

State of Illinois

2026

**ELECTION &
CAMPAIGN
FINANCE
CALENDAR**

Issued by the
Illinois State Board of Elections

Amended on July 9, 2025



AMENDMENTS

Amendment Date	Revised Page Number	Change Made
7/2/2025	N/A	Original Issue Date
7/9/2025	53	<u>Vote by Mail Counting</u> – Last Day was incorrectly listed as Tuesday, November 19, 2026 , and has been corrected to Tuesday, November 17, 2026 .

Preface

This calendar pertains to all offices to be nominated and/or elected at the federal, state, and county General Primary Election in March 2026 and at the General Election in November 2026.

This calendar may be amended to include new legislation and court decisions. Please visit the Illinois State Board of Elections website (www.elections.il.gov) for any updates or follow us on social media to be notified when updated publications are released.

Please note that many of the filing periods and timelines leading up to the General Primary and General Election have been shifted or changed pursuant to Public Acts 103-0586 and 103-0600.

Definitions

The following definitions are employed as related to this calendar:

Election Authority	The County Clerk, the Municipal Board of Election Commissioners, or the County Board of Election Commissioners. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(8))
Local Election Official	The clerk or secretary of a unit of local government or a school district. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(10))
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))

Calculation of Dates and Filing Periods

If the first or last day of any action required or allowed by the Election Code falls on a State holiday, Saturday, or Sunday, then the period shall extend through the first business day following the day otherwise fixed as the first or last day for filing or the close of registration, 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))

For dates not governed by the Election Code, if the last day on which any act provided by law is to be done falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or State Holiday, that day shall be excluded from the calculation. (5 ILCS 70/1.11)

For purposes of this calendar, "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, Christmas Day, and any other day declared by the President of the United States or the Governor of Illinois to be a day during which the agencies of the State of Illinois that are ordinarily open to do business with the public shall be closed for business. (10 ILCS 5/1-6(b))

Filing and registration dates are fixed by the Election Code. The dates shall conform to those expressed in statute unless they fall on a date which is not a business day as defined above. In such case(s), the period shall extend through the first business day next following the day otherwise fixed as the first or last date. (10 ILCS 5/1-6(a))

Statutory References

All citations contained herein refer to the Election Code, 10 ILCS 5/1-1 *et seq.*, unless otherwise indicated, and are current as of July 2025. This calendar is a summary of the Board's calculations of the timeline for the 2026 General Primary and General Election and is not a legal document. Election authorities, candidates, and others should refer directly to relevant statutes and rules for relevant dates and legal requirements and should consult their own competent legal counsel rather than relying upon this calendar. Citation to this calendar shall not be sufficient evidence before an electoral board to overrule an objection to the timeliness of any filing.

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GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION

MARCH 17, 2026

(10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1(a), 1.2(b))

TO BE NOMINATED:

- United States Senator
- Representatives in Congress – All 17 Districts
- Governor/Lieutenant Governor
- Attorney General
- Secretary of State
- Comptroller
- Treasurer
- State Senators
 - For 2-year terms: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 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.
- Representatives in the General Assembly – All 118 Districts
- Sanitary District Commissioners/Trustees
- Forest Preserve District Commissioners (DuPage County)
- County Clerk
- County Treasurer
- County Sheriff
- County Assessor
- Members of Board of Review (in counties with elected boards of review, including Cook County)
- Regional Superintendent of Schools
- Chicago Board of Education – Board Members and President
 - For 2-year terms: 1A, 2B, 3A, 4A, 5B, 6A, 7A, 8B, 9A, 10B
 - For 4-year terms: 1B, 2A, 3B, 4B, 5A, 6B, 7B, 8A, 9B, 10A, President
- County Commissioners (Counties not under township organization)
- County Board Members (Counties under township organization)
- Judges (Additional Judgeships if required)
 - Supreme Court Judges, Vacancies will be filled
 - Appellate Court Judges, Vacancies will be filled
 - Circuit Court Judges, Vacancies will be filled
 - Resident Circuit Court Judges, Vacancies will be filled
 - Subcircuit Judges, Vacancies will be filled

TO BE ELECTED:

- Precinct committeepersons (all counties, excluding Cook)
- Township committeepersons (Cook County)
- School Board Members (districts under Article 33 of the School Code)
- State central committeepersons*(Democratic – two committeepersons of different genders per district)

*The Republican Party elects State central committeepersons at the county conventions

BALLOT ORDER:

United States Senate, State offices, congressional offices, Illinois General Assembly, trustees of sanitary districts, county offices, judicial offices, municipal offices (municipalities with annual elections), precinct or township committeepersons. (10 ILCS 5/7-19)

DATES GOVERNING THE GENERAL PRIMARY

TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2025

PETITION CIRCULATION – PEORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

First day to circulate nominating petitions for candidates for school districts under Article 33 of the School Code who file between September 29 – October 6, 2025 (90 days preceding the last day to file nomination papers). (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6; 105 ILCS 5/33-1)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025

PETITION CIRCULATION – ESTABLISHED PARTY

First day to circulate nominating petitions for established political party candidates who file in between October 27 – November 3, 2025 (90 days preceding the last day to file nomination papers). (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12, 8-8)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

PEORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT FILING – FIRST DAY

First day for candidates for school district board member under Article 33 of the School Code to file original nomination papers (must include statement of candidacy and original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators) in the office of the Peoria County Election Commission. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025

PEORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT FILING – LAST DAY

Last day for candidates for school district board member under Article 33 of the School Code to file original nomination papers (must include statement of candidacy and original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators) in the office of the Peoria County Election Commission. (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS – PEORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Last day for candidates filing nomination papers during the September 29 – October 6, 2025, filing period to file a Statement of Economic Interests with the Peoria County Election Commission as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. The receipt must be filed on or before this date with the office of the election authority. The receipt must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. (5 ILCS 420/4A-105; 10 ILCS 5/10-5)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025

NOTICE OF BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY – PEORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Last day for written notice of the time and place for conducting lottery to be given when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for the same office: (a) as of the opening hour of the filing period, September 29, 2025; and/or (b) within the last hour of the filing period, October 6, 2025. Notice shall be given by the Peoria County Election Commission to the chair of each political party and to each organization of citizens within the election jurisdiction entitled to have pollwatchers present at the last election. Notice must also be posted. (10 ILCS 5/10-6.2)

Note:

- **There must be seven days' notice given. If the lottery is to be held on the last statutory date, October 15, 2025, the last day to give notice is October 8, 2025.**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2025

OBJECTIONS – PEORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT CANDIDATE NOMINATION FILING

Last day for filing objections to the nomination papers of all candidates who filed during the September 29 – October 6, 2025, filing period. Objections are filed with the Peoria County Election Commission. (10 ILCS 5/10-8)

Note:

- For procedures on objections, see page 59.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025

BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY – PEORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Last day for the Peoria County Election Commissioners to conduct a lottery when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for candidates as of the opening hour of the filing period on September 29, 2025, or during the last hour on October 6, 2025. (10 ILCS 5/10-6.2)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CREATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

First day to publish notice of intention to file a petition to create a political subdivision whose officers are to be elected rather than appointed, and which will appear on the General Primary Election ballot. The notice is to be published in a newspaper within the proposed political subdivision or, if no such newspaper exists, then in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed territory. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(g))

Note:

- If initial officers are to be elected at the election for creation of a new unit of government, candidates for such offices shall file nomination papers 141-134 days before such election, which is October 27 – November 3, 2025. It is recommended that this notice be published on the earliest date of October 16, 2025, to inform potential candidates and allow them to circulate petitions before the filing deadline. (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2, 7-12((3), 10-6)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2025

ESTABLISHED PARTY FILING – FIRST DAY

First day for candidates of established political parties to file original nomination papers (must include statement of candidacy and original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators). (10 ILCS 5/7-12, 8-9)

Candidates for congressional, legislative, and judicial offices, or for any office to be elected by the voters of more than one county file in the principal (Springfield) office of the State Board of Elections. Candidates for county offices, township committeepersons (Cook County), and precinct committeepersons (in counties containing a population less than 2,000,000) will file with the county clerk. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1) and (2) and (5), 8-9(1))

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2025

ESTABLISHED PARTY FILING – LAST DAY

Last day for candidates of established political parties to file original nomination papers (must include statement of candidacy and original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators). (10 ILCS 5/7-12, 8-9)

Candidates for congressional, legislative, and judicial offices, or for any office to be elected by the voters of more than one county file in the principal (Springfield) office of the State Board of Elections. Candidates for county offices, township committeepersons (Cook County), and precinct committeepersons (in counties containing a population less than 2,000,000) will file with the county clerk. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1) and (2) and (5), 8-9(1))

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS – ESTABLISHED PARTY

Last day for candidates filing nomination papers during the October 27 – November 3, 2025, filing period to file a Statement of Economic Interests with the county clerk or Secretary of State as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. The receipt must be filed on or before this date in the office where the nomination papers were originally filed – the State Board of Elections or the election authority. The receipt, if required, must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. (5 ILCS 420/4A-105; 10 ILCS 5/7-12(8), 8-8)

Exception:

- **Candidates for federal and party offices (e.g., candidates for Representatives in Congress, precinct committeepersons, and township committeepersons) are not required to file a Statement of Economic Interests. (5 ILCS 420-4A-101)**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2025

NOTICE OF BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY – ESTABLISHED PARTY

Last day for written notice of the time and place for conducting lottery to be given when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for the same office and party: (a) as of the opening hour of the filing period, October 27, 2025; and/or (b) within the last hour of the filing period, November 3, 2025. Notice shall be given by the State Board of Elections or the election authority to the chair of each political party and to each organization of citizens within the election jurisdiction entitled to have pollwatchers present at the last election. Notice must also be posted. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9(2))

Note:

- **There must be seven days' notice given. If the lottery is to be held on the last statutory date, November 12, 2025, the last day to give notice is November 5, 2025.**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2025

INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES – ESTABLISHED PARTY

Last day for an individual who has filed nomination papers for two or more incompatible offices during the October 27 – November 3, 2025, filing period to withdraw from all but one of the offices in the office where the nomination papers were originally filed. An elected party office in an established political party is not incompatible with any elected public office. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9), 8-9(3), 10-7)

OBJECTIONS – ESTABLISHED PARTY CANDIDATE NOMINATION FILING

Last day for filing objections to the nomination papers of all candidates who filed during the October 27 – November 3, 2025, filing period. Objections are filed in the office where the nomination papers were originally filed – the State Board of Elections or election authority.
(10 ILCS 5/7-12.1, 7-13, 8-9.1, 10-8)

Note:

- For procedures on objections, see page 59.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025

BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY – ESTABLISHED PARTY

Last day for the State Board of Elections or election authority to conduct a lottery when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for the same office and party, as of the opening hour of the filing period on October 27, 2025, or during the last hour on November 3, 2025.
(10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9(3))

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025

SPECIAL JUDICIAL FILING – FIRST DAY

First day for judicial candidates of established political parties to file original nomination papers (must include statement of candidacy and original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators) in the principal (Springfield) office of the State Board of Elections for judicial vacancies which occurred between October 13 – November 3, 2025. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1))

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CREATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

Last day to publish notice of intention to file a petition to create a political subdivision whose officers are to be elected rather than appointed, and which will appear on the General Primary Election ballot. The notice is to be published in a newspaper within the proposed political subdivision or, if no such newspaper exists, then in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed territory.
(10 ILCS 5/28-2(g))

Note:

- If initial officers are to be elected at the election for creation of a new unit of government, candidates for such offices shall file nomination papers 141-134 days before such election, which is October 27 – November 3, 2025. It is recommended that this notice be published on the earliest date of October 16, 2025, to inform potential candidates and allow them to circulate petitions before the filing deadline. (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2, 7-12(3), 10-6)

PETITION TO CREATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

Last day to file a petition (must include original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators) to create a political subdivision with the appropriate officer or board. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(b))

Note:

- The specific statutory provisions governing the creation of political subdivisions can be found in the relevant Code(s) governing such subdivisions (e.g. the Illinois Municipal, Township, Counties Codes).

