

A close-up, vertical view of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The flag is draped and folded, with the blue field of stars at the top and the red and white stripes below. The texture of the fabric is visible.

State of Illinois

2026 CANDIDATE'S GUIDE

Issued by the
Illinois State Board of Elections

Amended on 8/5/2025



AMENDMENTS

Date	Revised Page Number	Change Made
7/2/2025	N/A	Original Issue Date
7/7/2025	32	Added State Senate districts not on the 2026 election ballot unless a vacancy in office occurs
7/7/2025	34	Maximum signature requirement added to Independent column and removed from New Party column
7/7/2025	42	Subcircuits SBE Form P-16A added
7/7/2025	71	Districts elected to 2-year terms and 4-year terms corrected
7/10/2025	59	Signature requirements corrected
7/10/2025	35	Minimum signature requirement for District 36 Independent and New Party corrected
7/10/2025	36	Maximum signature requirement District 86 updated
7/10/2025	28	Maximum signature requirement for District 4 Independent updated
7/31/2025	53	Updated State Central Committee persons Gender Declaration Form link
8/5/2025	70	Updated term begins date

PREFACE

THE 2026 CANDIDATE'S GUIDE

This Candidate's Guide has been prepared to provide information for candidates seeking office in 2026. Information is provided regarding nomination procedures and the objection process. A signature requirements section is included with each specific office in this guide. Answers to some of the more frequently asked questions about nominating petitions and procedures can be found on [page 75](#).

All citations contained in this guide refer to the Illinois Election Code (10 ILCS 5/1-1 *et seq.*, as amended) or as otherwise indicated. This guide may be amended to include new legislation and court decisions as they arise. Please visit the Illinois State Board of Elections' website (www.elections.il.gov) for any updates

Legal information contained in this guide is not binding and should not be construed as legal advice or sufficient argument in response to an objection to any candidate's nominating papers. The State Board of Elections recommends that all prospective candidates consult with competent legal counsel when preparing their nomination papers.

Statutory deadlines for filing objections and for withdrawing from all but one incompatible office will depend on the filing period. Specific deadline dates can be found in the SBE Election and Campaign Finance Calendar for 2026 located on the [publications](#) page under "Election Guides." The calendar, this guide, and filing date announcements can be found on the State Board of Elections' [website](#).

Additional information may be obtained by contacting your election authority or the State Board of Elections.

APPARENT CONFORMITY

The State Board of Elections conducts an "apparent conformity" review of all nominating petitions filed therewith. The review will take place after a petition is filed and will be limited to determining the following:

(1) whether a signed Statement of Candidacy has been filed, and (2) whether the filed nominating sheets contain gross signatures equal to or exceeding 10% of the minimum number of signatures required for the office sought.

All candidates whose petitions fail the apparent conformity review will be notified in writing and given the opportunity to appear before the State Board of Elections at its first meeting after the petition filing deadline to show good cause why the petition should not be rejected on the basis of non-conformity.

Please note, SBE employees are not available during filing periods to notarize documents.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The State Board of Elections also produces additional guides that can be helpful when preparing to run for office. [The Election and Campaign Finance Calendar](#) lists more specific dates and deadlines to follow, and the [County Officials book and Federal and State Officers book](#), located on the [publications](#) page under "Directory of Officials," have relevant contact information for elected officials. On our website under the [Campaign Disclosure](#) tab, you can find information regarding campaign disclosure and tutorials on the financial filing process.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Illinois State Board of Elections – Springfield Office
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Springfield, Illinois 62704
Phone: (217) 782-4141
Fax: (217) 782-5959

Illinois State Board of Elections – Chicago Office
69 West Washington Street, Pedway LL-08
Chicago, Illinois 60602
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GLOSSARY

BUSINESS DAY

Any day in which the office of an election authority, local election official, or the State Board of Elections is open to the public for a minimum of seven hours. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(22))

Note: If the first or last day fixed by law to do any act required or allowed by the Election Code falls on a State holiday or a Saturday or a Sunday, the period shall extend through the first business day next following the day otherwise fixed as the first or last day, irrespective of whether any election authority or local election official conducts business on the State holiday, Saturday, or Sunday. (10 ILCS 5/1-6(a))

If the final day to complete any act provided by required or allowed by a statute other than the Election Code falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or State holiday, then the date shall be extended to the next business day. For the purposes of this Section, "State holiday" means New Year's Day, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday, President's Day, Casimir Pulaski's Birthday, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Freedom Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. (5 ILCS 70- 1.11, 10 ILCS 5/1-6(b))

CALL

A notice to members of the electoral board, the objector, and the candidate (or proponent of the referendum) of the time and place that the electoral board will convene to begin the hearing on the objection. (10 ILCS 5/10-10)

DISTRICT

Any area which votes as a unit for the election of any officer, other than the State or a unit of local government or school district, including but not limited to: legislative, representative, congressional and judicial districts, judicial circuits, county board districts, municipal and sanitary district wards, school board districts, and precincts. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(14))

ELECTION AUTHORITY

The county clerk or the board of election commissioners. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(8))

ELECTION JURISDICTION

- a) An entire county, in the case of a county in which no city board of election commissioners is located or which is under the jurisdiction of a county board of election commissioners;
- b) The territorial jurisdiction of a city board of election commissioners; and
- c) The territory in a county outside of the jurisdiction of a city board of election commissioners.

In each instance, election jurisdiction shall be determined according to which election authority maintains the permanent registration records of qualified electors. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(9))

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY

A political party which at the last election received more than 5% of the entire vote cast in the district, political subdivision, or State. (10 ILCS 5/7-2)

For more information on established political parties, see [page 17](#).

LEADING POLITICAL PARTY

One of the two political parties whose candidates for governor at the most recent three gubernatorial elections received either the highest or second highest average number of votes. The political party whose candidates for governor received the highest average number of votes shall be known as the first leading political party and the political party whose candidates for governor received the second highest average number of votes shall be known as the second leading political party. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(21))

NEW POLITICAL PARTY

A party other than an established party, initially formed by way of a candidate petition filed under the provisions of Article 10 of the Election Code running for political office under this new party appellation. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For more information on new political parties, see [page 18](#).

NOTARY

Any individual appointed and commissioned to perform notarial acts. A notarial act is any act that a notary is authorized to perform and includes taking an acknowledgement, administering an oath or affirmation, taking a verification upon oath or affirmation, and witnessing or attesting a signature. (5 ILCS 312/1-104, 6-101(a))

POLITICAL SLOGAN

Any word or words expressing or connoting a position, opinion, or belief that the candidate may promote, including but not limited to, any word or words conveying any meaning other than that of the personal identity of the candidate. (10 ILCS 5/7-17(b), 16-3(e))

POLITICAL OR GOVERNMENTAL SUBDIVISION

Any unit of local government or school district in which elections are or may be held. For election purposes, this includes Regional Boards of School Trustees and Township Boards of School Trustees. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(6))

REGISTERED VOTERS OF THE STATE, POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, OR DISTRICT

The number of voters who are registered in the state, political subdivision or district, as the case may be, on the date registration closed before the regular election next preceding the last day on which such petition may be filed. (10 ILCS 5/3-1.3)

VOTER

For the purpose of this publication, unless stated otherwise, voter is used in the context of determining one's eligibility to sign a nominating petition or petition proposing a public question. In this context, "voter" shall mean a person who is registered to vote at the address shown opposite their signature on the petition or was registered at such address when they signed the petition. The terms "voter," "registered voter," "qualified voter," "legal voter," "elector," "qualified elector," "primary elector" and "qualified primary elector" all carry this same meaning. (10 ILCS 5/3-1.2)

GENERAL PRIMARY
MARCH 17, 2026

Third Tuesday in March
(10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1(a))

GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 3, 2026

First Tuesday after first Monday in November
(10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1(a))

OFFICERS NOMINATED AT THE PRIMARY & ELECTED AT THE GENERAL ELECTION (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2)	
United States Senator	County Clerks
Governor/Lieutenant Governor	County Treasurers
Attorney General	County Sheriff
Secretary of State	County Assessors
State Comptroller	Members of Boards of Review (in counties with elected Boards), Cook County Board of Review Commissioners/Board of Assessors
State Treasurer	Regional Superintendent of Schools
Representatives in Congress: All districts	County Commissioners (not under township organization), and the President of the County Board of Cook County
State Senators: Districts 2,3,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15,17,18,20,21,23,24,26,27,29,30,32,33,35,36,38,39,41,42,44,45,47,48,50,51,53,54,56,57,59	County Board Members (under township organization)
Representatives in the General Assembly: All districts	Sanitary District Commissioners and Trustees
Judges: Supreme Court, Appellate Court, Circuit Court, Resident Circuit Court, Subcircuits. Vacancies will be filled if required, all judges seeking retention will appear on the ballot at the General Election, and additional judgeships, if required.	Board Member, Board of Education, Chicago Board of Education – Board Members and President
	Forest Preserve District Commissioners and President

OFFICERS ELECTED AT THE PRIMARY (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(b)(2))	
State Central Committeepersons (Democratic party only, -two committeepersons of different genders per district; Republican State Central Committeepersons are elected at the County Conventions)	
Township Committeepersons (Cook County)	Precinct Committeepersons (all counties except Cook)
School Boards Under Article 33 – City of Peoria Only	

ANNUAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Municipal Primary (if required): February 3, 2026

Municipal General Election: March 17, 2026

Contact the county clerk, board of election commissioners, or municipal clerk for filing information. (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(b)(3))

CANDIDATE FILING PERIODS

Federal, State, and County

	FILING PERIOD	PETITION CIRCULATION
Established Political Parties	October 27 – November 3, 2025 (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12(1), 8-8, 8-9)	August 5, 2025
Special Judicial Filing Period	November 17 – November 24, 2025 (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1)) <i>For Supreme, Appellate, and Circuit Court judges when a vacancy occurs between the three week filing period prior to the filing deadline, October 13 – November 3, 2025.</i>	
New Political Parties and Independents	May 18 – May 26, 2026 (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6)	February 25, 2026

Municipal

	FILING PERIOD	PETITION CIRCULATION
Nonpartisan	September 15 – September 22, 2025 (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6(5))	June 24, 2025
Established Political Parties	October 27 – November 3, 2025 (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6(3))	August 5, 2025

School Boards Under Article 33 – City of Peoria Only

	FILING PERIOD	PETITION CIRCULATION
Nonpartisan	September 29 – October 6, 2025	July 8, 2025

Districts Under Sanitary District Act of 1936

	FILING PERIOD	PETITION CIRCULATION
Nonpartisan	May 18 – May 26, 2026 (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6)	February 24, 2026

CANDIDATE CHECKLIST

- ☐ Meet **residency, age, and other qualifications** for the specific office
- ☐ File paperwork with the **SBE Campaign Disclosure division** or the **Federal Election Commission** regarding finances (if needed)
- ☐ File a notarized **Statement of Candidacy** including (but not limited to):
 - Your name
 - Your address
 - Office sought
 - Party
 - Office location (for example, the district or county)
 - Date of the election
- ☐ File a **Statement of Economic Interests with the Secretary of State (or proper filing entity) and receipt of filing with the State Board of Elections (or proper filing entity)** (does not apply to federal offices or political party offices). The State Board of Elections will not accept Statements of Economic Interests.
- ☐ File a **Loyalty Oath** (optional)
- ☐ File a **Code of Fair Campaign Practices** (optional)
- ☐ File notarized **petition sheets** with the required number of signatures, numbered consecutively starting with the number "1"

- ☐ Include **Certificate of Deletions** with petitions, numbered consecutively starting with the number “1” (if applicable)
- ☐ Fill out **data entry card** (for people who file with the State Board of Elections) and place on top of nominating petition packet (does not need to be attached to the nominating packet)
- ☐ **File with the appropriate** election authority (see specific office in this guide for details)
- ☐ **Waiver of Service/Appearance**

Note: This checklist is not binding and should not be construed as sufficient argument in response to any objection or legal argument. If you have further questions, you may contact the Division of Election Operations at the State Board of Elections or your legal counsel.

FILING FOR OFFICE

GENERAL FILING INFORMATION

OBTAIN LEGAL COUNSEL

Candidates are strongly advised to obtain competent legal counsel regarding their legal qualifications for office, the proper method for completing the petition forms with respect to the office sought, the minimum and maximum number of signatures required, the qualifications of signers and circulators, and other information required for the candidate to appear on a ballot in Illinois.

FORMAT OF NOMINATION PAPERWORK

Election laws prescribe the general format to be submitted when seeking nomination to office. The State Board of Elections ("SBE") has prepared suggested forms for petitions, statements of candidacy, and other applicable forms. The official SBE form number to be used is included under each office in this guide. The forms can be downloaded by clicking on the link or they may be obtained from your election authority. You may also purchase forms from election supply vendors.

FILING NOMINATING PAPERWORK

Nominating papers may be filed by mail or in person, either by the candidate or an agent of the candidate.

Filings must be made within the appropriate filing period as listed on [page 4](#).

The location of where paperwork shall be filed is included under each office in this guide.

Filings must be received no earlier than 8:00 AM, or the normal opening hour of the office indicated within this guide, on the first day of the filing period and no later than 5:00 PM, or the close of business of the same office whichever is later, on the last day of that filing period. *Welsh v. Education Officers Electoral Board*, 322 Ill. App. 3d 568, 750 N.E. 2d 222 (1st Dist. 2001) (10 ILCS 5/1-4(a), 7-12(6), 10-6.2) Filings received outside of this time period are not considered timely.

NOTE: The SBE **will not** accept any petition(s) for filing after 5:00 PM on the last day of the filing period. This applies to any individual(s) waiting in line as of the 5:00 PM deadline who have not yet filed their petition(s). (26 Ill. Adm. Code § 201.10, 202.10).

See the individual office page for more specific details on where to file nomination papers. These begin on page 26.

PETITIONS SENT IN BY MAIL

Nomination papers may be filed with the proper filing entity by mail. Those sent by mail (United States Post Office only) and received after midnight of the first day for filing, and in the first U.S. Postal Service delivery of that day, shall be deemed filed as of 8:00 AM or as of the normal opening hour of such day for purposes of the ballot placement lottery. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6); 26 Ill. Adm. Code § 201.20(a), 202.20(a)). Candidates who file by mail with the SBE, and who wish to qualify for the lottery, must mail petitions to the Springfield office at 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704. Nominating petitions received through other delivery methods (such as UPS and FedEx) are not considered "mail" and will not be included in the lottery. **It is important to note that petitions received before the first day of filing cannot be accepted and will be returned to the candidate.** (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9, 10-6.2)

BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY

Two or more petitions received simultaneously for candidates as of the opening hour of the filing period, and petitions received in the first mail delivery of the first filing day, are included in the lottery drawing to determine the first ballot position.

