names. **RSA 654:36, 37, 44**

succeeding Friday

### March 4

Last day for supervisors to post final, corrected checklist for town election, on or before midnight. **RSA 654:28**

Certification of checklist; 2 copies filed with town clerk. **RSA 654:28, 29.**

day before election

### March 7 5:00 p.m.

Town clerk must be available to accept any completed absentee ballots filed in person at least between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. **RSA 652:20; 669:29; 657:17; 657:24.**

2nd Tues in March

### March 8

**Town Election Day.** Voters may register at the polls on election day. **RSA 39:1, 669:1, 654:7-a, 7-b**

Any person has the right to observe in-person voter registration. They may not be positioned within 5 feet of the voter registration table. The ballot clerk must publicly announce name and address of person registering. **RSA 654:7-c**

No person not authorized by law may stand or sit within 6 feet of the ballot clerk for purposes of observing the check-in of voters without the express permission of the moderator. **RSA 659:13-a; 666:4,5**

**5:00 p.m.**

Deadline for town clerk to accept any completed absentee ballots delivered by mail. **RSA 657:22; 669:29**

no later than Fri  
following

**March 11**

Last day for any person for whom a vote was cast to apply to town clerk for a recount. Clerk must be available at least between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. **RSA 669:30; 652:20**

before exp of 7 days

**March 15**

Last day for 10 voters of a town to petition clerk to recount ballots on any question printed on official ballot. Clerk must be available at least between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. **RSA 40:4-c; 652:20.**

[put at bottom of page] **These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

## ALTERNATE TOWN MEETING/ELECTION – 2016

**2016**

at least 10 days prior  
to session

**March 11**

Supervisors should post checklist showing party registration in town clerk's office or at town hall; checklist must show place and time for session of the checklist. **RSA 654:33**

**March 15**

at least 7 days prior

Last day to publish notice in newspaper of general circulation in town of **March 22** session for correction of the checklist. **RSA 654:27; 669:5**

**March 22**

day before filing  
period

Supervisors must hold session for correction of checklist from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Change in party registrations may be accepted. **RSA 669:5**

**March 23 – April 1**

7 th Wed before  
through Fri of  
following week

Filing period for town office in those towns using non-partisan ballot system. Any candidate filing on last day must file in person. Clerks must be available between 3p.m. and 5 p.m. on last day of filing period. **RSA 669:19; 652:20**

Declaration of candidacy. All candidates filing on last day must do so in person. **RSA 669:19**

**These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

**April 1**

not later than 6th  
Fri before

Last day for party caucus to nominate candidates for town office in towns using partisan system. **RSA 669:39**

**April 5**

not later than 5th  
Tues before

Last day for 25 or more voters or 2% of the voters, whichever is less, in the town to petition selectmen to include a warrant article **RSA 39:3**

Last day for 2 percent of voters of a town to petition selectmen to place referendum on ballot to increase or decrease membership of board of selectmen. **RSA 41:8-b, 8-d**

**April 12**

not later than 4th Tues  
before

Last day for supervisors to post alternate town election checklist in town clerk's office or at town hall; notice of day, place, hour of upcoming checklist sessions must be posted with checklist. **RSA 654:26, 27, 669:5**

**April 22**

at least 7 days

Last day to publish notice of **April 30** session for correction of checklist. **RSA 654:27, 669:5**

at least 14 days  
before town election

### April 25

Last day for selectmen to post **warrant** at all polling places and at town clerk's office and at town hall; warrant shall prescribe place, day, hour of election, the time polls are to open and the time before which polls may not close; warrant shall specify which items will be voted on by ballot. **RSA 39:5, 669:2.**

**These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

### April 30

Session of supervisors for corrections to checklist as a minimum requirement between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. **RSA 654:27, 28; 669:5**

Sat 10 days prior

Last day for town clerk/supervisors to accept voter registration applications. *No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session*, until election day, except as provided in **RSA 659:12. RSA 654:8, II**

Reports of transfer; reports of death; removal of names. **RSA 654:36, 37, 44**

succeeding Friday

### May 6

Last day for supervisors to post final corrected checklist, on or before midnight. **RSA 654:28**

Certification of checklist, 2 copies filed with town clerk. **RSA 654:28,29**

day before  
election

### May 9 5:00 p.m.

Town Clerk must be available to accept any completed absentee ballots filed in person at least between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. **RSA 652:20; 669:29; 657:17; 657:24**

2nd Tues in May

### May 10

**Alternate Town Election Day.** Voters may register to vote at polls on election day. **RSA 39:1-a; 669:1; 654:7-a, 7-b**

Any person has the right to observe in-person voter registration. They may not be positioned within 5 feet of the voter registration table. The ballot clerk must publicly announce name and address of person registering. **RSA 654:7-c**

No person not authorized by law may stand or sit within 6 feet of the ballot clerk for purposes of observing the check-in of voters without the express permission of the moderator. **RSA 659:13-a; 666:4,5**

### 5:00 p.m.

Deadline for town clerk to accept any completed absentee ballots delivered by mail. **RSA 657:22; 669:29**

no later than Fri  
following election

**May 13**

Last day for any person for whom a vote was cast to apply to town clerk for recount. Clerk must be available at least between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m.

