

2027

BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
ELECTION
CANDIDATE
PACKET



WHEATON PARK DISTRICT



Wheaton Park Board 2027 Election Announcement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Beginning Tuesday, August 25, 2026, petitions for candidacy for the 2027 Wheaton Park District Park Board Election will be available at the Wheaton Park District Administration Office in the DuPage County Historical Museum, located at 102 E. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL, between the hours of 8:30a.m. and 4:30p.m. The petitions will also be available on Tuesday, August 25, 2026 on our website at: <https://wheatonparkdistrict.com/transparency-portal/board-of-commissioners/>.

The consolidated election will take place on Tuesday, April 6, 2027. There are currently four seats up for election. Candidates must be registered voters who have lived within Wheaton Park District boundaries for no less than one year. The Board of Commissioners is comprised of seven volunteers who serve at large for four-year terms and represent the residents of the Wheaton Park District.

Serving without compensation, elected or appointment park district board members provide leadership to further the mission and vision of the park district. They establish and adopt policies, establish and adopt an annual tax levy, approve and monitor operational and capital expenditures, develop and maintain long-range plans, and over the Executive Director.

The mission of the Wheaton Park District is to create vibrant, welcoming spaces and activities that inspire fun, foster connection, strengthen the community, and enrich well-being for all. A copy of the Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioners General Practices and Policies Manual can be found on the park district website transparency portal at: <https://wheatonparkdistrict.com/transparency-portal/policies/#park-board>.

Candidates can begin circulating petitions Tuesday, August 25, 2026.

Petition filing dates are November 16 through November 23, 2026, petitions will be accepted between 8:30a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays only at the Wheaton Park District Administration Office in the DuPage County Historical Museum, located at 102 E. Wesley Street in Wheaton. Petitions will not be accepted Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22, 2026.

Successful candidates will take office at the latter of either the first regular or special meeting after receipt of the official election results or at the first regular or special meeting in the month following their election.

For further information, contact Michael Benard at 630.510.4945 or mbenard@wheatonparks.org.

CANDIDATE FILING CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Receipt from County Clerk evidencing the filing of the Statement of Economic Interests (must be filed by the last day of filing)***

** Original Statements of Economic Interests are obtained from and filed with the County Clerk.*

- ☐ **Statement of Candidacy**

Complete:

- Proper Designation of:
 - Candidate Information (Ballot Name and Address)
 - Office Sought
 - Term Sought (Full is sought, unless an unexpired term is stated)
 - Unit of Government/District
 - Party (for New Political Party)
- Attestation
- Candidate's Signature (witnessed by Notary Public)
- Notarization of Candidates signature with Notary Seal

- ☐ **Nomination Petition(s):**

Complete:

- Proper Designation of:
 - Candidate Information (Ballot Name and Address)
 - Office Sought
 - Term Sought (Full is sought, unless an unexpired term is stated)
 - Unit of Government/District
 - Party (for New Political Party)
- Signator's affixed name and address
- Attestation
- Circulator completed the Circulator's Statement
- Circulator's Signature (witnessed by Notary Public)
- Notarization of Circulator's Signature with Notary Seal

- ☐ **Original petition sheets must be consecutively numbered**

- ☐ **Nominating papers must be securely bound together before filing**

preferred order:

- Receipt of Statement of Economic Interests
- Statement of Candidacy
- Loyalty Oath *(optional)*
- Nomination Petitions
- Certification of Attached List of Deletions *(if applicable)*
- Certification of Deletions *(if applicable, must be filed if a Certification of Attached List is filed)*

This checklist is intended for informational purposes only; candidates are encouraged to seek the advice of legal counsel before filing any nomination papers.

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

State of Illinois

2027 CANDIDATE'S GUIDE

Issued by the
Illinois State Board of Elections

7/7/2026



AMENDMENTS

Amendment Date	Revised Page Number	Reason for Change
7/7/2026	N/A	Original Issue date

PREFACE

THE 2027 CANDIDATE'S GUIDE

This Candidate's Guide has been prepared to provide information for candidates seeking office at the local level in 2027. Information is provided regarding nomination procedures and the objection process. Answers to more frequently asked questions about nominating petitions and procedures can be found on page 65. For Chicago Police District Council Members, please seek information directly from the [Chicago Board of Election Commissioners](#).

