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VOTE!

2024 General Election Voter Guide





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Metropolitan Family provides and mobilizes for the services needed to strengthen families and communities. Part mentor, part motivator, part advocate, since 1857 Metropolitan Family Services has been the engine of change that empowers Chicago-area families to reach their greatest potential and positively impact their communities.

Metropolitan is a certified State Civic Organization. We empower families through civic engagement. This voter guide is a one-stop resource to help you vote your values.

For more information on Metropolitan's advocacy work, please visit <https://www.metrofamily.org/get-involved/action-center>.



Are you registered?

Check your voter registration.
Register online through March 3.
Learn what you need to register.



How Do You Plan to Vote?



By mail: Apply for a ballot. Learn where and when to return your ballot



Early in person: Vote on your schedule. Find out where your early voting site is and when it is open.



Election day in person: Find your polling place.



What is on your ballot?

Get informed. See who and what is on the ballot in your area on the following pages.



S M T W T F S

General Election Calendar

Tuesday, November 5, 2024
Illinois General Election

Voter Registration Deadline

- **In-Person Request by Tue Oct 8, 2024**
- **Online by Sun Oct 20, 2024**
- **Grace Period From Mon October 21 2024 to November 5, 2024**

Absentee Ballot Request Deadline

- **Online by Thu Oct 31, 2024**
- **Post Received by Thu Oct 31, 2024**
- **In-Person Request by Mon Nov 4, 2024**

Absentee Ballot Return Deadline

- **Postmarked On or Before Election Day and Received by Tue Nov 19, 2024**

Early Voting Available

- **Early Voting from October 21, 2024 to Mon, Nov 4, 2024 ***

*There may be additional earlier voting dates and locations depending on your locality. Please check your board of elections website for further information.



REGISTERING TO VOTE

Visit the Illinois State Board of Elections, www.elections.il.gov, or scan this QR code to register, check your status, and find your voting location for election day.



Voting Requirements

- ✓ Must be a U.S. Citizen
- ✓ Must be at least 18 years of age by Election Day
- ✓ Must have been a resident of the precinct for at least 30 days before Election Day
- ✓ Must not claim the right to vote elsewhere
- ✓ Must not be in prison, serving time for a conviction, on Election Day
(returning citizens who have completed their sentences and who meet all other requirements listed above are eligible to vote in Illinois)



In case you forget...

You can also register in person on Election Day at your local voting site. Bring two forms of ID*, with at least one showing your current address. You must have lived in your precinct for at least 30 days prior to Election Day.

**No ID is required to vote in your home precinct on Election Day unless you are voting for the first time and registered by mail without verification.*

KNOW
YOUR
POWER

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In Illinois, **you still have the right to vote** if you were previously incarcerated or convicted of a felony.

Those with felony convictions may need to re-register upon release.



If you are awaiting trial in a county jail with more than 3 million residents, you can vote onsite, if not, you can vote by mail. If you were in custody for a non-felony, your right to vote is automatically restored upon release.



Illinois allows same-day registration but it is highly recommended to do so a month before Election Day.



To verify your status or to register to vote, visit www.elections.il.gov, or scan the QR code.



Where do I find information about voting for judges?

Every two years, voters go to the polls to elect new judges and decide whether to retain sitting judges.

Injustice Watch Judicial Election Guide

For a comprehensive, nonpartisan voter guide for each Cook County judicial election, visit

<https://www.injusticewatch.org/topics/judges/judicial-elections/>



Illinois State Bar Association

The Illinois State Bar Association has judicial evaluations for every county in Illinois. Check them out at

www.isba.org/judicialevaaluations



WHO and WHAT IS on THE BALLOT?



BALLOTPEDIA
The Encyclopedia of American Politics

Visit

[www.Ballotpedia.org/Sample Ballot Lookup](http://www.Ballotpedia.org/Sample_Ballot_Lookup)



**Use the Sample Ballot Look-up Tool
to research every name and measure on
your ballot**

Resources

Election Protection

Election Protection Hotlines

Have questions about voting? Call or text 866-OUR-VOTE to speak with a trained Election Protection volunteer.

ENGLISH 866-OUR-VOTE 866-687-8683

SPANISH 888-VE-Y-VOTA 888-839-8682

ASIAN LANGUAGES 888-API-VOTE 888-274-8683

ARABIC 844-YALLA-US 844-925-5287



Illinois State Board of Elections



312-814-6440



www.elections.il.gov



Cook County Board of Elections



312-603-5656



<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service-groups/voting-and-elections>



Early Voting

- <https://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/voter-registration>



Voting by Mail

- <https://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/ways-to-vote/vote-by-mail>



Dropboxes

- <https://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/ways-to-vote/vote-mail/mail-ballot-drop-box-locations>

Resources



DuPage County Board of Elections



630-407-6500



https://www.dupagecounty.gov/elected_officials/election_and_voter_information/



Early Voting

- https://www.dupagecounty.gov/elected_officials/election_and_voter_information/voting_information/early_voting_locations.php



Voting by Mail

- https://www.dupagecounty.gov/elected_officials/election_and_voter_information/voting_information/vote_by_mail.php



Dropboxes

- https://www.dupagecounty.gov/elected_officials/election_and_voter_information/voting_information/vote_by_mail.php



City of Chicago Board of Elections



312-269-7900



<https://chicagoelections.gov/en/home.html>



Early Voting

- <https://chicagoelections.gov/en/early-voting.html>



Voting by Mail

- <https://chicagoelections.gov/voting/vote-mail>



Dropboxes

- <https://chicagoelections.gov/voting/drop-boxes>



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16 & 17-YEAR-OLDS CAN PRE-REGISTER TO VOTE

Visit the Illinois State Board of Elections at <https://ova.elections.il.gov>, or scan this QR code to pre-register, check your status, and find your voting location for election day.