Two or more petitions filed within the last hour of the filing deadline, between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM on the last filing day, shall be deemed filed simultaneously and are included in the lottery drawing to determine the final ballot position.

All other petitions are placed on the ballot in the order they are filed.

The lottery is held within nine days following the last day to file petitions. For further information on the lottery process, [page 24](#). (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9, 10-6.2; 26 Ill. Adm. Code §201.40, 202.40)

MULTIPLE FILINGS OF NOMINATION PAPERS

If multiple sets of nomination papers are filed for a candidate for the same office, the SBE, appropriate election authority, or local election official where the petitions are filed shall, within two business days, notify the candidate of the multiple petition filings and that the candidate has **three business days after receipt of the notice** to notify the appropriate filing authority that the prior set of petitions may be canceled.

If the candidate notifies the proper filing authority, the last set of petitions filed shall be the only petitions to be considered valid. If the candidate **fails** to notify the proper filing authority, only the first set of petitions filed shall be valid and all subsequent petitions shall be void. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(11), 8-9(4), 10-6.2)

NOTE: If petitions for nomination have been filed for the same person for more than one political party, the candidate's name shall not be certified for the primary ballot for any party. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9))

INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES

Incompatible offices are those where the same person cannot serve in both simultaneously. If petitions for nomination have been filed for the same person for two or more incompatible offices, that person must withdraw as a candidate from all but one of such offices **within five business days** following the last day for petition filing. If petitions are filed for the same person

CANDIDATES MUST FILE AS:

- A candidate of an established political party;
- A candidate of a new political party;
- An independent candidate; or
- A nonpartisan candidate (certain sanitary districts, school boards, and nonpartisan municipalities).

CANDIDATES MUST FILE:

- Statement of Candidacy
- **Receipt** from filing a Statement of Economic Interests (not required for federal or political party offices – see page 13)
- Nominating petitions containing a sufficient number of original signatures
- Certificate of officers authorized to fill vacancies (for new political parties) (10 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-11)

*The SBE has provided signature requirements for each office in this guide for offices that file with the SBE. For candidates that file with a different election authority or local election official, contact the appropriate filing office for specific signature requirements.

for more than one political party, the candidate shall not be certified nor printed on the primary ballot of any party. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9), 8-9, 10-7).

Judicial candidates at the circuit court level are limited to filing a petition for one circuit court vacancy and/or a petition for one subcircuit vacancy in any filing period. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9))

NOTE: When a candidate withdraws their nomination papers, the original petition is not returned to the individual, but remains in the office of either the State Board of Elections, the election authority, or local election official in which they filed. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4) Copies are available upon request.

The Office of the Illinois Attorney General has issued a number of opinions on incompatibility of offices. For questions concerning the same, contact the [Opinions Bureau](#) of the Attorney General's office at (217) 782-9070.

OBJECTIONS

A candidate's nomination papers may be challenged by the filing of an objection. The deadline for filing objections is five business days after the last day of the filing period. Objections to all nominating papers are heard by the proper electoral board as designated in the Election Code and decisions of the electoral board are subject to judicial review. (10 ILCS 5/10-8 through 10-10.1) See [page 22](#) for more detailed information on objections.

NOMINATION PAPERWORK & FORMATTING

COMPLETING A STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

Each candidate, whether an individual candidate or one whose name appears on a slate or certificate of nomination, must complete and file a Statement of Candidacy. The form of the candidate's name, as printed and signed, should match the name as printed on the petition. The address of the candidate, the office which the candidate is running for, the political party designation, if applicable, and statements that the person is qualified for the office specified should also match the information that is printed on the petition. See each individual office in this guide for the correct SBE suggested Statement of Candidacy form.

The candidate must swear to or affirm the truthfulness of the statements within the Statement of Candidacy, sign the Statement of Candidacy, and have the statement notarized. The Statement of Candidacy must accompany the nomination papers and should be attached at the beginning of the packet. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

PREPARING PETITION SHEETS

The petition signature sheets must be original, all one uniform size, and numbered consecutively, beginning with the top petition signature sheet as the number "1." The Statement of Candidacy, receipt for filing the Statement of Economic Interests, and optional filings (Loyalty Oath, Code of Fair Campaign Practices statement), should be attached to the petition sheets -- preferably on top. These forms do not need to be of uniform size to the petition sheets nor be numbered. The petition signature sheets must be neatly fastened together in book form at one edge in a secure and suitable manner (paperclips, clipboards, etc., are not secure ways to fasten petitions and those bound in this manner will not be accepted by the State Board of Elections). The petitions must contain the original signatures of the voters and the

original signature of the circulator, and shall not be photocopies or duplicates of such sheets.
(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

NOTE: Once the petition has been filed it cannot be modified, altered, or added to in any way. The only exception to this is adding the receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests, which must be filed no later than 5:00 PM for the State Board of Elections filers, or the close of business for other offices, on the last day to file nomination papers. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12, 8-8, 10-4, 10-5)

The heading of the nomination petition pages must include information relative to the election, the candidate, the office, political party (when applicable), and the candidate's place of residence. The headings on any particular page must be completed prior to the circulation of that petition sheet and the heading on each sheet shall be the same. **The State Board of Elections will certify each candidate's information as it appears on the first numbered page of the petition;** however, other election authorities may follow a different policy in regard to petition filing. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

NAMES ON PETITION SHEETS AND STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

The candidate's name should appear in exactly the same form on the petition sheet, Statement of Candidacy, and Loyalty Oath. The SBE will certify each candidate's name as it appears on the first numbered page of the petition (other election authorities may follow a different policy with regards to petitions filed with their offices). A candidate's failure to match their name on the petition to their name on the Statement of Candidacy can result in the candidate not being certified for the ballot.

NOTE: Petitions of candidates for specified offices, which are to be filed with the same officer (i.e. slate of candidates), may contain the names of two or more candidates of the same political party for the same or different offices; however, each candidate must submit their own Statement of Candidacy, receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests, and optional Loyalty Oath. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)

USING A NICKNAME OR OTHER TITLES ON FORMS

The candidate's given name(s), initial(s), nickname by which the candidate is commonly known, or a combination thereof may be used in addition to the candidate's surname. No other designation such as a title, degree or nickname suggesting or implying possession of a title, degree or professional status, or similar information may be used in

OPTIONAL FILINGS:

Loyalty Oath: The filing of the Loyalty Oath is optional. The following court cases have held that the requirement for filing the Loyalty Oath is unconstitutional: Communist Party of Indiana v. Witcomb, 414 U.S. 441 (1974); Communist Party of Illinois v. Ogilvie, 357 F. Supp. 105 (N.D. Ill. 1972); Socialist Workers Party v. Ogilvie, 357 F. Supp. 109 (N.D. Ill. 1972).

Code of Fair Campaign Practices: Candidates and committees are urged to abide by the provisions for campaigning outlined in the Code of Fair Campaign Practices. This is a voluntary statement made and filed prior to an election vowing that the candidate making the statement will conduct a positive, rather than negative, campaign. If a candidate or committee chooses to make such a statement, it shall be filed with the county clerk if the candidate is a local candidate or committee, or the State Board of Elections for offices that file within. (10 ILCS 5/29B-5 *et seq.*)

connection with the candidate's surname. Also, a candidate may not use a political slogan as part of their name on the ballot, notwithstanding that the political slogan may be part of the candidate's name. (10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, 7-17(b), 8-8.1, 10-5.1, 16-3(e))

NOTE: The State Board of Elections, election authority, or local election official shall not certify any candidate name designation that is inconsistent with these provisions. (10 ILCS 5/7-17(c), 8-8.1, 16-3(f))

CANDIDATE LEGAL NAME CHANGE*

If a candidate has changed their name, whether by a statutory or common law procedure in Illinois or any other jurisdiction within three years before the last day for filing the petition or certificate for that office, whichever is applicable, then the following must ensue:

- 1) The candidate's name on the petition or certificate must be followed by "formerly known as (list all prior names during the three year period) until name changed on (list date of each name change)";
- 2) The petition or certificate must be accompanied by the candidate's affidavit stating the candidate's previous names during the specified period; and,
- 3) The date(s) each of those name(s) were changed.

Failure to meet these requirements shall be grounds for denying certification of the candidate's name for the ballot or removing the candidate's name from the ballot, as appropriate.

***NOTE:** these requirements **do not** apply to name changes resulting from adoption to assume an adoptive parent's or parents' surname, marriage or civil union to assume a spouse's surname, or dissolution of marriage or civil union or declaration of invalidity of marriage or civil union to assume a former surname, or a name change that conforms the candidate's name to their gender identity. (10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, 7-17(b)-(c), 8-8.1, 10-5.1, 16.3(e)-(f))

SIGNING AND CIRCULATING PETITIONS

PETITION CIRCULATOR REQUIREMENTS

- Must be at least 18 years of age or will be 18 by the date of the upcoming general election; and,
- A citizen of the United States (can be from outside of the district, county, or state).

The circulator must personally witness all signatures given and sign the required circulator's statement affirming that all signatures were given in their presence. No one may be considered a circulator of any petition page except the person who signs the circulator's statement. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

Petition sheets **must not** be circulated more than 90 days prior to the last day for the filing of the petitions. The circulator's statement on a candidate's petition sheet must specify either the dates on which the sheet were circulated, the first and last dates on which the sheet was circulated, or that none of the signatures on the sheet were signed more than 90 days preceding the last day for filing the petitions. See [page 4](#) for dates when candidates may start circulating petition sheets. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

NOTE: Blank nomination petitions may be reproduced prior to circulation. The signatures of the signers, circulator, and the notary public must be original. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

CIRCULATOR'S STATEMENT

A petition circulator must complete the circulator's statement at the bottom of each petition sheet certifying their address, age, citizenship information, and that the signatures on that sheet were signed in their presence. They must certify that the signatures are genuine and, to the best of their knowledge, that the persons signing were duly registered voters of the political subdivision for which the candidate or candidates shall be nominated, or elected, and that their respective registration addresses are correctly stated therein. This statement shall be sworn to and signed by a notary. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

Petition circulators shall indicate on such petition their residence address (written or printed) including the street address or rural route number, as well as the county, city, village or town, and state. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

SIGNING A PETITION

A signer must sign their own signature on the petition, meaning they cannot sign for someone else, such as a spouse, family member, or other person in the household. Signers must also be registered voters in the political subdivision in which the candidate is seeking nomination or election. (10 ILCS 5/3-1.2, 7-10, 8-8, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4) Petition signers shall indicate on such petition their residence address (written or printed) including the street address or rural route number, as well as their city, village or town, county, and state. The state, county, city, village and town of residence may be pre-printed on the petition form when all of the electors signing the petition form reside therein. Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the residence address. A petition signer must be a registered voter from the address shown opposite their signature on the petition. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4)

NOTE: A petition signer may change party affiliation from one election to another. *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51 (1973); *Sperling v. County Officers Electoral Board*, 57 Ill. 2d 81, 309 N.E. 2d 589 (Ill. 1974)

STRIKING SIGNATURES FROM A PETITION

Signatures may be struck from a petition by the circulator or the candidate prior to filing the petition. **All** of the following requirements are necessary to affect a valid striking of any signature:

- The person striking the signature must initial the petition at the place where the signature is struck;

CIRCULATING RESTRICTIONS:

- A circulator may not circulate petitions for **more than one** political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4); *Schober v. Young*, 322 Ill. App. 3d 996, 751 N.E.2d 610 (4th Dist. 2001)
- A circulator may not circulate petitions for an independent candidate(s) **in addition to** candidates for a new political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)
- A circulator may not circulate petitions for **more than one new** political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)
- A circulator may not circulate petitions for an established party **and** an independent or new party candidate. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

SIGNING RESTRICTIONS:

- A signer **may not** sign petitions for a candidate of **more than one** political party for the same election. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)
- A signer **may** sign petitions of one established political party for a primary election **and** one new political party or independent candidate for the following general election. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)
- A signer **may** sign petitions of as many candidates of the same political party as desired.*

*This differs for Nonpartisan/Independent candidates. The number of seats to be elected is the number of petitions that a voter can sign.

- The person striking the signature must sign a certification (such as [SBE Form P-2A](#)) listing the page number and line number of each signature struck from the petition, which is to be filed as a part of the petition; and,
- The person striking signatures from independent candidate petitions must sign an additional certificate ([SBE Form P-2B](#)) specifying the number of certification pages listing stricken signatures, which are attached to the petition, and the page numbers indicated on such certifications. This additional certificate must be filed as part of the petition, shall be numbered, and shall be attached immediately following the last page of voters' signatures and before the certifications of stricken signatures.

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-3)

COMPUTING SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

When figuring signature requirements, the number of primary electors is determined as follows:

- In a **district**: total votes cast for the candidate for such political party who received the highest number of votes, Statewide, at the last general election in the State at which electors for President of the United States were elected. For the 2026 Election Cycle, calculations should be based on results from the 2024 General Election.
- In a **political subdivision**: total votes cast for the candidate for such political party who received the highest number of votes in such political subdivision at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that subdivision. For the 2026 election cycle, calculations should be based on results from the 2024 General Election.
- In **wards or districts of political subdivisions**: total votes cast for the candidate for that political party who received the highest number of votes in the ward or district at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that ward or district. For the 2026 election cycle, calculations could be based on the 2022 or 2024 election cycle.

(10 ILCS 5/7-10)

NOTE: Signature calculations can be found with each office in this guide for offices that file with the State Board of Elections. For offices that do not file with the SBE, signature requirement information has been provided, but the candidate will need to contact the election authority to determine the exact signature calculations for that office.

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS FORM AND RECEIPT

OBTAINING A STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS FORM

Candidates filing a petition with the State Board of Elections may obtain a Statement of Economic Interests form from the State Board of Elections or from the [Index Division](#) of the Office of the Secretary of State. Candidates filing with the county or local election official may obtain Statement of Economic Interests forms from the county clerk's office.