- **Objections can be filed on or before the date of the hearing with the appropriate circuit court clerk. (10 ILCS 5/28-4)**
- **If initial officers are to be elected at the election for creation of a new unit of government, candidates for such offices shall file nomination papers 141-134 days before such election, which is October 27 – November 3, 2025. (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2, 7-12((3), 10-6)**
- **The circuit court clerk shall publish the hearing date for a public policy petition filed in the circuit court clerk's office not later than 14 days after the petition is filed and at least five days before the hearing. Final orders must be issued within seven days after the hearing. (10 ILCS 5/28-4)**

LISTING OF NURSING HOME FACILITIES - IDPH

Last day for the Department of Public Health to certify to the State Board of Elections a list of the facilities licensed or certified pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45/1-101 *et seq.*), the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 (210 ILCS 49/1-101 *et seq.*), the ID/DD Community Care Act (210 ILCS 47/1-101 *et seq.*) or the MC/DD Act (210 ILCS 46/1-101 *et seq.*). (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025

SPECIAL JUDICIAL FILING – LAST DAY

Last day for judicial candidates of established political parties to file original nomination papers (must include statement of candidacy and original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators) in the principal (Springfield) office of the State Board of Elections for judicial vacancies which occurred during the three-week period prior to the 134th day before the General Primary Election (October 13 – November 3, 2025). (10 ILCS 5/7-12(1))

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS – SPECIAL JUDICIAL

Last day for candidates filing nomination papers during the November 17–24, 2025, filing period to file a Statement of Economic Interests with the Secretary of State as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. Candidates who file petitions with the State Board of Elections must file a current receipt for the same office with the State Board no later than 5:00 p.m. (5 ILCS 420/4A-105, 10 ILCS 5/7-12(8))

OBJECTIONS – NEW POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

Last day for filing objections to a petition to create a political subdivision in the office where the petitions were originally filed. (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

Note:

- **For procedures on objections, see page 59.**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2025

NOTICE OF BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY – SPECIAL JUDICIAL

Last day for written notice of the time and place for conducting lottery to be given when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for the same office and party: (a) as of the opening hour of the filing period, November 17, 2025; and/or (b) within the last hour of the filing period, November 24, 2025, (special judicial filing period). The State Board of Elections shall give notice to the chair of

each established political party and to each organization of citizens within the election jurisdiction entitled to have pollwatchers present at the last election. Notice must also be posted. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6))

Note:

- **There must be seven days' notice given. If the lottery is to be held on the last statutory date, December 3, 2025, the last day to give notice is November 26, 2025.**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025

DEPUTY REGISTRARS – ADDITIONAL APPLICANTS

Last day for County Central Committee Chairs to submit a list of applicants for additional deputy registrars to the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a))

Note:

- **The election authority may require a chair of a county central committee to furnish a supplemental list of applicants.**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025

OBJECTIONS – SPECIAL JUDICIAL CANDIDATE NOMINATION FILING

Last day for filing objections to the nomination papers of all candidates who filed during the November 17–24, 2025, filing period. Objections are filed in the office of the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-12.1, 10-8)

Note:

- **For procedures on objections, see page 59.**

INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES – SPECIAL JUDICIAL

Last day for an individual who has filed nomination papers for two or more incompatible offices during the November 17–24, 2025, filing period (or having filed for one office during the October 27 – November 3, 2025, filing period and a second incompatible office during the November 17–24, 2025, filing period) to withdraw from all but one of the offices in the office of the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9))

BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY – SPECIAL JUDICIAL

Last day for the State Board of Elections to conduct a lottery when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for the same office and party: (a) as of the opening hour of the filing period, November 17, 2025; and/or (b) within the last hour of the filing period, November 24, 2025, (special judicial filing period). (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6))

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025

LISTING OF NURSING HOME FACILITIES – SBE

Last day for the State Board of Elections to certify to the proper election authority a list of facilities licensed or certified pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45/1-101 *et seq.*), the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 (210 ILCS 49/1-101 *et seq.*), the ID/DD Community Care Act (210 ILCS 47/1-101 *et seq.*), or the MC/DD Act (210 ILCS 46/1-101 *et seq.*), for the purpose of conducting an election pursuant to Election Code Section 19-12.2. The list shall

indicate bed capacity and the chief administrator of each facility appearing on the certified list. (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT CERTIFICATION – REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Last day for the Regional Superintendent of Schools to certify to the State Board of Elections a list of each unit school district under their supervision and control, and a list of each county in which all or any part of each of those districts is located. (105 ILCS 5/3-1.1)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025

VOTER REGISTRATION DATA – FIRST DAY TO CERTIFY

First day for the election authority to indicate in writing that their voter registration data, including voting history from the latest election, is complete and up to date. (10 ILCS 5/4-8, 5-7, 6-35)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025

REFERENDA FILING

Last day for filing petitions (must include original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators) for the submission of questions of public policy (local). (10 ILCS 5/28-2(a), 28-6, 28-7)

Exceptions:

- **Propositions to create a political subdivision.**
- **Referenda held under the provisions of Article IX of the Liquor Control Act or Section 18-120 of the Property Tax Code. (35 ILCS 200/18-120; 235 ILCS 5/9)**

Note:

- **Petitions to initiate backdoor referenda must be filed under the deadline specified in the specific statute authorizing the referenda, but in no case later than 92 days prior to the ensuing election. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(f))**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025

VOTE BY MAIL – FIRST DAY TO APPLY

First day for any registered voter within the confines of the United States to apply by mail or in person to the election authority for an official vote by mail ballot. Please note that mailing and delivery of ballots does not begin until Thursday, February 5, 2026. (10 ILCS 5/19-2, 19-4)

SYSTEMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION MAINTENANCE

Last day for the election authority to complete any systematic program to remove ineligible voters from the voting rolls prior to the March 17, 2026, General Primary Election. (52 U.S.C. § 20507(c)(2)(A))

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025

OBJECTIONS – REFERENDA

Last day to file objections to petitions for the submission of questions of public policy (local).
Objections to petitions for local referenda are filed in the office where the petitions were originally filed. (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

Exceptions:

- **Propositions to create a political subdivision.**
- **Referenda held under the provisions of Article IX of the Liquor Control Act or Section 18-120 of the Property Tax Code. (35 ILCS 200/18-120; 235 ILCS 5/9)**

Note:

- **For procedures on objections, see page 59.**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2025

VOTER REGISTRATION DATA – LAST DAY TO CERTIFY

Last day for the election authority to indicate in writing that their voter registration data, including voter history from the last election, is complete and up to date. (10 ILCS 5/4-8, 5-7, 6-35)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2025

UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT CERTIFICATION – SBE

Last day for the State Board of Elections to certify unit school districts and counties to the appropriate election authorities after receiving the list as certified by the regional superintendent of schools. (105 ILCS 5/3-1.1)

REFERENDA RESOLUTIONS

Last day for local governing boards to adopt a resolution or ordinance to allow a binding public question to appear on the General Primary Election ballot. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(c))

Last day for County, Township, Municipal, School, Library, and Park Boards to authorize placement of advisory referenda on the ballot by resolution. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(c); 55 ILCS 5/2-3002, 5-1005.5; 60 ILCS 1/30-204, 80-80; 65 ILCS 5/3.1-40-60; 70 ILCS 1205/8-30; 75 ILCS 5/4-18; 105 ILCS 5/9-1.5)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026

UNITED STATES SERVICE MEMBER APPLICATION FOR BALLOT

First day for any voter who is a member of the United States Service, a service member's spouse, or a service member's dependent of voting age who expects to be absent from the voter's county of residence on Election Day to apply for an official ballot to the election authority having jurisdiction over their residence. Members of the Armed Forces may apply via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2, 20-2.3, 20-3)

Note:

- **No registration shall be required to vote pursuant to the sections cited.**

VOTE BY MAIL REGISTRATION – CITIZEN TEMPORARILY OUTSIDE THE U.S.

First day for a citizen of the United States temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States who is not registered but is otherwise qualified to vote and who expects to be absent from the voter's county of residence on Election Day to simultaneously apply to the election authority having jurisdiction over their precinct of residence for registration and a vote by mail ballot. Citizens of the United States may make application via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.1, 20-3)

VOTE BY MAIL APPLICATION – NONRESIDENT CIVILIAN

First day for a nonresident civilian citizen who is otherwise qualified to vote, to apply to the election authority having jurisdiction over their precinct of former residence for a vote by mail ballot containing the federal offices only. Nonresident citizens of the United States may apply via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.2)

Note:

- Such application may be made only on the official federal postcard, and no registration shall be required.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026**WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDACY – SBE**

Last day a candidate may file a Withdrawal of Candidacy in the office of the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9), 8-9(3))

BALLOT CERTIFICATION – SBE

Last day for the State Board of Elections to certify the names of candidates for the General Primary Election ballot to the county clerks. (10 ILCS 5/7-14, 8-10)

BALLOT CERTIFICATION – PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Last day for the circuit court clerk and the local election official to certify any binding public question or advisory referenda to the election authority having jurisdiction over the political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/28-5)

Last day for the county clerk to certify to the board of election commissioners any referenda to be submitted to the voters in its jurisdiction. (10 ILCS 5/28-5)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026**WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDACY – ELECTION AUTHORITY**

Last day a candidate may file a Withdrawal of Candidacy in the office of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9), 7-14)

BALLOT CERTIFICATION – COUNTY CLERK

Last day for the county clerk to certify to the board of election commissioners the names of candidates to be voted for in their jurisdiction. (10 ILCS 5/7-14, 8-10)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

Last day an individual may file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a write-in candidate with the proper election authority or authorities. Write-in votes shall only be counted for candidates who have filed a Declaration of Intent. Write-in declarations are NOT filed with the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-59(b), 17-16.1)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

PUBLICATION – VOTING AIDS

Last day the election authority shall provide public notice, calculated to reach elderly voters and voters with disabilities, of the availability of registration and voting aids under the Federal Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, of the availability of assistance in marking the ballot, procedures for voting by mail, and procedures for early voting. (10 ILCS 5/7-15)

PUBLICATION – PUBLIC QUESTION

First day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon during the General Primary Election within the jurisdiction. The notice shall be published once in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the political or governmental subdivision. The election authority shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the election authority. The local election official shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the political or governmental subdivision. If there is no principal office, the local election official shall post the notice at the building in which the governing body of the political or governmental subdivision held its first meeting of the calendar year in which the referendum is being held. (10 ILCS 5/12-5(a))

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

PUBLICATION – NEW VOTING DEVICES

Last day for the election authority to publish notice that new mechanical or electronic voting devices will be used for the first time at the General Primary Election. (10 ILCS 5/24-1.1, 24B-3; 24C-3)

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026

SCHEDULE FOR EARLY VOTING – LAST DAY TO PROVIDE TO SBE

Last day for the election authority to provide the State Board of Elections with a list of all early voting sites and the hours each site will be open. (10 ILCS 5/19A-25(f))

POSTING FOR EARLY VOTING – LAST DAY TO POST

Last day for the election authority to post the schedule for early voting conducted at the office of the election authority and at each temporary location. Posting shall remain at each site until the last day of the early voting period (March 16, 2026). If the election authority maintains a website, they shall make the schedule available on their website. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15(a), 19A-25(b) and (d))

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

PUBLICATION – FIRST DAY TO PUBLISH EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE

First day for the election authority to publish:

- 1) The location of each permanent and temporary site for early voting and the precincts served by each location
- 2) The dates and hours that early voting will be conducted at each location

The election authority shall publish this information once during the week before early voting begins and at least once per week during the period for early voting. If the election authority maintains a website, the election authority shall make the schedule available on their website.

(10 ILCS 5/19A-25(a) and (d))

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL – UOCAVA

Last day for the election authority to have in the office of the election authority a sufficient number of ballots printed and available for mailing to members of the United States Service, service members' spouses, service members' dependents of voting age, citizens temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States, and nonresident civilians. (10 ILCS 5/7-16, 16-5.01) January 30, 2026, is the last business day to mail ballots requested at least 45 days before the General Primary Election. (52 U.S.C. § 20302(a)(8)(A))

Note:

- Pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), as amended by the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (the MOVE Act), vote by mail ballots requested by military and overseas voters must be transmitted at least 45 days before a federal election. (52 U.S.C. § 20302(a)(8)(A)) Please be advised that the 45-day UOCAVA deadline may not be extended under any circumstances; therefore, although the 45-day deadline falls on a Saturday, military and overseas vote by mail ballots **MUST** be mailed by that date. An election authority that waits until the first business day following the 45-day deadline to mail military and overseas ballots will be considered in violation of UOCAVA. Jurisdictions failing to meet the deadline must be reported to the U.S. Congress and may be subject to civil suit filed by the U.S. Attorney General. (52 U.S.C. § 20307)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL – FIRST DAY TO MAIL BALLOT

First day for the election authority to mail an official ballot to a registered voter within the confines of the United States who has applied to vote by mail. (10 ILCS 5/19-4)

EARLY VOTING – OFFICE OF ELECTION AUTHORITY

First day for early voting at the office of the election authority and temporary locations designated by the election authority. Temporary polling locations for early voting can be established at the discretion of the election authority, and the dates and hours are also at the discretion of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)

ORGANIZATION OF CITIZENS – POLLWATCHERS

Last day for the entities listed below to register with the proper election authority if such organization(s) or person(s) wish to qualify as pollwatchers at the General Primary Election.

- 1) Organizations of citizens which have among its purpose the investigation or prosecution of election fraud
- 2) Proponents or opponents of ballot propositions
- 3) State nonpartisan civic organizations

Registration must include the organization or person's (a) name and address and (b) names and addresses of their principal officers (if applicable). (10 ILCS 5/7-34)

VOTE CENTER CERTIFICATION

Last day for the election authority to identify the location, hours of operations, and any health and safety requirements of their vote center(s) and certify such information to the State Board of Elections. Election authorities in jurisdictions with a population of up to 500,000 inhabitants shall establish at least one vote center, while election authorities in jurisdictions with a population of more than 500,000 inhabitants shall establish at least two vote centers. (10 ILCS 5/11-8)

SUNDAY – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 – 17, 2026

LODGING HOUSE AFFIDAVITS

Dates for filing Lodging House Affidavits listing the names and descriptions of each resident who lists such a location as the resident's voting address with the boards of election commissioners. (10 ILCS 5/6-56)

Note:

- **The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) may prohibit the enforcement of this provision. (52 U.S.C. § 20507)**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

CLOSE OF REGISTRATION

Last day for regular registration or transfer of registration within the offices of the election authority. Grace period registration and voting will be available after this date. Online voter registration through the State Board of Elections website will continue through Sunday, March 1, 2026. Area and precinct registration may apply to the City of Chicago and Cook County. Please check with these jurisdictions for registration deadlines. (10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5(l), 4-6, 4-16, 5-5, 6-29, 6-50)

Note:

- **Under the provisions of the NVRA, agency and motor vehicle offices will continue to accept registration after the statutory close of registration. (52 U.S.C. § 20506 et seq.) Only those registration applications completed no later than 27 days (16 days for motor vehicle offices and online applications) before the election will be processed for the next ensuing election. (10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5(l), 4-6, 5-5, 6-29) Applications for registration completed within five days of the registration deadline at Secretary of State Facilities and qualified agencies will be transmitted within five days of completion and must be processed for the election. (52 U.S.C. § 20506(d)(2)) A mail registration application shall be deemed timely filed if postmarked prior to the close of registration. If no postmark exists or if the postmark is illegible, the application shall**

be considered timely filed if received by the election authority no later than five calendar days after the close of registration.

