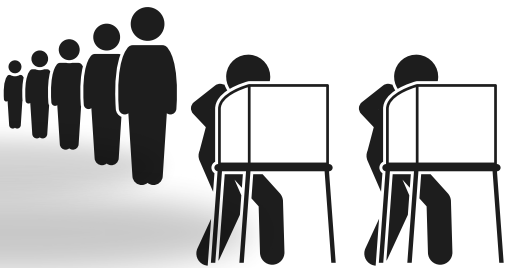




**Elections
Observation
Group**

CREDIBLE, PEACEFUL, FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

ROAD MAP TO THE 2027 GENERAL ELECTIONS



INTRODUCTION

The upcoming 2027 general elections will mark a significant turning point in Kenya's democratic journey by determining the country's leadership and shaping its political course for the years ahead. This electoral cycle is unique due to recent changes in electoral policies, increased public expectations for transparency and accountability, and the expanding role of digital technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in elections.

A road map is important for identifying, tracking, and ensuring transparency and accountability at each step in the electoral cycle, as well as promoting preparedness.

This roadmap will outline the critical electoral activities leading up to the 2027 general elections, keeping track of the essential deadlines and duty bearers responsible for the various electoral activities, all of which are vital for the conduct of credible, peaceful, free, and fair elections in the upcoming general elections.



Acronyms and Abbreviations

IEBC:	Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission	PPLC:	Political Parties Liaison Committee
ORPP:	Office of the Registrar of Political Parties	JCE:	Judiciary Committee on Elections
KNBS:	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics	NPS:	National Police Service
CAK:	Communication Authority of Kenya	CUE:	Commission for University Education
PSC:	Public Service Commission	NADCO:	National Dialogue Committee
EACC:	Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission		



1. BOUNDARY DELIMITATION

Boundary delimitation is the process of defining electoral unit boundaries and periodically reviewing constituencies and wards. Taking place every **8 to 12 years** after the last review, the upper limit sets the deadline to **March 2024**.

Duty bearers: IEBC, National registration Bureau, Kenya national Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), Judiciary.



Deadline: March 2024.



2. THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE IEBC

After appointment, the Independent Electoral Boundaries Commission (IEBC) selection panel recruits candidates for the chairperson and commissioner positions within **90 days**, submitting two chairperson and nine commissioner nominees to the president. Within **7 days**, the president selects one chairperson and six commissioners for vetting by the National Assembly, which takes **28 days**. The president then appoints the new IEBC chairperson and commissioners within **7 days** after vetting.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Parliament, Executive, Judiciary.



Deadline: 7th June 2025.



3. USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN ELECTIONS

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) is mandated to methodically integrate technology into the electoral process. The commission must also procure all the necessary technology at least **120 days** before an election and ensure testing, verification, and deployment at least **60 days** before the election.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Communication Authority of Kenya (CAK), ICT Authority, Office of Data Protection.



Deadline for procurement of technology: 12th April 2027.


Deadline for testing of technology: 11th June 2027.



4. VOTER REGISTRATION

The IEBC is mandated to conduct continuous voter registration and allow updates at any time, except during the **60 days** preceding a general election or presidential run-off, as per the **Elections Act 2011 – Section 5(1)(a)**.


Duty bearers: IEBC, National Registration Bureau, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS).

 **DEADLINE** 11th June 2027.



5. REVIEW OF THE VOTER REGISTER

One of the National Dialogue Committee (NADCO) proposals passed by parliament requires the IEBC to review the voter register within **6 months** of its reconstitution.

 **DEADLINE** 7th December 2025.

Duty bearer: IEBC.



6. INSPECTION OF THE VOTER REGISTER BEFORE THE GENERAL ELECTIONS

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) must open the voter register for public inspection **90 days** before a general election. The register must remain open for at least **30 days** for public inspection but The Commission has the authority to extend this period if they deem it necessary.

Duty bearer: IEBC.

 **Opening of the voter register:** 12th May 2027.

Closing period: 11th June 2027.
(Subject to change: IEBC).



7. VOTER REGISTRATION TRANSFER APPLICATION

A voter can transfer their registration to a different electoral area by notifying the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) at least **90 days** before an election following the prescribed and outlined procedures.

 **DEADLINE** 12th May 2027.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Media.

8. VOTER REGISTRATION TRANSFER PROCESS



Receive Notification

The IEBC receives a notification for voter registration transfer.



Initiate Transfer Process

The IEBC begins the process of transferring voter registration.



Complete Transfer

The transfer is completed within 60 days before the election.

Duty bearer: IEBC.



Deadline: 11th June 2027.



