NEWS RELEASE

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For Release: **IMMEDIATELY**

New York State Board of Elections highlights "Big Day" in advance of the 2026 General Election

ALBANY, N.Y. (10/23/2026) – Tomorrow, Saturday, October 24, marks three important milestones for voters preparing for the 2026 General Election: the deadline for new voters to register, the final day to request an early mail or absentee ballot to be received by mail, and the first day of in-person early voting across the state. With these key dates arriving together, voters are encouraged to review their registration status, understand available voting methods, and take note of these deadlines.

"October 24th is an important day in the lead-up to the 2026 General Election," said Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Co-Executive Director of the State Board of Elections. "Whether you are registering to vote for the first time, requesting a mail ballot, or planning to vote early in person, we encourage everyone to make a plan to participate."

"We encourage all eligible voters to be mindful of election deadlines and familiarize themselves with available voting options," said Raymond J. Riley, III, Co-Executive Director of the State Board of Elections. "Voters should review official election resources, such as the State Board's website, to ensure they are prepared for the 2026 General Election."

To check registration status, find poll sites, or track a mail ballot, voters are encouraged to use the New York State Board of Elections' Voter Lookup application.

See below for important information about the Big Day.

Voter Registration
Individuals wishing to register to vote by the deadline may use the NYS Board of Elections' online voter registration portal or go in person to their county board of elections. To review requirements for voter registration in New York State, visit the NYS Board of Elections' website.

Early Mail / Absentee Ballot Requests
To receive a ballot by mail, a voter must make the request to their county board of elections or visit the NYS Board of Elections' ballot request portals by the end of Saturday, October 24. To receive a ballot in person at their county board of elections, the deadline to do so is Monday, November 2. Regardless of how the voter receives the ballot, it must be returned by mail ensuring it receives a postmark by November 3 (and arrives at the county board by November 10) or by hand-delivery to an early voting or election day poll site during voting hours or to the county board of elections by 9pm on election day.

Early Voting

Starting Saturday, October 24, New Yorkers can cast ballots in person for nine days during early voting. Voters may visit any designated early voting location in their county, except in New York City where voters are assigned a specific site. Hours and locations for early voting vary by county. Voters should contact their county board of elections directly for more details.

If you have any questions regarding this press release, please contact Kathleen McGrath or Jennifer Wilson at the New York State Board of Elections at (518) 474-1953 or by email at INFO@elections.ny.gov.

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