

The Council

The Election is Over. What Happens Next?

Voters in North Dakota headed to the polls last week to elect legislators. With the election now over, several important steps will take place before the 2027 legislative session, which begins on January 5.

County canvassing boards will meet across the state to certify election results. County auditors are required to certify election results to the Secretary of State within 13 days after the election. The State Canvassing Board then meets to certify the statewide results. Election night results are considered unofficial until the canvassing process is complete.

Successful legislative candidates will receive a certificate of election and an oath of office from the Secretary of State's office. The terms of office for legislators begin on December 1.

Members of the Legislative Assembly will meet at the Capitol for a 3-day organizational session December 1-3. New and returning legislators will attend orientation sessions, receive training, meet with their respective caucuses, select their seats in the chambers, be assigned to committees, and receive a report on the findings and recommendations of interim committees. Newly elected legislators will take the oath of office.

Following the organizational session, legislators will return to the Capitol on January 5 to begin the regular session of the 70th Legislative Assembly.

Members of the public can follow legislative activities, track bills, watch committee hearings and floor sessions, and find information about participating in the legislative process on the Legislative Branch website.

Upcoming Meetings

November

12-13 Legislative Management

December

8 Administrative Rules

Important Dates

November

25 Deadline for executive branch agencies and the Supreme Court to prefile bills

30 New legislator training day

December

1-3 Organizational Session

11 Deadline for legislators to submit health insurance mandate bills

18 Deadline for legislators to prefile bills

Employee Spotlight



Jodi Erickson joined the Legislative Council as a Program Evaluator in the Policy and Program Evaluation Division. Before joining the Legislative Council, she had an extensive career in the federal government, including positions with the Foreign Agricultural Service and the Farm Service Agency.

Jodi grew up in Beulah and moved back to North Dakota a year ago. She has a PhD in Public Policy and Administration from Walden University and earned both a master's degree in public policy and a master's degree in international commerce and policy from George Mason University. In her free time, she enjoys barrel racing and spending time with her family.

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