



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

P.O. Box 300
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0300

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

LT. GOVERNOR TAHESHA L. WAY
Secretary of State

MEMORANDUM

TO: Boards of Election

FROM: Lauren M. Zyriek, Acting Director
NJ Division of Elections

DATE: November 3, 2023

SUBJECT: Audit- November 7, 2023 General Election

Please be aware that all audits for the November 7, 2023 General Election must be completed no later than November 22, 2023 and that the Commissioners of the Boards of Elections must be present during the audit.

The following offices are to be audited as part of the 2023 General Election audit by all counties:

- State Senate – This office shall be audited in all batches selected.
- General Assembly - This office shall be audited in all batches selected.
- Countywide Office – Each County Board of Elections shall select at least one countywide office to be audited in all batches.
- Top local contest – Each batch that contains an office for Municipal Mayor or Council/Committee shall be audited in all batches selected.

In accordance with the law, Public Questions, School Elections, and Fire District Elections will not be audited.



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Timeline

- Tues. 11/7: Election Day
- Sat. 11/18: 11 days post-Election Day– signature cures due, N.J.S.A. 19:63-17(b)(2) as amended by L. 2023, c. 124, § 16
- Mon. 11/20: 13 days post-Election Day– begin the audit, N.J.S.A. 19:61-9(a) as amended by L. 2023, c. 124, § 15. Please note that batches must be drawn at a public meeting within the 24-hour period before the audit commences. N.J.S.A. 19:61-9(c)(3).
- Wed. 11/22: 15 days post-Election Day– certify the election, N.J.S.A. 19:19-1 as amended by L. 2023, c. 124, § 4
 - the two extensions permitted under N.J.S.A. 19:19-4 and -6
 - o Wed. 11/22 to Thurs. 11/23, N.J.S.A. 19:19-4
 - o Thurs. 11/23 to Sun. 11/26, N.J.S.A. 19:19-6*

L. 2023, c. 124, § 15 permits the Secretary of State to grant extensions of the date by which the audit is to begin. However, because L. 2023, c. 124 resolved the internal conflicts between the statutory deadlines regarding completion of counting ballots, the audit and the certification of results, requests for extension will only be granted, if necessary. Such requests must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of State's office to both Lauren.Zyriek@sos.nj.gov and Dawn.Schilling@sos.nj.gov.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

* Under N.J.S.A. 19:11-1, where the deadline falls on a Sunday, or any legal holiday, the deadline is pushed to the next following business day. Therefore, taking the second extension for certification extends the certification deadline to Monday, 11/27, rather than Sunday, 11/26.