**RSA 669:30; 652:20**

before exp of 7 days

**May 17**

Last day for 10 voters of a town to petition for clerk to recount ballots on any question printed on official ballot. Clerk must be available at least between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**RSA 40:4-c; 652:20**

## STATE PRIMARY ELECTION – 2016

### April 15

April 15 by statute

Secretary of State to provide each state political committee the number of inspectors of election to be appointed for each town and ward.

**RSA 658:2**

specific dates set by statute

**May 15 - July 15** - Period for each town and ward political committee to appoint inspectors of election. **RSA 658:2**

at least 10 days prior

### May 20

Last day for supervisors to post notice of session for correction of the checklist at the office of the town or city clerk or at town or city hall.

**RSA 654:33**

at least 7 days prior

### May 24

Deadline for supervisors to publish notice of **May 31** meeting. Notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town. **RSA 654:27**

at least 100 days prior

### May 31

Last day for clerks to post Notice of Primary in 2 public places in the town or ward. **RSA 655:11, 12**

Tues prior to filing period

### May 31

Supervisors to be in session for change of party registration between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Additions and corrections to checklist may be made. **RSA 654:32**

Last day for voters already registered to change or declare a party affiliation. Only undeclared voters may declare a party and vote on primary election day. **RSA 654:34**

Voters who register subsequent to this date may declare a party when they register. **RSA 654:15**

1st Wed in June through Fri of following week

### June 1 - 10

Filing period for all offices for state primary election. **RSA 655:14; 652:20**

Filing period for declarations of intent for all candidates who wish to file nomination papers to run as independents in general election. All candidates filing declarations of intent shall file with the Secretary of State. **RSA 655:14-a, 17-a, 17-b, 17-c, 40-45**

Official with whom to file. **RSA 655:15**

Declaration of Candidacy. **RSA 655:17**

Clerks to send declarations of candidacy to Secretary of State every day. **RSA 655:18**

Administrative assessment fees, primary petitions, assents to candidacy. **RSA 655:19-c, 21, 25**

Examination and rejection of primary petitions. **RSA 655:26**

Forward of petitions and assents by clerks to Secretary of State, on same day they are received. **RSA 655:27**

Affidavit of qualifications. **RSA 655:28, 29**

Candidate shall designate a fiscal agent. **RSA 664:12**

### **June 10 5:00 p.m.**

last day of filing period

If a person must file a declaration of candidacy or a declaration of intent with the Secretary of State and is filing on the last day of the filing period, he or she must do so in person. **RSA 655:16, 652:20; 655:43, II**

If a person must file a declaration of candidacy with a town or city clerk and is filing on the last day of filing period, he or she must do so in person. **655:16**

Any candidate who wishes to withdraw must do so in writing no later than 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the filing period with the Secretary of State. **RSA 655:30**

Disqualification of candidates. **RSA 655:33, 38**

Death of candidate. **RSA 655:34, 39**

### **June 15**

Wed after last day of filing

Deadline for candidates to file complaints that an opposing candidate is not a bona fide candidate (straw candidate) **RSA 655:31**

on or before Wed following exp of filing

Last day for appropriate party committee to fill vacancy on party tickets. Affidavit of qualifications required for candidates for governor, executive councilor, state senator, and state representative. **RSA 655:32**

Last day to file supplemental primary petitions in case of rejected petitions. **RSA 655:26**

### **June 22**

Wed 12 weeks prior to primary

**First** report of receipts and expenditures due by political committees, except the political committee of a political party or the political committee of a candidate. **RSA 664:6, I; 664:21, IV**

July 15 by statute

**July 15** – Last day for town or ward political committee chairmen to notify town or ward clerk and city clerk of inspector of election appointments. If committee fails to notify clerk, selectmen shall appoint inspectors in equal number from the political parties. **RSA 658:2**

No later than 44 days

**July 29**

Last day city or town clerks must mail or e-mail Write-In Ballots to UOCAVA voters for the primary. **RSA 657:10-a**

No later than 45 days

**July 30**

Last day city or town clerks must mail or email all ballots to UOCAVA voters for the primary who have a request on file. **RSA 657:19**

Nov 1 set by law  
August 1 by statute

**August 1**

Terms of inspectors of election chosen between May 15 and July 15 begin; Inspectors serve until successor is appointed and qualified. **RSA 658:4**

not earlier than 1st Wed after 1st Tues in Aug & no later than 1st Fri in Sept.

