



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: Donna Barber, Director
NJ Division of Elections

DATE: November 1, 2024

SUBJECT: Audit- November 5, 2024 General Election

Please be aware that all audits for the November 5, 2024 General Election must be completed no later than November 20, 2024 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 2024 General Election audit by all counties:

- U.S. President – This office shall be audited in all batches selected.
- U.S. Senate – This office shall be audited in all batches selected.
- U.S. House of Representatives - 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

- Tuesday, November 5, 2024: Election Day
- Saturday, November 16, 2024: 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
- Monday, November 18, 2024: 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).
- Wednesday, November 20, 2024: 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 Wednesday, November 20th to Thursday, November 21st, N.J.S.A. 19:19-4
 - o Thursday, November 21st to Sunday, November 24th, 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 Brittany.Giampola@sos.nj.gov and Dawn.Schilling@sos.nj.gov.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Division of Elections.

* 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, 11/25, rather than Sunday, 11/24.