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

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

Statutory deadlines for filing objections and for withdrawing from all but one incompatible office will depend on the filing period. Specific deadlines and important dates can be found in the SBE [Election and Campaign Finance Calendar](#) for 2027. The calendar, this guide, and filing date announcements can be found on the State Board of Elections' [website](#).

Additional information may be obtained by contacting your election authority (county clerk or board of election commissioners), your local election official (municipal clerk, township clerk, road district clerk, park district secretary, etc.), or the State Board of Elections.

APPARENT CONFORMITY

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

(1) Whether a signed Statement of Candidacy has been filed and (2) whether the filed nominating sheets contain gross signatures equal to or exceeding 10% of

the minimum number of signatures required for the office sought.

All candidates whose petitions fail the apparent conformity review will be notified in writing and given the opportunity to appear before the State Board of Elections at its first meeting held to call petition objection cases before a determination is made to reject the candidate's petition on the basis of non-conformity.

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

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The State Board of Elections produces [additional guides](#) that can be helpful when preparing to run for office. The [Election and Campaign Finance Calendar](#) lists more specific deadlines and important dates to follow, and the County Officials Book has relevant contact information for elected county officials. You can find information regarding campaign finance disclosure and tutorials on the financial filing process on our website under "[Campaign Disclosure](#)."

CONTACT INFORMATION

Illinois State Board of Elections – Springfield Office

2329 S. MacArthur Blvd.
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Phone: (217) 782-4141
Fax: (217) 782-5959
TTY: 800-964-3013

Illinois State Board of Elections – Chicago Office

69 W. Washington St., Suite LL-08
Chicago, IL 60602
Phone: (312) 814-6440
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www.elections.il.gov

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GLOSSARY

BUSINESS DAY

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

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

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

CALL

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

CORPORATE AUTHORITIES

"Corporate authorities" means (a) the mayor and alderpersons or similar body when the reference is to cities, (b) the president and trustees or similar body when the reference is to villages or incorporated towns, and (c) the council when the reference is to municipalities under the commission form of municipal government. (65 ILCS 5/1-1-2(2))

DISTRICT

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

ELECTION AUTHORITY

The county clerk or the Board of Election Commissioners. (10 ILCS 5/1-3(8))

ELECTION JURISDICTION

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

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

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY

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

For more information on established political parties, see page 8.

LEADING POLITICAL PARTY

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

NEW POLITICAL PARTY

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

For more information on new political parties, see page 10.

NOTARY

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

POLITICAL SLOGAN

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

POLITICAL OR GOVERNMENTAL SUBDIVISION

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

REGISTERED VOTERS OF THE STATE, POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, OR DISTRICT

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

VOTER

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

FORMS OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

PRESIDENT-TRUSTEE VILLAGE FORM – 65 ILCS 5/3.1

Under the president-trustee village form of government, there are six trustees, generally elected from the village at-large. Villages with a population of less than 5,000 may, by public question, reduce the number of trustees from six to four. Villages with a population of more than 25,000 may have each trustee elected by district instead of by the village at-large. The village president and clerk are elected at-large, and the treasurer is appointed. The terms of the village president, trustees, and clerk is four years, unless reduced to two years by public question.

MAYOR-ALDERMANIC CITY FORM – 65 ILCS 5/3.1

The mayor-aldermanic city form of government is made up of two alderpersons per ward elected for four-year terms. Terms are staggered so that half of the alderpersons are elected every two years. The population of the city determines the number of alderpersons. The mayor, clerk, and treasurer are elected to four-year terms.

COMMISSION FORM – 65 ILCS 5/4

The commission form of government is limited to municipalities with a population of less than 200,000. This form allows voters to elect a mayor and four commissioners who serve as the council. At the first regular meeting after an election, the council designates each member to administrative departments. By public question, the electors may provide for the election of commissioners to specific departments.

MANAGERIAL FORM – 65 ILCS 5/5

The managerial form of government is available to municipalities with a population of less than 500,000. The municipality may keep its governmental structure as a mayor-aldermanic city form, president-trustee village form, or commission form while adopting, by public question, the features the managerial form.

STRONG MAYOR FORM – 65 ILCS 5/6

The strong mayor form of government has an elected mayor, clerk, treasurer, and alderpersons. Alderpersons are elected from wards. The elected officials serve four-year terms. The mayor can, without the necessity of advice and consent of the city council, appoint and remove municipality officers and members of commissions, board and agencies provided for in Articles 3 and 4 of the Illinois Municipal Code, except those covered by civil service.

CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY

Last Tuesday in February
February 23, 2027
(10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1(b))

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTIES—OFFICERS TO BE NOMINATED AT THE PRIMARY

MUNICIPAL – over 5,000 population and/or Special Charter (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c))	
Mayor or President	Treasurer
Clerk	Alderpersons or Trustees
Municipalities under 5,000 population may determine by ordinance (no later than November 15, 2026) that political parties shall nominate candidates for municipal offices by primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-1(b))	
Villages that have nominated and elected candidates for president and trustees in partisan elections prior to January 1, 1992, may continue to hold partisan elections without submitting a public question on the matter. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-20)	

NONPARTISAN—OFFICERS TO BE NOMINATED AT THE PRIMARY

MUNICIPAL – Council-Manager form (council members at-large and from districts) (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(1) and (d); 65 ILCS 5/3.1-15-5; 65 ILCS 20/21-12)	
Mayor or President	Treasurer (Council-Manager form only)
Clerk	Council Members, Alderpersons, or Trustees
Including officers with unexpired terms occurring in the City of Chicago	

NOTE: A village may conduct a nonpartisan primary by public question. (Municipalities incorporated after May 13, 1993, are nonpartisan, unless they adopt the partisan format). (65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-60)

NONPARTISAN—OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED AT THE PRIMARY

MUNICIPAL – City of Chicago (if no candidate gets more than 50%, a runoff election is required.)	
Mayor	Treasurer
Clerk	Alderpersons

CONSOLIDATED ELECTION

First Tuesday in April
April 6, 2027
(10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1(b))

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTIES, INDEPENDENT, AND NEW POLITICAL PARTY – OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

MUNICIPAL – Including Special Charter (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c))	
Mayor or President	Treasurer
Clerk	Alderpersons or Trustees

NONPARTISAN – OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

MUNICIPAL – Council-Manager form (Council Members at-large and from districts), Commission form (10 ILCS 5/2A-27, 29)	
Mayor or President	Treasurer (Council-Manager only)
Clerk	Council Members, Commissioners, Trustees, or Alderpersons
MUNICIPAL – City of Chicago (runoff elections, if required) (65 ILCS 20/21-26)	
MUNICIPAL – Alderperson runoff elections, if required due to unexpired term created by a vacancy (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-51(b), 65 ILCS 20/21-22, 21-25)	
PARK DISTRICT – Commissioners, Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-38)	PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT – Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(5))
TOWNSHIP AND MUNICIPAL LIBRARY – Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(2), 2A-1.2(c)(7))	REGIONAL BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES – Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-50)
SCHOOL DISTRICT – Board Members (including City of Peoria) under Article 33; however, those districts are exempt from the non-primary provision of Section 2A-1.2(c)(12)), School Directors (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(9) and (12))	SCHOOL DISTRICT - Special Charter – Inspectors, Board Members (10 ILCS 5/2A-49)
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT – Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(13))	TOWNSHIP LAND COMMISSIONERS (in counties under 220,000 population) (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(17), 105 ILCS 5/15-24)
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT – Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(14))	PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT – Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(17), 70 ILCS 3705/4.2)

FOX WATERWAY AGENCY – Director (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(10)), (615 ILCS 90/5): 1 Director to be elected from Lake County; 2 full term Directors; 1 (2-year unexpired) Director to be elected from McHenry County	FOX METRO WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT—Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(17), 70 ILCS 2405/3)
FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT – Commissioners (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(11))	SPRINGFIELD METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION AND AUDITORIUM AUTHORITY – Commissioners (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(15))
OTHER SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS	

CANDIDATE FILING PERIODS (AND CAUCUS DATE INFORMATION)

ESTABLISHED PARTY AND NONPARTISAN MUNICIPAL OFFICE CANDIDATES

October 19-26, 2026

(Filed not more than 127 nor less than 120 days prior to the date of the primary election)
(10 ILCS 5/7-12(3), 10-6(4))

Filing period for candidates seeking nomination at the **FEBRUARY 23, 2027, Consolidated Primary**, see page 4.

Petitions may NOT be circulated prior to July 28, 2026.

(No more than 90 days preceding the last day for the filing of the petition)
(10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

INDEPENDENT, NEW PARTY, COMMISSION-MUNICIPAL, AND NON-MUNICIPAL NONPARTISAN OFFICE CANDIDATES

November 16-23, 2026

(Not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election)
(10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

Filing period for candidates seeking election at the **APRIL 6, 2027, Consolidated Election**, see page 5.