FILING THE FORM

For candidates that file petitions with the State Board of Elections, a completed Statement of Economic Interests **form** must be filed with the Index Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, 111 East Monroe, Springfield, IL 62756. For candidates filing with another election authority, the Statement of Economic Interests may be filed with the county clerk

in the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. For more information on filing the form, contact the election authority or the Secretary of State's Index Division at (217) 782-7017 or (312) 814-8218. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106)

EXCEPTION: The Illinois Statement of Economic Interests disclosure is not required for candidacy in federal or party offices.

FILING THE RECEIPT

Each candidate must file a **receipt** indicating that they have filed a Statement of Economic Interests as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12(8), 8-8, 10-5; 5 ILCS 420/1-101 *et seq.*)

EXCEPTION: The receipt is not required if the Statement of Economic Interests is filed with the same officer with which the nominating papers are filed (e.g. county officers). (10 ILCS 5/7-12(8))

Candidates are advised to file their receipt at the same time they file their nominating petitions. While the receipt does not need to accompany the nominating petitions at the time of filing, it must be filed not later than 5:00 PM for the State Board of Elections, or the close of business for other offices, on the last day to file nomination papers.

NOTE: The date and time at which a nominating petition was filed is not changed when the Statement of Economic Interests receipt is filed at another time during the filing period. (10 ILCS 5/7-12, 10-5)

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

NOTICE OF OBLIGATION

The official with whom nomination papers are filed must provide to each candidate a notice of obligation to comply with the Illinois Campaign Financing Act at the time they file nomination papers. If a candidate files their nomination papers by mail, or an agent of the candidate files the nomination papers, the clerk or secretary with whom the petitions were filed will send the notice to the candidate by first class mail. The notice will state that the manual of instructions and forms for statements required to be filed under Article 9 of the Election Code are available from the State Board of Elections. Forms may also be downloaded from the SBE's [website](#). (10 ILCS 5/7-12(7), 9-16, 10-6.1)

WHO IS REQUIRED TO FILE WITH THE SBE?

Candidates, groups, or individuals who raise or spend more than \$5,000 in any 12-month period in support of or in opposition to a candidate, question of public policy, or for electioneering communication generally must file paperwork to create a political committee with the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/9-3) Once created, political committees must then file disclosure reports with the Board, detailing the money they raise and spend. This filing obligation continues until a committee ceases operations, disposes of any remaining assets and files an acceptable "Final Report" with the Board – even if the committee has not raised money or made any contributions within a filing period. (10 ILCS 5/9-5, 9-10)

NOTE: Electioneering communication is defined as any broadcast, cable, or satellite communication, including radio, TV or internet communication, that refers to a clearly identified candidate, political party or question of public policy that will appear on the ballot, is made within the 60 days before a general or consolidated election, or 30 days before a primary election, is targeted to the relevant electorate, and is clearly an appeal to vote for or against the candidate, party or question. Electioneering communication does not include communications by Section 501(c)(3) organizations, exclusively between labor unions and their members or Section 501(c)(6) organizations and their members. (10 ILCS 5/9-1.14(a))

Any entity other than a natural person who spends more than \$5,000 during a 12-month period on independent expenditures, or other expenditures supporting or opposing a candidate, must organize as a political committee and file disclosure reports with the Board. Individuals who spend more than \$3,000 during any 12-month period on independent expenditures supporting or opposing a particular candidate are required to file a special written disclosure with the Board. This disclosure, which must be filed within two business days of exceeding the \$3,000 threshold, gives information about the person making the independent expenditure as well as the dates, amounts and nature of the spending. Once the threshold is reached, the individual is required to report additional independent expenditures made in connection with the same election, in \$1,000 increments, until the conclusion of the election. (10 ILCS 5/9-8.6)

NOTE: "Independent expenditure" means any payment, gift, donation, or expenditure of funds (i) by a natural person or political committee for the purpose of making electioneering communications or of expressly advocating for or against the nomination for election, election, retention, or defeat of a clearly identifiable public official or candidate or for or against any question of public policy to be submitted to the voters and (ii) that is not made in connection, consultation, or concert with or at the request or suggestion of the public official or candidate, the public official's or candidate's designated political committee or campaign, or the agent or agents of the public official, candidate, or political committee or campaign. (10 ILCS 5/9-1.15)

INFLUENCING VOTERS WITH PUBLIC FUNDS

No public funds shall be used to urge any elector to vote for or against any candidate or proposition, or be appropriated for political or campaign purposes to any candidate or political organization. This provision shall not prohibit the use of public funds for dissemination of factual information relative to any proposition appearing on an election ballot, or for dissemination of information and arguments published and distributed pursuant to law in connection with a proposition to amend the Constitution of the State of Illinois. (10 ILCS 5/9-25.1(b))

FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT

Candidates and committees are urged to abide by the provisions for campaigning outlined in the Fair Campaign Practices Act. This is a voluntary statement made and filed prior to an election, vowing that the candidate making the statement will conduct a positive, rather than a negative, campaign. Filling out and filing the “Code of Fair Campaign Practices” is voluntary. (10 ILCS 5/29B-5 and B-10)

The State Board of Elections shall accept, at all times prior to an election, all completed copies of the Code of Fair Campaign Practices that are properly subscribed to by a candidate or the chair of a political committee in support of or opposition to a question of public policy. The SBE will retain these completed copies for public inspection until 30 days after the election. (10 ILCS 5/29B-20)

MORE ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

For more information on filing reports, campaign finance questions, and committee related questions, click [here](#) for frequently asked questions on campaign disclosure. If you have further questions, visit the Campaign Disclosure section of our [website](#) or contact our office to speak to a member of our Campaign Disclosure staff.

TYPES OF CANDIDATES

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES

WHAT DEFINES AN ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY STATEWIDE?

A political party which at the last general election for State and county offices polled for its candidate for Governor more than 5% of the entire vote cast for Governor, is an “established political party” as to the State and as to any district or political subdivision thereof. If any other Statewide candidates of such political party polled more than 5% of the entire vote cast for the office for which they were running, then such political party shall be an “established political party” in the State, but not as to any district or political subdivision within the State. (10 ILCS 5/7-2, 10-2)

For example, if a Governor for the “Imaginary” party received more than 5% of the entire votes cast for Governor in Illinois, the “Imaginary” party would be an established political party throughout the entire State and for every office running established party candidates. If the Attorney General for the “Imaginary” party received more than 5% of the entire votes cast for Attorney General, the “Imaginary” party would only be an established political party for Statewide offices and not for any district offices, such as State Representative or State Senator.

NOTE: For the 2026 elections, the only Statewide established political parties in Illinois are the Democratic Party and the Republican Party.

WHAT DEFINES AN ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY WITHIN THE JURISDICTION?

A political party which at the last election in any congressional district, legislative district, county, township, municipality, political subdivision, or district in the State polled more than 5% of the entire vote cast within such territorial area or political subdivision, as the case may be and has voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve the respective territorial area of such district or political subdivision, is an “established political party” within that district or political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For example, if a candidate of the “Imaginary” party for Treasurer in “County #1” received more than 5% of the entire votes cast in the county in 2024, the “Imaginary” party would be an established political party in just “County #1” in 2026.

FILING PARTISAN IN THE PRIMARY & BEING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

A candidate for whom a nomination paper has been filed as a partisan candidate at a primary election and who is defeated for nomination is prohibited from being listed on the ballot as an independent candidate or as a candidate of another political party and may not file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at that general election. (10 ILCS 5/7-43, 7-61, 10-3, 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

NEW POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES

WHAT DEFINES A NEW POLITICAL PARTY?

A new political party is created when nomination papers are filed for a new political group within the State, a specific district, or within a specific political subdivision. If the new party receives more than 5% of the total votes cast at the general election for Governor, it then becomes an established political party as to the State and as to any district or political subdivision thereof. (10 ILCS 5/7-2, 10-2) See “What Defines an Established Political Party Statewide” and “What Defines an Established Political Party within the Jurisdiction” above for further information.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY NAME

The name of the new political party cannot contain more than five words. The new party name cannot bear the same name or include the name of any established political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-2, 10-5(2))

CANDIDATES SEEKING ELECTION FROM DISTRICTS & AT-LARGE

When a petition to form a new political party is filed within a political subdivision for which officers are elected from districts and at-large, such petition shall consist of separate components for each district from which an officer is to be elected (e.g. District A, District B, or at-large) (see [SBE Form P-8B](#)). Each component shall be circulated only within the district of the political subdivision and signed only by qualified electors who are residents of that district. Each sheet of such petition must contain a complete list of the names of the candidates of the party for all offices to be filled in the political subdivision at-large, but the sheets comprising each component shall also contain the names of those candidates to be elected from the particular district.

Each component of the petition for each district from which an officer is to be elected must be signed by qualified voters of the district equaling not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such district at which officers were elected to serve the district. The entire petition, including all components, must be signed by a total of qualified voters of the entire political subdivision equaling in number not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such political subdivision at which an officer was elected to serve the political subdivision at-large.

(10 ILCS 5/10-2)

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICERS FORM

In addition to the candidate’s nomination papers for a new political party, the candidate’s paperwork must include a Certificate of Officers ([SBE Form P-8C](#)) listing the names and addresses of the new party officers authorized to fill vacancies in nomination. **Failure to file this certificate may result in the party forfeiting the right to fill vacancies in nomination, but will not invalidate the petition.** (10 ILCS 5/10-5 and 11); see *Peoples Independent Party v. Petroff*, 191 Ill. App. 3d 706, 548 N.E.2d 145 (5th Dist. 1989).

NOTE: If a new political party is invalidated in its entirety by an electoral board or upon judicial review, the new party officers cannot replace the entire slate of candidates on the pretext of filling vacancies in nomination. (10 ILCS 5/10-7); *People ex. Rel. Vigilant Party v. Village of Dolton*, 118 Ill. App. 2d 392, 254 N.E.2d 832 (1st Dist. 1969).

NOMINATION PAPERWORK

Petitions for new political party candidates **must** include the following:

- a) Statement of Candidacy for each candidate
- b) Receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests for each candidate. The receipt may be filed at a later date than the rest of the required paperwork, but it must be filed prior to the filing deadline
- c) Certificate stating the names and addresses of the party officers authorized to fill vacancies in nomination.

EXCEPTION: The Illinois Statement of Economic Interests disclosure is not required for candidacy in federal or party offices.

(10 ILCS 5/10-5)

Petitions **may** also include the Loyalty Oath, which is optional.

The party must nominate one candidate for each office to be filled within the political subdivision at the general election (also known as the full-slate requirement). In the case of a group of offices, the number of candidates nominated must equal the number of positions being elected. See Green Party v. Henrichs, 355 Ill. App. 3d 445, 822 N.E.2d 910 (3d Dist. 2005); Reed v. Kusper, 154 Ill. 2d 77, 607 N.E.2d 1198 (Ill. 1992).

NOTE: In 2017, the U.S Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit held that the full-slate requirement for new political parties was unconstitutional. Libertarian Party of Illinois v. ISBE, 872 F.3d 518 (7th Cir. 2017).

FILING FOR AND/OR VOTING A PARTISAN OFFICE

A person who (i) filed a Statement of Candidacy for a partisan office as a qualified voter of an established political party or (ii) who voted the ballot of an established political party at a general primary election may not file a Statement of Candidacy as a candidate of a different established political party, a new political party, or as an independent candidate for a partisan office to be filled at the general election immediately following the general primary for which the person filed the statement or voted the ballot. A person may file a Statement of Candidacy for a partisan office as a qualified primary voter of an established political party regardless of any prior filing of candidacy for a partisan office or voting the ballot of an established political party at any prior election. (10 ILCS 5/7-43)

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

WHAT DEFINES AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE?

Independent candidates are those individuals who are not candidates of any political party, new or established, but who are candidates in a general election at which party candidates may appear on the ballot. Such candidates are listed on the ballot under the heading “Independent.” (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

NOTE: Because an independent candidate is an individual candidate not supported by a political party structure, there is no political party organization to fill a vacancy in nomination. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

FILING PARTISAN IN THE PRIMARY & BEING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

A candidate who has filed a Statement of Candidacy as a partisan candidate at a primary election is prohibited from being listed on the ballot at a general election in that same election cycle as an Independent candidate or as a candidate of another political party (new or established), and may not file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at that general election of the same election cycle.

(10 ILCS 5/7-43, 7-61, 10-3, 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

FILING OR VOTING A PARTISAN OFFICE

A person who (i) filed a Statement of Candidacy for a partisan office as a qualified primary voter of an established political party or (ii) who voted the ballot of an established political party at a general primary election may not file a Statement of Candidacy as a candidate of a different established political party, a new political party, or as an Independent candidate for a partisan office to be filled at the general election immediately following the general primary for which the person filed the statement or voted the ballot. A person may file a Statement of Candidacy for a partisan office as a qualified primary voter of an established political party regardless of any prior filing of candidacy for a partisan office or voting the ballot of an established political party at any prior election. (10 ILCS 5/7-43)

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

HOW TO BECOME A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE

A write-in candidate must file a notarized “Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate” ([Form P-1F](#)) no later than 61 days prior to the election. The declaration **must be filed with the proper election authority or authorities** in those jurisdictions in which the candidate is seeking to be a write-in candidate. Declaration of Intent forms are **not to be filed** with the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-59(b), 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

The Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate form can be obtained from the election authority’s office. (10 ILCS 5/7-59(b), 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

NOTE: Whenever an objection to a candidate’s nominating papers for any office is sustained after the 61st day before the election, the candidate may file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate form for that office with the proper election authority or authorities no later than seven days prior to the election.

(10 ILCS 5/7-59(b), 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

GENERAL PRIMARY WRITE-IN CANDIDATE QUALIFYING FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION

The write-in candidate must receive the number of votes that is equal to or greater than the number of signatures required on a petition for that office if the number of candidates whose names appear on the primary ballot is less than the number of persons the party is entitled to nominate or elect to that office at the primary election. (10 ILCS 5/7-59(c)(1))

The number of votes required for a write-in candidate to be nominated or elected to an office at a primary election, as outlined above, does not apply if:

- a) The number of votes they receive exceeds the number of votes received by at least one of the candidates whose name was printed on the ballot for nomination or election to the same office; or
- b) The number of candidates whose names appear on the ballot equals or exceeds the number of persons the party is entitled to nominate or elect to that office.

(10 ILCS 5/7-59(c)(1) and (2))

For example, if there are four Republicans running in the primary for one office, and there is one write-in candidate, then the write-in candidate has to receive the highest number of votes. If the only Republican candidate for the office is the write-in candidate, then that write-in candidate must get the number of votes equal to or greater than the number of signatures that were required to get on the general primary ballot for that office.