9. RESIGNATION OF CIVIL SERVANTS



Resign

Ensures compliance with election rules by resigning 6 months before the election.



Do not resign

Risk of non-compliance and potential legal issues

Duty bearers: IEBC, Public Service Commission (PSC).



10th February 2027.

10. AUDIT OF THE VOTER REGISTER



6 months before a general election the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) may engage a professional and reputable audit firm to review the voter register. This audit is intended to assess the accuracy, completeness, and credibility of the voter register, which is important in maintaining public confidence during the election period.



Deadline:

10th
February
2027.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Parliament.





11. ELECTION FUNDRAISING

An individual can be disqualified from contesting in an election if he or she participates directly or indirectly in any form of public fundraising or harambee within **eight months** prior to a general election, or during the election period.

This prohibition does not apply to fundraising activities meant for, Individuals who are contesting an election under the Elections Act, or fundraising for a political party.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission (EACC), Auditor General, Parliament.

 **DEADLINE** 10th December 2026.




12. SUBMISSION OF THE PARTY MEMBERSHIP LIST

Any political nominating a person for any election under the Elections Act should submit a party membership list to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), at least **120 days** before the general elections.

This list includes all members of a political party and is used to demonstrate the party's active membership, this requirement helps verify that the party is legitimate and has a sufficient membership base.

Duty bearers: ORPP, IEBC, Political Parties.

 **DEADLINE** 12th April 2027.



Prohibited Fundraising

Disqualifies candidate if done within eight months or during election



Allowed Fundraising

Permitted for election candidates or political parties





13. SUBMISSION OF THE PARTY NOMINATION RULES

A political party submits its nomination rules to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) at least **6 months** before the nomination of its candidates. Any amendments made to the nomination rules will only become effective **90 days** after being submitted to the Commission. After receiving the rules, the IEBC has **14 days** to either issue a certificate of compliance or ask the party to amend the rules within another **14 days**.

Duty bearers: IEBC, ORPP, PPLC, Political Parties.



Submission of Nomination rules: 12th November 2026.

Issuance of Compliance Certificates: 26th November 2026.



14. THE SUBMISSION OF PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES AND PARTY PRIMARIES DATES

21 days before nomination day each party submits candidates names and party primaries date



Nomination day

Official candidate nominations

Duty bearers: IEBC, ORPP, political parties, PPLC.



21st April 2027.



15. PUBLISHING THE NAMES OF THE PARTY PRIMARIES CANDIDATES AND DATES.

The IEBC is tasked with publishing the names of the individuals contesting in the party primaries and the date of the party primary in the Kenya Gazette, within **7 days** of receipt of the names.

Duty bearers: IEBC.



Outer Limit Deadline: 28th April 2027.



16. POLITICAL PARTY PRIMARIES

Political party primaries play a critical role in strengthening the democratic process and contributing to peaceful, competitive elections in the country. A political party will conduct its nominations at least **90 days** before a general election following its constitution and nomination rules.

Duty bearers: IEBC, ORPP, PPDT, JCE, NPS, EACC, CUE, Political Parties.



12th May 2027.



17. FINAL SUBMISSION OF POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATE LISTS

After the completion of the party primaries, each Political party must submit the names of candidates selected to participate in the general election **at least 60 days** before the election.

Duty bearers: IEBC, ORPP, NPS, EACC, CUE, Political parties.



11th June 2027.



18. APPROVAL OF SYMBOLS FOR INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES



An independent candidate must submit the symbol they intend to use during the election to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) at least **twenty-one** days before nomination day.

Nomination day is allocated by the IEBC.

Duty bearer: IEBC.





19. POLITICAL PARTY ELECTORAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION

INTERNAL RESOLUTION OF PARTY NOMINATIONS DISPUTES

A political party hears and determines any disputes arising from the party nominations within **30 days** after the date of the party nominations, as per the **Political Parties Act 11 of 2011 (2022 Edition), Section 38(i)**.

Duty bearers: PPDT, PPLC, Judiciary, Political Parties.



Deadline: 11th June 2027.

POLITICAL PARTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION BY THE POLITICAL PARTIES DISPUTES TRIBUNAL (PPDT).

The Political Parties Dispute Tribunal (PPDT) is mandated to resolve disputes arising from the party primaries, ensuring fairness, and compliance with the law. The Tribunal must expeditiously, conclude any dispute within **3 months** from the date it was officially lodged.

Duty bearers: PPDT, Judiciary.



20. SUBMISSION OF NATIONAL AND COUNTY CHIEF PARTY AGENTS

Political Parties and independent Presidential Candidates Must submit the names of one national chief agent and 47 county chief agents to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) at least **14 days** before the election.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Political Parties, Independent candidate's , Agents.