Petitions may NOT be circulated prior to August 25, 2026.

(No more than 90 days preceding the last day for the filing of the petition)
(10 ILCS 5/10-4)

CAUCUS DATE INFORMATION

In **MUNICIPALITIES** under 5,000 population, established political parties hold their caucuses on December 7, 2026, and file their certificates of nomination with the municipal clerk during the filing period, December 14-21, 2026.

(Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the consolidated election)
(10 ILCS 5/10-1(a))

NOTE: Municipalities of 5,000 or less may determine by ordinance (by November 15, 2026) that established political parties shall nominate candidates for municipal offices by primary election. (10 ILCS 5/7-1(b))

TYPES OF CANDIDATES

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES IN MUNICIPALITIES AND TOWNSHIPS – NOMINATION BY PRIMARY ELECTION

WHAT DEFINES AN ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY IN MUNICIPALITIES AND TOWNSHIPS?

A political party which at the last election in any municipality or township in the State, polled more than 5% of the entire vote cast within such municipality or township, as the case may be, and has voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve the respective territorial area, is an “established political party” as to such municipality or township. (10 ILCS 5/7-2, 10-2)

MUNICIPALITIES OVER 5,000 POPULATION

In the 2027 elections, municipalities over 5,000 in population and not governed by the commission or council-manager form of government or municipalities that have not adopted a nonpartisan primary system, fall under the provisions of Article 7 (Established Political Parties) of the Election Code. Municipalities incorporated after May 13, 1993, are nonpartisan unless they adopt the partisan format. (10 ILCS 5/7-1 (*et seq.*), 65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-60)

UNCONTESTED OFFICES

No primary shall be held for an established political party where the nomination of such party for every office to be voted upon by the electors is uncontested. The nomination of an established political party candidate for election to an office shall be deemed to be uncontested where not more than the number of persons to be nominated have timely filed valid nomination papers seeking the nomination of such party for election to such office. If a person who has not timely filed valid nomination papers and who intends to become a write-in candidate for a political party's nomination for any office for which the nomination is uncontested files a written statement or notice of that intent with the county clerk and local election official with whom nomination papers for such office are filed, a primary ballot shall be prepared and a primary shall be held for that office. Such statement or notice shall be filed on or before December 17, 2026, which is 68 days prior to the consolidated primary. (10 ILCS 5/7-5(b)(d), 7-12(10)(a)(c))

FILING PARTISAN IN THE CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY & GETTING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

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

ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES IN MUNICIPALITIES – NOMINATION BY CAUCUS

ELIGIBLE MUNICIPALITIES

Established political parties shall nominate candidates by caucus in municipalities with a population of 5,000 or less (10 ILCS 5/7-1(a), 10-1(d)). This provision does not apply to commission or council-manager forms of government or to any municipality that has adopted a nonpartisan primary system, as candidates in these municipalities are elected on a nonpartisan basis. (10 ILCS 5/7-1(b), 10-1(d)) See page 2 for definition of “Established Political Parties.”

CAUCUS DATE FOR MUNICIPALITIES

Municipalities of 5,000 or less population may determine by ordinance no later than November 15, 2026, that established political parties shall nominate candidates for municipal offices by a primary election in accordance with Article 7 of the Election Code. (10 ILCS 5/10-1(d)) The municipal caucuses shall be conducted on December 7, 2026. The

municipal caucuses shall be conducted on the first Monday in December of even-numbered years, except that, when that Monday is a holiday or the eve of a holiday, the caucuses shall be held on the next business day following the holiday. (10 ILCS 5/10-1(a))

VOTER PARTICIPATION IN CAUCUS

Only those registered voters who reside within the territory for which the nomination is made shall be permitted to vote or take part in the caucus proceedings ([SBE Form H-1A](#)). No voter shall vote or take part in the proceedings of more than one caucus or meeting to make a nomination for the same municipality. (10 ILCS 5/10-1(e))

CAUCUS PROCEEDINGS

The caucus may make **ONE** nomination for each office to be filled at the consolidated election. (10 ILCS 5/10-1(a))

A Certificate of Nomination by Caucus ([SBE Form H-2](#)) shall be prepared to include:

- a. the names and addresses of the candidates, along with the offices for which they are nominated; and
- b. the established party name.