FILING PARTISAN IN THE PRIMARY & BEING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

A candidate who is defeated for nomination at the general primary election is prohibited from filing a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at the subsequent general election. (10 ILCS 5/17-16.1, 18-9.1)

WINNING IN THE PRIMARY OR GENERAL ELECTION

A winning write-in candidate in the general primary or general election **must** file a Statement of Candidacy and receipt for the filing of the Statement of Economic Interests (exception for federal and party offices only). Winning write-in candidates **may** also file a Loyalty Oath. (10 ILCS 5/7-60, 22-1)

For a general primary candidate these forms must be filed within 10 days of the canvass of the general primary and must be filed with the certifying officer or board. For example, winning write-in candidates for State Representative would file with the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-60)

For a general election candidate, these forms must be filed with the certifying officer or board prior to taking office. (10 ILCS 5/22-1) For example, a winning write-in candidate for State's Attorney would file with the county clerk.

OBJECTIONS TO NOMINATING PAPERS

FILING OBJECTIONS

Nomination papers shall be deemed to be valid unless objections are filed in writing, **with an original and two copies**, within **five business days after the last day for the filing of nomination papers**. Objection petitions should also include the name(s) and residence address(es) of the objector(s). Objection petitions that do not include two copies thereof shall not be accepted.

The objection shall be filed with the State Board of Elections, the election authority, or local election official with whom the original nomination petition was filed. The objections shall be filed within five business days after the last day for filing nomination papers. (10 ILCS 5/7-13, 10-8) The last day to file an objection will depend on the filing period. For specific deadlines, see the SBE Election and Campaign Finance Calendar for 2026 located under "[Election Guides](#)."

PROCESSING OBJECTIONS

No later than noon on the second business day after receipt of an objector's petition, the State Board of Elections, election authority, or local election official shall transmit by registered mail or receipted personal delivery the Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers and the original objector's petition to the chair of the proper electoral board designated in Section 10-9, or their authorized agent. The official shall transmit a copy of the objector's petition, by registered mail or receipted personal delivery, to the candidate whose Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers are objected to, addressed to the place of residence designated in said Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers. (10 ILCS 5/10-8)

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AS THE ELECTORAL BOARD

Within 24 hours of the receipt of the objector's petition, the Chair of the State Board of Elections shall send a call, by registered or certified mail, to the objector and candidate whose Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers are objected to stating the day, hour, and place at which the State Board of Elections shall meet to hear the objection. (10 ILCS 5/10-10)

IN CASES WHERE THE SBE IS NOT THE ELECTORAL BOARD

The chair of the electoral board shall send a call by registered or certified mail to each of the members of the electoral board, the objector, and the candidate, and shall also cause the Sheriff of the county or counties in which such officers and persons reside to serve a copy of such call upon each of the officers and persons within 24 hours after the receipt of the objector's petition. (10 ILCS 5/10-10)

ELECTORAL BOARD MEETING

The meeting of the electoral board shall not be less than three nor more than five days after receipt of the objector's petition by the chair of the electoral board. The electoral board on the first day of its meeting shall adopt rules and procedures for the introduction of evidence and the presentation of arguments and may, in its discretion, provide for the filing of briefs by the parties to the objection or by other interested persons. (10 ILCS 5/10-10)

FILING FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

Within five days after the decision of the electoral board, the candidate or objector aggrieved by the decision of the electoral board may file a petition for judicial review with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the county in which the hearing of the electoral board was held. The petition for judicial review must name the electoral board, its members, and the prevailing candidates or objectors in the initial proceedings before the electoral board as respondents. The party seeking judicial review must serve a copy of the petition upon each of the respondents named in the petition for judicial review. The petition shall contain a brief statement of the reason why the decision of the electoral board should be reversed. Court hearings are to be held within 30 days after the filing of the petition and the decisions delivered promptly thereafter. (10 ILCS 5/10-10.1)

If no petition for judicial review has been filed within five days after the decision of the electoral board, the electoral board shall transmit a copy of its ruling, together with the original Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers or petitions, and the original objector's petitions to the officers or board with whom they were on file, and such officers or board shall abide and comply with the ruling so made to all intents and purposes. (10 ILCS 5/10-10 and 10.1)

LOTTERY

FILINGS REQUIRING A LOTTERY

Simultaneous filings of candidate nominating petitions for the same office occur for those candidates **in line at 8:00 AM** (or whenever the opening hour of the business may be; for example, if the office opens at 9:00 AM, all candidates in line as of 9:00 AM are in the lottery) or for petitions received after midnight of the first day for filing in the first U.S. Postal Service delivery of that day, on the first day of filing.

Simultaneous filings can also occur during the last day of filing **during the last hour** of the filing deadline between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM.

Any lottery system to be used to break ties resulting from such simultaneous filings must be approved by the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9(2), 10-6.2) To submit a lottery system for approval by the State Board of Elections, election authorities and local election officials can submit a narrative of how their system will be conducted. The State Board of Elections will evaluate the system to ensure it is fair, random, and impartial. Narratives can be sent by mail to the State Board of Elections' office or via email to Electionoperations@elections.il.gov

CONDUCTING THE LOTTERY

Per State Board of Elections' administrative rules, codified as 26 Ill. Adm. Code § 201.40 and 202.40, the following system has been approved:

1. The names of all candidates who filed simultaneously for the same office shall be listed alphabetically and shall be numbered consecutively starting with the number one, which shall be assigned to the candidate whose name is listed first on the alphabetical list. Candidates filing a group petition for the same office shall be treated as one in the alphabetical list. For example, if five candidates by the name of Downs, Brown, Edwards, Cook, and Adams have filed simultaneously, they will be arranged alphabetically and assigned numbers as follows: Adams, one; Brown, two; Cook, three; Downs, four; and Edwards, five. If the same candidates filed, but Cook and Adams filed a group petition and Cook's name appeared first on the petition, then the candidates would be arranged as follows: Brown, one; Cook and Adams, two; Downs, three; and Edwards, four.
2. All ties will be broken by a single drawing. A number shall be placed in a container representing each number assigned to each candidate and group of candidates pursuant to the alphabetical listing procedures set forth in Paragraph 1 above. For example, if the largest number to be used for any office is five, then numbers one, two, three, four, and five will be placed in a container. In this manner, sufficient numbers will be placed in the container to conduct a drawing for all offices at the same time.
3. After the numbers are placed in the container, they shall be drawn one at a time from the container after they have been thoroughly shaken and mixed. The candidate or group of candidates in the position on an alphabetical list corresponding to the first number drawn shall be certified ahead of the other candidates listed on the alphabetical list. The candidate or group of candidates in the position on the alphabetical list corresponding to the second number drawn will be certified second and so forth until all numbers have been drawn. For example, where no group petitions were filed, if candidates Adams, Brown, Cook, Downs, and

Edwards filed simultaneously at 8:00 AM on the first day of filing, and the number three is first drawn, then candidate Cook, who is listed in the third position on the alphabetical list, shall be certified first on the ballot. If the number one is drawn second, then candidate Adams, who is listed in the first position on the alphabetical list, shall be certified second on the ballot, and so on. For offices where group petitions were filed, using the example set forth above where candidates Cook and Adams file a group petition for the same office, and Cook's name appears first on the petition and number three is drawn first, then candidate Downs would be listed first. If the number two is drawn second, then candidates Cook and Adams would be certified second and third, respectively. If the number four is drawn third, then candidate Edwards would be certified fourth, and so on. In districts with fewer names on the alphabetical list than are in the drawing, then all numbers in excess of the number of candidates or group of candidates that appear on the particular alphabetical list shall be disregarded. Thus, if five numbers are placed in the container and only four candidates or groups of candidates are on a particular list, then the number five shall be disregarded. For example, if candidates Adams and Cook, filing separate petitions, are the only candidates listed on the alphabetical list and five numbers are chosen in the following order: 3, 5, 4, 2 and 1, then candidate Cook's name will appear in the certification prior to the name of candidate Adams.

4. If two or more nominating petitions for the same office are presented between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM on the last day for filing, they shall be deemed to be simultaneously filed and the last ballot position will be determined by a separate lottery using the same procedures detailed above. No nominating petitions will be accepted after 5:00 PM.
5. All candidates shall be certified in the order in which petitions have been filed with the State Board of Elections, election authority or the local election official. In cases where candidates have filed simultaneously, they shall be certified (in the order determined by the lottery procedure outlined above) prior to candidates who filed for the same office who filed their petitions at a later time, except in those situations where the law requires rotation on a district-by-district basis.

(26 Ill. Adm. Code § 201.40, 202.40)

UNITED STATES SENATOR

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Not required for federal offices.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: Not less than 5,000 nor more than 10,000 primary electors of their party. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(a))

Independent & New Party: Minimum of 1% of the number of voters who voted in the last statewide general election or 25,000 qualified voters of the State, whichever is less. (10 ILCS 5/10-2 and 3)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 and not less than 134 days prior to the date of the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: All candidates file with the Federal Election Commission ("FEC"), 1050 First Street NE, Washington D.C., 20463 (20002 for other delivery services outside U.S. Postal Service). If you have specific questions, you may call them at (800) 424-9530.

NOTE: Federal filing requirements are subject to change by the FEC. We advise that you contact the FEC for the latest information on filing requirements.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
5,000 – 10,000		25,000	

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 30 years of age
- United States citizen for nine years
- Inhabitant of Illinois at the time of the election
- Registered voter

(United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 3; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

Term of office:

Six years
(United States Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 1)

Term begins: Noon, January 3, 2027 (United States Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 1)

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-11](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Not required for federal offices.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: Not less than .5% (.005) of the qualified primary electors of their party in the congressional district. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(b))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular general election within the congressional district. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular general election within the congressional district. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: All candidates file with the Federal Election Commission (FEC), 1050 First Street NE, Washington D.C., 20463 (20002 for other delivery services outside U.S. Postal Service). If you have specific questions, you may call them at (800) 424-9530.

NOTE: Federal filing requirements are subject to change by the FEC. We advise that you contact the FEC for the latest information on filing requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 25 years of age
- United States citizen for seven years
- Inhabitant of Illinois at the time of the election
- Registered voter

(United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 2; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Two years (United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 2)

Term begins: Noon, January 3, 2027
(United States Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 2)

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

District	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
1	1071	546	16,652 – 26,641	16,652
2	979	471	15,065 – 24,103	15,065
3	875	445	13,664 – 21,861	13,664
4	697	371	10,816 – 17,304	10,816
5	1271	577	19,176 – 30,680	19,176
6	984	852	18,959 – 30,333	18,959
7	1164	232	14,161 – 22,656	14,161
8	865	707	15,721 – 25,152	15,721
9	1173	540	17,852 – 28,562	17,852
10	995	656	16,814 – 26,902	16,814
11	1000	799	18,465 – 29,543	18,465
12	520	1362	18,840 – 30,143	18,840
13	957	727	16,885 – 27,015	16,885
14	918	780	17,056 – 27,288	17,056
15	583	1545	19,273 – 30,835	19,273
16	738	1555	19,800 – 31,679	19,800
17	852	744	16,035 – 25,654	16,035

STATEWIDE OFFICIALS

Governor & Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: The form is filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The filing receipt must be filed with the petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 5,000 but not more than 10,000 qualified primary electors of their party. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(a))

Independent & New Party: Minimum of 1% of the number of voters who voted in the last statewide general election or 25,000 qualified voters of the State, whichever is less. (10 ILCS 5/10-2 and 3)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
5,000 – 10,000		25,000	

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 25 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of the state for three years prior to the election
- Registered voter

(Illinois Constitution, Article V, Section 3; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

New Party & Independent:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

Term of office: Four years

(Illinois Constitution, Article V, Section 2)

Term begins: Second Monday of January after the election, January 11, 2027 (Illinois Constitution, Article V, Section 2)

ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR

Districts:

For 2-year terms: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 26, 39, 42, 45, 48, 51, 54, 57

For 4-year terms: 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, 41, 44, 47, 50, 53, 56, 59

For unexpired 2-year terms: Please note that vacancies which occur after the publication of this guide will not be included in the listing of unexpired terms.

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-12](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 1,000 but not more than 3,000 of the qualified primary electors of their party in their legislative district. (10 ILCS 5/8-8)

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last general election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last general election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. There is no maximum signature requirement. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by U.S. mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of the district for two years preceding the election
- Registered voter

(Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 2(c); 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Two or four years (Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 2(a); 10 ILCS 5/29C-15)

Term begins: January 13, 2027 (Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 5(a))

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

District	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
2	1,000 – 3,000		2,335 – 3,735	2,335
3	1,000 – 3,000		2,370 – 3,790	2,370
5	1,000 – 3,000		2,686 – 4,296	2,686
6	1,000 – 3,000		4,228 – 6,764	4,228
8	1,000 – 3,000		2,953 – 4,723	2,953
9	1,000 – 3,000		4,134 – 6,613	4,134
11	1,000 – 3,000		2,294 – 3,669	2,294
12	1,000 – 3,000		1,416 – 2,264	1,416
14	1,000 – 3,000		3,266 – 5,225	3,266
15	1,000 – 3,000		3,205 – 5,128	3,205
17	1,000 – 3,000		3,054 – 4,885	3,054
18	1,000 – 3,000		3,904 – 6,245	3,904
20	1,000 – 3,000		2,690 – 4,302	2,690
21	1,000 – 3,000		4,426 – 7,081	4,426
23	1,000 – 3,000		3,671 – 5,872	3,671
24	1,000 – 3,000		4,267 – 6,825	4,267
26	1,000 – 3,000		4,504 – 7,204	4,504
27	1,000 – 3,000		3,513 – 5,620	3,513
29	1,000 – 3,000		4,096 – 6,553	4,096
30	1,000 – 3,000		2,459 – 3,934	2,459
32	1,000 – 3,000		4,134 – 6,613	4,134
33	1,000 – 3,000		4,126 – 6,600	4,126
35	1,000 – 3,000		4,333 – 6,932	4,333
36	1,000 – 3,000		3,560 – 5,695	3,560
38	1,000 – 3,000		3,832 – 6,130	3,832
39	1,000 – 3,000		2,956 – 4,728	2,956
41	1,000 – 3,000		4,608 – 7,372	4,608
42	1,000 – 3,000		3,444 – 5,510	3,444
44	1,000 – 3,000		4,586 – 7,336	4,586
45	1,000 – 3,000		4,312 – 6,898	4,312

47	1,000 – 3,000	4,334 – 6,933	4,334
48	1,000 – 3,000	3,929 – 6,286	3,929
50	1,000 – 3,000	4,336 – 6,936	4,336
51	1,000 – 3,000	4,217 – 6,745	4,217
53	1,000 – 3,000	4,303 – 6,884	4,303
54	1,000 – 3,000	4,587 – 7,339	4,587
56	1,000 – 3,000	3,711 – 5,936	3,711
57	1,000 – 3,000	3,703 – 5,924	3,703
59	1,000 – 3,000	3,973 – 6,356	3,973

The offices below will not be on the 2026 election ballot unless a vacancy in office were to occur.