**August 3 - September 2**

Period for 5 percent of the voters of any town or city to petition Secretary of State to print liquor or sweepstakes sales questions on general election ballot. **RSA 663:5,7**

5pm on Wed 5 weeks before primary

**August 10 5:00 p.m.**

Deadline for persons or political organizations to file nomination papers with supervisors of the checklist for certification for placement on the general election ballot. Supervisors or a designee must be available between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. **RSA 655:40-a; 655:41; 652:20**

no later than 30 days prior

**August 15**

Last day for city council to set polling hours in cities for primary election. **RSA 659:4**

not later than 4th Tues before

**August 16**

Last day for supervisors to post copy of checklist for primary in the town or city clerk's office or at town or city hall; notice of day, place, hour of upcoming checklist sessions must be posted with checklist. **RSA 654:26, 27**

Wed 3 weeks prior to primary

**August 24**

**Second** report of receipts and expenditures due for political committees **First** report due for political committees of political parties and political committees of candidates. **RSA 664:6, II; 664:21, IV**

at least 7 days prior

**August 30**

Last day to publish notice of **September 6** session for correction of checklist. **RSA 654:27**

no later than Tues 2 weeks before primary

Last day for supervisors to prepare and post checklist for additional polling place; checklist must be posed in town or city clerk's office or at town or city hall and 2 copies to be filed with clerk. **RSA 658:12**

At least 14 days  
prior to election

### August 30

Last day Proof of Voter Identity Instructions Poster must be posted prominently in town and or ward. Poster must also be posted outside guardrail at all elections. **RSA 658:9-a; 652:25**

5 pm on Wed 2  
weeks before  
primary

### August 31 5:00 p.m.

Deadline for supervisors of the checklist to have nomination papers certified. **RSA 655:41**

### August 31-September 7

The supervisors of the checklist shall be in session for the correction of the checklist at some suitable place in the city or town on a day designated by the supervisors which shall be 6 to 13 days prior to the election and upon which all hearings shall be finally closed.

All sessions shall be no less than 30 minutes and at the discretion of the supervisors for additional hours. Notice of the session shall be posted in 2 appropriate places at least 7 days prior to the session. One of the notices shall be posted on the city or town's Internet website. If no website exists one notice shall be posted in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town.

RSA 654:27; 28 as  
amended by Ch.259  
Laws of 2016

Eff. 8/2/16

~~September 6 – Session for correction of checklist to be held as a minimum requirement between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. **RSA 654:27, 28**~~

Last day for town clerk/supervisors to accept voter registration applications. *No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session*, until election day, except as provided in **RSA 659:12. RSA 654:8, II**

Reports of transfer, reports of death, removal of names. **RSA 654:36, 37, 44**

### September 6

Tues immediately  
preceding primary

Last day for Secretary of State to deliver ballots to clerks. **Ballots shall be inspected by town or city clerk in the presence of at least one other legal voter and resealed for use on election day. RSA 656:22**

Last day Secretary of State may receive name of substitute candidate to be placed on ballot. **RSA 656:21**

Wed 1 week before  
primary

**September 7 5:00 p.m.** - Deadline for persons or political organizations to file nomination papers with Secretary of State for general election. **RSA 655:40-b; 655:43; 652:20**

Wed immediately  
preceding primary

**Third** report of receipts and expenditures due for political committees. **Second** report due for political committees of political parties and political committees of candidates. **RSA 664:6, II-a; 664:21, IV**

succeeding Friday

**September 9** - Last day for supervisors to post final corrected checklist and certification of checklist. **RSA 654:28, 29**

Day before election

**September 12 5:00 p.m.** - City or town clerk must be available to accept any completed absentee ballots filed in person at least between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. **RSA 652:20; 657:17; 657:24**

Last day for filing objections to nomination papers filed with Secretary of State. **RSA 655:44**

2nd Tues in Sept.

**September 13 - State Primary Election Day.** Voters may register at the polls on election day. **RSA 653:8; 654:7-a, 7-b**

**1:00 p.m.** – Processing of absentee ballots shall begin unless a different time that is no earlier than 2 hours after the opening of the polls is posted and announced in accordance with RSA 659:49, II. **RSA 659:49**

**5:00 p.m.** - Deadline for clerks to accept any completed absentee ballots delivered by mail. **RSA 657:22**

Any person has the right to observe in-person voter registration. They may not be positioned within 5 feet of the voter registration table. The ballot clerk must publicly announce name and address of person registering. **RSA 654:7-c**

No person not authorized by law may stand or sit within 6 feet of the ballot clerk for purposes of observing the check-in of voters without the express permission of the moderator. **RSA 659:13-a; 666:4, 5**

### **September 15**

Ballot Law Commission shall meet to hear and decide any objections or appeals. **RSA 665:5**

4th Fri in Sept.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in  
Sept

### **September 16 5:00 p.m.**

Any candidate for whom a vote was cast in a primary to apply to Secretary of State for recount. **RSA 660:2, 7**

no later than Fri  
following primary

Any person voted for upon the ballot of any party who, by declaration of the Secretary of State upon recount, was not chosen as the candidate of such party may, within 3 days after said declaration appeal to the ballot law commission by filing his written appeal to the Secretary of State. **RSA 665:6**

-Friday following  
the primary

Last day for any person who is nominated by the same political party for incompatible offices to notify the Secretary of State in writing of which nomination he or she will accept. **RSA 659:91**

Monday following  
deadline for  
requesting recounts

### **September 19 5:00 p.m.**

Deadline for any candidate who requested a recount to withdraw the request and receive a refund of any fees paid. **RSA 660:7**

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday after  
primary

**September 20 5:00 p.m.**

Last day a vacancy can be filled due to rejection of incompatible offices as provided in RSA 659:91. Declarations of candidacy and affidavits to be filed.