The presiding officer and secretary of the caucus shall list their addresses and sign the Certificate of Nomination. The certificate shall be sworn by them to be true to the best of their knowledge and belief and must be notarized. (10 ILCS 5/10-1(a))

NOMINATION PAPERWORK

Candidates nominated by caucus must individually provide the following documents, which are filed with the caucus Certificate of Nomination:

- a. Statement of Candidacy ([SBE Form P-1K](#));
- b. Receipt for the filing of the candidate's Statement of Economic Interests. The receipt may be filed at a later date than the rest of the required paperwork, but must be filed prior to the filing deadline.

Candidates **may** also file a Loyalty Oath, which is optional ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

(See "Filing for Office" beginning on page 16 for more detailed information).

The Certificate of Nomination, along with the required individual candidate documentation, shall be filed with the appropriate municipal clerk during the regular filing period (December 14-21, 2026). (10 ILCS 5/10-1(a), 10-5)

Any vacancy in nomination by caucus of an established political party for a municipal office shall be filled in accordance with 10 ILCS 5/7-61.

PARTICIPATING IN A CAUCUS & GETTING DEFEATED AT THE CAUCUS

A candidate who participated in a caucus and who is defeated at the caucus for nomination is ineligible to be listed as a candidate of another political party, an independent candidate, or to file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at the consolidated election. (10 ILCS 5/7-61, 10-3, 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

NEW POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES

WHAT DEFINES A NEW POLITICAL PARTY?

A new political party is created when nomination papers are filed for a new political group within a specific district or a political subdivision. If the new party receives more than 5% of the total votes cast at the consolidated election, it then becomes an established political party as to any district or political subdivision thereof. (10 ILCS 5/7-2, 10-2)

NEW POLITICAL PARTY NAME

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

FULL SLATE REQUIREMENT FOR NEW POLITICAL PARTY CANDIDATES

A political group wishing to form a new political party within a municipality must file petitions with a full slate of candidates for such political subdivision. The following court case has held that the full-slate requirement for new political parties is unconstitutional: *Libertarian Party of Illinois v. ISBE, et al.*, 872 F.3d 518 (7th Cir. 2017). Upon such filing, a new political party is created. That new political party remains a new political party for the election for which it filed a full slate of candidates. If the new political party receives more than 5% of the votes cast at that election, it becomes an established political party. If it does not, it ceases to exist. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICERS FORM

In addition to the candidate's nomination papers for a new political party, the candidate's paperwork must include a Certificate of Officers ([SBE Form P-8C](#)) listing the names and addresses of party officers authorized to fill vacancies in nomination. **Failure to file this certificate may result in the party forfeiting the right to fill vacancies in nomination, but will not invalidate the petition.** (10 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-7, 10-11); see *Peoples Independent Party v. Petroff*, 191 Ill.App.3d 706, 548 N.E.2d 145 (5th Dist. 1989).

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

NOMINATION PAPERWORK

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

- a. Statement of Candidacy for each candidate;
- b. Receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests for each candidate. The receipt may be filed at a later date than the rest of the required paperwork, but must be filed prior to the filing deadline; (10 ILCS 5/10-5)
- c. Certificate ([SBE Form P-8C](#)) stating the names and addresses of the party officers authorized to fill vacancies in nomination. Failing to file such a certificate will not invalidate the petition, but if it is not filed, the new party will not be able to fill vacancies in nomination. (*Peoples Independent Party v. Petroff*, 191 Ill.App.3d 706, 548 N.E.2d 145 (5th Dist. 1989)). (10 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-7)

Petitions **may** also include the Loyalty Oath, which is optional. ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

(See "Filing for Office" beginning on page 16 for more detailed information)

CANDIDATES SEEKING ELECTION FROM DISTRICTS OR WARDS & AT-LARGE

When a petition to form a new political party is filed within a municipality in which officers are to be elected from wards or districts and at-large, such petition shall consist of separate components for each ward or district from which an officer is to be elected (e.g. District A, District B, Ward 1, Ward 2, or at-large) (see [SBE Form P-8A](#), [SBE Form P-8B](#)). Each component shall be circulated only within a ward or district of the political subdivision and signed only by qualified electors who are residents of the ward or district. Each sheet of such a petition must contain a complete list of the names of the candidates of the party for all offices to be filled in the political subdivision at-large, but the sheets comprising each component shall also contain the names of those candidates to be elected from the particular ward or district.