CLOSE OF REGISTRATION – DEPUTY REGISTRARS

Last day for registration of voters by deputy registrars, including municipal, township, and road district clerks, and precinct committeepersons. Area and precinct registration may apply to the City of Chicago and Cook County. Please check with these jurisdictions for registration deadlines. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(c), 5-16.2(c), 6-50.2(c))

Note:

- **Deputy Registrars must return completed forms to the election authority within seven days of the day on which they are completed. Registrations accepted between the 35th and 28th day preceding an election must be returned within 48 hours. Registrations accepted on the 28th day preceding an election must be returned within 24 hours. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(c), 5-16.2(c), 6-50.2(c))**

NURSING HOME AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY VOTING

For jurisdictions conducting on-site voting for the applicable facilities, last day for the election authority to arrange with facility administrators the date and time to conduct in-person voting in such facilities and to post a notice in the office of the election authority of all such arrangements. (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

Note:

- **Pursuant to Public Act 103-0600, election authorities may choose to send vote by mail ballots according to the procedures set forth in Article 19 of the Election Code, or conduct in-person vote by mail voting on the premises of facilities licensed pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Reform Act, the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act, the ID/DD Community Care Act, the MC/DD Act, and federally operated veteran's homes and hospitals, for the sole benefit of residents of such facilities who have made prior application and are registered to vote in that precinct.**

VOTE BY MAIL – CITIZENS TEMPORARILY OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Last day for citizens of the United States temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States who are not registered, but otherwise qualified to vote, and who expect to be absent from their county of residence on Election Day to simultaneously apply to the election authority having jurisdiction over their precinct of residence for vote by mail registration and a vote by mail ballot and be eligible for a full ballot. Last day for the election authority to mail such a ballot.

For applications received after February 17, 2026, and before March 9, 2026, from a citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., the voter registration requirement is waived, and the applicant will be eligible for a federal ballot only. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.1, 20-3)

Notes:

- **Citizens temporarily residing outside the U.S. may use the dual application for registration and vote by mail ballot, or the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA).**
- **Registration is not required in order to vote a ballot containing the federal offices only.**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

GRACE PERIOD REGISTRATION AND VOTING BEGINS

First day for grace period registration and voting at the office of the election authority or at a location designated for this purpose by the election authority. If the election authority does not have ballots available, the election authority may mail the ballot to the voter when available. (10 ILCS 5/4-50, 5-50, 6-100)

DEPUTY REGISTRARS – LAST DAY TO RETURN MATERIALS

Last day for deputy registrars who are officials or members of a bona fide labor organization to return unused registration materials to the election authority. Area and precinct registration may apply to the City of Chicago and Cook County. Please check with these jurisdictions for registration deadlines and return of material deadlines. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(c), 5-16.2(c), 6-50.2(c))

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026

EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE – PERMANENT POLLING PLACES

Last day for the election authority to begin posting the schedule for early voting at each **permanent polling** place where early voting will be conducted. Postings shall remain at each site until the last day of the early voting period (March 16, 2026). If the election authority has a website, the election authority shall make the schedule available on their website. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15(b), 19A-25(b) and (d))

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

PUBLICATION – LAST DAY FOR NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION (UNDER 500K)

Last day for the election authority to publish newspaper notice of primary election in counties of fewer than 500,000 inhabitants. Notice shall include the primary date, poll hours, offices to be listed on the ballot, and the political parties entitled to participate. (10 ILCS 5/7-15)

EMPLOYEE NOTICE TO BE ELECTION JUDGE

Last day for an employee to give their employer written notice that the employee will be absent from the place of employment on Election Day because they have been appointed as an election judge under the provisions of Election Code Sections 13-1 or 13-2. These provisions only apply to employers with more than 25 employees. (10 ILCS 5/13-2.5, 14-4.5)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

VOTER REGISTRATION DATA – FOLLOWING CLOSE OF REGISTRATION

Last day for the election authority to indicate in writing that the election authority's voter registration data, including voting history from the latest election, is complete and up to date. (10 ILCS 5/4-8, 5-7, 6-35)

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

Last day for voters to register to vote through the [State Board of Elections' website](#). (10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5(l))

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

EARLY VOTING – PERMANENT POLLING PLACES

First day for early voting at permanent polling places other than the office of the election authority. These permanent polling places are to be open on holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15(b))

TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3-4, 2026

ERASURE OF NAMES FROM VOTER REGISTRY

Dates on which any voter or precinct committee person may file an application with the election authority to erase names from the registry of voters. (10 ILCS 5/4-12, 5-15, 6-44)

Note:

- The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) may prohibit the enforcement of this provision. (52 U.S.C. § 20507)

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

HOSPITALIZED VOTER

First day that a qualified voter who has been admitted to a hospital, nursing home, or rehabilitation center not more than 14 days before the General Primary Election may apply to the election authority for the personal delivery of a vote by mail ballot. (10 ILCS 5/19-13)

Note:

- This provision for voting by mail is available through Election Day if the process can be completed and the voted ballot returned to the election authority's central ballot counting location before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

POLLWATCHER CREDENTIALS

Last day for the election authority to have pollwatcher credentials available for distribution. (10 ILCS 5/7-34)

Note:

- Pollwatcher credentials may be distributed prior to this date at the discretion of the election authority. Credentials must be available on this date, through, and including Election Day.

PUBLICATION – LAST DAY FOR NOTICE OF PRIMARY BALLOT COLORS

Last day for the election authority to publish the announcement of the colors of the primary ballot. Publication shall be for at least one week in at least two newspapers published in the county. The election authority shall also post in a conspicuous place in their office an announcement of the colors of the primary ballots. (10 ILCS 5/7-18)

PUBLICATION – LAST DAY FOR NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION (OVER 500K)

Last day for the election authority to publish newspaper notice of the General Primary Election in counties of more than 500,000 inhabitants. Notice shall include the primary date, poll hours, offices to be listed on the ballot, and the political parties entitled to participate. (10 ILCS 5/7-15)

THURSDAY – SATURDAY, MARCH 5 – 7, 2026

HEARINGS FOR REGISTRATION ERASURE

Dates on which county clerks or the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners shall hold hearings to determine whether names in the registry of voters shall be erased, registered, or restored. (10 ILCS 5/4-13, 5-16, 6-45)

Note:

- **The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) may prohibit the enforcement of this provision. (52 U.S.C. § 20507)**

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026

PUBLICATION – LAST DAY FOR NOTICE OF PUBLIC QUESTION

Last day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon within the jurisdiction. The notice shall be published once in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the political or governmental subdivision. The election authority shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the election authority. The local election official shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the political or governmental subdivision. If there is no principal office, the local election official shall post the notice at the building in which the governing body of the political or governmental subdivision held its first meeting of the calendar year in which the referendum is being held. (10 ILCS 5/12-5)

VOTE BY MAIL – LAST DAY FOR UOCAVA APPLICATIONS

Last day for any voter who is a member of the United States Service, a service member's spouse, or a service member's dependent of voting age who expects to be absent from the voter's county of residence on Election Day to apply for an official ballot to the election authority having jurisdiction over the precinct of residence and the last day for the election authority to mail such ballots. Members of the Armed Forces may apply via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2, 20-2.3, 20-3)

Note:

- **No registration shall be required in order to vote pursuant to the sections cited.**

VOTE BY MAIL – LAST DAY FOR NONRESIDENT CIVILIAN APPLICATIONS

Last day for any nonresident civilian, otherwise qualified to vote, to apply for a vote by mail ballot containing federal offices only to the election authority having jurisdiction over their precinct of former residence, and the last day for the election authority to mail such ballots. Nonresident civilians may apply via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.2)

Note:

- **Such application may be made only on the official federal postcard, and no registration shall be required.**

VOTE BY MAIL – CITIZENS TEMPORARILY OUTSIDE UNITED STATES

Last day for the election authority to send an official ballot for federal offices only to citizens of the United States who are temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States who

have applied for registration and/or a vote by mail ballot. Citizens temporarily residing outside the territorial limits may apply via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.1, 20-3)

Note:

- **Registration is not required in order to vote a ballot containing the federal offices only.**

TUESDAY – THURSDAY, MARCH 10 – 12, 2026

HEARINGS FOR REGISTRATION ERASURE – BOARDS UNDER 500K

Dates on which boards of election commissioners, except the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, shall hold hearings to determine whether names in the registry of voters shall be erased, registered, or restored. (10 ILCS 5/6-45)

Note:

- **The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) may prohibit enforcement of this provision. (52 U.S.C. § 20507)**

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL – LAST DAY TO RECEIVE APPLICATION BY MAIL

Last day for the election authority to receive applications by mail for a vote by mail ballot from any registered voter within the confines of the United States. (10 ILCS 5/19-2, 19-4)

PUBLIC TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

Last day for the election authority to conduct public testing of automatic tabulating equipment, Optical Scan Equipment, and Direct Recording Electronic Voting Equipment. (10 ILCS 5/24B-9, 24C-9)

Note:

- **All election authorities must provide timely written notice of their public test to the State Board of Elections prior to the test. The notice must contain the date, time, and location of the test. Public notice of the time and place of the test must be given at least 48 hours prior to the test. (10 ILCS 5/24B-9, 24C-9)**

PUBLICATION – SPECIMEN BALLOTS

Last day for the election authority to publish the specimen ballots, as near as may be, in the form in which they will appear on the official ballots on Election Day. (10 ILCS 5/7-21, 24B-18, 24C-18)

NURSING HOME VOTING – LAST DAY FOR APPLICATION TO VOTE

For jurisdictions conducting on-site voting for the applicable facilities, last day for a physically incapacitated voter who desires to vote in person at a federally operated veterans' home, hospital, or facility of residence pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45/1-101 *et seq.*), the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 (210 ILCS 49/1-101 *et seq.*), the ID/DD Community Care Act (210 ILCS 47/1-101 *et seq.*), or the MC/DD Act (210 ILCS 46/1-101 *et seq.*), to apply to the election authority to vote in person at such facility. Such voting shall take place on the Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday immediately preceding the General Primary Election, as determined by the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

Note:

- Pursuant to Public Act 103-0600, election authorities may choose to send vote by mail ballots according to the procedures set forth in Article 19 of the Election Code or conduct in-person vote by mail voting on the premises of facilities licensed pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Reform Act, the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act, the ID/DD Community Care Act, the MC/DD Act, and federally operated veterans' homes and hospitals, for the sole benefit of residents of such facilities who have made prior application and are registered to vote in that precinct.

NURSING HOME VOTING – LISTING OF FACILITIES WITH NO APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Last day (by noon) the election authority shall post the names and addresses of nursing home facilities from which no applications for vote by mail ballots have been received and in which no supervised voting will be conducted. (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

FRIDAY – MONDAY, MARCH 13 - 16, 2026

NURSING HOME AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY VOTING

For jurisdictions conducting on-site voting for the applicable facilities, the election authority will determine on which of the above dates Nursing Home voting will be conducted at federally operated veterans' homes, hospitals, and facilities licensed pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45/1-101 *et seq.*), the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 (210 ILCS 49/1-101 *et seq.*), the ID/DD Community Care Act (210 ILCS 47/1-101 *et seq.*), or the MC/DD Act (210 ILCS 46/1-101 *et seq.*). No later than 9:00 a.m. of the day designated by the election authority to conduct in-person voting on the premises, the election authority shall deliver official vote by mail ballots to the judges of election conducting such voting at the facility. Between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., sufficient time shall be allowed for residents of the facility to vote on the premises of the facility. Immediately thereafter, the judges shall bring the sealed envelope to the office of the election authority who shall deliver such ballots to the election authority's central ballot counting location prior to the closing of the polls on the day of election. (10 ILCS 5/19-4, 19-12.2)

Note:

- Pursuant to Public Act 103-0600, election authorities may choose to send vote by mail ballots according to the procedures set forth in Article 19 of the Election Code or conduct in-person vote by mail voting on the premises of facilities licensed pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Reform Act, the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act, the ID/DD Community Care Act, the MC/DD Act, and federally operated veterans' homes and hospitals, for the sole benefit of residents of such facilities who have made prior application and are registered to vote in that precinct.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

OFFICIAL BALLOT INSPECTION

Last day for the election authority to have official ballots available for inspection by candidates or their agents. (10 ILCS 5/16-5)

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

EARLY VOTING – LAST DAY

Last day for early voting at the office of the election authority and permanent locations designated by the election authority. Temporary early voting locations may be established by the election authority but are not required to maintain the same voting days and hours as the office of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)

VOTE BY MAIL – LAST DAY TO APPLY IN PERSON

Last day for any registered voter within the confines of the United States to request a vote by mail ballot in person at the office of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19-2)

CURBSIDE VOTING APPLICATION FOR INACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES

If a physically disabled voter is unable to enter an inaccessible polling place, the voter must register a request with the election authority that a ballot be delivered to the voter outside of the polling place. This request must be made no later than the close of business on the day preceding the election. Two election judges of opposite party affiliations will deliver a ballot to the voter at the point where the voter is unable to continue forward motion toward the polling place. (10 ILCS 5/7-47.1, 17-13, 18-5.1)

Notes:

- The election authority shall notify the judges of election of the appropriate precinct of such requests.
- An application is not needed if the election authority has curbside voting open to all voters. (10 ILCS 5/17-13.5)

BALLOT DELIVERY TO ELECTION JUDGES

Last day for the election authority to deliver ballots to the judges of election (not less than 12 hours before the polls are scheduled to open). (10 ILCS 5/7-35, 16-5)

LISTS OF VOTE BY MAIL, EARLY AND GRACE PERIOD VOTERS

Last day for the election authority to deliver (prior to opening the polling place) to the judges of election in each precinct the list of registered voters in that precinct to whom vote by mail ballots have been issued, and a listing of grace period and early voters. (10 ILCS 5/4-50, 5-50, 6-100, 19-4, 19A-5(c))

