

What You Need To Know About The 2026 Primary Election



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With the 2026 primary election approaching on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, voters across the area are preparing to make key decisions that will help shape the direction of local and state leadership.

From contested local races to high-profile statewide positions, this year's ballot will offer a range of choices, giving YOU - the residents of Hart County - an opportunity to learn about candidates, weigh important issues, and make your voices heard at the polls.

The May 2026 primary election is held to determine which candidate will represent their political party in a specific elected office in the November 2026 general election. Races with more than one candidate will appear on the primary ballot. For example, the District 3 Magistrate race currently includes four Republican candidates. In the May primary election, registered Republican voters will choose between these four candidates, with the winner then moving forward to face-off against the Democrat candidate in the November general election.

There are key dates to keep in mind

for the May 2026 primary election:

- April 4 through May 5 at 11:59 p.m. - Online mail-in absentee portal open for Primary Election mail-in ballot requests.

- April 20 at 4 p.m. – Last day to register to vote for the primary.

- May 6 through May 8 and May 11 through May 13 - Excused, in-person absentee voting.

- May 14 through May 16 - In-person, no-excuse early voting.

- May 19 from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. - Primary Election Day

The Hart County News-Herald has offered all candidates the opportunity to submit information about themselves to better inform voters about why they are pursuing their respective office in the election. Those candidate submissions are included in this week's edition of the newspaper. Additional Q&A submissions will be printed in an upcoming edition of the *News-Herald*.

For more information about the 2026 election, visit <https://hartcountyclerk.ky.gov/elections/> or contact the Hart County Clerk's Office in Munfordville

BIDS ACCEPTED

Hart County Solid Waste will be accepting bids to purchase a 2027 Peterbilt Roll Off Truck starting March 19, 2026. You can send your bids to Hart County Solid Waste, P.O. Box 549, Munfordville, KY 42765, or you can drop them off at the billing office at 300 Quality St., Munfordville, KY 42765. If you would like a copy of the specs for the bid, please stop by the billing office Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Attention Political Candidates!

Jobe Publishing will once again publish political candidate questionnaires.

The questionnaires are available at the office of the Hart Co. News-Herald, 570 South Dixie St., Horse Cave, KY 42749.

The deadline to submit the completed questionnaires will be Friday, April 10. You can either drop them off at the office or submit at marybeth@jpinews.com.

The submitted information will be published in the paper the week of April 27th.

While in the office, getting your questionnaire, you can also discuss any political advertising.