2026 Election Timeline

Updated: 07/10/2026

Date	Action Necessary
July 1, 2026	General Manager **shall** be responsible for preparing a timeline detailing the dates and activities that must be followed pursuant to *Election Regulations Section 04.07 Duty to Prepare the Timeline prior to the General Election.*
July 13, 2026 At least 120 days prior to the election	General Manager **shall** solicit bids for the position of Election Supervisor. *Election Regulation 04.01, Duty to solicit interested Tribal Citizens to serve as Election Supervisor.*
July 13, 2026 At least 75 days prior to the election	The General Manager **shall** solicit interested Tribal citizens to serve as Election Judges. *Election Regulation 04.02, Duty to solicit interested Tribal Citizens to serve as Election Judges.*
August 17, 2026	Bids for the Election Supervisor and Election Judges are due by COB 8/17.
August 27, 2026 At least 75 days prior to Election Day.	The General Manager **shall** have candidacy materials available for distribution to interested Tribal Citizens. *Election Regulation 04.04 Duty to prepare Candidacy Material.*
September 11, 2026 At least 60 days prior to the election	• The General Manager **shall** provide bids for the Election Supervisor and names of interested citizens for Election Judges to the Tribal Council for review. *Election Regulation 04.01, Duty to solicit interested Tribal Citizens to serve as Election Supervisor.* • Tribal Council **MUST** appoint an Election Supervisor, two (2) Election Judges, and one alternate Election Judge. *Election Regulations, Section 4.02 Duty to Solicit Interested Tribal Citizens to Serve as Election Judges.*
September 11, 2026	Tribal Council **may** designate all polling locations. *Election Ordinance 02.01.25 Designation of Polling Places.*
September 25, 2026 No later than 45 days prior to Election Day.	Any person seeking to become a candidate **shall** file all candidacy materials with the Election Supervisor or other person designated by the Tribal Council. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.15 (a) Filing Candidacy Materials.*
October 7, 2026 No later than 30 days prior to Election Day.	The Tribal Council shall designate all polling locations if not designated already. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.25 Designation of Polling Places.*

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Date	Action Necessary
October 7, 2026 At least 28 days prior to Election Day.	Election Supervisor **shall** confirm the eligibility of each person seeking to become a candidate in consultation with the Tribal Attorney. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.17(b) Testing Eligibility of Candidates.*
October 7, 2026 At least 28 days prior to Election Day.	Election Supervisor **shall** prepare sample ballots to be available to the public. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.27(d) Duties of Election Supervisor.*
October 9, 2026 At least 30 days prior to Election Day.	The General Manager or their designee **shall** post an Election Proclamation at STA Tribal Headquarters and publish it in the local newspaper. *Election Regulation, Section 4.03 Duty to post Election Proclamation in a public place.*
October 16, 2026 No later than 25 days preceding Election Day.	Any qualified voter **may** challenge the eligibility of any candidate to hold office by filing with the Election Supervisor, a notarized statement written in good faith setting forth the grounds for the challenge. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.41 Challenge of Candidates.*
October 21, 2026 At the Regular Council meeting immediately prior to Election Day. **October 21, 2026** At the Regular Council meeting immediately prior to Election Day.	• Tribal Council **will** appoint an individual to serve in the role as Tribal Attorney if the position is vacant. • Tribal Council **will** appoint a staff member who will serve as the clerk to the judge. • Tribal Council **will** appoint a person who shall guide any protestors with the process related to the protest. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.44 (a), (b), (c), Duty of the Tribal Council to Appoint Persons to Represent.*
October 27, 2026 At least 14 days prior to Election Day.	The Election Supervisor shall rule on each challenge to a candidate. *Election Regulation, Section 6.01 (b) Challenge of Candidates.*
October 28, 2026 At least 14 days prior to Election Day.	The Election Supervisor **shall** print the final ballots. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.27 (d) Duties of Election Supervisor.*
October 28, 2026 At least 14 days prior to Election Day.	Election Supervisor will provide in-person and remote early voting through the day of the Election. *Election Regulation, Sections 01.05 (a) Definitions and 3.02 In-person Voting Procedures.*
November 2, 2026 Until 8th day prior to Election Day.	Any candidate **may** withdraw from the election as a candidate. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.16 Withdrawing Candidacy.*

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Date	Action Necessary
November 3, 2026 At least 7 days prior to Election Day.	Tribal Attorney or other person designated by the General Manager **shall** prepare and post guidelines regarding the process for protesting the election results. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.43 Duty to Prepare and Post Guidelines regarding protest process.*
November 10, 2026	Tribal Council Election 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. *Election Ordinance Section 02.01.08 (a) Scheduling General Elections.*
November 10, 2026 No later than 10:00 am following the Election.	The Election Committee **shall** complete its written certificate of election returns and report the results to the General Manager. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.31 (f): Canvassing the votes; reviewing questioned ballots and canvassing the results.*
November 18, 2026	Tribal Council will meet and certify the returns. The certifications shall be made by motion in an open and public meeting, and the results will be set forth in the minutes of the meeting. Upon certification, Tribal staff will issue a written certificate of election to the winning candidates. *Election Ordinance, Section 02.01.38 Tribal Council Certifies Election.*