California Election Results Timeline 2026

From poll closing on Nov. 3 to state certification on Dec. 11, in date order

1. **Tue., Nov. 3, 8 p.m.** ☐
   Polls close (11 p.m. ET). Results begin posting at electionresults.sos.ca.gov
2. **Thu., Nov. 5** ☐
   Counties send the state a first estimate of ballots still unprocessed
3. **Tue., Nov. 10** ☐
   Last day for a mailed ballot postmarked by Nov. 3 to arrive
4. **Mon., Nov. 16** ☐
   Counties finish counting most ballots
5. **Tue., Nov. 17** ☐
   Counties must send notices to voters with signature problems
6. **Wed., Nov. 25** ☐
   Last day, 5 p.m., to fix a ballot signature problem
7. **Thu., Dec. 3** ☐
   Counties complete the canvass and certify results
8. **Fri., Dec. 4 to Tue., Dec. 8** ☐
   Window to file a recount request
9. **Fri., Dec. 11** ☐
   Secretary of State certifies the statewide vote

My notes

Source: California Secretary of State, November 3, 2026 General Election Calendar (rev. Sept. 24, 2026), Election Results page and Recounts FAQ.