Deadline: 27th July 2027.



21. NOMINATION OF INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

RESIGNING FROM A POLITICAL PARTY & SUBMISSION OF NOMINATION PAPERS BY INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

What qualifies an individual to be nominated as an independent candidate?

An individual must not have been a member of any political party for at least 3 months before the general election.

What is required for an independent candidate to submit their nomination?

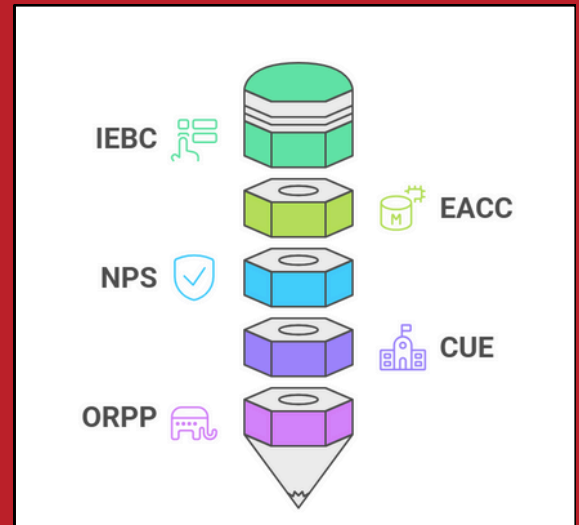
They must submit a duly filled nomination paper to the IEBC at least 60 days before the general election.



Deadline for resigning from political parties: 10th May 2027.

Date for submission of nomination papers: 11th June 2027.

Duty bearers



22. SUBMISSION OF THE PARTY LISTS

A political party submits its party list to the IEBC at least **45 days** before a general election.

The Party List refers to the candidates a political party nominates for proportional representation seats, which are allocated to the National Assembly, Senate, or county assemblies.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Political Parties, ORPP.



Submission date: 26th June 2027.





23. ELECTION DAY

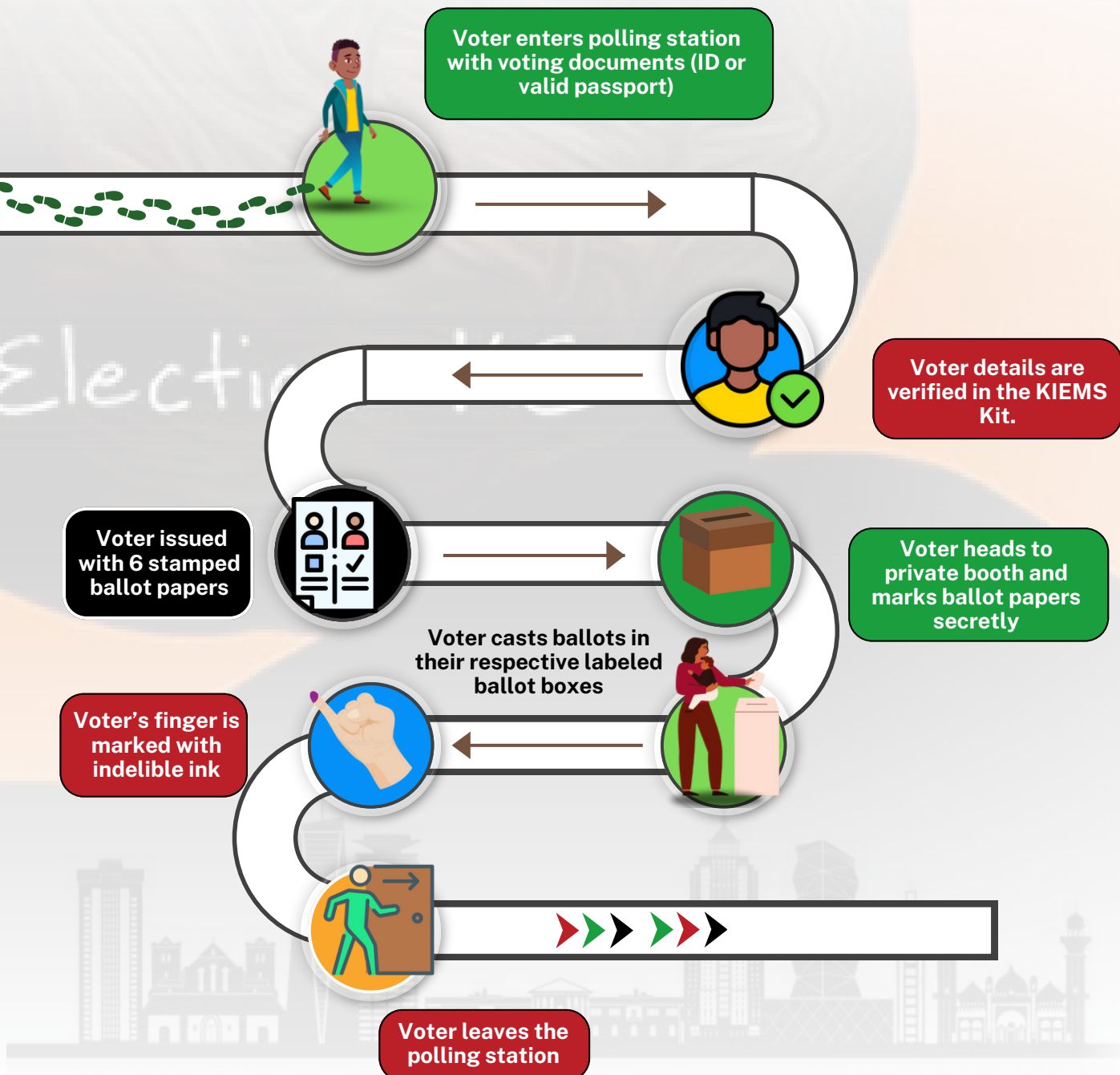
General elections in Kenya are conducted every **five years** on the **second Tuesday of August**, in accordance with **Article 101(1)** of the Kenyan Constitution.