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION POLLS OPEN 6:00 AM – 7:00 PM

GRACE PERIOD REGISTRATION AND VOTING – LAST DAY

Last day of grace period registration and voting in the office of the election authority or at locations designated for this purpose by the election authority. Please contact the election authority to determine the availability of grace period registration and voting in the polling place on Election Day. (10 ILCS 5/4-50, 5-50, 6-100)

ELECTION DAY VOTE CENTER

Election authorities shall establish at least one location at an office of the election authority or in the largest municipality within its jurisdiction where all voters in its jurisdiction are allowed to vote on Election Day during polling place hours, regardless of the precinct in which they are registered, and that location shall provide curbside voting. **Election authorities may establish more than one vote center.** In jurisdictions with a population of more than 500,000 inhabitants, the election authority shall establish at least two vote centers. (10 ILCS 5/11-8)

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

VOTER REGISTRATION REOPENS

Registration opens in the office of the election authority and with all deputy registrars including municipal, township, and road district clerks who are authorized deputy registrars. (10 ILCS 5/4-6, 5-5, 6-50)

UNCOUNTED BALLOTS

No later than 48 hours after the closing of polling locations on Election Day, each election authority maintaining a website shall post the number of ballots that remain uncounted. The posting shall separate the number of ballots yet to be counted into the following categories:

- 1) Ballots cast on Election Day
- 2) Early voting ballots
- 3) Provisional ballots
- 4) Vote by mail ballots received by the election authority but not counted
- 5) Vote by mail ballots sent by the election authority that have not been returned to the election authority

This information shall be updated on the website of the election authority each day until the period for counting provisional and vote by mail ballots has ended. All election authorities, regardless of whether they maintain a website, shall share the same information, separated in the same manner, with the State Board of Elections no later than 48 hours after the closing of polling locations on Election Day and each business day thereafter until the period for counting provisional and vote by mail ballots has ended. (10 ILCS 5/1-9.2, 1A-25(5))

PROVISIONAL VOTERS – REPORTING

Last day for the election authority to submit the name, street address, email address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers of each person casting a provisional ballot to the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/18A-5(d))

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

PROVISIONAL VOTERS – LAST DAY TO SUBMIT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Last day a provisional voter may submit additional information to the election authority to verify or support the voter's registration status. Materials must be received by this date. (10 ILCS 5/18A-15(d))

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT COUNTING – LAST DAY

Last day for the election authority to complete the tabulation of vote by mail ballots that were:

- 1) Postmarked by Election Day, and were received after the close of the polls on Election Day, but not later than 14 days after the election
- 2) Not postmarked, but did have a certification date prior to the Election Day on the certification envelope, and were received after the close of the polls on Election Day, but not later than 14 days after the election
- 3) Not postmarked, but did have an intelligent mail barcode tracking system that verifies the envelope was mailed no later than Election Day, and received not later than 14 days after the election

(10 ILCS 5/19-8)

Note:

- **Voters whose ballots were rejected must be sent a notice of such along with the reason for the rejection within two days of the rejection, but in all cases prior to the end of the 14-day period in which to count the vote by mail ballots. Such voters must be given an opportunity to appear before the election authority on or before the 14th day following the election to show cause to why the ballot should not be rejected. (10 ILCS 5/19-8(g-5))**

PROVISIONAL BALLOT COUNTING – LAST DAY

Last day for the election authority to complete the validation and counting of provisional ballots. (10 ILCS 5/18A-15(a))

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026

CANVASS – ELECTION AUTHORITY

The board of election commissioners shall transmit a tabulated statement of the returns to the county clerk. Last day for the election authority to canvass election results. (10 ILCS 5/7-56, 18A-15(a))

The election authority shall submit their canvass through the eCanvass system in the electronic format prescribed by the State Board of Elections. The county clerk shall immediately forward the abstract of votes to the State Board of Elections as a PDF document through email (preferred method) or via overnight mail. (10 ILCS 5/22-5, 22-6)

Note:

- **If there is a board of election commissioners within a county, the county abstracts shall include the statement of returns from such board of election commissioners. (10 ILCS 5/22-9)**

VOTE BY MAIL STATISTICS

Last day the election authority shall transmit to the State Board of Elections the following:

- 1) The number, by precinct, of vote by mail ballots requested, provided, and counted
- 2) The number of rejected vote by mail ballots
- 3) The number of voters seeking review of rejected vote by mail ballots
- 4) The number of vote by mail ballots counted following review

The report of this information must be made public by April 14, 2026.

(10 ILCS 5/19-20, 20-20)

AFTER THE GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION

RETABULATION BEFORE PROCLAMATION BY ELECTION AUTHORITY

Prior to the canvass, in those jurisdictions where in-precinct counting equipment is utilized, the election authority shall retabulate the total number of votes cast in 5% of the precincts within the election jurisdiction, as well as 5% of the voting devices used in early voting as selected on a random basis by the State Board of Elections. Returns of the retabulation shall be made public after they are complete. (10 ILCS 5/24B-15, 24C-15)

AFTER PROCLAMATION BY ELECTION AUTHORITY - CERTIFICATES

The county clerk may issue a certificate of nomination to each person declared nominated to a county office.

The county clerk shall issue a certificate of election to each person declared elected to the office of township committeeperson or precinct committeeperson. (10 ILCS 5/7-58)

PRECINCT RESULTS

Within 1 day after the canvassing and proclamation, each election authority shall transmit to the State Board of Elections a canvass of votes by precinct or ward for all offices, and total ballots cast via overnight mail or as a PDF file via email. Electronic results must also be submitted in accordance with the procedures outlined in Title 26, Part 219 of the Illinois Administrative Code. (10 ILCS 5/22-15; 26 Ill. Adm. Code § 219)

CANVASS – SBE

The State Board of Elections shall canvass the returns for the nomination or election of candidates for offices for which petitions were filed with the State Board of Elections. The State Board of Elections shall issue certificates of election to each person declared elected to the office of State central committeepersons. (10 ILCS 5/7-58)

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

Each successful write-in candidate nominated or elected at the General Primary Election shall file the following documents with the proper election authority or the State Board of Elections within 10 days of the proclamation by the appropriate board:

- 1) Statement of Candidacy
 - 2) Receipt for filing of a Statement of Economic Interests (not required for federal offices, precinct, or township committeepersons)
 - 3) Loyalty Oath (optional)
- (10 ILCS 5/7-60)

DISCOVERY RECOUNT

Within 5 days after the last day for proclamation of the results, petitions for discovery recount may be filed by any qualified candidate (who came within 5% of the votes cast for any successful candidate) with the appropriate election authority. Petitions for discovery recount may also be filed by five electors of the same area in which votes were cast for a public question if the losing side of the question would have prevailed had it received an additional number of votes equal to 5% of the total votes cast.

The deadline to file a discovery recount for an office or public question canvassed by the State Board of Elections is 5 days after the last day for the Board to canvass. The petition for discovery is filed with the appropriate election authority or authorities (not filed with the State Board of Elections). (10 ILCS 5/22-9.1)

ELECTION CONTEST

In general, the circuit court shall hear election contests. Individuals should refer to the particular statute which applies to their unit of government. (10 ILCS 5/7-63, 23-4, 23-5)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026

REPUBLICAN PARTY COUNTY CONVENTION

The Republican Party shall conduct a county convention in each county. This convention may be conducted by audio or video conference. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a), 7-9(a))

Note:

- Precinct committeepersons begin their terms as deputy registrars on the date of the county convention, and that term as a deputy registrar continues until the date immediately preceding the date of the next county convention. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a))

DEMOCRATIC PARTY COUNTY CONVENTION – FIRST DAY TO CONDUCT

First day for the Democratic Party to conduct a county convention in each county. This convention may be conducted by audio or video conference. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a), 7-9(a))

Note:

- Precinct committeepersons begin their terms as deputy registrars on the date of the county convention, and that term as a deputy registrar continues until the date immediately preceding the date of the next county convention. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a))

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

CANVASS – SBE

Last day for the State Board of Elections to canvass the votes for federal, congressional, legislative, representative, and judicial offices as well as multi-county regions. (10 ILCS 5/18A-15(a), 22-7)

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026

REPUBLICAN PARTY – LAST DAY FOR LIST OF PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSONS

Last day for the chair of each county's Republican Central Committee to forward the names and addresses of its officers and precinct committeepersons to the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-9(a))

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

NOTICE OF PARTY LOTTERY

Last day for written notice of the time and place for conducting lottery to determine the order in which the established political parties will appear on the General Election ballot. Notice shall be given by the election authority to the chair of each political party and to each organization of citizens within the election jurisdiction entitled to have pollwatchers present at the last election. Notice must also be posted. (10 ILCS 5/7-60)

Note:

- There must be seven days' notice given. If the lottery is to be held on the last statutory date, May 7, 2026, the last day to give notice is April 30, 2026.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026

DEMOCRATIC PARTY COUNTY CONVENTION – LAST DAY TO CONDUCT

Last day for the Democratic Party to conduct a county convention in each county. This convention may be conducted by audio or video conference. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a), 7-9(a))

Note:

- Precinct committeepersons begin their terms as deputy registrars on the date of the county convention, and that term as a deputy registrar continues until the date immediately preceding the date of the next county convention.
(10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a))

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

PARTY LOTTERY

Last day for the election authority to conduct a lottery to determine the order in which the established political parties will appear on the General Election ballot. (10 ILCS 5/7-60)

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026

IVRS AND POLLING PLACE ACCESSIBILITY GRANT

Last day for the election authority to submit to the State Board of Elections reimbursement requests for the IVRS State Grant and the Polling Place Accessibility Grant for the FY26 grant period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026

VOTER LIST FOR COUNTY CHAIR

Last day for the election authority to provide to each county chair or their representative a precinct list prepared for the 2026 General Primary Election which has been marked to indicate which party's ballot each voter requested. (10 ILCS 5/4-22, 5-29, 6-66)

DEMOCRATIC PARTY – LAST DAY FOR LIST OF PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSONS

Last day for the chair of each county's Democratic Central Committee to forward the names and addresses of its officers and precinct committeepersons to the State Board of Elections.
(10 ILCS 5/7-9(a))

GENERAL ELECTION

NOVEMBER 3, 2026

(10 ILCS 5/2A-1(a))

TO BE ELECTED:

- United States Senate
- Representatives in Congress – All 17 Districts
- Governor/Lieutenant Governor
- Attorney General
- Secretary of State
- Comptroller
- Treasurer
- State Senators
 - For 2-year terms: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 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.
- Representatives in the General Assembly – All 118 Districts
- Sanitary District Commissioners/Trustees
- Forest Preserve District Commissioners (DuPage County)
- County Clerk
- County Treasurer
- County Sheriff
- County Assessor
- Members of Board of Review (in counties with elected boards of review, including Cook County)
- Regional Superintendent of Schools
- Chicago Board of Education – Board Members and President
 - For 2-year terms: 1A, 2B, 3A, 4A, 5B, 6A, 7A, 8B, 9A, 10B
 - For 4-year terms: 1B, 2A, 3B, 4B, 5A, 6B, 7B, 8A, 9B, 10A, President
- County Commissioners (Counties not under township organization)
- County Board Members (Counties under township organization)
- Judges (Additional Judgeships if required)
 - Supreme Court Judges, Vacancies will be filled
 - Appellate Court Judges, Vacancies will be filled
 - Circuit Court Judges, Vacancies will be filled
 - Resident Circuit Court Judges, Vacancies will be filled
 - Subcircuit Judges, Vacancies will be filled
- Judicial Retention

DATES GOVERNING THE GENERAL ELECTION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

PETITION CIRCULATION

First day to circulate nominating petitions for independent and new political party candidates who file between May 18–26, 2026 (90 days preceding the last day to file nomination papers). (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6)

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026

JUDICIAL RETENTION

Last day for judges seeking retention in office to file Declaration of Judicial Candidacy with the Secretary of State. (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 12(d))

PUBLIC QUESTION – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Last day to file petitions with the Secretary of State to amend Article IV of the Illinois Constitution. Such petitions must be signed by a number of electors equal to at least 8% of the total votes cast for candidates for Governor at the 2022 General Election (minimum signatures – 328,371). (Illinois Constitution, Article XIV, Section 3; 10 ILCS 5/28-9)

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026

PUBLIC QUESTION – STATEWIDE ADVISORY

Last day to file a statewide petition for advisory public policy question with the State Board of Elections. Such petitions must be signed by a number of electors equal to at least 8% of the total votes cast for candidates for Governor at the 2022 General Election (minimum signatures – 328,371). (10 ILCS 5/28-9)

SOS PETITION DELIVERY

Last day for the Secretary of State to deliver a petition to amend the Illinois Constitution to the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/28-9)

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026

PUBLIC QUESTION PROPONENT/OPPONENT

Last day for proponents and opponents to certify in writing to the State Board of Elections that they publicly support or oppose the statewide advisory question of public policy. Such individuals shall register with the State Board of Elections the name and address of their group and the name and address of its chair and designated agent for acceptance of service of notices. (10 ILCS 5/28-13)

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026

VOTER REGISTRATION DATA – FIRST DAY TO CERTIFY

First day for the election authority to indicate in writing that their voter registration data, including voting history from the latest election, is complete and up to date. (10 ILCS 5/4-8, 5-7, 6-35)

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026

NEW PARTY AND INDEPENDENT FILING – FIRST DAY

First day for independent and new party candidates to file original nomination papers (must include statement of candidacy and original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators). New party petitions must also include a certificate of officers authorized to fill a vacancy in nomination. **Failure to file the certificate will result in the party forfeiting the ability to fill a vacancy in nomination.**

Candidates for federal, legislative, judicial offices, or for any office to be elected by the voters of more than one county, shall file nomination papers in the principal (Springfield) office of the State Board of Elections. Candidates for county office will file in the office of the county clerk. (10 ILCS 5/8-16, 10-2, 10-5, 10-6)

Note:

- The following court case has held that the full-slate requirement for new political parties is unconstitutional: [Libertarian Party of Illinois v. ISBE, 872 F.3d 518 \(7th Cir. 2017\)](#). The full-slate requirement mandated a complete list of candidates of a new political party for all offices to be filled. (10 ILCS 5/10-2, 10-6) This ruling may affect the continued validity of certain filing requirements for new political parties.