District	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
1	1,000 – 3,000	2,911 – 4,657	2,911	
4	1,000 – 3,000	4,495 – 7,190	4,495	
7	1,000 – 3,000	5,048 – 8,076	5,048	
10	1,000 – 3,000	4,779 – 7,646	4,779	
13	1,000 – 3,000	3,919 – 6,269	3,919	
16	1,000 – 3,000	3,507 – 5,610	3,507	
19	1,000 – 3,000	5,812 – 9,298	5,812	
22	1,000 – 3,000	3,396 – 5,432	3,396	
25	1,000 – 3,000	4,047 – 6,474	4,047	
28	1,000 – 3,000	4,433 – 7,092	4,433	
31	1,000 – 3,000	4,652 – 7,442	4,652	
34	1,000 – 3,000	4,100 – 6,560	4,100	
37	1,000 – 3,000	5,408 – 8,651	5,408	
40	1,000 – 3,000	4,755 – 7,606	4,755	
43	1,000 – 3,000	4,354 – 6,964	4,354	
46	1,000 – 3,000	4,750 – 7,599	4,750	
49	1,000 – 3,000	5,133 – 8,211	5,133	
52	1,000 – 3,000	4,384 – 7,013	4,384	
55	1,000 – 3,000	5,676 – 9,081	5,676	
58	1,000 – 3,000	5,427 – 8,683	5,427	

ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-13](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 500 but not more than 1,500 of the qualified primary electors of their party in their representative district. (10 ILCS 5/8-8)

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last general election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: At least 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last general election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by U.S. mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of the district for two years preceding the election
- Registered voter

(Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 2(c); 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Two years (Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 2(b))

Term begins: January 13, 2027 (Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Section 5(a))

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

District	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
1	500 – 1,500		1,243 - 1,987	1,243
2	500 – 1,500		1,669 - 2,669	1,669
3	500 – 1,500		1,853 - 2,964	1,853
4	500 – 1,500		1,712 – 2,738	1,712
5	500 – 1,500		2,014 – 3,221	2,014
6	500 – 1,500		1,441 – 2,304	1,441
7	500 – 1,500		2,416 – 3,865	2,416
8	500 – 1,500		2,079 – 3,325	2,079
9	500 – 1,500		1,910 – 3,055	1,910
10	500 – 1,500		2,118 – 3,388	2,118
11	500 – 1,500		2,946 – 4,712	2,946
12	500 – 1,500		2,781 – 4,448	2,781
13	500 – 1,500		2,799 – 4,478	2,799
14	500 – 1,500		2,250 – 3,598	2,250
15	500 – 1,500		2,432 – 3,890	2,432
16	500 – 1,500		2,000 – 3,199	2,000
17	500 – 1,500		2,874 – 4,597	2,874
18	500 – 1,500		2,696 – 4,312	2,696
19	500 – 1,500		2,349 – 3,758	2,349
20	500 – 1,500		2,430 – 3,887	2,430
21	500 – 1,500		1,844 – 2,949	1,844
22	500 – 1,500		1,777 – 2,842	1,777
23	500 – 1,500		857 – 1,370	857
24	500 – 1,500		1,423 – 2,275	1,423
25	500 – 1,500		1,885 – 3,014	1,885
26	500 – 1,500		2,035 – 3,255	2,035
27	500 – 1,500		2,502 – 4,002	2,502
28	500 – 1,500		2,086 – 3,337	2,086
29	500 – 1,500		2,434 – 3,894	2,434
30	500 – 1,500		2,175 – 3,478	2,175
31	500 – 1,500		1,995 – 3,190	1,995

32	500 – 1,500	1,513 – 2,419	1,513
33	500 – 1,500	2,062 – 3,298	2,062
34	500 – 1,500	2,273 – 3,636	2,273
35	500 – 1,500	2,839 – 4,541	2,839
36	500 – 1,500	2,457 – 3,929	2,457
37	500 – 1,500	3,055 – 4,888	3,055
38	500 – 1,500	2,757 – 4,410	2,757
39	500 – 1,500	1,963 – 3,139	1,963
40	500 – 1,500	2,042 – 3,265	2,042
41	500 – 1,500	2,857 – 4,569	2,857
42	500 – 1,500	2,926 – 4,680	2,926
43	500 – 1,500	1,505 – 2,407	1,505
44	500 – 1,500	1,891 – 3,025	1,891
45	500 – 1,500	2,908 – 4,651	2,908
46	500 – 1,500	2,158 – 3,452	2,158
47	500 – 1,500	3,054 – 4,886	3,054
48	500 – 1,500	2,712 – 4,337	2,712
49	500 – 1,500	2,323 – 3,715	2,323
50	500 – 1,500	1,725 – 2,758	1,725
51	500 – 1,500	2,956 – 4,728	2,956
52	500 – 1,500	3,024 – 4,837	3,024
53	500 – 1,500	2,408 – 3,851	2,408
54	500 – 1,500	2,554 – 4,085	2,554
55	500 – 1,500	2,284 – 3,653	2,284
56	500 – 1,500	2,150 – 3,438	2,150
57	500 – 1,500	2,552 – 4,081	2,552
58	500 – 1,500	2,835 – 4,535	2,835
59	500 – 1,500	2,187 – 3,498	2,187
60	500 – 1,500	1,381 – 2,208	1,381
61	500 – 1,500	2,360 – 3,775	2,360
62	500 – 1,500	2,292 – 3.666	2,292
63	500 – 1,500	2,872 – 4,594	2,872
64	500 – 1,500	2,867 – 4,586	2,867
65	500 – 1,500	3,100 – 4,959	3,100
66	500 – 1,500	2,668 – 4,267	2,668

67	500 – 1,500	1,853 – 2,964	1,853
68	500 – 1,500	2,248 – 3,595	2,248
69	500 – 1,500	2,825 – 4,519	2,825
70	500 – 1,500	3,133 – 5,012	3,133
71	500 – 1,500	2,438 – 3,899	2,438
72	500 – 1,500	2,245 – 3,591	2,245
73	500 – 1,500	2,893 – 4,627	2,893
74	500 – 1,500	2,515 – 4,023	2,515
75	500 – 1,500	2,821 – 4,512	2,821
76	500 – 1,500	2,437 – 3,898	2,437
77	500 – 1,500	1,629 – 2,605	1,629
78	500 – 1,500	2,689 – 4,301	2,689
79	500 – 1,500	2,356 – 3,768	2,356
80	500 – 1,500	2,399 – 3,837	2,399
81	500 – 1,500	3,019 – 4,828	3,019
82	500 – 1,500	3,032 – 4,849	3,032
83	500 – 1,500	2,722 – 4,353	2,722
84	500 – 1,500	2,182 – 3,490	2,182
85	500 – 1,500	2,262 – 3,618	2,262
86	500 – 1,500	2,092 – 3,346	2,092
87	500 – 1,500	2,856 – 4,568	2,856
88	500 – 1,500	2,960 – 4,735	2,960
89	500 – 1,500	2,957 – 4,730	2,957
90	500 – 1,500	2,709 – 4,333	2,709
91	500 – 1,500	2,649 – 4,236	2,649
92	500 – 1,500	2,102 – 3,362	2,102
93	500 – 1,500	2,686 – 4,297	2,686
94	500 – 1,500	2,806 – 4,488	2,806
95	500 – 1,500	2,937 – 4,697	2,937
96	500 – 1,500	2,021 – 3,233	2,021
97	500 – 1,500	2,730 – 4,366	2,730
98	500 – 1,500	2,403 – 3,844	2,403
99	500 – 1,500	2,472 – 3,954	2,472
100	500 – 1,500	3,016 – 4,824	3,016
101	500 – 1,500	2,598 – 4,155	2,598

102	500 – 1,500	2,728 – 4,364	2,728
103	500 – 1,500	1,995 – 3,191	1,995
104	500 – 1,500	2,389 – 3,821	2,389
105	500 – 1,500	2,882 – 4,611	2,882
106	500 – 1,500	2,673 – 4,276	2,673
107	500 – 1,500	2,780 – 4,446	2,780
108	500 – 1,500	2,887 – 4,618	2,887
109	500 – 1,500	3,111 – 4,976	3,111
110	500 – 1,500	2,566 – 4,104	2,566
111	500 – 1,500	2,483 – 3,972	2,483
112	500 – 1,500	2,638 – 4,219	2,638
113	500 – 1,500	2,522 – 4,033	2,522
114	500 – 1,500	2,449 – 3,917	2,449
115	500 – 1,500	2,803 – 4,483	2,803
116	500 – 1,500	2,625 – 4,199	2,625
117	500 – 1,500	2,650 – 4,239	2,650
118	500 – 1,500	2,457 – 3,930	2,457

SUPREME COURT JUDGE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-14](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 0.4% (.004) of the number of votes cast in that district for the candidate for their political party for the office of Governor at the last general election at which a Governor was elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(h))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular general election within the district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last general election within the district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Vacancy occurring October 13 – November 3, 2025: Where a vacancy occurs within the 3-week period preceding the 134th day before the General Primary Election, petitions for nomination for the office should be filed not more than 120 nor less than 113 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Licensed attorney-at-law in Illinois
- Resident of judicial unit
- Registered voter

(Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 11; Illinois Supreme Court Rule 701; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Vacancy occurring October 13 – November 3, 2025:

November 17 – November 24, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: 10 years (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 10)

Term begins: December 7, 2026
(10 ILCS 5/1A-19(c))

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

District	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
1	4,262	1,380	25,000 – 168,664	25,000
2	1,269	985	25,000 – 46,996	25,000
3	1,406	1,271	25,000 – 76,271	25,000
4	1,164	1,668	25,000 – 76,822	25,000
5	916	1,655	25,000 – 53,265	25,000

APPELLATE COURT JUDGE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-15](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 0.4% (.004) of the number of votes cast in that district for the candidate for their political party for the office of Governor at the last general election at which a Governor was elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(h))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last regular general election within the district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last general election within the district in which such district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Vacancy occurring October 13 – November 3, 2025: Where a vacancy occurs within the 3-week period preceding the 134th day before the General Primary Election, petitions for nomination for the office should be filed not more than 120 nor less than 113 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Licensed attorney-at-law in Illinois
- Resident of judicial unit
- Registered voter

(Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 11; Illinois Supreme Court Rule 701; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Vacancy occurring October 13 – November 3, 2025:

November 17 – November 24, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: 10 years (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 10)

Term begins: December 7, 2026
(10 ILCS 5/1A-19(c))

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

District	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
1	4,262	1,380	25,000 – 168,664	25,000
2	1,269	985	25,000 – 46,996	25,000
3	1,406	1,271	25,000 – 76,271	25,000
4	1,164	1,668	25,000 – 76,822	25,000
5	916	1,655	25,000 – 53,265	25,000

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Excluding Cook County

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party, Circuit Court ([SBE Form P-17](#)), Resident Circuit Court ([SBE Form P-18](#)); Subcircuits ([SBE Form P-16A](#));

Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#));

Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least .25% (.0025) of the number of votes cast for the judicial candidate of their political party who received the highest number of votes at the last general election at which a judge from the same circuit was regularly scheduled to be elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(h))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last general election within the judicial unit in which such circuit or subcircuit voted as a unit for the election of judges to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last general election within the judicial unit in which such circuit voted as a unit for the election of judges to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Vacancy occurring October 13 – November 3, 2025: Where a vacancy occurs within the 3-week period preceding the 134th day before the General Primary Election, petitions for nomination for the office should be filed not more than 120 nor less than 113 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Licensed attorney-at-law in Illinois
- Resident of judicial unit
- Registered voter

(Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 11; Illinois Supreme Court Rule 701; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 - November 3, 2025

Vacancy occurring October 13 – November 3, 2025:

November 17 – November 24, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

Term:

Term of office: Six years (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 10)

Term begins: December 7, 2026
(10 ILCS 5/1A-19(c))

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

Circuit Court Judge				
Circuit	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
1	500	500	3,670 – 5,871	3,670
2	500	500	4,738 – 7,580	4,738
3	Vacancies in at-large judgeships will be converted to resident judgeships and allotted to subcircuits (705 ILCS 35/2, 2f-13)			
1 st Subcircuit	500	500	1,365 – 2,182	1,365
2 nd Subcircuit	500	500	2,305 – 3,688	2,305
3 rd Subcircuit	500	500	2,305 – 3,688	2,305
4 th Subcircuit	500	500	328 – 523	328
4	500	500	5,918 – 9,468	5,918
5	500	500	2,820 – 4,511	2,820
6	Vacancies in at-large judgeships will be converted to resident judgeships (705 ILCS 35/2, 2f-14)			
7	500	500	8,339 – 13,340	8,339
1 st Subcircuit	500	500	2,013 – 3,219	2,013
2 nd Subcircuit	500	500	2,013 – 3,219	2,013
3 rd Subcircuit	500	500	1,183 – 1,891	1,183
4 th Subcircuit	500	500	772 – 1,234	772
5 th Subcircuit	500	500	138 – 220	138
6 th Subcircuit	500	500	315 – 503	315
7 th Subcircuit	500	500	602 – 962	602
8	500	500	3,514 – 5,621	3,514
9	500	500	3,690 – 5,903	3,690
10	500	500	7,643 – 12,227	7,643
11	500	500	5,526 – 8,840	5,526
12	500	500	16,569 – 26,509	16,569
1 st Subcircuit	500	500	1,980 – 3,167	1,980
2 nd Subcircuit	500	500	3,182 – 5,090	3,182
3 rd Subcircuit	500	500	1,969 – 3,149	1,969