Last day persons nominated by write-in vote who wish to reject the nomination to notify the Secretary of State of said rejection in writing.  
**RSA 659:90**

not earlier than 3rd  
Tue in Sept nor later  
than last Tue in Oct

**September 20 - October 25 STATE PARTY CONVENTIONS -  
RSA 667:21**

not later than 2nd  
Wed after primary

**September 21** -Last primary report of receipts and expenditures due.  
**RSA 664:6, III; 664:21, IV**

no later than 2nd  
Fri following  
primary

**September 23** - Last day for 5 legal voters of any city or town to petition Secretary of State to recount ballots cast on any question submitted to the voters of said city or town on the state primary election ballot. Fee of \$10 per 1,000 ballots cast; not to exceed \$50. **RSA 660:13**

44 days before election

**September 23**

Last day city or town clerks must mail or email Write-In Ballots to UOCAVA voters for the general election. **RSA 657:10-a**

45 days before election

**September 24**

Last day city or town clerks must mail or email all ballots to UOCAVA voters for the general election who have a request on file. RSA 657:19

## STATE GENERAL ELECTION – 2016

no later than 30 days  
prior

**October 10-** Last day for city council to set polling hours in cities for general election. **RSA 659:4**

at least 30 days  
before

Last day for selectmen or city council to determine boundaries of communities to be served by additional polling places. **RSA 658:10, 18**

not later than 4th  
Tues before

**October 11 -** Last day for supervisors to post checklist for state general election in town or city clerk's office or at town or city hall; notice of day, hour of upcoming checklist sessions must be posted with checklist. **RSA 654:26, 27**

no later than 5th Friday  
after primary

**October 14-** Last day for voters or supervisors to petition Ballot Law Commission for a revision and verification of checklist. **RSA 654:38**

### **October 19**

3rd Wed prior

**First** report of receipts and expenditures due for all political committees and candidates. **RSA 664:6**

at least 7 days prior

**October 21 -** Last day to publish notice of **October 29** session for checklist correction. **RSA 654:27**

at least 14 days  
prior

**October 25 -** Last day for selectmen to post **warrant** for general election at all polling places and at town or city clerk's office or at town or city hall; warrant shall state offices and questions that will appear on ballot, location of central and any additional polling places, the hours of opening polls and the hour before which the polls may not close. **RSA 658:1**

no later than Tues 2  
weeks before

Last day for supervisor to prepare and post checklist for additional polling place; checklist must be posted in town or city clerk's office or at town or city hall and 2 copies filed with the town clerk. **RSA 658:12**

~~**October 29** — Session for correction of checklist as a minimum requirement between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. **RSA 654:27, 28**~~

### **October 26-November 2**

The supervisors of the checklist shall be in session for the correction of the checklist at some suitable place in the city or town on a day designated by the supervisors which shall be 6 to 13 days prior to the election and upon which all hearings shall be finally closed.

All sessions shall be no less than 30 minutes and at the discretion of the supervisors for additional hours. Notice of the session shall be posted in 2 appropriate places at least 7 days prior to the session. One of the notices shall be posted on the city or town's Internet website. If no

RSA 654:27; 28 as  
amended by Ch.259  
Laws of 2016

Eff. 8/2/16

website exists one notice shall be posted in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town.

Last day for town clerk/supervisors to accept voter registration applications. *No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session*, until election day, except as provided in **RSA 659:12. RSA 654:8, II**

Reports of transfer, reports of death, removal of names. **RSA 654:36, 37, 44**

no later than Tues immediately before election

**November 1** - Last day for Secretary of State to deliver general election ballots to clerks. **Ballots shall be inspected by town or city clerk in the presence of at least one other legal voter and resealed for use on election day. RSA 656:20**

no later than Tues prior

Last day Secretary of State may receive name of substitute candidate to be placed on ballot. **RSA 656:21**

Wed 1 wk before election

**November 2** - **Second** report of receipts and expenditures due for all political committees and candidates. **RSA 664:6, II-a**

succeeding Fri after session

**November 4**  
Last day for supervisors to post final corrected checklist and certification of checklist. **RSA 654:28, 29**

day before election

**November 7 5:00 p.m.** - City or town clerk must be available to accept any completed absentee ballots filed in person at least between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. **RSA 652:20; 657:17; 657:24**

**November 8 State General Election Day.** Voters may register at the polls on election day. **RSA 653:7; 654:7-a, 7-b**

**1:00 p.m.** – Processing of absentee ballots shall begin unless a different time that is no earlier than 2 hours after the opening of the polls is posted and announced in accordance with RSA 659:49, II. **RSA 659:49**

**5:00 p.m.** - Deadline for city or town clerk to accept any completed absentee ballots delivered by mail. **RSA 657:22**