VOTER LIST FOR COUNTY CHAIR

Last day for the election authorities to provide to each county chair or their representative a precinct list for the 2026 General Primary Election marked to indicate which party's ballot each voter requested. (10 ILCS 5/4-22, 5-29, 6-66)

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026

STATEWIDE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – RANDOM SAMPLE

The State Board of Elections shall apply its proven random sampling method to select and identify the petition signatures to be included in the sample signature verification. Proponents shall be allowed to present competent evidence or an additional sample to rebut the presumption of invalidity. The Board shall declare the petition to be valid or invalid. This hearing to be held prior to August 21, 2026. (10 ILCS 5/28-11, 28-12)

Note:

- The State Board of Elections shall conduct a hearing if the statewide projection made from results of random sampling falls below 95% of the minimum number of petition signatures required on a petition to amend the Constitution or on a petition for statewide advisory question of public policy. (10 ILCS 5/28-12)

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026

STATEWIDE ADVISORY QUESTION – RANDOM SAMPLE

The State Board of Elections shall apply its proven random sampling method to select and identify the petition signatures to be included in the sample signature verification. Proponents shall be allowed to present competent evidence or an additional sample to rebut the presumption of

invalidity. The Board shall declare the petition to be valid or invalid. This hearing to be held prior to August 21, 2026. (10 ILCS 5/28-11, 28-12)

Note:

- **The State Board of Elections shall conduct a hearing if the statewide projection made from results of random sampling falls below 95% of the minimum number of petition signatures required on a petition to amend the Constitution or on a petition for statewide advisory question of public policy. (10 ILCS 5/28-12)**

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026

NEW PARTY AND INDEPENDENT FILING – LAST DAY

Last day for independent and new party candidates to file original nomination papers (must include statement of candidacy and original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators). New party petitions must also include a certificate of officers authorized to fill a vacancy in nomination. **Failure to file the certificate will result in the party forfeiting the ability to fill a vacancy in nomination.**

Candidates for federal, legislative, judicial offices, or for any office to be elected by the voters of more than one county, shall file nomination papers in the principal (Springfield) office of the State Board of Elections. Candidates for county office will file in the office of the county clerk. (10 ILCS 5/8-16, 10-2, 10-5, 10-6)

Note:

- **The following court case has held that the full-slate requirement for new political parties is unconstitutional: Libertarian Party of Illinois v. ISBE, 872 F.3d 518 (7th Cir. 2017). The full-slate requirement mandated a complete list of candidates of a new political party for all offices to be filled. (10 ILCS 5/10-2, 10-6) This ruling may affect the continued validity of certain filing requirements for new political parties.**

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS

Last day for candidates filing nomination papers during the May 18–26, 2026, filing period to file a Statement of Economic Interests with the county clerk or Secretary of State as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. The receipt must be filed on or before this date in the office where the nomination papers were originally filed – the State Board of Elections or the election authority. The receipt, if required, must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. (5 ILCS 420/4A-105; 10 ILCS 5/10-5)

Exception:

- **Candidates for federal office are not required to file a Statement of Economic Interests.**

VOTER REGISTRATION DATA – LAST DAY TO CERTIFY

Last day for the election authority to indicate in writing that their voter registration data, including voting history from the latest election, is complete and up to date. (10 ILCS 5/4-8, 5-7, 6-35)

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

NOTICE OF BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY

Last day for written notice of the time and place for conducting lottery to be given when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for the same office and party, independent or nonpartisan

candidates: (a) as of the opening hour of the filing period, May 18, 2026; and/or (b) within the last hour of the filing period, May 26, 2026. Notice shall be given by the State Board of Elections or the election authority to the chair of each political party and to each organization of citizens within the election jurisdiction entitled to have pollwatchers present at the last election. Notice must also be posted. (10 ILCS 5/10-6.2)

Note:

- **There must be seven days' notice given. If the lottery is to be held on the last statutory date, June 4, 2026, the last day to give notice is May 28, 2026.**

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026

VACANCY IN NOMINATION – MANAGING COMMITTEE

Last day for an established political party managing committee (other than legislative and representative) to appoint someone to fill a vacancy when no candidate was nominated at the General Primary Election. (10 ILCS 5/7-61, 8-17)

Exception:

- **Pursuant to Public Act 103-586, effective May 3, 2024, if there was no legislative or representative candidate for the nomination of the party in the primary, no candidate for that party may be listed on the ballot at the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/8-17)**

VACANCY IN NOMINATION – APPOINTEE

Last day for appointee, by established party managing committee, to file the following documents when no candidate was nominated at the General Primary Election. The following documents must be filed together:

- 1) Notice of Appointment by the appropriate committee
- 2) Nominating petition
- 3) Statement of Candidacy
- 4) Receipt for filing of a Statement of Economic Interests

(10 ILCS 5/7-61)

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026

INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES

Last day for an individual who has filed nomination papers for two or more incompatible offices during the May 18–26, 2026, filing period to withdraw from all but one of the offices in the office where the nomination papers were originally filed. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

OBJECTIONS – CANDIDATE NOMINATION FILING

Last day for filing objections to the nomination papers of all candidates who filed during the May 18–26, 2026, filing period. Objections are filed in the office where the nomination papers were originally filed. (10 ILCS 5/10-8)

Note:

- **For procedures on objections, see page 59.**

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CREATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

First day to publish notice of intention to file a petition to create a political subdivision whose officers are to be elected rather than appointed, and which will appear on the General Election ballot. The notice is to be published in a newspaper within the proposed political subdivision, or if no such newspaper exists, then in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed territory. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(g))

BALLOT PLACEMENT LOTTERY

Last day for the State Board of Elections or the election authority to conduct a lottery when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for the same office by more than one new political party, nonpartisan, or for the same office by more than one independent candidate, as of the opening hour of the filing period on May 18, 2026, or during the last hour on May 26, 2026. (10 ILCS 5/10-6.2)

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026

OBJECTIONS – VACANCY IN NOMINATION

Last day for filing objections to the nomination papers of all candidates who filled vacancies when no candidate was nominated at the General Primary Election. (10 ILCS 5/7-61, 8-17, 10-8)

Exception:

- Pursuant to Public Act 103-586, effective May 3, 2024, if there was no legislative or representative candidate for the nomination of the party in the primary, no candidate for that party may be listed on the ballot at the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/8-17)

Note:

- For procedures on objections, see page 59.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026

OBJECTIONS TO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Under the provisions of Election Code Section 10-8, the deadline to file objections to petitions to amend Article IV of the Illinois Constitution is 35 business days after the last day for filing which, in 2026, is June 23. Section 28-4 states that 42 business days after the petition is filed is the deadline for objections. Upon receipt of any such petition, the State Board of Elections will apply the more generous of the two calculations to determine the timeliness of any objection. (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

Note:

- For procedures on objections, see page 59.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026

OBJECTIONS TO STATEWIDE ADVISORY QUESTIONS

Under the provisions of Election Code Section 10-8, the deadline to file objections to petitions to statewide advisory questions is 35 business days after the last day for filing which, in 2026, is June

24. Section 28-4 states that 42 business days after the petition is filed is the deadline for objections. Upon receipt of any such petition, the State Board of Elections will apply the more generous of the two calculations to determine the timeliness of any objection. (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

Note:

- For procedures on objections, see page 59.

MONDAY, JULY 6, 2026

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CREATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

Last day to publish notice of intention to file a petition to create a political subdivision whose officers are to be elected rather than appointed, and which will appear on the General Election ballot. The notice is to be published in a newspaper within the proposed political subdivision or, if no such newspaper exists, then in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed territory. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(g))

PETITION TO CREATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

Last day to file a petition (must include original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators) to create a political subdivision with the appropriate officer or board. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(b))

Note:

- The specific statutory provisions governing the creation of political subdivisions can be found in the relevant Code governing such subdivisions.
- Objections can be filed on or before the date of the hearing with the appropriate circuit court clerk. (10 ILCS 5/28-4)
- If initial officers are to be elected at the election for creation of a new unit of government, candidates for such offices shall file nomination papers 169-162 days before such election (May 18 – 26, 2026). (10 ILCS 5/10-6)
- The circuit court clerk shall publish the hearing date for a public policy petition filed in their office not later than 14 days after the petition is filed, but at least 5 days before actual hearing. Final order within 7 days of hearing. (10 ILCS 5/28-4)

LISTING OF NURSING HOME AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES – IDPH

Last day for the Department of Public Health to certify to the State Board of Elections a list of the facilities licensed or certified pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45/1-101 *et seq.*), the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 (210 ILCS 49/1-101 *et seq.*), the ID/DD Community Care Act (210 ILCS 47/1-101 *et seq.*), or the MC/DD Act (210 ILCS 46/1-101 *et seq.*). (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026

OBJECTIONS – NEW POLITICAL SUBDIVISION PETITION

Last day for filing objections to a petition to create a political subdivision in the office where the petitions were originally filed. (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

Note:

- For procedures on objections, see page 59.

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2026

LISTING OF NURSING HOME FACILITIES – SBE

Last day for the State Board of Elections to certify to the proper election authority a list of facilities licensed or certified pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45/1-101 *et seq.*), the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 (210 ILCS 49/1-101 *et seq.*), the ID/DD Community Care Act (210 ILCS 47/1-101 *et seq.*), or the MC/DD Act (210 ILCS 46/1-101 *et seq.*), for the purpose of conducting an election pursuant to Election Code Section 19-12.2. The list shall indicate bed capacity and the chief administrator of each facility appearing on the certified list. (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2026

REFERENDA FILING

Last day for filing petitions (must include original petition sheets signed by voters and circulators) for the submission of questions of public policy (local). (10 ILCS 5/28-2(a), 28-6, 28-7)

Exceptions:

- Propositions to create a political subdivision.
- Referenda held under the provisions of Article IX of the Liquor Control Act or Section 18-120 of the Property Tax Code. (35 ILCS 200/18-120; 235 ILCS 5/9)

Note:

- Petitions to initiate backdoor referenda must be filed under the deadline specified in the specific statute authorizing the referenda, but in no case later than 92 days prior to the ensuing election. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(f))

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL – FIRST DAY TO APPLY

First day for any registered voter within the confines of the United States to apply by mail or in person to the election authority for an official vote by mail ballot. Please note that mailing and delivery of ballots does not begin until Thursday, September 24, 2026. (10 ILCS 5/19-2, 19-4)

NOTICE OF PERMANENT VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

First day the election authority can notify qualified voters of the option for permanent vote by mail status using the following notice and including the application for permanent vote by mail status in Election Code Section 19-3(b): “You may apply to permanently be placed on vote by mail status using the attached application.” (10 ILCS 5/19-2.5, 19-3(b))

Note:

- This notice should not be sent to voters who have already applied for permanent vote by mail status or voters who submit a written request to be excluded from the permanent vote by mail status.

SYSTEMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION MAINTENANCE

Last day for the election authority to complete any systematic program to remove ineligible voters from the voting rolls prior to the November 3, 2026, General Election. (52 U.S.C. § 20507(c)(2)(A))

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026

OBJECTIONS – REFERENDA

Last day to file objections to petitions for the submission of questions of public policy (local). Objections to petitions for local referenda are filed in the office where the petitions were originally filed. (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

Exceptions:

- **Propositions to create a political subdivision.**
- **Referenda held under the provisions of Article IX of the Liquor Control Act or Section 18-120 of the Property Tax Code. (35 ILCS 200/18-120; 235 ILCS 5/9)**

Note:

- **For procedures on objections, see page 59.**

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026

REFERENDA RESOLUTIONS

Last day for local governing boards to adopt a resolution or ordinance to allow a binding public question to appear on the General Election ballot. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(c))

Last day for County, Township, Municipal, School, Library, and Park Boards to authorize placement of advisory referenda on the ballot by resolution. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(c); 55 ILCS 5/2-3002, 5-1005.5; 60 ILCS 1/30-204, 80-80; 65 ILCS 5/3.1-40-60; 70 ILCS 1205/8-30; 75 ILCS 5/4-18; 105 ILCS 5/9-1.5)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026

VACANCY IN NOMINATION OCCURRING AFTER PRIMARY – SBE

Last day for established and new political parties to fill vacancies in nomination occurring on or after the primary and prior to certification for federal, legislative, and representative offices. Resolutions are filed in the principal (Springfield) office of the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/7-61)

Note:

- **This does not apply to vacancies created due to failure to nominate at the General Primary Election.**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2026

WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDACY – SBE

Last day a candidate may file a Withdrawal of Candidacy in the office of the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/8-9(3), 10-7)

BALLOT CERTIFICATION – SBE

Last day for the State Board of Elections to certify the names of established political party candidates, new party candidates, independent candidates, and candidates filling vacancies in

nomination, as well as questions to amend the Constitution of Illinois and any statewide questions of public policy for the General Election ballot to the election authorities.
(10 ILCS 5/7-60, 8-12, 10-14, 28-5)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2026

VACANCY IN NOMINATION OCCURRING AFTER THE PRIMARY – ELECTION AUTHORITY

Last day for established and new political parties to fill vacancies in nomination in county offices where the vacancy occurred on or after the primary election and prior to certification.
(10 ILCS 5/7-61, 10-11)

Note:

- This does not apply to vacancies created due to failure to nominate at the General Primary Election.