4th Subcircuit	500	500	2,771 – 4,432	2,771
5th Subcircuit	500	500	3,025 – 4,839	3,025
13	500	500	3,619 – 5,790	3,619
14	500	500	4,777 – 7,641	4,777
15	500	500	3,228 – 5,163	3,228
16	500	500	11,298 – 18,075	11,298
1st Subcircuit	500	500	1,004 – 1,606	1,004
2nd Subcircuit	500	500	2,825 – 4,518	2,825
3rd Subcircuit	500	500	2,935 – 4,695	2,935
4th Subcircuit	500	500	2,825 – 4,518	2,825
17	Vacancies in at-large judgeships will be converted to resident judgeships and allotted to subcircuits (705 ILCS 35/2, 2f-6)			
1st Subcircuit	500	500	1,235 – 1,975	1,235
2nd Subcircuit	500	500	2,874 – 4,597	2,874
18	594	500	17,187 – 27,498	17,187
1st Subcircuit	500	500	2,497 – 3,994	2,497
2nd Subcircuit	500	500	2,894 – 4,629	2,894
3rd Subcircuit	500	500	3,542 – 5,666	3,542
4th Subcircuit	500	500	2,456 – 3,928	2,456
5th Subcircuit	500	500	2,456 – 3,928	2,456
6th Subcircuit	500	500	2,456 – 3,928	2,456
7th Subcircuit	500	500	2,456 – 3,928	2,456
19	Vacancies in at-large judgeships will be converted to resident judgeships and allotted to subcircuits (705 ILCS 35/2, 2f-2)			
1st Subcircuit	500	500	596 – 953	596
2nd Subcircuit	500	500	1,293 – 2,068	1,293
3rd Subcircuit	500	500	299 – 477	299
4th Subcircuit	500	500	492 – 787	492
5th Subcircuit	500	500	1,059 – 1,695	1,059
6th Subcircuit	500	500	1,059 – 1,695	1,059
7th Subcircuit	500	500	1,059 – 1,695	1,059
8th Subcircuit	500	500	1,059 – 1,695	1,059
9th Subcircuit	500	500	1,059 – 1,695	1,059
10th Subcircuit	500	500	1,059 – 1,695	1,059
11th Subcircuit	500	500	1,059 – 1,695	1,059
12th Subcircuit	500	500	1,364 – 2,182	1,364
20	500	500	4,483 – 7,172	4,483

21	500	500	3,222 – 5,153	3,222
22	500	500	8,200 – 13,119	8,200
1 st Subcircuit	500	500	1,035 – 1,654	1,035
2 nd Subcircuit	500	500	1,183 – 1,892	1,183
3 rd Subcircuit	500	500	2,069 – 3,310	2,069
4 th Subcircuit	500	500	2,069 – 3,310	2,069
23	Vacancies in at-large judgeships will be converted to resident judgeships and allotted to subcircuits (705 ILCS 35/2, 2f-11)			
24	Vacancies in at-large judgeships will be converted to resident judgeships and allotted to subcircuits (705 ILCS 35/2, 2f-12)			
Resident Circuit Court Judge				
Circuit / County	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
1				
Alexander	500	500	87 – 138	87
Jackson	500	500	868 – 1,388	868
Johnson	500	500	245 – 390	245
Massac	500	500	247 – 394	247
Pope	500	500	108 – 172	108
Pulaski	500	500	103 – 163	103
Saline	500	500	417 – 666	417
Union	500	500	355 – 567	355
Williamson	500	500	1,267 – 2,026	1,267
2				
Crawford	500	500	360 – 574	360
Edwards	500	500	149 – 237	149
Franklin	500	500	893 – 1,427	893
Gallatin	500	500	168 – 267	168
Hamilton	500	500	220 – 351	220
Hardin	500	500	110 – 174	110
Jefferson	500	500	831 – 1,328	831
Lawrence	500	500	258 – 412	258
Richland	500	500	407 – 650	407
Wabash	500	500	199 – 318	199
Wayne	500	500	301 – 480	301
White	500	500	358 – 571	358

3				
Bond	500	500	369 – 590	369
Madison	500	500	6,916 – 11,064	6,916
4				
Christian	500	500	591 – 945	591
Clay	500	500	347 – 554	347
Clinton	500	500	648 – 1,036	648
Effingham	500	500	804 – 1,285	804
Fayette	500	500	408 – 652	408
Jasper	500	500	235 – 375	235
Marion	500	500	906 – 1,449	906
Montgomery	500	500	668 – 1,068	668
Shelby	500	500	526 – 841	526
5				
Clark	500	500	322 – 514	322
Coles	500	500	836 – 1,336	836
Cumberland	500	500	242 – 386	242
Edgar	500	500	312 – 498	312
Vermilion	500	500	1,491 – 2,385	1,491
6				
Champaign	500	500	3,434 – 5,493	3,434
DeWitt	500	500	341 – 544	341
Douglas	500	500	425 – 679	425
Macon	500	500	1,794 – 2,869	1,794
Moultrie	500	500	326 – 520	326
Piatt	500	500	497 – 794	497
7				
Greene	500	500	315 – 503	315
Jersey	500	500	602 – 962	602
Macoupin	500	500	1,183 – 1,891	1,183
Morgan	500	500	570 – 911	570
Sangamon	500	500	4,025 – 6,438	4,025
Scott	500	500	131 – 209	131
8				

Adams	500	500	1,456 – 2,328	1,456
Brown	500	500	162 – 257	162
Calhoun	500	500	103 – 164	103
Cass	500	500	282 – 450	282
Mason	500	500	253 – 404	253
Menard	500	500	248 – 396	248
Pike	500	500	369 – 590	369
Schuyler	500	500	164 – 262	164
9				
Fulton	500	500	563 – 899	563
Hancock	500	500	464 – 742	464
Henderson	500	500	169 – 269	169
Knox	500	500	887 – 1,418	887
McDonough	500	500	607 – 970	607
Warren	500	500	395 – 630	395
10				
Marshall	500	500	240 – 382	240
Peoria	500	500	4,017 – 6,426	4,017
Putnam	500	500	132 – 210	132
Stark	500	500	140 – 222	140
Tazewell	500	500	2,587 – 4,138	2,587
11				
Ford	500	500	261 – 416	261
Livingston	500	500	652 – 1,042	652
Logan	500	500	492 – 786	492
McLean	500	500	3,269 – 5,230	3,269
Woodford	500	500	854 – 1,365	854
12				
Will	500	500	16,569 – 26,509	16,569
13				
Bureau	500	500	810 – 1,295	810
Grundy	500	500	1,340 – 2,143	1,340
LaSalle	500	500	2,654 – 4,245	2,654
14				
Henry	500	500	993 – 1,588	993

Mercer	500	500	422 – 673	422
Rock Island	500	500	2,428 – 3,884	2,428
Whiteside	500	500	1,338 – 2,139	1,338
15				
Carroll	500	500	304 – 485	304
JoDaviess	500	500	479 – 766	479
Lee	500	500	616 – 985	616
Ogle	500	500	983 – 1,571	983
Stephenson	500	500	847 – 1,354	847
16				
Kane	500	500	11,298 – 18,075	11,298
17				
Boone	500	500	668 – 1,067	668
Winnebago	500	500	3,650 – 5,839	3,650
18				
DuPage	594	500	17,187 – 27,498	17,187
19				
Lake	500	500	13,831 – 22,128	13,831
20				
St. Clair	500	500	4,483 – 7,172	4,483
21				
Iroquois	500	500	707 – 1,129	707
Kankakee	500	500	2,409 – 3,853	2,409
22				
McHenry	500	500	8,200 – 13,119	8,200
23				
DeKalb	500	500	1,736 – 2,776	1,736
Kendall	500	500	3,341 – 5,344	3,341
24				
Monroe	500	500	1,067 – 1,705	1,067
Perry	500	500	515 – 823	515
Randolph	500	500	579 – 924	579
Washington	500	500	376 – 601	376

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Cook County Only

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party, Circuit Court ([SBE Form P-16](#)), Subcircuits ([SBE Form P-16A](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Secretary of State, Index Division, 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 0.25% (.0025) of the number of votes cast for the judicial candidate of their political party who received the highest number of votes at the last general election at which a judge from the same circuit (or subcircuit) was regularly scheduled to be elected, but in no event fewer than 1,000 signatures. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(h))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last general election within the judicial unit in which such circuit or subcircuit voted as a unit for the election of judges to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted at the last general election within the judicial unit in which such circuit or subcircuit voted as a unit for the election of judges to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Vacancy occurring October 13 – November 3, 2025: Where a vacancy occurs within the 3-week period preceding the 134th day before the General Primary Election, petitions for nomination for the office should be filed not more than 120 nor less than 113 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 21 years of age
- United States citizen
- Licensed attorney-at-law in Illinois
- Resident of judicial unit
- Registered voter

(General qualifications, Supreme Court, Rule 701; Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 11; 10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Vacancy between October 13 – November 3:

November 17 – November 24, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Six years (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 10)

Term begins: December 7, 2026 (10 ILCS 5/1A-19(c))

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

Circuit	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
Cook	3,542	1,301	25,000 – 168,664	25,000
1st Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	3,647 – 5,834	3,647
2nd Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	3,647 – 5,834	3,647
3rd Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	3,929 – 6,285	3,929
4th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	5,642 – 9,026	5,642
5th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	4,432 – 7,090	4,432
6th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	3,647 – 5,834	3,647
7th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	4,019 – 6,429	4,019
8th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	6,108 – 9,772	6,108
9th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	3,647 – 5,834	3,647
10th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	6,187 – 9,898	6,187
11th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	6,157 – 9,850	6,157
12th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	6,466 – 10,344	6,466
13th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	5,313 – 8,499	5,313
14th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	4,150 – 6,639	4,150
15th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	6,290 – 10,063	6,290
16th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	2,873 – 4,596	2,873
17th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	4,862 – 7,778	4,862
18th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	5,461 – 8,736	5,461
19th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	5,847 – 9,354	5,847
20th Subcircuit	1,000	1,000	6,986 – 11,177	6,986

INFORMATION FOR ALL JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

ELECTION AND VACANCIES

Judicial vacancies and newly created judicial offices are initially elected on a partisan basis. The State Board of Elections is provided with a certification from the Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court delineating which vacancies will be filled by election in 2026. Interested citizens may contact the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts at (217) 558-4490 or the State Board of Elections at (217) 782-4141 to learn which judicial offices will be filled by election and of any newly created vacancies. The judicial office being sought is the vacancy of the preceding **elected** judge, not the judge appointed to fill the vacancy until the next election. The nominating petitions and Statement of Candidacy must state the exact vacancy (e.g. vacancy of the Hon. [name]) or the exact additional judgeship that the candidate is seeking.

NOTE: For an updated list of vacancies, please check our [website](#). The SBE will timely post any updates to our website upon receiving notice of the vacancy.

JUDICIAL RETENTION

Once elected to office, a judge may seek to retain that office at the expiration of the term by seeking retention on a special ballot separate from the regular ballot. No party affiliation is indicated on a retention ballot. Nominating petitions are not required to seek retention. A Declaration of Judicial Candidacy to succeed oneself must be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State on or before **Sunday, May 3, 2026**, not less than six months before the general election preceding the expiration of their term of office. (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 12(d); 10 ILCS 5/7-12(1))

JUDICIAL SUBCIRCUITS

It is the duty of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts to assign judgeships to the subcircuits as vacancies occur and to assign additional judgeships created by legislation. (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 16; Illinois S. Ct. Rule 39)

FILING FOR A CIRCUIT COURT SEAT AND/OR SUBCIRCUIT SEAT

Judicial candidates at the circuit court level are limited to filing a petition for one circuit court vacancy and/or a petition for one subcircuit vacancy in any filing period. For any individual circuit court judge candidate, **the State Board of Elections will accept only one petition for a circuit court vacancy and/or only one petition for a subcircuit vacancy in any filing period.** It is the responsibility of the candidate to withdraw any incompatible petitions. (See [page 7](#) for information on multiple petition filings and [page 8](#) for incompatible petitions.) A new circuit court or subcircuit judgeship created by statute or by conversion of a resident judge position to a subcircuit position is a vacancy. A resident judge vacancy is a circuit court vacancy. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9))

For in person petition filings: SBE staff will accept from any candidate (or filing agent) only one petition for a full circuit judicial vacancy and only one petition for a subcircuit judicial vacancy in any filing period. SBE staff will refuse to accept any additional judicial petition filings at the circuit court level for that candidate. **It will remain the responsibility of the candidate to withdraw any incompatible petitions if multiple are filed.** (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9))

For mail or commercial carrier filings: SBE staff will accept and process only one petition for a full circuit judicial vacancy and only one petition for a subcircuit judicial vacancy in any filing period for any candidate. **It will remain the responsibility of the candidate to withdraw any incompatible petitions if multiple are filed.** (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9))

MULTIPLE PETITIONS AT ONCE

If the candidate designates a particular petition as the chosen petition, staff will accept that petition and return the rest of the petitions to the candidate.

In the absence of a designation by the candidate, and if the petitions are all oriented such that the print side of each petition faces the same way, staff practice is to accept the top petition in the pile and return the rest of the petitions to the candidate.

In the absence of a designation by the candidate, and if the petitions are not all oriented with the print facing the same way, staff practice is to accept the petition that was on top of the pile when the petitions were removed from the envelope with the postage, postmarked and/or mailing label side of the envelope or package facing up, and return the rest of the petitions to the candidate.

If petitions are mailed in multiple envelopes, the first envelope processed will be the one accepted and all other petitions will be returned to the candidate.

WITHDRAWING PETITIONS

A withdrawal of a previously filed petition will be allowed, but no new petition for a different judicial vacancy will be accepted after a withdrawal. Withdrawal and filing of a new petition for the same vacancy will be permitted.

REDACTION – JUDICIAL PRIVACY ACT (705 ILCS 90/ ET SEQ.)

A judicial officer may submit a written request to the State Board of Elections or through the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts to redact certain personal information from otherwise public documents. (705 ILCS 90/2-5(a)(1) and 2-10(b))

The judicial officer's home address would be redacted from the Statement of Candidacy, the headers of the petition pages, and the receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests. (705 ILCS 90/1-10)

The Judicial Privacy Act is not intended to restrain a judicial officer from independently making public his or her own personal information. Should a judicial officer include their information by voluntarily signing or circulating their petition page, that information would not automatically be redacted because they have voluntarily chosen to provide their information by signing or circulating the petition page. The State Board of Elections will redact the address from a signature line or circulator affidavit if the judicial officer specifies the petition and page(s) affected in their request for redaction.