Hours of polling. **RSA 659:4**

Moderator to fill out 2 copies of certificate showing total number of ballots received; clerk to certify one copy, which is then sent to the Secretary of State with election returns. **RSA 658:32**

State party committee and Attorney General may appoint challengers of voters. Such challengers shall be positioned in the polling place so that they may be able to see and hear each voter as he offers to vote. **RSA 666: 4, 5**

Any person has the right to observe in-person voter registration. They may not be positioned within 5 feet of the voter registration table. The ballot clerk must publicly announce name and address of person registering. **RSA 654:7-c**

No person not authorized by law may stand or sit within 6 feet of the ballot clerk for purposes of observing the check-in of voters without the express permission of the moderator. **RSA 659:13-a; 666:4,5**

Write-in votes cast for candidates whose name is on ballot counted as vote for that candidate. **RSA 659:67**

Moderator and clerk to certify that checklists are the ones used at that election; list then given to supervisors. **RSA 659:56, 57**

Moderator to declare state representatives-elect in only those districts containing one town or ward. **RSA 659:82**

**Election returns prepared by clerk; one copy kept by clerk and one copy should be given to the State Police to be delivered to the Secretary of State on election night. RSA 659:73-75, 76**

Sealing and certifying of ballots. **RSA 659:95, 96**

Ballots delivered to clerk for preservation. **RSA 659:98-103**

Secretary of State to notify candidates elected to incompatible offices; Candidate has 10 days to notify Secretary of State of which office he will accept. **RSA 659:85**

Fri following election

**November 14** - Last day for any candidate for whom a vote was cast in general election to apply to Secretary of State for recount. **RSA 660:1**  
*(Since Friday, November 11 is Veteran's Day, deadline moves to Monday)*

2nd Wed after election

**November 16** - **Third** report of receipts and expenditures due for all political committees and candidates. **RSA 664:6**

no later than 2nd Fri after

**November 18**  
Last day for 5 legal voters of any city or town to petition Secretary of State to recount ballots cast on any question **other than a constitutional amendment** submitted to the voters of said city or town on the state general election ballot; a fee of \$10 per 1,000 ballots cast shall accompany the application, not to exceed \$50. **RSA 660:13**

Last day for 50 voters of any county to petition Secretary of State to recount ballots cast on any question submitted to the voters of said county. **RSA 660:12**

4th Mon in Nov

**November 28**  
Ballot Law Commission shall meet to hear and decide any objections or appeals. **RSA 665:5**

no later than 4th  
Friday following

**December 2**

Last day for 100 voters to petition Secretary of State to recount the ballots cast on any constitutional amendment question voted on at the state general election. **RSA 660:10**

1st Wed in Dec

**December 7**

House and Senate Organization Day  
**Part II, Art. 3, N.H. Constitution**

no later than 5th fri after

**December 9**

Last day for voters or supervisors to petition Ballot Law Commission for a revision and verification of checklist. **RSA 654:38**

Dec 15 by statute

**December 15**

Last day for person to contest the election of a state senator or state representative; letter must be sent by certified mail, postmarked by December 15. **RSA 660:18**

Within 90 days after

**February 7, 2017**

Last day for supervisors to send one copy of marked checklist from General Election to State Archives. **RSA 659:102**

# TOWN MEETING/ELECTION – 2017

**2017**

**January 4**

County officers assume office. **RSA 653:10**

Resumed meeting of the legislature.

**Part II, Art. 3, N.H. Constitution**

Day for Secretary of State to lay the vote for Governor and Executive Councilors before the Senate and House of Representatives.

**Part II, Art. 42, 60, N.H. Constitution**

1st Wed after 1st Tues  
in Jan

**January 13**

Supervisors should post checklist showing party registration in town clerk's office or at town hall; checklist must show place and time for session for correction of the checklist. **RSA 654:33**

at least 10 days prior  
to session

**January 17**

Last day to publish notice in newspaper with general circulation in town of **January 24** session for correction of the checklist. **RSA 654:27; 669:5**

at least 7 days prior

**January 24**

Supervisors must hold session for correction of checklist from 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. Change in party registration may be accepted. **RSA 669:5**

day before filing

**January 25– February 3**

Filing period for town office in town using non-partisan ballot system. Candidates filing on last day must file in person. Clerk to be available between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on last day. **RSA 669:19, 652:20**

7th Wed before  
through Fri of  
following week

Declarations of candidacy. All candidates filing on last day must do so in person. **RSA 669:19**

**February 3**

Last day for party caucus to nominate candidates in towns using partisan ballot system. **RSA 669:39**

not later than 6th  
Fri before

[put at bottom of page] **These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

**February 7** Last day for supervisors to send one copy of marked checklist used at the State General Election to State Archives. **RSA 659:102**