BALLOT CERTIFICATION – COUNTY CLERK TO BOEC

Last day for the county clerk to certify to the board of election commissioners the names of candidates to be voted for in their jurisdiction. (10 ILCS 5/10-14)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026

WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDACY – ELECTION AUTHORITY

Last day a candidate may file a Withdrawal of Candidacy in the office of the election authority.
(10 ILCS 5/10-7)

OBJECTIONS – VACANCY IN NOMINATION FILED WITH SBE

Last day for filing objections with the State Board of Elections to resolutions for filling a vacancy in nomination by the officers of a new political party or by an established party managing committee when a vacancy occurred on or after the primary election and before certification.
(10 ILCS 5/7-61, 10-8, 10-11)

Note:

- For procedures on objections, see page 59.

BALLOT CERTIFICATION – COUNTY CLERK

Last day for the county clerk to certify the General Election ballot and issue a copy to the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/10-14)

Last day for the county clerk to certify to the board of election commissioners any referenda to be submitted to the voters in its jurisdiction. (10 ILCS 5/28-5)

Exception:

- The last day for county clerks to certify constitutional amendments or statewide advisory questions to a board of election commissioners in their jurisdiction is September 2, 2026. (10 ILCS 5/28-5)

BALLOT CERTIFICATION – PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Last day for the circuit court clerk and the local election official to certify any binding public question or advisory referendum to the election authority having jurisdiction over the political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/28-5)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

JUDICIAL RETENTION CERTIFICATION – SOS

Last day for the Secretary of State to certify the names of all judges seeking retention in office to the State Board of Elections. (Illinois Constitution, Article VI, Section 12(d); 10 ILCS 5/7A-1)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

OBJECTIONS – VACANCY IN NOMINATION FILED WITH ELECTION AUTHORITY

Last day for filing objections with the county clerk to resolutions for filling a vacancy in nomination by the officers of a new political party or by an established party managing committee when a vacancy occurred on or after the General Primary Election and before certification. (10 ILCS 5/7-61, 10-8, 10-11)

Note:

- For procedures on objections, see page 59.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

Last day an individual may file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a write-in candidate with the proper election authority or authorities. Write-in votes shall only be counted for candidates who have filed a Declaration of Intent. Write-in declarations are NOT filed with the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/17-16.1)

PUBLICATION – NEW VOTING DEVICES

Last day for the election authority to publish notice that new mechanical or electronic voting devices will be used for the first time at the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/24-1.1, 24B-3, 24C-3)

SOS MAILER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Last day for the Secretary of State to publish and mail to every mailing address in the State a copy of the pamphlet giving the proponents and opponents views on amendments to the Constitution of Illinois. (5 ILCS 20/2)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

PUBLICATION – VOTING AIDS

Last day the election authority shall provide public notice, calculated to reach elderly voters and voters with disabilities, of the availability of registration and voting aids under the Federal Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, of the availability of assistance in marking the ballot, procedures for voting by mail, and procedures for early voting. (10 ILCS 5/12-1)

PUBLICATION – PUBLIC QUESTION

First day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon during the General Election within the jurisdiction. The notice shall be published once in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the political or governmental subdivision. The election authority shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the election authority. The local election official shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the political or governmental subdivision. If there is no principal office, the local election official shall post the office at the building in which the governing body of the political or governmental subdivision held its first meeting of the calendar year in which the referendum is being held. (10 ILCS 5/12-5(a))

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

LEGISLATIVE AND REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

Last day each legislative committee and representative committee shall meet and organize. Such meeting shall be held within the limits of such district. (10 ILCS 5/8-5)

SCHEDULE FOR EARLY VOTING – LAST DAY TO PROVIDE TO SBE

Last day for the election authority to provide the State Board of Elections with a list of all early voting sites and the hours each site will be open. (10 ILCS 5/19A-25(f))

POSTING FOR EARLY VOTING – LAST DAY TO POST

Last day for the election authority to post the schedule for early voting conducted at the office of the election authority and at each temporary location. Posting shall remain at each site until the last day of the early voting period (November 2, 2026). If the election authority has a website, they shall make the schedule available on the website. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15(a), 19A-25(b) and (d))

INTERNET VOTERS' GUIDE

Last day for candidates for statewide offices and for Supreme and Appellate Court judgeships to submit personal statements and photographs for the Internet Voters' Guide to the State Board of Elections. Personal statements and photographs will not be accepted after 5:00 p.m. (10 ILCS 5/12A-10(g); 26 Ill. Adm. Code §207.180(e))

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

PUBLICATION – FIRST DAY TO PUBLISH EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE

First day for the election authority to publish:

- 1) The location of each permanent and temporary site for early voting and the precincts served by each location
- 2) The dates and hours that early voting will be conducted at each location

The election authority shall publish this information once during the week before early voting begins and at least once per week during the period for early voting. If the election authority maintains a website, the election authority shall make the schedule available on their website. (10 ILCS 5/19A-25(a) and (d))

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL – UOCAVA

Last day for the election authority to have in the office of the election authority a sufficient number of ballots printed and available for mailing to members of the United States Service, service members' spouses, service members' dependents of voting age, citizens temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States, and nonresident civilians. (10 ILCS 5/16-5.01) September 18, 2026, is the last business day to mail ballots requested at least 45 days before the General Election. (52 U.S.C. § 20302(a)(8)(A))

Note:

- Pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), as amended by the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (the MOVE Act), vote by mail ballots requested by military and overseas voters must be transmitted at least 45 days before a federal election. (52 U.S.C. § 20302(a)(8)(A)) Please be advised that the 45-day UOCAVA deadline may not be extended under any circumstances; therefore, although the 45-day deadline falls on a Saturday, military and overseas vote by mail ballots **MUST** be mailed by that date. An election authority that waits until the first business day following the 45-day deadlines to mail military and overseas ballots will be considered in violation of UOCAVA. Jurisdictions failing to meet the deadline must be reported to the U.S. Congress and may be subject to civil suit filed by the U.S. Attorney General. (52 U.S.C. § 20307)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

INTERNET VOTERS' GUIDE

Last day for the State Board of Elections to publish Internet Voters' Guide on the Board's website. (10 ILCS 5/12A-5)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL – FIRST DAY TO MAIL BALLOT

First day for the election authority to mail an official ballot to a registered voter within the confines of the United States who has applied to vote by mail. (10 ILCS 5/19-4)

EARLY VOTING – OFFICE OF ELECTION AUTHORITY

First day for early voting at the office of the election authority and temporary locations designated by the election authority. Temporary polling locations for early voting can be established at the discretion of the election authority, and the dates and hours are also at the discretion of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)

ORGANIZATION OF CITIZENS – POLLWATCHERS

Last day for the entities listed below to register with the proper election authority if such organization(s) or person(s) wish to qualify as pollwatchers at the General Election.

- 1) Organizations of citizens which have among its purpose the investigation or prosecution of election fraud
- 2) Proponents or opponents of ballot propositions
- 3) State nonpartisan civic organizations

Registration must include the organization or person's (a) name and address and (b) names and addresses of their principal officers (if applicable). (10 ILCS 5/17-23)

VOTE CENTER CERTIFICATION

Last day for the election authority to identify the location, hours of operations, and any health and safety requirements of their vote center(s), and certify such information to the State Board of Elections. Election authorities in jurisdictions with a population of up to 500,000 inhabitants shall establish at least one vote center, while election authorities in jurisdictions with a population of more than 500,000 inhabitants shall establish at least two vote centers. (10 ILCS 5/11-8)

SUNDAY – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4 – 6, 2026

LODGING HOUSE AFFIDAVITS

Dates for filing Lodging House Affidavits listing the names and descriptions of each resident who lists such a location as the resident's voting address with the boards of election commissioners. (10 ILCS 5/6-56)

Note:

- The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) may prohibit the enforcement of this provision. (52 U.S.C. § 20507)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2026

PUBLICATION – LAST DAY FOR NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION

Last day for the election authority to publish a notice of the General Election. Notice shall include the polling hours and the offices for which candidates will be elected. (10 ILCS 5/12-1)

NURSING HOME AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY VOTING

For jurisdictions conducting on-site voting for the applicable facilities, last day for the election authority to arrange with facility administrators the date and time to conduct in-person voting in such facilities and to post a notice in the office of the election authority of all such arrangements. (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

Note:

- Pursuant to Public Act 103-0600, election authorities may choose to send vote by mail ballots according to the procedures set forth in Article 19 of the Election Code or conduct in-person vote by mail voting on the premises of facilities licensed pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Reform Act, the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act, the ID/DD Community Care Act, the MC/DD Act, and federally operated veterans' homes and hospitals, for the sole benefit of residents of such facilities who have made prior application and are registered to vote in that precinct.

VOTE BY MAIL – CITIZENS TEMPORARILY OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

Last day for citizens of the United States temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States who are not registered, but otherwise qualified to vote, and who expect to be absent from their county of residence on Election Day to simultaneously apply to the election authority having jurisdiction over their precinct of residence for vote by mail registration and a vote by mail ballot and be eligible for a full ballot. Last day for the election authority to mail such a ballot.

For applications received after October 5, 2026 and before October 26, 2026, from a citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., the voter registration requirement is waived, and the applicant will be eligible for a federal ballot only. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.1, 20-3)

Notes:

- Citizens temporarily residing outside the U.S. may use the dual application for registration and vote by mail ballot, or the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA).
- Registration is not required in order to vote a ballot containing the federal offices only.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2026

CLOSE OF REGISTRATION

Last day for regular registration or transfer of registration within the offices of the election authority. Grace period registration and voting will be available after this date. Online voter registration through the State Board of Elections website will continue through Sunday, October 18, 2026. Area and precinct registration may apply to the City of Chicago and Cook County. Please check with these jurisdictions for registration deadlines.

(10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5(I), 4-6, 4-16, 5-5, 5-23, 6-29, 6-50, 6-53, 6-54)

Note:

- Under the provisions of the NVRA, agency and motor vehicle offices will continue to accept registration after the statutory close of registration. (52 U.S.C. § 20506 et seq.) Only those registration applications completed no later than 27 days (16 days for motor vehicle offices and online registration) before the election will be processed for the next ensuing election. (10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5(I), 4-6, 5-5, 6-29) Applications for registration completed within five days of the registration deadline at Secretary of State Facilities and qualified agencies will be transmitted within five days of completion and must be processed for the election. (52 U.S.C. § 20506(d)(2)) A mail registration application shall be deemed timely filed if postmarked prior to the close of registration. If no postmark exists or if the postmark is illegible, the application shall be considered timely filed if received by the election authority no later than five calendar days after the close of registration.

CLOSE OF REGISTRATION – DEPUTY REGISTRARS

Last day for registration of voters by deputy registrars, including municipal, township, and road district clerks, and precinct committeepersons. Area and precinct registration may apply to the City of Chicago and Cook County. Please check with these jurisdictions for registration deadlines.

(10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(c), 5-16.2(c), 6-50.2(c))

Note:

- Deputy Registrars must return completed forms to the election authority within seven days of the day on which they are completed. Registrations accepted between the 35th and 28th day preceding an election must be returned within 48 hours. Registrations accepted on the 28th day preceding an election must be returned within 24 hours. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(c), 5-16.2(c), 6-50.2(c))

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026

GRACE PERIOD REGISTRATION AND VOTING BEGINS

First day for grace period registration and voting at the office of the election authority or at a location designated for this purpose by the election authority. If the election authority does not have ballots available, the election authority may mail the ballot to the voter when available.
(10 ILCS 5/4-50, 5-50, 6-100)

DEPUTY REGISTRARS – LAST DAY TO RETURN MATERIALS

Last day for deputy registrars who are officials or members of a bona fide labor organization to return unused registration materials to the election authority. Area and precinct registration may apply to the City of Chicago and Cook County. Please check with these jurisdictions for registration and return of materials deadlines. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(c), 5-16.2(c), 6-50.2(c))

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026

EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE – PERMANENT POLLING PLACES

Last day for the election authority to begin posting the schedule for early voting at each **permanent polling** place where early voting will be conducted. Postings shall remain at each site until the last day of the early voting period (November 2, 2026). If the election authority has a website, the election authority shall make the schedule available on their website.
(10 ILCS 5/19A-15(b), 19A-25(b) and (d))

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026

EMPLOYEE NOTICE TO BE ELECTION JUDGE

Last day for an employee to give their employer written notice that the employee will be absent from the place of employment on Election Day because the employee has been appointed as an election judge under the provisions of Election Code Sections 13-1 or 13-2. These provisions only apply to employers with more than 25 employees. (10 ILCS 5/13-2.5, 14-4.5)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

VOTER REGISTRATION DATA – FOLLOWING CLOSE OF REGISTRATION

Last day for the election authority to indicate in writing that the election authority's voter registration data, including voting history from the latest election, is complete and up to date.
(10 ILCS 5/4-8, 5-7, 6-35)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

Last day for voters to register to vote through the [State Board of Elections' website](#).
(10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5(l))

MONDAY – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19 – 20, 2026

ERASURE OF NAMES FROM VOTER REGISTRY

Dates on which any voter or precinct committee person may file an application with the election authority to erase names from the registry of voters. (10 ILCS 5/4-12, 5-15, 6-44)

Note:

- **The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) may prohibit the enforcement of this provision. (52 U.S.C. § 20507)**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

EARLY VOTING – PERMANENT POLLING PLACES

First day for early voting at permanent polling places other than the office of the election authority. These permanent polling places are to be open on holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15(b))

VACANCY IN NOMINATION

Last day a vacancy in nomination may occur and be filled at the General Election. Vacancies occurring after the official certification but prior to 15 days before the General Election must be filled within eight days after the event creating the vacancy. (10 ILCS 5/7-61, 10-11)

Note:

- **This does not apply to vacancies created due to failure to nominate at the General Primary Election.**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026

HOSPITALIZED VOTER

First day that a qualified voter who has been admitted to a hospital, nursing home, or rehabilitation center not more than 14 days before the General Election may apply to the election authority for the personal delivery of a vote by mail ballot. (10 ILCS 5/19-13)