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEEPERSONS

(only Democratic Party elected at the primary, Republican Party is chosen at the county conventions)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Committeeperson ([SBE Form P-19](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Not required for party offices.

Gender Declaration*: All candidates ([Form](#))

*Pursuant to PA 102-15 (eff. July 1, 2023), two persons from different genders will be declared elected State central committeepersons. Beginning with the 2026 General Primary, State central committeeperson candidates will submit a form declaring their gender identity. The candidate or their representative can submit the form with the nomination papers at the time of candidate filing. If the form is not submitted during the filing period, the SBE will follow up with the candidate and send them a form to complete.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- United States citizen
- Registered voter
- Live in the congressional district

(10 ILCS 5/7-8(a) (Alternative B), 7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party (elected at the primary):

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Term of office: 4 years (10 ILCS 5/7-8(a) (Alternative B))

Term begins: Date of completion of canvass and proclamation (10 ILCS 5/7-58)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

At least 100 of the primary electors of the party in their congressional district. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(f))

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party (elected at the primary): Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

All candidates will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person. Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) will not be included in a ballot placement lottery.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

BECOMING A DEMOCRATIC ELECTED COMMITTEEPERSON

In each congressional district at the primary election, the person receiving the highest number of votes for State central committeeperson, and the person of a different gender receiving the highest number of votes, shall be declared elected State central committeepersons from the district. If all of a party's candidates for State central committeeperson from a

congressional district are of the same gender, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected a State central committeeperson from the district, and, because of a failure to elect two persons from different genders to the committee, a vacancy shall be declared to exist in the office of the second member of the State central committee from the district. This vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the congressional committee of the political party, and the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall be a resident of the congressional district and of a different gender than the committeeperson elected at the general primary election. (10 ILCS 5/7-8(a) (Alternative B))

REPUBLICAN PARTY COMMITTEEPERSONS

State Central Committeepersons for the Republican Party will not appear on the March 2026 primary ballot. Rather, they will be elected at the county conventions pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/7-8(a), Alternative A.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

Democrat
100

COUNTY CLERK, TREASURER, SHERIFF, ASSESSOR*

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#)) or ([SBE Form P-8B](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 0.5% (.005) of the vote cast for any candidate of the party who received the highest number of votes in the county at the last general election. The highest vote getter could be any federal, state, or county candidate. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(c))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons who voted at the last general election in the county. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the number of persons who voted at the last general election in the county, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For specific signature calculations, contact the county clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Candidates will file in the office of the county clerk. Candidates in Peoria County file with the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 18 years of age
- United States citizen
- Registered voter in county or county board district
- **For Sheriff only:** not a convicted felon, resident of the county for one year, and has completed the Minimum Standards Basic Law Enforcement Officers Training Course as prescribed by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board or a substantially similar training program

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 55 ILCS 5/3-6001.5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Four years and until a successor is elected and qualified.

Term begins: December 1, 2026

County Clerk (55 ILCS 5/3-2001)
County Treasurer (55 ILCS 5/3-10001)
County Sheriff (55 ILCS 5/3-6002)
Assessor (counties less than 3,000,000 (35 ILCS 200/3-45)

December 7, 2026

Assessor (counties 3,000,000 or more) (35 ILCS 200/3-50)

* A candidate for county ASSESSOR in all counties of less than 3,000,000 must possess one of the following qualifications as certified by the individual to the county clerk: A Certified Illinois Assessing Official certificate from the Illinois Property Assessment Institute or a Certified Assessment Evaluator designation from the International Association of Assessing Officers. In addition, a person must have had at least 2 years' experience in the field of property sales, assessments, finance, or appraisals and must have passed an examination conducted by the Department of Revenue. (35 ILCS 200/3-45)

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, BOARD MEMBERS, & BOARD OF REVIEW MEMBERS (IN SOME

COUNTIES, NOT INCLUDING COOK)

Elected by District & At-Large

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Established Party county board by district ([SBE Form P-26](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party, at-large ([SBE Form P-8](#)); New Party, at-large and by district ([SBE Form P-8B](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 0.5% (.005) of the number of qualified electors of the candidate's party in the district who cast votes at the last general election. The highest vote getter could be any federal, state or county candidate. (10 ILCS 5/ 7-10(c))

Independent: Not less than 5%, nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in such district in which such district voted as a unit for that office. Also applies to Chair of the County Board and county board members elected from the county at-large. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the of the total number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 18 years of age (or will be 18 by the date of the upcoming general election)
- United States citizen
- Resident of the county for at least one year prior to the election
- Registered voter in county or county board district

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 55 ILCS 5/2-3015)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Two or four year term (contact the county clerk's office for further information) (55 ILCS 5/2-3009(a)(b))

County Commissioner & County Board of Review Member: Six years and until a successor is elected and qualified (55 ILCS 5/2-4006)

County Board members elected by district and at-large: Two or four year terms (55 ILCS 5/2-3009)

Term begins: December 7, 2026**

County Board Member (55 ILCS 5/2-3009)
Commissioner (55 ILCS 5/2-3009)

**Elected Board of Review members: 10 Days after the canvass of the vote is completed. (35 ILCS 200/6-35)

For specific signature calculations, contact the county clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Candidates will file in the office of the county clerk. Candidates in Peoria County file with the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

COOK COUNTY

BOARD COMMISSIONERS

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party county board by district ([SBE Form P-26](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party, at-large and by district ([SBE Form P-8B](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% (.005) of the qualified electors of the candidate's party in the district who cast votes at the last general election. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(d)(2))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of the officers to serve the respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For specific signature calculations, contact the county clerk.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- United States citizen
- Resident of the county board district at the time of election
- Resident of the county board district for at least two years prior to the election
- Registered voter

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; Cook County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 22, Article II, Sec. 22-31)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Four-year term (55 ILCS 5/2-6001; Cook County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 22, Article II, Sec. 22-31)

Term begins: December 7, 2026 (55 ILCS 5/2-6001, 6004; Cook County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 22, Article II, Sec. 22-31)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Candidates will file in the office of the Cook County Clerk.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF REVIEW COMMISSIONERS/BOARD OF ASSESSORS

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#));
New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#));
Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Office of the Cook
County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end
of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: The number of signatures equal to .5% (.005) of
the total number of registered voters in the candidate's Board of
Review/Board of Assessor district in the last general election at
which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that
Board of Review/Board of Assessor district. In no event shall the
number of signatures required be greater than the requisite number
for a candidate who seeks countywide office in Cook County (.5% of
the qualified electors of the candidate's party who cast votes at the
last general election). (10 ILCS 5/7-10(d)(3))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than
the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of persons
who voted at the last regular election in such district in which such
district voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its
respective territorial area. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, the
minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at
the last regular election in such district in which such district voted
as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial
area. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of
signatures is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For specific signature calculations, contact the Cook County Clerk.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 18 years of age
- United States citizen
- Elector of the county
- Resident of the election district
for at least two years before
the date of the election
- Holds no other lucrative public
office or public employment

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 35 ILCS 200/5-
5(a)-(c))

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Two or four year term
(35 ILCS 200/5-5(c)) (Contact the Cook
County Clerk's office for further
information)

Term begins: December 7, 2026
(35 ILCS 200/5-5)

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Office of the Cook County Clerk.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Established Party, multi-county school superintendent ([SBE Form P-20](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period. Multi-county Regional Superintendent Candidates file with the county clerk in the county where the principal office of the region is located.

Certification of qualifications: Filed with nomination papers. Form from the State Board of Education, certifying such candidate has the qualifications required by 105 ILCS 5/3-1. Incumbents shall not be required to file such certificate.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: Single county regions: At least 0.5% (.005) of the vote cast for any candidate of the party who received the highest number of votes in the county at the last general election. The candidate with the highest vote could be any federal, state, or county candidate. (10 ILCS 5/ 7-10(c))

Multi-county regions: The candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the primary electors of their party in the territory comprising the counties. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(j))

Independent: Single county regions: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater), of the number of persons who voted at the last general election in the county, signed by qualified voters of the county. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

Multi-county regions: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater), of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election at which voters in this territorial area voted as a unit for the office of Regional Superintendent of Schools, signed by qualified voters of the territory. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Single county regions: Not less than 5% of the number of persons who voted at the last general election in the county, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- United States Citizen
- Registered voter
- Master's degree
- Specific education requirements listed in 105 ILCS 5/3-1

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 105 ILCS 5/3-1)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Four years and until a successor is elected and qualified (105 ILCS 5/3-1)

Term begins: July 1, 2027

(105 ILCS 5/3-1)

Multi-county regions: Not less than 5% of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election at which voters in this territorial area voted as a unit for the office of Regional Superintendent of Schools, signed by qualified voters of the territory. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For signature calculations in single county regions, contact the county clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

Candidates will file in the office of the county clerk for **single county** regions. Candidates in a **multi-county** region will file with the Illinois State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, either by mail or in person.

Nomination papers received via other delivery methods (such as UPS or FedEx) by the SBE will not be included in a ballot placement lottery. Candidates in Peoria County file with the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

SIGNATURE CALCULATIONS

Region	Democrat	Republican	Independent	New Party
Adams/Brown/Cass/Morgan/Pike/Scott	84	233	2,526 – 4,040	2,526
Alexander/Jackson/Perry/Pulaski/Union	88	132	1,808 – 2,892	1,808
Bond/Christian/Effingham/Fayette/Montgomery	75	247	2,714 – 4,342	2,714
Boone/Winnebago	351	365	5,335 – 8,534	5,335
Bureau/Henry/Stark	80	136	1,754 – 2,805	1,754
Calhoun/Greene/Jersey/Macoupin	58	158	1,747 – 2,795	1,747
Carroll/JoDavies/Stephenson	80	123	1,629 – 2,606	1,629
Champaign/Ford	280	189	3,694 – 5,909	3,694
Clark/Coles/Cumberland/Douglas/Edgar /Moultrie/Shelby	92	253	2,797 – 4,475	2,797
Clay/Crawford/Jasper/Lawrence/Richland	36	137	1,460 – 2,334	1,460
Clinton/Jefferson/Marion/Washington	72	225	2,377 – 3,802	2,377
DeWitt/Livingston/Logan/McLean	273	333	4,721 – 7,553	4,721
Edwards/Gallatin/Hamilton/Hardin/Pope /Saline/Wabash/Wayne/White	45	180	1,863 – 2,980	1,863
Franklin/Johnson/Massac/Williamson	86	229	2,451 – 3,921	2,451
Fulton/Hancock/McDonough/Schuyler	70	132	1,672 – 2,674	1,672
Grundy/Kendall	211	245	3,256 – 5,209	3,256

Henderson/Knox/Mercer/Warren	83	121	1,678 – 2,684	1,678
Iroquois/Kankakee	106	194	2,314 – 3,702	2,314
LaSalle/Marshall/Putnam	121	185	2,378 – 3,803	2,378
Lee/Ogle/Whiteside	130	206	2,612 – 4,178	2,612
Macon/Piatt	107	164	2,181 – 3,488	2,181
Mason/Tazewell/Woodford	161	309	3,693 – 5,907	3,693
Menard/Sangamon	240	278	4,292 – 6,866	4,292
Monroe/Randolph	50	124	1,370 – 2,191	1,370

SANITARY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Office of the Cook County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: At least 0.5% (.005) of the primary electors of the candidate's party from the sanitary district. (10 ILCS 5/ 7-10(g))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election for Commissioners of the sanitary district, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election for Commissioners of the sanitary district, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For signature calculations, contact the Cook County Clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Office of the Cook County Clerk. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(2))

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Resident of the sanitary district
- Registered voter
- United States citizen

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 70 ILCS 2605/3)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Six years and until their successors shall be elected and qualified (70 ILCS 2605/3)

Note: Three commissioners (of a nine member board) are to be elected for six year terms. (70 ILCS 2605/3 and 3.2)

Term begins: December 8, 2026
(70 ILCS 2605/3)

SANITARY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

North Shore Sanitary District

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Office of the Lake County Clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: If a candidate seeks to run for trustee of a sanitary district in which trustees are elected from wards, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to .5% (.005) of the primary electors of the candidate's party in the ward of that sanitary district. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(g))

Independent: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in such sanitary district ward for the election of officers. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

New Party: Not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such sanitary district ward for the election of officers. Where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For signature calculations, contact the Lake County Clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Independent & New Party: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Office of the Lake County Clerk. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(2))

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Resident of the sanitary district
- Registered voter
- United States citizen
- Shall not be directly or indirectly interested in any contract, work, or business of the district, or the sale of any article, the expense, price or consideration of which is paid by the district; nor in the purchase of any real estate or other property belonging to the district, or which shall be sold for taxes or assessments, or by virtue of legal process at the suit of the district.

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 70 ILCS 2305/3)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party: October 27 – November 3, 2025

Independent and New Party:
May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Two or four year terms.
(70 ILCS 2305/3)

Note: Contact the district in Gurnee for the specific wards electing trustees and the term of office.

Term begins: December 7, 2026
(70 ILCS 2305/3)

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

SANITARY DISTRICT TRUSTEES

Districts under Sanitary District Act of 1936

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-4](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-1A](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the office of the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Nonpartisan: Not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in such district for the election of officers, except that where 5% is greater than 25,000, the minimum number of signatures required is 25,000.