Duty bearers: IEBC, NPS, Judiciary, Political Parties, Media.



The next elections are slated for **Tuesday, August 10, 2027.**

VOTING PROCEDURE



TRANSMISSION OF ELECTION RESULTS

POLLING STATION

Counting of votes and filling of the results form after polling station closure.



CONSTITUENCY TALLYING CENTER

Tallying and declaration of MP and MCA results & collation of Presidential, Gubernatorial, Senatorial, and CWMNA



D.R.O



R.O



COUNTY TALLYING CENTER









Final Compilation of Gubernatorial, Senatorial, and County Woman MNA results from polling stations

NATIONAL TALLYING CENTER



Final Tallying & Declaration of Presidential results from polling stations

-  Presidential
-  Governor
-  Senator
-  Member of National Assembly (MNA)
-  County Woman Member of National Assembly (CWMNA)
-  Member of County Assembly (MCA)

P.O → Presiding Officer

R.O → Returning Officer

D.R.O → Deputy Returning Officer



24. DECLARATION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) declares the results of the presidential election within **seven days** after the election in accordance to article **Article 138(10)** of the Kenyan constitution.

Duty bearers: IEBC, NPS, Media.



Deadline: 17th August 2027.



25. PRESIDENTIAL RUNOFF

After the presidential elections are conducted If no presidential candidate obtains more than half of all votes cast and at least 25% of the votes in more than half of the counties which is the requirement to be declared winner. A runoff election is held within **30 days** after the previous election.

Duty bearers: IEBC, NPS, Media.



Deadline: 9th September 2027.



26. DECLARATION OF OTHER ELECTIONS

Other than the presidential election the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) declares, and publishes the results of all other elections **Immediately** after counting, tallying, and verification are completed at the polling station, constituency, and county.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Media.



27. PETITIONS

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION PETITIONS

Presidential election petitions must be filed within **seven days** after the declaration of the presidential election results by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC). The Supreme court hears and determines these petitions within **14 days** of the petition being filed.

Duty bearers: IEBC, NPS, Media, Judiciary.



Deadline for filing petition: 24th August 2027.

Deadline for Supreme Court to hear and determine court case: 7th September 2027 (Subject to review: NADCO recommends 14 - 21 days).

OTHER ELECTION PETITIONS

A petition concerning an election, other than a presidential election, should be filed within **twenty-eight days** after the declaration of the election results by the IEBC. The petition is heard and determined within **six months** of the date of lodging the petition.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Media, NPS, Judiciary.



Election Petition Timeline: 9th March 2028.





28. ALLOCATION OF SPECIAL SEATS

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) is mandated to designate, from each qualifying list, the party representatives based on proportional representation, this takes place within **30 days** after the declaration of election results, as per **Section 36 (4) of the Elections Act**.

This process ensures inclusivity, compliance with provisions in the constitution, and representation of diverse groups in the governance of the country.

Duty bearers: IEBC, Political Parties, ORPP.



Deadline: 9th September 2027.





Centre for Minority Rights Development



SUPREME COUNCIL OF KENYA MUSLIM



INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION IN DEMOCRACY

"Peaceful Positive Change"



LEGAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION
Haki Itwale