Note:

- **This provision for voting by mail is available through Election Day if the process can be completed and the voted ballot returned to the election authority's central ballot counting location before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.**

POLLWATCHER CREDENTIALS

Last day for the State Board of Elections or the election authority to have pollwatcher credentials available for distribution. (10 ILCS 5/17-23)

Note:

- **Pollwatcher credentials may be distributed prior to this date at the discretion of the State Board of Elections or the election authority. Credentials must be available on this date, through, and including Election Day.**

REGISTRATION REPORT FOR EACH COUNTY CHAIR

Last day for county clerks (other than Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, and Will Counties) to provide to each county chair or their representative, precinct lists prepared for the 2026 General Election marked to indicate the names of all persons who have registered since the 2026 General Primary Election. (10 ILCS 5/4-11)

Note:

- **There is no statutory deadline for these lists in jurisdictions under boards of election commissioners (including Peoria County), or in counties with a population over 500,000 inhabitants which includes Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, and Will counties. These statutes specify only that such lists be prepared and distributed by those jurisdictions prior to the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/5-14, 6-60)**

THURSDAY – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22 – 24, 2026

HEARINGS FOR REGISTRATION ERASURE

Dates on which county clerks or the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners shall hold hearings to determine whether names in the registry of voters shall be erased, registered, or restored. (10 ILCS 5/4-13, 5-16, 6-45)

Note:

- **The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993 may prohibit enforcement of this provision. (52 U.S.C. § 20507)**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026

PUBLICATION – LAST DAY FOR NOTICE OF PUBLIC QUESTION

Last day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon within the jurisdiction. The notice shall be published once in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the political or governmental subdivision. The election authority shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the election authority. The local election official shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the political or governmental subdivision. If there is no principal office, the local election official shall post the notice at the building in which the governing body of the political or governmental subdivision held its first meeting of the calendar year in which the referendum is being held. (10 ILCS 5/12-5)

VOTE BY MAIL – LAST DAY FOR UOCAVA APPLICATIONS

Last day for any voter who is a member of the United States Service, a service member's spouse, or a service member's dependent of voting age who expects to be absent from the voter's county of residence on Election Day to apply for an official ballot to the election authority having jurisdiction over the precinct of residence and the last day for the election authority to mail such ballots. Members of the Armed Forces may apply via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2, 20-2.3, 20-3)

Note:

- **No registration shall be required in order to vote pursuant to this section.**

VOTE BY MAIL – LAST DAY FOR NONRESIDENT CIVILIAN APPLICATIONS

Last day for any nonresident civilian, otherwise qualified to vote, to apply for a vote by mail ballot containing federal offices only to the election authority having jurisdiction over their precinct of former residence, and the last day for the election authority to mail such ballots. Nonresident civilians may apply via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.2)

Note:

- **Such application may be made only on the official federal postcard, and no registration shall be required.**

VOTE BY MAIL – CITIZENS TEMPORARILY OUTSIDE UNITED STATES

Last day for the election authority to send an official ballot for federal offices only to citizens of the United States who are temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States who have simultaneously applied for registration and a vote by mail ballot. Citizens temporarily residing outside the territorial limits may apply via facsimile machine or other method of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.1)

For applications received after October 5, 2026 and before October 26, 2026, from a citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., the voter registration requirement is waived, and the applicant will be eligible for a federal ballot only. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.1, 20-3)

Notes:

- **Citizens temporarily residing outside the U.S. may use the dual application for registration and vote by mail ballot, or the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)**
- **Registration is not required in order to vote the ballot containing the federal offices only.**

TUESDAY – THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27 – 29, 2026

HEARINGS FOR REGISTRATION ERASURE – BOARDS UNDER 500K

Dates on which boards of election commissioners, except the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, shall hold hearings to determine whether names in the registry of voters shall be erased, registered, or restored. (10 ILCS 5/6-45)

Note:

- **The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) may prohibit the enforcement of this provision. (52 U.S.C. § 20507)**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL – LAST DAY TO RECEIVE APPLICATION BY MAIL

Last day for the election authority to receive applications by mail for a vote by mail ballot from any registered voter within the confines of the United States. (10 ILCS 5/19-2, 19-4)

PUBLIC TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

Last day for the election authority to conduct public testing of automatic tabulating equipment, Optical Scan Equipment, and Direct Recording Electronic Voting Equipment. (10 ILCS 5/24B-9, 24C-9)

Note:

- All election authorities must provide timely written notice of their public test to the State Board of Elections prior to the test. The notice must contain the date, time, and location of the test. Public notice of the time and place of the test must be given at least 48 hours prior to the test. (10 ILCS 5/24B-9, 24C-9)

PUBLICATION – SPECIMEN BALLOTS

Last day for the election authority to publish the specimen ballots, as near as may be, in the form in which they will appear on the official ballots on Election Day. (10 ILCS 5/24B-18, 24C-18)

NURSING HOME VOTING – LAST DAY FOR APPLICATION TO VOTE

For jurisdictions conducting on-site voting for the applicable facilities, last day for a physically incapacitated voter who desires to vote in person at a federally operated veterans' home, hospital, or facility of residence pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45/1-101 *et seq.*), the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 (210 ILCS 49/1-101 *et seq.*), the ID/DD Community Care Act (210 ILCS 47/1-101 *et seq.*), or the MC/DD Act (210 ILCS 46/1-101 *et seq.*), to apply to the election authority to vote in person at such facility. Such voting shall take place on the Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday immediately preceding the General Election, as determined by the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

Note:

- Pursuant to Public Act 103-0600, election authorities may choose to send vote by mail ballots according to the procedures set forth in Article 19 of the Election Code or conduct in-person vote by mail voting on the premises of facilities licensed pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Reform Act, the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act, the ID/DD Community Care Act, the MC/DD Act, and federally operated veterans' homes and hospitals, for the sole benefit of residents of such facilities who have made prior application and are registered to vote in that precinct.

NURSING HOME VOTING – LISTING OF FACILITIES WITH NO APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Last day (by noon) the election authority shall post the names and addresses of nursing home facilities from which no applications for vote by mail ballots have been received and in which no supervised voting will be conducted. (10 ILCS 5/19-12.2)

FRIDAY – MONDAY, OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 2, 2026

NURSING HOME AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY VOTING

For jurisdictions conducting on-site voting for the applicable facilities, the election authority will determine on which of the above dates Nursing Home voting will be conducted at federally operated veterans' homes, hospitals, and facilities licensed pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Act (210 ILCS 45/1-101 *et seq.*), the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013 (210 ILCS 49/1-101 *et seq.*), the ID/DD Community Care Act (210 ILCS 47/1-101 *et seq.*) or the MC/DD Act (210 ILCS 46/1-101 *et seq.*). No later than 9:00 a.m. of the day designated by the election authority

to conduct in-person voting on the premises, the election authority shall deliver official vote by mail ballots to the judges of election conducting such voting at the facility. Between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., sufficient time shall be allowed for residents of the facility to vote on the premises of the facility. Immediately thereafter, the judges shall bring the sealed envelope to the office of the election authority who shall deliver such ballots to the election authority's central ballot counting location prior to the closing of the polls on the day of election. (10 ILCS 5/19-4, 19-12.2)

Note:

- Pursuant to Public Act 103-0600, election authorities may choose to send vote by mail ballots according to the procedures set forth in Article 19 of the Election Code or conduct in-person vote by mail voting on the premises of facilities licensed pursuant to the Nursing Home Care Reform Act, the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act, the ID/DD Community Care Act, the MC/DD Act, and federally operated veterans' homes and hospitals, for the sole benefit of residents of such facilities who have made prior application and are registered to vote in that precinct.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2026

OFFICIAL BALLOTS FOR INSPECTION

Last day for the election authority to have official ballots available for inspection by candidates or their agents. (10 ILCS 5/16-5)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026

EARLY VOTING – LAST DAY

Last day for early voting at the office of the election authority and permanent locations designated by the election authority. Temporary early voting locations may be established by the election authority but are not required to maintain the same voting days and hours as the office of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)

VOTE BY MAIL – LAST DAY TO APPLY IN PERSON

Last day for any registered voter within the confines of the United States to request a vote by mail ballot in person at the office of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19-2)

CURBSIDE VOTING APPLICATION FOR INACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES

If a physically disabled voter is unable to enter an inaccessible polling place, the voter must register a request with the election authority that a ballot be delivered to the voter outside of the polling place. This request must be made no later than the close of business on the day preceding the election. Two election judges of opposite party affiliations will deliver a ballot to the voter at the point where they are unable to continue forward motion toward the polling place. (10 ILCS 5/7-47.1, 17-13, 18-5.1)

Notes:

- The election authority shall notify the judges of election of the appropriate precinct of such requests.
- An application is not needed if the election authority has curbside voting open to all voters. (10 ILCS 5/17-13.5)

BALLOT DELIVERY TO ELECTION JUDGES

Last day for the election authority to deliver ballots to the judges of election (not less than 12 hours before the polls are scheduled to open). (10 ILCS 5/16-5)

LISTS OF VOTE BY MAIL, EARLY AND GRACE PERIOD VOTERS

Last day for the election authority to deliver (prior to opening the polling place) to the judges of election in each precinct the list of registered voters in that precinct to whom vote by mail ballots have been issued, and a listing of grace period and early voters.

(10 ILCS 5/4-50, 5-50, 6-100, 19-4, 19A-5(c))

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026 GENERAL ELECTION POLLS OPEN 6:00 AM – 7:00 PM

GRACE PERIOD REGISTRATION AND VOTING – LAST DAY

Last day of grace period registration and voting in the office of the election authority or at locations designated for this purpose by the election authority. Please contact the election authority to determine the availability of grace period registration and voting in the polling place on Election Day. (10 ILCS 5/4-50, 5-50, 6-100)

ELECTION DAY VOTE CENTER

Election authorities shall establish at least one location at an office of the election authority or in the largest municipality within its jurisdiction where all voters in its jurisdiction are allowed to vote on Election Day during polling place hours, regardless of the precinct in which they are registered, and that location shall provide curbside voting. **Election authorities may establish more than one vote center.** In jurisdictions with a population of more than 500,000 inhabitants, the election authority shall establish at least two vote centers. (10 ILCS 5/11-8)

FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR OVERSEAS VOTERS

Overseas voters may be able to use a Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) available through Voting Assistance Officers at military installations or at Embassies/Consulates. To be eligible for this ballot, a voter must:

- 1) Be located overseas (including APO/FPO addresses),
- 2) Apply for a regular ballot no earlier than January 2, 2026, and no later than October 5, 2026, from the office of the election authority that has jurisdiction over the precinct of their last residence in the United States, and
- 3) Not have received the requested regular State vote by mail ballot from the election authority.

The voted FWAB must be returned to the election authority by the close of the election on November 3, 2026, or by the 14th day following the election (November 17, 2026) if postmarked by Election Day.

This ballot serves as a backup to the regular ballot and is available from a unit Voting Assistance Officer, at the Embassies/Consulates, or at www.fvap.gov. (52 U.S.C. § 20303)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026

VOTER REGISTRATION REOPENS

Registration opens in the office of the election authority and with all deputy registrars including all municipal, township, and road district clerks who are authorized deputy registrars.
(10 ILCS 5/4-6, 5-5, 6-50)

UNCOUNTED BALLOTS

No later than 48 hours after the closing of polling locations on Election Day, each election authority maintaining a website shall post the number of ballots that remain uncounted. The posting shall separate the number of ballots yet to be counted into the following categories:

- 1) Ballots cast on Election Day
- 2) Early voting ballots
- 3) Provisional ballots
- 4) Vote by mail ballots received by the election authority but not counted
- 5) Vote by mail ballots sent by the election authority that have not been returned to the election authority.

This information shall be updated on the website of the election authority each day until the period for counting provisional and vote by mail ballots has ended. All election authorities, regardless of whether they maintain a website, shall share the same information, separated in the same manner, with the State Board of Elections no later than 48 hours after the closing of polling locations on Election Day and each business day thereafter until the period for counting provisional and vote by mail ballots has ended. (10 ILCS 5/1-9.2)

PROVISIONAL VOTERS – REPORTING

Last day for the election authority to submit the name, street address, email address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers of each person casting a provisional ballot to the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/18A-5(d))

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2026

PROVISIONAL VOTERS – LAST DAY TO SUBMIT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Last day a provisional voter may submit additional information to the election authority to verify or support the voter's registration status. Materials must be received by this date.
(10 ILCS 5/18A-15(d))

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026

VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT COUNTING – LAST DAY

Last day for the election authority to complete the tabulation of vote by mail ballots that were:

- 1) Postmarked by Election Day, and were received after the close of the polls on Election Day, but not later than 14 days after the election
- 2) Not postmarked, but did have a certification date prior to the Election Day on the certification envelope, and were received after the close of the polls on Election Day, but not later than 14 days after the election

- 3) Not postmarked, but did have an intelligent mail barcode tracking system that verifies the envelope was mailed no later than Election Day, and received not later than 14 days after the election
(10 ILCS 5/19-8)

Note:

- Voters whose ballots were rejected must be sent a notice of such along with the reason for the rejection within two days of the rejection, but in all cases prior to the end of the 14-day period in which to count the vote by mail ballots. Such voters must be given an opportunity to appear before the election authority on or before the 14th day following the election to show cause to why the ballot should not be rejected.
(10 ILCS 5/19-8(g-5))

PROVISIONAL BALLOT COUNTING – LAST DAY

Last day for the election authority to complete the validation and counting of provisional ballots.
(10 ILCS 5/18A-15(a))

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2026

CANVASS – ELECTION AUTHORITY

Last day for the election authority to canvass election results, including referenda. The county clerk shall forward the abstract of votes to the State Board of Elections via overnight mail or as a PDF document through email. (10 ILCS 5/18A-15(a), 22-1, 22-5, 22-8, 22-17(c), 22-18)

