

CRS Report for Congress

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Congressional Primaries and Filing Deadlines, 2006 Schedule

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Summary

This report provides the dates of congressional filing deadlines and primary and runoff primary dates for 2006 for the states, the District of Columbia, and territories. The dates are subject to change before the election cycle begins, pending state legislative action. This report will be updated as events warrant.

Table 1. Congressional Primary Dates and Filing Deadlines, 2006

State	Filing Deadline	Primary	Runoff primary ^a
Alabama	April 7	June 6	June 27
Alaska	June 1	August 22	
American Samoa	NA	NA	
Arizona	June 14	September 12	
Arkansas	April 4	May 23	June 13
California	March 10	June 6	
Colorado	May 25	August 8	
Connecticut ^b	May 2 -23	August 8	
Delaware ^c	July 28	September 12	
District of Columbia	July 5	September 12	
Florida	May 12	September 5 ^d	
Georgia	April 28	July 18	August 8

State	Filing Deadline	Primary	Runoff primary^a
Guam	NA	September 2	
Hawaii	July 25	September 23	
Idaho	March 17	May 23	
Illinois	December 19, 2005	March 21	
Indiana	February 17	May 2	
Iowa	March 17	June 6	
Kansas	June 12	August 1	
Kentucky	January 31	May 16	
Louisiana	August 11	November 7	December 9
Maine	March 15	June 13	
Maryland	July 3	September 12	
Massachusetts	June 6	September 19	
Michigan	May 16	August 8	
Minnesota	July 18	September 12	
Mississippi	March 1	June 6	June 27
Missouri	March 28	August 8	
Montana	March 23	June 6	
Nebraska	February 15 (incumbents) March 1 (non-incumbents)	May 9	
Nevada	May 12	August 15	
New Hampshire	June 16	September 12	
New Jersey	April 10	June 6	
New Mexico	February 14	June 6	
New York	July 13	September 12	
North Carolina	February 28	May 2	May 30
North Dakota	April 17	June 13	
Ohio	February 16	May 2	
Oklahoma	June 7	July 25	August 22

State	Filing Deadline	Primary	Runoff primary ^a
Oregon	March 7	May 16	
Pennsylvania	March 7	May 16	
Puerto Rico	no election in 2006		
Rhode Island	June 28	September 12	
South Carolina	March 30	June 13	June 27
South Dakota	April 4	June 6	June 20
Tennessee	April 6	August 3	
Texas	January 2	March 7	April 11
Utah	March 17	June 27	
Vermont	July 17	September 12	
Virginia	April 14	June 13	
Virgin Islands	NA	September 9	
Washington	July 28	September 19	
West Virginia	January 28	May 9	
Wisconsin	July 11	September 12	
Wyoming	June 2	August 22	

Source: Elections divisions in the states, the District of Columbia, and the territories.

NA — not available.

- a. In Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas, a runoff primary is held if no candidate receives at least 50% of the vote in the initial primary election. In South Dakota, a runoff primary is held if no candidate receives at least 35% of the vote. In Louisiana, a candidate who receives 50% or more of the vote in the primary is elected to the office. If no candidate receives 50% of the vote in the primary, a runoff election is held. All Louisiana candidates, regardless of party affiliation, compete against each other in the primary election, and the two highest vote-getters compete in the runoff, even if they belong to the same political party.
- b. Political party endorsing conventions may be held between May 2 and 23; a candidate subsequently files for the primary within 14 days after the convention.
- c. The Delaware legislature is to consider changes to the election calendar when it convenes in January 2006.
- d. A law was enacted in 2005 that will eliminate Florida's runoff primary, effective January 1, 2006. The run-off would have been held on October 3.