

# Gaston County Board of Elections

## Election Dates to Remember

### 2026 Primary Election

DATE	TIME	EVENT	REFERENCE
December 1, 2025	12:00 noon	Candidate filing for partisan races on the 2026 ballot begins	NCGS 163-106.2
December 19, 2025	12:00 noon	Candidate filing for partisan races on the 2026 ballot ends	NCGS 163-106.2
January 12, 2026		Absentee-by-mail voting begins for the 2026 Primary Election (if ballots available)	NCGS 163-227.10(a); 163-258.9
February 6, 2026	5:00 pm	Voter Registration Deadline	NCGS 163.82.6(d)
February 12, 2026	8:00 am	Early Voting Begins for the 2026 Primary Election	NCGS 163-166.40
February 17, 2026	5:00 pm	Last day to request an Absentee-by-mail ballot for the 2026 Primary Election (except for sickness or physical disability)	NCGS 163-250.1(a)
February 28, 2026	3:00 pm	Early Voting Ends for the 2026 Primary Election	NCGS 163-166.40
<b>March 3, 2026</b>		<b>2026 Primary Election Day (polls open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm)</b>	<b>NCGS 163-1</b>
March 3, 2026	7:30 pm	Absentee-by-mail return deadline	NCGS 163-251(b)(1)
March 6, 2026	5:00 pm	Deadline to count provisional ballots	NCGS 163-182.2(a)(4)
March 9, 2026	10:00 am	Sample hand-to-eye recount	NCGS 163-182.1(b)(1)
March 13, 2026	11:00 am	Canvass of the 2026 Primary Election	NCGS 163-182.5(b)
<b>May 12, 2026</b>		<b>2026 Second Primary Day (if necessary)</b>	<b>NCGS 163-111(e)</b>

# Gaston County Board of Elections

## Election Dates to Remember

### 2026 General Election

June 8, 2026	12:00 noon	Candidate filing for Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor begins	NCGS 139-6
July 6, 2026	12:00 noon	Candidate filing for Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor ends	NCGS 139-6
September 4, 2026		Absentee-by-mail voting begins for the 2026 General Election (if ballots available)	NCGS 163-227.10(a); 163-258.9
October 9, 2026	5:00 pm	Voter Registration Deadline	NCGS 163.82.6(d)
October 15, 2026	8:00 am	Early Voting Begins for the 2026 General Election	NCGS 163-166.40
October 20, 2026	5:00 pm	Last day to request an Absentee-by-mail ballot for the 2026 General Election (except for sickness or physical disability)	NCGS 163-250.1(a)
October 31, 2026	3:00 pm	Early Voting Ends for the 2026 General Election	NCGS 163-166.40
<b>November 3, 2026</b>		<b>2026 General Election Day (polls open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm)</b>	<b>NCGS 163-1</b>
November 3, 2026	7:30 pm	Absentee-by-mail return deadline	NCGS 163-251(b)(1)
November 6, 2026	5:00 pm	Deadline to count provisional ballots	NCGS 163-182.2(a)(4)
November 9, 2026	10:00 am	Sample hand-to-eye recount	NCGS 163-182.1(b)(1)
November 13, 2026	11:00 am	Canvass of the 2026 General Election	NCGS 163-182.5(b)

Updated October 29, 2025