

# Electoral timeline

Significant dates surrounding the Electoral College and election of the next U.S. president:

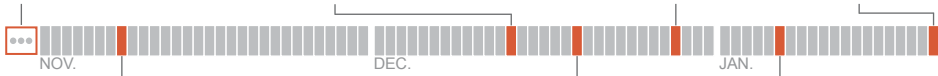
## Before election day:

Political parties in each state select slates of potential electors.

**Dec. 13:** Deadline for states to make decisions on any controversies related to appointment of electors.

**Dec. 28:** State and federal officials, including the president of the Senate and archivist of the U.S., must have the certificates of vote in hand.

**Jan. 20:** Inauguration Day. The new president and vice president are sworn into office.



**Nov. 8:** Election Day. Voters casting ballots for president and vice president are in fact picking electors for their chosen candidates.



**Dec. 19:** Electors meet in their states to vote for president and vice president. The documents, known as “certificates of vote,” are packaged and sent to state and federal officials.

**Jan. 6:** Congress meets in a joint session to count the electoral votes. As president of the Senate, vice president **Joe Biden** presides, announcing the results.