Within 90 days  
after election

**February 7**

Last day for 2 percent of voters of a town to petition selectmen to place referendum on ballot to increase or decrease membership of board of selectmen. **RSA 41:8-b, 8-d**

not later than 5th  
Tues before

↙ Last day for 25 or more voters or 2% of the voters, whichever is less, in the town to petition selectmen to include warrant article. **RSA 39:3**

not later than 4th  
Tues before

**February 14**

Last day for supervisors to post town election checklist at town clerks office or at town hall; notice of day, hour and place of upcoming checklist sessions must be posted with checklist. **RSA 654:26, 27, 669:5**

at least 7 days before

**February 24**

Last day to publish notice of **March 4** session for correction of checklist. **RSA 654:27; 669:5**

at least 14 days  
before

**February 27**

Last day for selectmen to post **warrant** at all polling places and at the town clerk's office and at town hall; warrant shall prescribe place, time of election, the time the polls are to open and the time before which polls may not close; warrant shall specify which items will be voted on by ballot. **RSA 39:5; 669:2**

**These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

**March 1-8**

The supervisors of the checklist shall be in session for the correction of the checklist at some suitable place in the city or town on a day designated by the supervisors which shall be 6 to 13 days prior to the election and upon which all hearings shall be finally closed.

RSA 654:27; 28 as amended by Ch.259 Laws of 2016  
  
Eff. 8/2/16

All sessions shall be no less than 30 minutes and at the discretion of the supervisors for additional hours. Notice of the session shall be posted in 2 appropriate places at least 7 days prior to the session. One of the notices shall be posted on the city or town's Internet website. If no website exists one notice shall be posted in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town.

**March 4**

~~Session of supervisors for corrections to checklist as a minimum requirement between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. **RSA 654:27, 28; 669:5**~~

Last day for town clerk/supervisors to accept voter registration applications. *No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session*, until election day, except as provided in **RSA 659:12. RSA 654:8, II**

Reports of transfer; reports of death; removal of names. **RSA 654:36, 37, 44**

succeeding Friday

**March 10**

Last day for supervisors to post final corrected checklist, on or before midnight. **RSA 654:28**

Certification of checklist, 2 copies filed with town clerk. **RSA 654:28, 29**

day before election

**March 13 5:00 p.m.**

Town clerk must be available to accept any completed absentee ballots filed in person at least between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. **RSA 652:20; 669:29; 657:17; 657:24**

2nd Tues in March

**March 14**

**Town Election Day.** Voters may register at the polls on election day. **RSA 39:1; 669:1; 654:7-a, 7-b**

Any person has the right to observe in-person voter registration. They may not be positioned within 5 feet of the voter registration table. The ballot clerk must publicly announce name and address of person registering. **RSA 654:7-c**

No person not authorized by law may stand or sit within 6 feet of the ballot clerk for purposes of observing the check-in of voters without the express permission of the moderator. **RSA 659:13-a; 666:4,5**

**5:00 p.m.**

Deadline for town clerk to accept any completed absentee ballots delivered by mail. **RSA 669:29; 657:22**

no later than Fri following

**March 17** - Last day for any person for whom a vote was cast to apply to town clerk for a recount. Clerk must be available at least between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. **RSA 669:30; 652:20**

before exp of 7 days

**March 21**

Last day for 10 voters of a town to petition clerk to recount ballots on any question printed on official ballot. Clerk must be available at least between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. **RSA 40:4-c**

## ALTERNATE TOWN MEETING/ELECTION – 2017

**2017**

at least 10 days prior to session

**March 10**

Supervisors should post checklist showing party registration in town clerk's office and at town hall. **RSA 654:33**

at least 7 days prior

**March 14**

Last day to publish notice in newspaper of general circulation in town of **March 21** session for correction of the checklist **RSA 654:27; 669:5**

day before filing

**March 21**

Supervisors must hold session for correction of checklist from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and at the discretion of the supervisors for extended hours. Change in party registrations may be accepted. **RSA 669:5**

7th Wed before through Fri of following week

**March 22 – March 31**

Filing period for town office in towns using non-partisan ballot system. Candidates who file on the last day must file in person. Clerks must be available between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. **RSA 669:19, 652:20**

Declaration of candidacy. All candidates filing on the last day must do so in person. **RSA 669:19**

[put at bottom of page] **These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

not later than 6th Fri before

**March 31**

Last day for party caucus to nominate candidates in towns using partisan ballot system. **RSA 669:39**

not later than 5th Tues before

**April 4**

Last day for 25 or more voters or 2% of the voters, whichever is less, in the town to petition selectmen to include warrant article. **RSA 39:3**

Last day for 2 percent of voters of a town to petition selectmen to place referendum on ballot to increase or decrease membership of board of selectmen. **RSA 41:8-b, 8-d**

not later than 4th Tues before

**April 11**

Last day for supervisors to post alternate town election checklist in town clerk's office or at town hall; notice of day, place, hour of upcoming checklist session must be posted with the checklist. **RSA 654:26, 27, 669:5**

at least 7 days prior

**April 21**

Last day to publish notice in newspaper of general circulation in the town of **April 29** session for checklist correction. **RSA 654:27; 669:5**

at least 14 days before

**April 24**

Last day for selectmen to post **warrant** at all polling places and at town clerk's office or at town hall. Warrant shall prescribe place, time of election, the time polls are to open and the time before which they may not close; warrant shall specify which items will be voted on by ballot. **RSA 39:5; 669:2**

**These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

**April 26-May 3**

The supervisors of the checklist shall be in session for the correction of the checklist at some suitable place in the city or town on a day designated by the supervisors which shall be 6 to 13 days prior to the election and upon which all hearings shall be finally closed.