(10 ILCS 5/10-3 and 3.1; 70 ILCS 2805/3.2)

For signature calculations, contact the county clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Nonpartisan: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the office of the county clerk for the jurisdiction in which they are running.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60601.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Resident of the sanitary district
- Registered voter
- United States citizen

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 70 ILCS 2805/3)

FILING PERIODS:

Nonpartisan:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. (70 ILCS 2805/3.2)

Note: Contact the district for the number of trustees to be elected. For those districts that have chosen by referendum to elect trustees, three trustees are to be elected for four year terms. (70 ILCS 2805/3.1, 3.2)

Term begins: December 7, 2026
(70 ILCS 2805/3.2)

BOARD MEMBER – BOARD OF EDUCATION

City of Peoria Only under 105 ILCS 5/33

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: District ([SBE Form P-7A](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-1A](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the office of the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Nonpartisan: At least 200 qualified voters of the district.
(105 ILCS 5/33-2)

FILING INFORMATION

Nonpartisan: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Primary.
(10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 18 years old
- United States citizen
- Resident of the district for at least one year immediately preceding the election
- Not be a child sex offender as defined in Section 11-9.3 of the Criminal Code of 2012

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 105 ILCS 5/33-2)

FILING PERIODS:

Nonpartisan:

September 29 – October 6, 2025

TERM:

Term of office: Five year terms
(105 ILCS 5/33-1)

By referendum, may change to four year terms. (105 ILCS 5/33-1A)

Term begins: July 1, 2026
(105 ILCS 5/33-1)

CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION – BOARD MEMBERS AND PRESIDENT

Districts: 1A, 2B, 3A, 4A, 5B, 6A, 7A, 8B, 9A, 10B – 2-YEAR TERMS

1B, 2A, 3B, 4B, 5A, 6B, 7B, 8A, 9B, 10A – 4-YEAR TERMS

Until January 15, 2027, each district shall be represented by one member who is elected at the 2024 general election to a 2-year term that begins January 15, 2025 and one member who is appointed by the Mayor by no later than December 16, 2024 to a 2-year term that begins January 15, 2025. Each elected member shall reside within the district that the member represents, and each appointed member shall reside both within the district that the member represents and outside of the subdistrict within which the elected member of the district resides.

Beginning January 15, 2027, each subdistrict shall be represented by one member who is elected at the 2026 general election. If a member is elected at the 2026 general election to fill the expired term of an appointed member, then the elected member shall serve a 2-year term that begins January 15, 2027. If a member is elected at the 2026 general election to fill the expired term of an elected member, then the member shall serve a 4-year term that begins January 15, 2027.

If a member is elected at the 2026 general election to serve a 2-year term, then the member elected at the 2028 general election shall serve a 4-year term that begins January 15, 2029. If a member is elected at the 2026 general election to serve a 4-year term, then the member elected in that subdistrict at the 2030 general election shall serve a 2-year term that begins January 15, 2031. (105 ILCS 5/34-3)

District maps are available on ilsenateredistricting.com or by clicking [here](#).

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: District ([SBE Form P-7C](#)), President ([SBE Form P-7D](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-1A](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the office of the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 18 years old
- United States citizen
- Resident of the district for at least one year immediately preceding the election (**Board Member**)
- Resident of the City of Chicago for at least one year immediately preceding the election (**President**)
- Not be a child sex offender as defined in Section 11-9.3 of the Criminal Code of 2012
- Be in compliance with the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/10-9

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 105 ILCS 5/34-4)

FILING PERIODS:

Nonpartisan:

May 18 - May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Two or four years*
(105 ILCS 5/34-3(b-10 and b-15))

Term begins: January 15, 2027
(105 ILCS 5/34-3(b-10 and b-15))

*If a member is elected to fill the expired term of an appointed member, they shall serve a 2-year term. If a member is elected to fill the expired term of an elected member, they shall serve a 4-year term.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Nonpartisan: At least 500 but not more than 1,500 of the voters residing within the electoral district. Persons eligible for election to the Board at large shall receive no less than 2,500 signatures of voters residing within the City of Chicago. (105 ILCS 5/34-4)

FILING INFORMATION

Nonpartisan: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

All candidates will file with the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners.

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEEPERSONS (COOK COUNTY) & PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSONS

(ALL COUNTIES EXCEPT COOK)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party, Township Committeeperson ([SBE Form P-10](#)), Precinct Committeeperson ([SBE Form P-27](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Not required for party offices.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: Township Committeeperson – not less than 5% nor more than 8% of the votes cast (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) for the party's candidate who received the highest number of votes in the township. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(i))

Precinct Committeeperson – a minimum of 10 primary electors of the candidate's party for the precinct. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(i))

For signature calculations for Township Committeeperson, contact the Cook County Clerk.

For signature calculations for Precinct Committeeperson, contact the county clerk for that precinct.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(5))

All candidates for Township Committeeperson will file with the Office of the Cook County Clerk. All candidates for Precinct Committeeperson will file with the office of the county clerk. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(5))

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- United States citizen
- Registered voter
- Resident of the township or precinct for which the candidate wishes to seek office

(10 ILCS 5/7-8(b), 7-10, 10-5)

FILING PERIODS:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

TERM:

Term of office:

Township Committeeperson: Four years (10 ILCS 5/7-8(b))

Precinct Committeeperson: Two years (10 ILCS 5/7-8(b))

Term begins: Date of completion of canvass and proclamation (10 ILCS 5/7-58)

FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS & PRESIDENT (DUPAGE COUNTY)

Downstate Forest Preserve District Act

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([P-10](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for president and commissioner shall be candidates of established political parties (70 ILCS 805/3c)

Commissioners: At least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the registered voters of the political subdivision, district, or division for which the nomination is made or 25 signatures, whichever is greater. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(k))

President: At least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the qualified electors of their party who cast votes at the last preceding general election in their county. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(c))

For signature calculations, contact the DuPage County Clerk.

FILING INFORMATION

Established Party: Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the General Primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

All candidates will file with the Office of the DuPage County Clerk. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1))

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60601.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Resident of the county board district (One commissioner elected from each district)
- Resident of the county (President)
- Registered voter
- United States citizen

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 70 ILCS 805/3c)

FILING PERIOD:

Established Party:

October 27 – November 3, 2025

TERM:

Term of office: Two or four years (Commissioners) and four years (President). (70 ILCS 805/3c)

Term begins: First Monday of the month following the month of election, December 7, 2026. (70 ILCS 805/3c)

FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

(IN SOME COUNTIES
HAVING A POPULATION OF MORE THAN 200,000 BUT LESS
THAN 800,000)

Downstate Forest Preserve District Act

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-4](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-1A](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk. The receipt must be filed with petitions or by the end of the filing period.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Nonpartisan: Not less than 100 qualified voters of the forest preserve district. (70 ILCS 805/3d)

FILING INFORMATION

Nonpartisan: Not more than 169 nor less than 162 days prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

Candidates will file in the office of the county clerk for **single county** districts. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1))

Campaign Contributions: Reports must be filed either electronically or on paper with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704, or 69 W. Washington St., Pedway LL-08, Chicago, IL 60601.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Resident of the county no later than the date of the commencement of the term of office
- Registered voter
- United States citizen

(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-5; 70 ILCS 805/3d)

FILING PERIOD:

Nonpartisan:

May 18 – May 26, 2026

TERM:

Term of office: Six years (70 ILCS 805/3d)

Term begins: First Monday of the month following the month of election, December 7, 2026.

(70 ILCS 805/3d)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SIGNING PETITIONS

How should the voter sign their name when they sign the petition?

The voter should sign the petition with the same name that they are registered to vote with; however, signing with a nickname will not invalidate the signature, provided the voter can be identified and it can be shown that the voter is lawfully registered to vote and qualified to sign the petition.

Are abbreviations allowed on petitions?

Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the voter's address, including the street number.

Are pencil signatures allowed?

Yes, but it is advisable to use a pen with dark ink.

Can ditto marks be used on the petitions?

Though ditto marks are not specifically prohibited, it is suggested they be avoided. The use of ditto marks could be objected to and the outcome of an objection cannot be predicted. A circulator can, however, fill in any missing information, except a voter's signature.

Can a registered voter sign petitions for candidates of more than one political party for the same primary election?

No. A "qualified primary elector" of a party may not sign petitions for or be a candidate in the primary of more than one party. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

Can a P.O. box be used as a signer's address?

Generally, no. Signers must list the residential address where they are registered to vote on petitions. However, there are some exceptions where voters may list a P.O. box as a residential address (e.g. Address Confidentiality for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Human Trafficking, or Stalking Act (750 ILCS 61/1 *et seq.*)).

May a voter who voted Republican in the last Primary Election now sign a petition for a Democratic candidate?

Yes; however, no one may sign petitions for candidates of more than one political party for the same Primary Election. *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51 (1973); *Sperling v. County Officers Electoral Board*, 57 Ill.2d 81, 309 N.E.2d 589 (Ill. 1974).

Can a voter sign an established party petition, and a new party and/or independent petition?

Yes, a voter may sign an established party candidate's petition prior to a general primary election and subsequent to that election, sign a petition of an Independent or new political party candidate prior to a general election. The voter may not, however, sign a petition of more than one Independent or new political party candidate's petition for the same office. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-3)

Can a voter sign more than one established party candidate's petition?

Yes, a signer can sign petitions for as many candidates of the same established political party as they want, but they cannot sign petitions for different established parties in the same election.

CIRCULATING PETITIONS

May a candidate circulate their own petitions?

Yes.

When can the circulator start collecting signatures?

No more than 90 days prior to the last day for filing petitions. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

If a candidate finds something wrong with their petitions after they are filed, can a new set of petitions be circulated and filed before the end of the filing period?

Yes, but the candidate must cancel the first set of petitions in writing. If the candidate fails to cancel the first set of petitions, then only the first petitions shall be considered filed and all subsequent petitions shall be void. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(11), 10-6.2)

May a circulator circulate petitions for an independent candidate and an established party candidate in the same election?

No. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

May a circulator sign as a voter on the petition they are circulating?

Yes, as long as the circulator is a registered voter in the applicable political subdivision or district.

May a circulator circulate petitions for an established party candidate and a new party candidate in the same election?

No. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

Is the circulator required to be a registered voter?

No, but they must be:

- Must be at least 18 years of age or will be 18 by the date of the upcoming general election; and,
- A citizen of the United States (can be from outside of the district, county, or state). (10 ILCS 5/3-6)
- They must also include their current address on the circulator's affidavit. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

Can a petition sheet be circulated by more than one individual?

No. Only the person who signs the page as circulator can circulate that sheet. By signing as a circulator, the circulator is attesting that all signers signed in their presence. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

Who can remove a signature from a nominating petition?

Only the circulator or the candidate on whose behalf the petition was circulated may strike a signature; however, an individual can submit a written request to the proper filing office to have their name removed from the petition before the petition is filed. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-3)

Must the notary of the petition be an Illinois notary and may the notary also be a signatory of the petition?

Under the provisions of the Uniform Recognition of Acknowledgements Act (765 ILCS 30/2): “Notarial acts may be performed outside this State for use in this State with the same effect as if performed by a notary public of this State by the following persons authorized pursuant to the laws and regulations of other governments in addition to any other person authorized by the laws and regulations of this State...” “(1) a notary public authorized to perform notarial acts in the place in which the act is performed...”

It has not been definitively determined whether a notary may also be a signatory to a petition. Some electoral boards and circuit courts have upheld petitions where the notary was also a signer of the petition, but the issue has not yet been decided by the Supreme Court or any appellate court in Illinois. A cautious candidate might wish to avoid using a petition signer as the notary so as to avoid the risk of having to defend against an objection on this issue.

For additional information contact the [Index Division](#) of the Secretary of State’s office, 111 E. Monroe, Springfield, IL 62756-0001, (217) 782-7017.

FILING PETITIONS

May a candidate file in person or by mail?

Yes, however, if the candidate wishes to be in the lottery for the first ballot position, it is advisable to file in person as only candidates whose petitions are **received** in the first mail delivery on the first day of filing are eligible for the lottery. Candidates should use the United States Postal Service when mailing to the Illinois State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9(2), 10-6.2)

Do candidates have to file their own nomination papers?

No. An agent of the candidate can file the candidate’s nomination papers.

May a petition contain the names of two or more candidates of the same established party?

Yes. An established party may file a slate of candidates for offices to be filled within the State, county, or district (e.g. judicial). However, each candidate of the slate must individually file a Statement of Candidacy and a receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)

May a candidate file for more than one office?

Yes, however, the candidate must withdraw from all but one office within five business days following the last day of petition filing if the offices are incompatible. The withdrawal notice must be in writing and notarized. If the candidate does not withdraw, their name will not be certified for any office. Judicial candidates at the circuit court level are limited to filing a single petition for one circuit court vacancy and/or a single petition for one subcircuit vacancy in any filing period. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9)) Withdrawal notices should be provided to the entity with which the candidate filed their nomination papers.

When may petitions be mailed?

There are no statutory requirements regarding a time element for mailing petitions; however, all petitions must be **received** during the filing period. All petitions received in the office prior to the opening of the office on the first day of the filing period or after the close of the office on the last day of the filing period will be returned to the sender. (10 ILCS 5/7-12.6, 8-9, 10-6.2)

If you are first in line or your petition is in the first mail delivery of the day, will you be first on the ballot?

Not necessarily. If there are two or more candidates in line prior to the opening of the office filing from the same party and for the same office, they would be considered as filing simultaneously along with any petition in the first mail delivery, and will be involved in a lottery to determine ballot position. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9(2), 10-6.2)

NOTE: Candidates who file petitions during the last hour of filing (between 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM) on the last day to file petitions are also eligible for a lottery to determine the final ballot position. (Illinois Administrative Code, Title 26, Section 201.40)

May a petition that has been filed be changed?

No. A petition once filed may not be added to or altered; however, the receipt(s) for filing Statements of Economic Interests may be filed at any time during the filing period. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12)

When a candidate withdraws their nominating petitions, are the petitions returned to the candidate?

No. The original documents are not returned, but remain in the office where they were filed. They must remain in the office for a period of at least six months. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

Is a lottery conducted for party placement on the ballot?

For the general election a lottery is conducted by each election authority for all established parties to determine the proper order of party placement on the ballot. This lottery is held within 30 days following the proclamation of the results of the primary election. New parties are involved in a lottery when there is a simultaneous filing with the State Board of Elections or the county clerk. The State Board of Elections conducts the lottery for new parties that file in the Springfield office and the election authorities must use such order. No party lottery is done for the primary election because each party has its own ballot, separate from any other established party. (10 ILCS 5/7-60)

In filing a petition to fill a vacancy in the office of circuit judge, must the petition contain the vacancy for which the candidate is filing?

Yes. For example, "To fill the vacancy of the Honorable John Jones." The vacancy is for the preceding elected judge, not the interim appointee.

Are judges running for retention required to file petitions?

No. Judges running for retention are required to file a Declaration of Candidacy for Retention with the Secretary of State on or before Sunday, May 3, 2026, preceding the expiration of their term of office. (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 12(d))

When are petitions open to the public?

Upon their filing with the proper office. As a practical matter, there will be some delay in availability while the State Board of Elections or the election authority processes each petition. All certificates of nomination and nomination papers when presented or filed shall be open (under proper regulation) to public inspection and the State Board of Elections, election authorities, and local election officials having charge of nomination papers shall preserve the same in their respective offices not less than six months. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

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