Each component of the petition for each ward or district from which an officer is to be elected must be signed by qualified voters of the ward or district equaling a number not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such ward or district at which an officer was elected to serve the ward or district. The entire petition, composed of all components, must be signed by a total of qualified voters of the entire political subdivision equaling in number not less than 5% of the number of voters who voted at the last regular election in such municipality at which an officer was elected to serve the municipality at-large. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

FILING PARTISAN IN THE CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY & GETTING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

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

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

WHAT DEFINES AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE?

Independent candidates are those individuals who are not candidates of any political party, new or established, but who are candidates in an election and appear on the ballot, under the heading “Independent.” (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

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

NOMINATION PAPERWORK

Independent candidates should follow the information contained in “Filing for Office” beginning on page 16 in preparing their nomination papers for filing.

Nomination papers must be filed in the office of the appropriate local election official or board of election commissioners during the filing period, November 16-23, 2026.

Whenever the name of an independent candidate for an office is withdrawn or an independent candidate’s petition is declared invalid by an electoral board or upon judicial review, no vacancy in nomination for that office shall exist. A vacancy in nomination contemplates a political party organization to fill it, but an independent candidate is not supported by a party structure. Therefore, vacancies for independent candidates cannot be filled. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

FILING PARTISAN IN THE CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY & GETTING DEFEATED FOR NOMINATION

A candidate for whom a nomination paper has been filed as a partisan candidate at a consolidated primary, and who is defeated for nomination (or who is defeated at the caucus for nomination) is prohibited from being listed on the ballot at the consolidated election as an independent candidate or a candidate of another political party and may not file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at that consolidated election.

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

NONPARTISAN OFFICES

Statutes governing certain units of government require candidates to file for office on a nonpartisan basis. The ballot listing such candidates shall be printed without any party or “Independent” designation at its head. These offices, to be elected at the April 6, 2027, Consolidated Election, include:

NONPARTISAN CANDIDATES

Candidates for municipal office in municipalities operating under council-manager (council members at-large) form of government. * (10 ILCS 5/2A-27)	Candidates for Library Trustee (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(5))
Candidates for Park District Commissioner or Park Trustee (10 ILCS 5/2A-38)	Candidates for School Board Member of the City of Peoria under Article 33 of the School Code. (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(9), (c)(12))
Candidates for Regional Board of School Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-50)	Candidates for School District Board Members, School Directors, and Township Land Commissioners (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(9), (c)(12), (c)(17), 105 ILCS 5/15-24)
Candidates for Community College District Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(13))	Candidates for Fire Protection District Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(14))
Candidates for Fox Waterway Agency Director (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(10), 615 ILCS 90/5)	Candidates for Forest Preserve District Commissioners (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(11))
Candidates for Fox Metro Water Reclamation District Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(17), 70 ILCS 2405/3)	Candidates for Public Water District Trustees (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(17), 70 ILCS 3705/4.2)
Candidates for Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2(c)(15))	

* (A village may adopt a system of nonpartisan primary and general elections for the election of village officers as provided in 65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-20 through 3.1-25-60, and in certain home-rule municipalities who have devised governmental systems unique to them). These candidates file for the February 23, 2027, Consolidated Primary. No primary is held for any uncontested office. Candidates for municipal office under the commission form of government file for the April 6, 2027, Consolidated Election. Municipalities incorporated after May 13, 1993, are nonpartisan unless they adopt the partisan format.

Nonpartisan candidates should follow the information contained in “Filing for Office” beginning on page 16 in preparing nomination papers for filing.

THE CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY ELECTION

Nonpartisan candidates for office who are defeated at the consolidated primary may not file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate in the consolidated election. (10 ILCS 5/17-16.1, 18-9.1)

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

HOW TO BECOME A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE

A write-in candidate must file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate ([SBE Form P-1F](#)) no later than 61 days prior to the election. The **Declaration must be filed with the proper election authority or authorities** in those jurisdictions in which the candidate is seeking to be a write-in candidate.