RSA 654:27; 28 as amended by Ch.259 Laws of 2016

Eff. 8/2/16

All sessions shall be no less than 30 minutes and at the discretion of the supervisors for additional hours. Notice of the session shall be posted in 2 appropriate places at least 7 days prior to the session. One of the notices shall be posted on the city or town's Internet website. If no website exists one notice shall be posted in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town.

**April 29**

~~Session of supervisors for correction of checklist as a minimum requirement between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. **RSA 654:27, 28; 669:5**~~

Last day for town clerk/supervisors to accept voter registration applications. *No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session*, until election day, except as provided in **RSA 659:12; 654:8, II**

Reports of transfer; reports of death; removal of names. **RSA 654:36, 37, 44**

succeeding Friday

**May 5**

Last day for supervisors to post final corrected checklist, on or before midnight. **RSA 654:28**

6 mths after General Election

**May 8**

Last day for candidates, parties and committees with outstanding debt, obligation, or surplus from general election to file reports of receipts and expenditures. **RSA 664:6, 7**

Certification of checklist, 2 copies filed with town clerk. **RSA 654:28, 29**

**May 8 5:00 p.m.**

Town clerk must be available to accept any completed absentee ballots filed in person at least between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. **RSA 652:20; 669:29; 657:17; 657:24**

2nd Tues in May

**May 9- Alternate Town Election Day**

Voters may register at polls on election day. **RSA 39:1-a; 669:1; 654:7-a, 7-b**

Any person has the right to observe in-person voter registration. They may not be positioned within 5 feet of the voter registration table. The ballot clerk must publicly announce name and address of person registering. **RSA 654:7-c**

No person not authorized by law may stand or sit within 6 feet of the ballot clerk for purposes of observing the check-in of voters without the express permission of the moderator. **RSA 659:13-a; 666:4,5**

**5:00 p.m.**

Deadline for town clerks to accept any completed absentee ballots delivered by mail. **RSA 669:29; 657:22**

no later than Fri following election

**May 12**

Last day for any person for whom a vote was cast to apply to town clerk for a recount. Clerk must be available at least between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. **RSA 669:30; 652:20**

before exp of 7 days

**May 16**

Last day for 10 voters of a town to petition clerk to recount ballots on any question printed on official ballot. Clerk must be available at least between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. **RSA 40:4-c**

] **These dates do not apply to towns or school districts which are governed by RSA 40:13 (SB2)**

**ELECTION LAWS FOR ELECTION DAY**

**State Primary Specific**

Conduct of primary same as general election. **RSA 655:35**

Change of party affiliation permitted. Undeclared voters may declare party and vote and may upon leaving the voting place change their party affiliation back to undeclared by completing the card or signing the list provided for that purpose. Declared voters may change party, but may not vote. **RSA 654:34; 659:14**

Voter announces party affiliation as well as name to obtain proper ballot. **RSA 659:14**

Voter must present valid photo identification. Voter's identify may be verified by a moderator, supervisor of the checklist, or the town or city clerk. **RSA 659:13**

Declaration of result made as soon after primary as possible. Secretary of State to notify write-in winners. **RSA 659:89**

Moderators to declare nominees-elect for state representative in districts containing only one town or ward. **RSA 659:87**

Any voter may challenge any other voter declaring a party affiliation. Moderator shall obtain oath of voter that he affiliates with that party. **RSA 659:29**

Votes cast for same candidate on different party ballots **are not** added together. **RSA 659:69**

### **All Elections**

Hours of Polling. **RSA 659:3, 3-a, 4, 6, 8**

Moderator to fill out 2 copies of certificate showing total number of ballots received; clerk to certify one copy, which is then sent to Secretary of State with election returns. **RSA 658:32**

State party committee and Attorney General may appoint challengers of voters. Such challengers shall be positioned in the polling place so that they may be able to see and hear each voter as he offers to vote. **RSA 666:4, 5**

Any person has the right to observe in-person voter registration. They may not be positioned within 5 feet of the voter registration table. The ballot clerk must publicly announce name and address of person registering. **RSA 654:7-c**

Moderator and clerk to certify that checklist are the ones used at that election; checklist then given to supervisors. **RSA 659:56, 57**

**Election returns prepared by moderator; one copy kept by clerk, and one copy should be given to the State Police to be delivered to the Secretary of State on election night. RSA 659:73-76**

Sealing and certifying of ballots. **RSA 659:95, 98**

Availability of checklist before election. **RSA 654:31**

Certification of checklist. Two copies filed with town or city clerk. **RSA 654:29**

Clerk to deliver absentee ballots to moderator prior to closing of polls or time set for processing absentee ballots. **RSA 657:23**

Absentee Ballot Lists, who may request. **RSA 657:15**

Arrangement of polling place. **RSA 658:9**

Handicapped Accessibility. **RSA 658:9-a**

Conduct of election at additional polling place same as central polling place. **RSA 658:16**