Voting Requirements

- ✓ Starting January 1, 2024, 16-year-olds may pre-register to vote online through the above link or QR Code.
- ✓ 16-year-olds will have their application held in abeyance until voting age.
- ✓ To vote in the upcoming 2024 elections, you must be 17 years old on or before the date of the Primary Election (3/19/2024) and turn 18 on or before the date of the General Election (11/5/2024).
- ✓ Must be a U.S. Citizen
- ✓ Must be at least 18 years of age by Election Day
- ✓ Must have been a resident of the precinct for at least 30 days before Election Day
- ✓ Must not claim the right to vote elsewhere
- ✓ Must not be in prison, serving time for a conviction, on Election Day
(returning citizens who have completed their sentences and who meet all other requirements listed above are eligible to vote in Illinois)



In case you forget...

You can also register in person on Election Day at your local voting site. Bring two forms of ID*, with at least one showing your current address. You must have lived in your precinct for at least 30 days prior to Election Day.

**No ID is required to vote in your home precinct on Election Day unless you are voting for the first time and registered by mail without verification.*

CHICAGO SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION GUIDE 2024



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WHAT DO SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS DO?

- Hire & evaluate CEO
- Establish the direction, goals, and priorities for the district
- Approve district policies
- Approve purchasing decisions, contracts, and intergovernmental agreements
- Approve the district budget and capital improvement plan
- Approve the school year calendar
- Approve school continuous improvement plans, school actions, and school charters and contracts
- Approve the dismissal of probationary appointed teachers, contract principals and tenured teachers, and non-probationary educational support personnel

For the first time on Tuesday, November 5, Chicago voters will elect their school board members. Before this point, the board has been entirely appointed by the Mayor of Chicago.

HOW IT'S CHANGING

- This November, 10 of the 21 school board members will be elected. The rest will still be appointed, resulting in a transitional hybrid board. In November 2026, the entire board will be elected.
- Voters will select from the candidates in the district in which they live. Each district is split into subdistricts (A and B). If voters select the candidate from subdistrict A, the mayor's appointed second candidate will come from subdistrict B (and vice versa).
- Candidates needed to file 1000 valid signatures of registered voters in their district by June 24 in order to be eligible.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Ask your candidates questions! Do they know what the role of the board is? What will they do to make it effective? How do they plan to engage with their community and collaborate with others?
- Make a plan to vote!
- Share your opinions! Let your board members know what your priorities are for the school district in which you live. Hold them accountable to do what is best for students.

Vote by mail: starting Wednesday, August 7

Vote Early In-person: starting Thursday, September 26

Vote at permanent polling locations: starting Monday, October 21

Election Day: Tuesday, November 5

<https://chicagoelections.gov/districts-maps/legislative-maps>

Unhoused Voter Guide

All people experiencing houselessness have the right to vote in every local, state, and national election.

REGISTERING TO VOTE:

Everyone registering to vote (at an early voting site or on the day of an election) needs 2 forms of identification, including one that shows proof of residence.

In place of this, an individual experiencing houselessness may provide a letter from any of the following:

1. A drop-in center
2. A shelter
3. The person in whose home they are living doubled-up

This letter must confirm that the named person has permission to use the address to register to vote.

SITUATIONS WHERE ID IS NEEDED:

- They registered by mail and didn't include their Illinois ID/driver's license number or Social Security number.
 - An election judge challenges the person's right to vote.
- (A common reason why this occurs is that the Board of Elections sent mail to verify a voter's mailing address, but the mail was returned.)
- The individual is registering to vote on-site (see above)

For Election Day Assistance, Call:

- The Chicago Board of Elections, (312) 269-7870
- Cook County Clerk Karen A. Yarbrough office, (312) 603-0236
- The Illinois State Board of Elections in Chicago (312) 814-6440 or Springfield (217) 782-4141

IF AN INDIVIDUAL... IS UNABLE TO SHOW ID

They may still cast a provisional ballot. For it to be counted, the voter must present ID within seven days of the election to the Board of Elections.

MOVED RECENTLY?

- Within the same precinct and within 27 days: sign an affidavit and vote a full ballot!
- Outside the same precinct and more than 30 days ago: update their registration through voting day and vote!
- Outside the same precinct and less than 30 days ago: update their registration through voting day and vote!
OR sign an affidavit and vote a full ballot at their old polling place!



Check an individual's registration status by following the QR code above!