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

NOTE: Whenever an objection to a candidate’s nominating papers for any office is sustained after the 61st day before the election, the candidate may file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate form for that office with the proper election authority or authorities no later than 7 days prior to the election. (10 ILCS 5/7-59(b), 17-16.1, 18-9.1)

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE QUALIFYING FOR THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION

For write-in candidates running in the consolidated primary, to qualify as a candidate for the consolidated election, a write-in candidate must receive a minimum number of votes equal to or greater than the number of signatures required on a nominating petition for that office if the number of candidates whose names appear on the consolidated primary ballot is less than the number of persons the party is entitled to nominate or elect to that office at the consolidated primary.

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

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

(10 ILCS 5/7-59(c))

For nonpartisan municipal primaries, if the name of only one candidate for a particular office appeared on the primary ballot, the name of the person having the largest number of write-in votes shall not be placed upon the ballot at the general municipal election unless the number of votes received in the primary election by that person was at least 10% of the number of votes received by the candidate for the same office whose name appeared on the primary ballot. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-40(b))

WINNING WRITE-IN CANDIDATES OF THE CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY OR CONSOLIDATED ELECTION

Within five days following the completion of the canvass of results for the consolidated primary, or prior to taking office after the consolidated election, write-in candidates who are declared nominated or elected must file a Statement of Candidacy and a receipt for the filing of the Statement of Economic Interests. Candidates **may** file a Loyalty Oath, which is optional. (10 ILCS 5/7-60.1) The winning write-in candidates should be notified of these requirements by the election authority.

Upon the filing of the necessary documents following the consolidated election, the election authority shall issue a certificate of election to the write-in winners, upon their application. (10 ILCS 5/22-18)

UNCONTESTED PRIMARY

If the nomination for any office in the consolidated primary is uncontested, an individual seeking to be a write-in candidate must file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate on or before the date of certification, December 17, 2026, which is 68 days prior to the consolidated primary. The nomination of an established political party candidate for election to an office shall be deemed to be uncontested where not more than the number of persons to be nominated have timely filed valid nomination papers seeking the nomination of such party for election to such office. If a person who has not timely filed valid nomination papers and who intends to become a write-in candidate for a political party's nomination for any office for which the nomination is uncontested files a written statement or notice of that intent with the county clerk and local election official with whom nomination papers for such office are filed, a primary ballot shall be prepared and a primary shall be held for that office. The Declaration must be filed with the local election official where the candidate is seeking to appear on the ballot. (10 ILCS 5/7-5(d), 7-12(10)(c), 7-13.1)

CANDIDATE CHECKLIST

- Meet **residency, age, and other qualifications** for the specific office
- File paperwork with the SBE [Campaign Disclosure division](#)
- File a notarized **Statement of Candidacy** including (but not limited to):
 - Your name
 - Your address
 - Office sought
 - Party
 - Office location (for example, the district or county)
 - Date of the election
- File a **Statement of Economic Interests receipt**
- File a **Loyalty Oath** (optional)
- File a **Code of Fair Campaign Practices** (optional)
- File notarized **petition sheets** with the required number of signatures, numbered consecutively starting with the number “1”
- Include a **Certificate of Deletions** with petitions, numbered consecutively starting with the number “1” (if applicable)
- Fill out a **data entry card** (for people who file with the State Board of Elections) and place on top of nominating petition packet (does not need to be attached to packet)
- **File with the appropriate** election authority (see specific office in this guide for details)

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

FILING FOR OFFICE

GENERAL FILING INFORMATION

OBTAIN LEGAL COUNSEL

Candidates are strongly advised to obtain legal counsel regarding their legal qualifications for office, the proper method for completing the petition forms with respect to the office, the minimum and maximum number of signatures required, the qualifications of signers and circulators, and other information.

NOTE: Candidates should contact the election authority or the local election official who is responsible for receiving the filing of the petition for nomination and/or election to office for further information as to the specific number of signatures required on a nominating petition for a specific office (or for the data needed to calculate that number).

CANDIDATE SCREENING AND SLATING BY COMMUNITY GROUPS

In some communities around the State, groups have formed for the purpose of recruiting, screening, and selecting informal “slates” of candidates for a number of local government offices. These groups will often have the word “caucus” in their name or may appear to be an official nomination process. With respect to the nomination process for candidates to gain ballot access, the operations and procedures of these groups are unofficial and are not recognized under the Election Code. Candidates who wish to run for these offices do not have to seek the approval or endorsement of these local “caucuses,” and all candidates are still required to file the proper nomination documents as detailed in this Guide.