Absences among election officials; how filled. **RSA 658:19-23**

Disqualification of certain election officials. **RSA 658:24**

Moderator to designate two inspectors of election, one from each party, as ballot clerks. **RSA 658:2, 25**

Sample ballots posted in polling place. **RSA 658:26**

Voter instruction cards to be posted in each voting booth and at least 3 outside guardrail. **RSA 658:28**

Selectmen to post copies of certain statutes in polling place. **RSA 658:29, 29-a**

City or town clerk to deliver ballots prior to the opening of the polls. **RSA 658:30**

Ballots counted in the presence of the clerk and moderator prior to opening of polls. **RSA 658:31**

Clerk to seal ballots, 2 duplicate checklists in presence of moderator and selectmen for delivery to additional polling place. **RSA 658:33**

Pasters, if authorized, delivered by clerk to moderator; pasters affixed to ballots. **RSA 658:34**

If ballots do not arrive, clerk to prepare unofficial ballots. **RSA 658:35**

Ballot box inspected publicly prior to opening of polls and shown to be empty. **RSA 658:36** For those municipalities with voting machines, the zero tape(s) must be produced.

Moderator to secure observance of voting procedure laws. **RSA 659:9; 659:60**

Supervisors attendance required at all elections where checklist is used. **RSA 659:10**

Obtaining a ballot. Voter must present valid photo identification. Voter's identity may also be verified by a moderator, supervisor of the checklist, or the clerk of the town, city or ward. **RSA 659:13**

No person not authorized by law may stand or sit within 6 feet of the ballot clerk for purposes of observing the check-in of voters without the express permission of the moderator. **RSA 659:13-a; 666:4,5**

Conduct of voting at additional polling place same as at central polling place. **RSA 659:11**

Persons entitled to vote are those whose name is on checklist; persons omitted by clerical errors; persons domiciled in town or ward; uniformed and overseas voters. **RSA 654:7-a, 7-b; RSA 659:12**

Upon receipt of ballot from ballot clerk the voter proceeds to voting booth without leaving guardrail. **RSA 659:15**

Number of voters within guardrail not to exceed number of voting booths. **RSA 659:16**

Voter marks ballot. **RSA 659:17**

Voter may vote on all questions. **RSA 659:19**

Voters requiring assistance shall be given assistance after the moderator has informed the voter of the accessible voting options available at the polling place. Assistants shall thereafter be sworn to give out no information about the voter. **RSA 659:20**

**Any voter who requires assistance to vote by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write may be given assistance by a person of the voter's choice, other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or officer or agent of the voter's union. 42 U.S.C.A. 1973aa-6**

If voter spoils ballot, he/she may obtain other ballots not to exceed 3. Spoiled ballot shall be marked "cancelled" and be preserved with other ballots. **RSA 659:22**

Voter folds ballot, hands to moderator who drops it in ballot box; town clerk checks off voter's name. In cities and towns that use an electronic ballot counting device, voters shall insert their ballot into the machine to be counted. Privacy envelopes should be made available to any voter requesting same. **RSA 659:23, I, II**

Clerk may prepare unofficial ballots to be used if supply of official ballots runs out. **RSA 659:24**

Moderator to determine time allowed in voting booth. **RSA 659:25**

Voters not readmitted into guardrail after voting. **RSA 659:26**

If hours of polling are extended by federal or state court order, ballots cast during the extended time period are to be marked "EH". **RSA 659:26-a**

Any voter may challenge any other voter's right to vote; moderator to obtain oath from voter so challenged. **RSA 659:27; 654:7-c**

Person making a challenge must complete a signed affidavit. **659:27-a**

Town Clerk to record challenge of voter affidavits; names and domicile of voters challenged and challengers. **RSA 659:32**

Intention of voter determined by majority of election officials; a ballot for any office not receiving a majority vote is considered defective for that office. **RSA 659:64, 65**

Electioneering by election officials prohibited while performing official duties. **RSA 659:44, 44-a**

Absentee voter who dies prior to election day shall not have his/her ballot opened. **RSA 659:48**

Procedure for processing absentee ballots. **RSA 659:49-54**

Absentee voter whose ballot has been cast may not vote in person. **RSA 659:55**

Disqualification of officials from counting votes. **RSA 659:58**

Moderator, or moderator pro tempore, to oversee count. **RSA 659:60**

Optional counting of votes at additional polling place. **RSA 659:59**

Ballots counted after absentee ballots are processed and after polls are closed. **RSA 659:61**

Voting materials sealed and returned from additional polling place. **RSA 659:62**

Counting to be public, but within guardrail. **RSA 659:63**

Announcing result. **RSA 659:70**

One copy of marked checklist used in election, certified by the officers shall be sent to the state archives after the Presidential Primary Election and the General Election. **RSA 659:102**

Correcting standard data files from checklist used at election. **RSA 654:30**

Ballots delivered to clerk for preservation. Exempted from Right to Know Law. **RSA 31-a; RSA 659:98-103; 659:95, II; 660:16, II; 669:33,II**