Note:

- If there is a board of election commissioners within a county, the county abstracts shall include the statement of returns from such board of election commissioners.
(10 ILCS 5/22-9)

LOTTERY – TIE VOTE FOR COUNTY OFFICE

Last day for the county clerk to conduct a lottery for a tie vote for a county office. (10 ILCS 5/22-3)

VOTE BY MAIL STATISTICS

Last day the election authority shall transmit to the State Board of Elections the following:

- 1) The number, by precinct, of vote by mail ballots requested, provided and counted
- 2) The number of rejected vote by mail ballots
- 3) The number of voters seeking review of rejected vote by mail ballots
- 4) The number of vote by mail ballots counted following review

The report of this information shall be made public by December 1, 2026.
(10 ILCS 5/19-20, 20-20)

AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION

RETABULATION BEFORE PROCLAMATION BY ELECTION AUTHORITY

Prior to the canvass, in those jurisdictions where in-precinct counting equipment is utilized, the election authority shall retabulate the total number of votes cast in 5% of the precincts within the election jurisdiction, as well as 5% of the voting devices used in early voting as selected on a

random basis by the State Board of Elections. Returns of the retabulation shall be made public after they are complete. (10 ILCS 5/24B-15, 24C-15)

AFTER PROCLAMATION BY ELECTION AUTHORITY

The county clerk shall issue a certificate of election to each person declared elected to a county office. For political subdivisions that are multi-county, the county clerk of the county where the principal office of the political subdivision is located shall issue the certificate of election. (10 ILCS 5/22-2, 22-18)

PRECINCT RESULTS

Within 1 day after the canvassing and proclamation, each election authority shall transmit to the State Board of Elections a canvass of votes by precinct or ward for all offices, and total ballots cast via overnight mail or as a PDF file via email. Electronic results must also be submitted in accordance with the procedures outlined in Title 26, Part 219 of the Illinois Administrative Code. (10 ILCS 5/22-15; 26 Ill. Adm. Code § 219)

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

Each successful write-in candidate elected at the General Election shall file the following documents with the proper election authority or the State Board of Elections prior to taking office:

- 1) Statement of Candidacy
- 2) Receipt for filing of a Statement of Economic Interests (not required for federal offices)
- 3) Loyalty Oath (optional)

(10 ILCS 5/22-7)

DISCOVERY RECOUNT

Within 5 days after the last day for proclamation of the results, petitions for discovery recount may be filed by any qualified candidate (who came within 5% of the votes cast for any successful candidate) with the appropriate election authority. Petitions for discovery recount may also be filed by five electors of the same area in which votes were cast for a public question if the losing side of the question would have prevailed had it received an additional number of votes equal to 5% of the total votes cast.

The deadline to file a discovery recount for an office or public question canvassed by the State Board of Elections is 5 days after the last day for the Board to canvass. The petition for discovery is filed with the appropriate election authority or authorities (not filed with the State Board of Elections). (10 ILCS 5/22-9.1)

ELECTION CONTEST

Petitions of State Election Contest for statewide offices may be filed with the clerk of the Supreme Court. The Senate and House of Representatives shall severally hear and determine contests of the election of their respective members. In general, the circuit court shall hear all other election contests. Individuals should refer to the particular statute which applies to their unit of government. (10 ILCS 5/23)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2026

DEPUTY REGISTRARS – ADDITIONAL APPLICANTS

Last day for County Central Committee Chairs to submit a list to the election authority of applicants for additional deputy registrars. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a))

Note:

- The election authority may require a chair of a county central committee to furnish a supplemental list of applicants.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2026

BEGINNING OF TERM – COUNTY

First day for term of office for the following officers:

County Clerk (55 ILCS 5/3-2001)

County Treasurer (55 ILCS 5/3-10001)

Sheriff (55 ILCS 5/3-6002)

County Assessor in counties of less than 3,000,000 (35 ILCS 200/3-45)

BEGINNING OF TERM – DEPUTY REGISTRARS

Beginning of 2-year term of all deputy registrars except precinct committee persons (who began their own 2-year term on the date of the county convention following their election).

(10 ILCS 5/4-6.2(a), 5-16.2(a), 6-50.2(a))

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2026

CANVASS – SBE

Last day for the State Board of Elections to canvass returns and proclaim the results of the election. (10 ILCS 5/18A-15(a))

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2026

BEGINNING OF TERM – JUDICIAL

First day for term of office for those judges that were elected or retained at the November 3, 2026, General Election. (10 ILCS 5/7A-1)

BEGINNING OF TERM – MISCELLANEOUS

First day for term of office for the following officers:

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

County Board Chair (55 ILCS 5/2-3007)

County Board Members and County Commissioners (55 ILCS 5/2-3009)

Sanitary District Members (70 ILCS 2805/3.2)

Forest Preserve District Commissioners (70 ILCS 805/3d)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2026

BEGINNING OF TERM – WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT

First day for term of office for officers of Water Reclamation District of Chicago. (70 ILCS 2605/3)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2026

VOTER REGISTRATION DATA – FIRST DAY TO CERTIFY

First day for election authorities to indicate in writing that their voter registration data, including voting history from the latest election, is complete and up to date. (10 ILCS 5/4-8, 5-7, 6-35)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2026

VOTER REGISTRATION DATA – LAST DAY TO CERTIFY

Last day for election authorities to indicate in writing that their voter registration data, including voting history from the latest election, is complete and up to date. (10 ILCS 5/4-8, 7-7, 6-35)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2027

BEGINNING OF TERM – FEDERAL

First day for term of office for federal officers elected at the November 3, 2026, General Election. (United States Constitution, Amendment XX, § 2)

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2027

VOTER LIST FOR COUNTY CHAIR

Last day for the election authority to provide to each county chair or their representative a precinct list prepared for the 2026 General Election which has been marked to indicate which registrants voted at the General Election. (10 ILCS 5/4-11, 5-14, 6-60)

ABSTRACT OF VOTES

Last day for the election authority to prepare the report of the abstracts of votes by precinct for all offices and questions of public policy during the General Election. The election authority shall provide a copy of the report to the chair of the county central committee of each established political party in the county within the election authority's jurisdiction. (10 ILCS 5/22-15.1)

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2027

BEGINNING OF TERM – STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

First day for term of office for statewide executive officers (Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer). (Illinois Constitution, Article V, Section 2)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2027

GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES

Newly elected members of the General Assembly shall convene and organize their respective chambers. (Illinois Constitution, Article IV, Sections 5(a) and 6(b))

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2027

BEGINNING OF TERM – CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION

First day for term of office for members and President of the Chicago Board of Education. (105 ILCS 5/34-3(b-10) and (b-15))

MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2027

BEGINNING OF TERM – REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT

First day for term of office for Regional Superintendent of Schools. (105 ILCS 5/3-1)

PROCEDURES ON OBJECTIONS

All citations contained herein are to the Election Code within the Illinois Compiled Statutes, 10 ILCS 5/10-8 through 10-10.1.

FILING OBJECTION PETITION

Nomination papers shall be deemed to be valid unless an objection is filed in writing, **including an original and two copies, within five business days** after the last day for filing nomination papers.

PROCESSING OBJECTION

Not later than 12:00 noon on the second business day after the receipt of the objector's petitions, the election authority or local election officials **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 10 ILCS 5/10-9, or an authorized agent, and **shall transmit a copy by registered mail or receipted personal delivery** of the objector's petitions 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.

RESPONSIBILITY OF CHAIR OF ELECTORAL BOARD

Within 24 hours after the receipt of the objector's petition, the chair of the electoral board other than the State Board of Elections shall **send a call by registered or certified mail**, to each of the members of the electoral board, the objector, the candidate, the election authority to whom the ballot is certified, and the appropriate county clerk. The chair shall also cause the sheriff of the county or counties in which the officers and persons reside to serve a copy of the call upon each of the officers and persons.

In those cases where the State Board of Elections is the designated electoral board, the Chair of the State Board of Elections shall send the call 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 (electoral board hearing may be held in the principal or permanent branch office of the State Board of Elections).

ELECTORAL BOARD MEETING

Meetings of electoral boards **shall not be less than 3 nor more than 5 days after receipt of the objector's petitions** by the chair of the electoral board.

JUDICIAL REVIEW FILED

Within 5 days after the decision of the electoral board, the candidate or objector aggrieved by a decision of the board may file petition for judicial review with the clerk of the circuit court. **Court hearings are to be held within 30 days after the filing of the petition** and the decision delivered promptly thereafter.

NO JUDICIAL REVIEW

If no petition for judicial review has been filed **within 5 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, to the election authority to whom the ballot is certified, and to the appropriate county clerk. The officer or board shall abide by and comply with the ruling so made to all intents and purposes.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE CALENDAR

2025 DECEMBER QUARTERLY REPORT OCTOBER 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025

Last day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its December Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. The period covered by the December Quarterly Report extends from October 1, 2025 (or later if the committee was formed subsequently) through December 31, 2025, inclusively. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

First day that any political committee shall file its December Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

Last day for a political committee to file its December Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION MARCH 17, 2026

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

First day of the period during which independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more made by a political committee must be reported electronically within two (2) business days after making the independent expenditure. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(e))

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

First day of period during which any receipt of a contribution of \$1,000 or more by a political committee must be reported within two (2) business days following its receipt. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(c))

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

Last day of period during which independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more made by a political committee must be reported electronically within two (2) business days after making the independent expenditure. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(e))

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

Last day of period during which any receipt of a contribution of \$1,000 or more by a political committee must be reported within two (2) business days following its receipt. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(c))

Note:

- The accelerated two-day disclosure deadlines before the date of an election replace the five-day disclosure deadlines applicable at all other times. The two-day deadline for disclosure of independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more (on Form B-1) within 60 days of an election applies to all types of political committees.

- The two-day deadline for disclosure of receipt of a contribution of \$1,000 or more (on Form A-1) within 30 days of an election applies to: (1) committees organized to support or oppose candidate(s) or public question(s) on the ballot at that election; (2) committees that spend in excess of \$500 on candidate(s) or question(s) of public policy on the ballot at that election; or (3) committees organized to support or oppose a candidate who has filed a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate at that election. Please note that even if a candidate is not running for office in the relevant election, this restriction may apply to a candidate political committee due to its expenditures in that election. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(c)-(e); 26 Ill. Adm. §100.70(b))

MARCH QUARTERLY REPORT JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2026

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

First day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its March Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

Last day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its March Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. The period covered by the March Quarterly Report extends from January 1, 2026 (or later if the committee was formed subsequently) through March 31, 2026, inclusively. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

First day that any political committee shall file its March Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026

Last day for a political committee to file its March Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

JUNE QUARTERLY REPORT APRIL 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

First day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its June Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2026

Last day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its June Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. The period covered by the June Quarterly Report extends from April 1, 2026 (or later if the committee was formed subsequently) through June 30, 2026, inclusively. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026

First day that any political committee shall file its June Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026

Last day for a political committee to file its June Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

**SEPTEMBER QUARTERLY REPORT
JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2026****WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026**

First day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its September Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Last day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its September Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. The period covered by the September Quarterly Report extends from July 1, 2026 (or later if the committee was formed subsequently) through September 30, 2026, inclusively. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2026

First day that any political committee shall file its September Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026

Last day for a political committee to file its September Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

**GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 3, 2026****FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2026**

First day of period during which independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more made by a political committee must be reported electronically within two (2) business days after making the independent expenditure. (10 ILCS 5-9-10(e))

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

First day of period during which any receipt of a contribution of \$1,000 or more by a political committee must be reported within two (2) business days following its receipt. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(c))

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026

Last day of period during which independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more made by a political committee must be reported electronically within two (2) business days after making the independent expenditure. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(e))

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026

Last day of period during which any receipt of a contribution of \$1,000 or more by a political committee must be reported within two (2) business day following its receipt. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(c))

Note:

- The accelerated two-day disclosure deadlines before the date of an election replace the five-day disclosure deadlines applicable at all other times. The two-day deadline for disclosure of independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more (on Form B-1) within 60 days of an election applies to all types of political committees.
- The two-day deadline for disclosure of receipt of a contribution of \$1,000 or more (on Form A-1) within 30 days of an election applies to: (1) committees organized to support or oppose candidate(s) or public question(s) on the ballot at that election; (2) committees that spend in excess of \$500 on candidate(s) or question(s) of public policy on the ballot at that election; or (3) committees organized to support or oppose a candidate who has filed a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate at that election. Please note that even if a candidate is not running for office in the relevant election, this restriction may apply to a candidate political committee due to its expenditures in that election. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(c)-(e); 26 Ill. Adm. §100.70(b))

DECEMBER QUARTERLY REPORT OCTOBER 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2026

First day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its December Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. (10 ILCS 5/0-10(b))

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2026

Last day of the political committee's financial activity that is to be included in its December Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures. The period covered by the December Quarterly Report extends from October 1, 2026 (or later if the committee was formed subsequently) through December 31, 2026, inclusively. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2027

First day that any political committee shall file its December Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2027

Last day for a political committee to file its December Quarterly Report of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures with the Board. (10 ILCS 5/9-10(b))

SCHEDULE A-1 REPORTS

A political committee must file a report of any contribution of \$1,000 or more from one source with the Board within five (5) business days after receipt of the contribution, except that the report shall be filed within two (2) business days if received within 30 days prior to an election by a political committee. The dates during which the two-business day filing period must be observed are included within the above calendar.

SCHEDULE B-1 REPORTS

A political committee must file a report of any independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more it makes with the Board within five (5) business days after making the independent expenditure, except that the report shall be filed within two (2) business days if made within 60 days prior to an election by a political committee. The dates during which the two-business day filing period must be observed are included within the above calendar.

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STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

State of Illinois



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Rick S. Terven, Sr., Vice Chair
Jennifer M. Ballard Croft
Cristina D. Cray
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