



**State Deadlines for National Party Presidential Candidate Certification for November 2012 General Elections**

**06/01/10**

Summary:

27 States responded

- 18 states have statutory dates or deadlines for receiving certification of the major party candidate for President/Vice President in 2012.
  - 5 of those states have deadlines that fall on or before August 31, 2012
  - 9 of those states have deadlines that fall on or before September 7, 2012
    - Two of these states said a practical deadline would be August 31
- 9 states referenced a practical deadline
  - 5 of these states listed practical deadlines that fall on or before August 31, 2012
  - 4 of these states listed practical deadlines that fall on or before September 7, 2012
- There are 15 states that would be able to get candidates' names on the ballot if deadlines are missed, but it would mean UOCAVA and other absentee ballots mailed late, or maybe names on all other ballots except UOCAVA ballots, compressed printing and proofing deadlines, use of stickers or other methods to add after printing has been done.
- There are 7 states that would **not** be able to get candidates' names on the ballot if deadlines are missed.
- There are 5 states that have reported that there is nothing about this matter in their statute or they are unsure about this question.

State	Statutory Deadline for Nov 2012 Major Party Candidates for Pres or Ballot Certification	No Statutory Deadline but Practical Deadline	If not received by then, is there a way for parties to get candidates on the ballot
Alabama	September 6, 2012		No response
Alaska			



Louisiana	State central committee to file prior to 5 pm on the 1st Tuesday in September of each year in which a presidential election is to be held (Sept 4, 2012); or national committee has until 5 pm the 1st Friday following the 1st Tuesday in September or (Sept7, 2012)		No
Maine	No	at least 60 days, without major issues	while it may be possible, if less than 60 days we may have difficulty meeting requirements of federal law and/or state law
Maryland	Current state law requires ballot to be certified 55 days before general election – September 12, 2012		The proposed convention dates allows Maryland sufficient time to place them on the ballot under current state law. However, our state laws have not yet been changed to comply with MOVE Act 45 day deadline.
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota	August 21, 2012 (77 days before Election Day). State party chairs are required to certify pres/vp names for the ballot by this deadline. So, the answer is no, there is nothing for the national party to do at any time. But is also a no, that the state party cannot add names after the deadline either.		No - but realistically it means at the time of the deadline the state party needs to provide the state with candidate names to put on the ballot regardless of if they have the formal national nomination. So, it's still possible for the party to have pres/vp candidates on the ballot even if the national convention falls after our certification deadline as long as the state party certifies names to the state by the deadline.
Mississippi	Per. Miss. Code Ann. 23-15-785 (3), 60 days prior to election.		Nothing in statute
Missouri	The 12 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday prior to the election (August 14, 2012) or within seven days after choosing the nominee, whichever is later. Sec. 115.399 RSMo		Court order until the 6 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday prior to the election. Sec. 115.125.2 RSMo.
Montana			
Nebraska	Sept 8, 2012		nothing in statute
Nevada			
New			





Vermont	47th day before the general election but we plan to ask the legislature to amend this to the 60th day before the general election.	60th day before the election	No
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia	NO	August 28, 2012	YES
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

Other 2012 Election Calendar events that could be impacted by the late national party conventions

- Illinois - Grace, Absentee and Early Voting could all be impacted.
- Iowa - There is a requirement for a public test as well as ballot publication requirements that are also impacted by the late conventions
- Kentucky - Yes, the ballot printing deadline of September 17, 2012 could be a challenge as one (1) vendor prints for 96 of the 120 counties.
- Missouri - Ballot certification 10<sup>th</sup> Tuesday prior to the election (August 28, 2012) 115.401 RSMo; Absentee ballots 42 days prior to the election for domestic and 45 days prior to the election for absent military and overseas 115.281 RSMo.
- Ohio- The form of the official general election ballot (which must include the names of presidential candidates) must be certified by the secretary of state to the county board of elections no later than August 28, 2012 in order for all counties to have absent voter ballots available for sending to UOCAVA voters by September 22.
- Tennessee- Mailing military ballots by the 45<sup>th</sup> day before the November 2010 General Election is the most important deadline that will be impacted by late political party conventions in 2010.
- Pennsylvania - October 19 is the day county boards of elections must begin to deliver or mail all absentee ballots for the November election.
- South Carolina 45-Day UOCAVA deadline
- Connecticut- 90 days to mail military ballots
- West Virginia- This is mostly a ballot printing and proofing problem. In WV, 165 people across the state are tasked with proofing and approving the ballots from the printer. Getting those people together in the various locales to proof and approve is difficult practically and places the ballot printers against an unreasonable deadline