

The Advocate

September 18, 2026

General Election Reminders

This is a significant election year in North Carolina, with the General Election quickly approaching on November 3. As you prepare to cast your ballot, remember that a photo ID is required to vote in North Carolina. Learn more about this requirement or watch a brief video about it on the right.

Make your voice hear by making a voting plan today, knowing your polling location and voting options, and setting a reminder to cast your ballot!

What offices are up for election in 2026?

- One U.S. Senate seat
- 14 U.S. House seats
- 1 N.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice seat
- 3 N.C. Court of Appeals Judge seats
- Statewide referenda
- 50 N.C. Senate seats
- 120 N.C. House seats
- Local judges and district attorneys
- County offices like sheriffs, county commissioners, and Board of Education members
- Municipal elections in some jurisdictions

Access a complete list of General Election Candidates.

What are the important election dates and deadlines?

Oct. 9: Voter registration deadline (5 p.m.).* For more, see How to Register.

Oct. 15: In-person early voting begins; same-day registration available. For more, see Vote Early in Person.

Oct. 20: Absentee ballot request deadline (5 p.m.).*

Oct. 31: In-person early voting ends (3 p.m.).

Nov. 3: Election Day. For more, see Vote in Person on Election Day.

Nov. 3: Absentee ballot return deadline (7:30 p.m.).*

*Please note that voter registration and absentee voting deadlines are different from military and overseas citizen voters. Learn More.

Important tips

- Need information on voter registration?
- Need to update your registration?
- Want to see your sample election ballot?
- Need to find your polling place?

What are the different ways to vote?

- Early in-person voting
- Voting in person on Election Day
- Voting by mail

Please make your voice heard this election season. Exercise your right to vote and head to the polls on Nov. 3, 2026, to cast your ballot for the candidates of your choice.

If you have any questions or comments about the Advocate, please contact Pam Melton, Vice President of Advocacy.