Candidates who present themselves to an informal candidate screening committee to be included on the informal slate but are not selected may timely file to be listed as a candidate of a political party, an independent candidate, or a nonpartisan candidate, depending on the unit of government in question. Alternatively, a candidate may file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at the election.

In contrast, as elsewhere noted in this Guide, a candidate who participates at an official caucus expressly authorized by the Election Code but who is defeated at the caucus is then ineligible to be listed on the ballot as an independent or new party candidate or to file a Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate at the election for which the nominating caucus was held. Individuals who organize these unofficial caucuses, as well as any local government officials or administrators who volunteer to participate, should be aware of the following regulations and provisions that may be applicable to the activities of their group:

- Prohibitions under the Election Code on the use of public funds to influence voters. (10 ILCS 5/9-25.1)
- Requirements under the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act as applied to local governmental entities. (5 ILCS 430/70-5)
- Prohibitions under the Local Governmental Employee Political Rights Act against political activity while at work or on duty. (50 ILCS 135/10)
- Obligations under the Election Code to register as a political committee and file financial disclosures if the committee raises or spends more than \$5,000 in any 12-month period in support of or opposition to any candidate or public question, or for electioneering communications. (10 ILCS 5/9-1.8, 9-3, 9-10)
- Local ordinances or policies which may have additional restrictions or regulations.

Information on these regulations is also included throughout this Guide.

FORMAT OF NOMINATION PAPERWORK

Election laws prescribe the general format of nomination paperwork to be submitted when seeking nomination for each office. The State Board of Elections (“SBE”) has prepared **suggested** forms for petitions, statements of candidacy, and other applicable forms. The official SBE form number to be used is included under each office in this Guide. Local election officials are advised to contact their election authority (county clerk or board of election commissioners) regarding the availability of forms. The forms can be downloaded by clicking on the link or they may be obtained from the proper election authority. Forms may also be purchased from election supply vendors.

FILING NOMINATING PAPERWORK

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

Filings must be made within the appropriate filing period as listed on page 7.

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

Filings must be received no earlier than 8:00 a.m. or the normal opening hour of such office, whatever the case may be, on the first day of the filing period and no later than 5:00 p.m. or the close of business, whichever is later, on the last day of that filing period. Welch vs. Education Officers Electoral Bd. for Proviso High School Dist. 209, 322 Ill.App.3d 568, 750 N.E.2d 222 (1st Dist. 2001) (10 ILCS 5/1-4(a), 7-12(6), 10-6.2) Filings received outside of this time period are not considered timely.

NOTE: The State Board of Elections will **NOT ACCEPT** any petition for filing after 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the filing period. This applies to any individuals waiting in line as of the 5:00 p.m. deadline who have not yet filed their petition. (26 Ill. Adm. Code §201.10, 202.10)

See the individual office page for more specific details on where to file nomination papers. These begin on page 29.

OBJECTIONS

A candidate’s nomination papers may be challenged by the filing of an objection. The deadline for filing objections is five business days after the last day of the filing period. Objections to all nominating papers are heard by the proper electoral board as designated in the Election Code and decisions of the electoral board are subject to judicial review. (10 ILCS 5/10-8 through 10-10.1) See page 25 for more detailed information on objections.

CANDIDATES MUST FILE AS:

- A candidate of an established political party;
- A candidate of a new political party;
- An independent candidate; or
- A nonpartisan candidate in units of government where it is required that all candidates file on a nonpartisan basis. See page 12 for more detailed information on which offices are nonpartisan.

CANDIDATES MUST FILE:

- Statement of Candidacy
- **Receipt** from filing a Statement of Economic Interests
- Nominating petition sheets (containing a sufficient number of original signatures) or Certificate of Nomination by Party Caucus
- Certificate of officers authorized to fill vacancies (for new political parties) (10 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-11)

Candidates **may** file a Loyalty Oath, which is optional.

*Contact the appropriate filing office for specific signature requirements.

PETITIONS SENT BY MAIL

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

BALLOT POSITION LOTTERY

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

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

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

The lottery is held within nine days following the last day to file petitions and shall be open to the public. For further information on the lottery process, see page 27.

(10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 10-6.2; 26 Ill. Adm. Code §201.40, 202.40)

MULTIPLE FILINGS OF NOMINATION PAPERS

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

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

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

INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES

Incompatible offices are those where the same person cannot serve in both simultaneously. If petitions for nomination have been filed for the same person for two or more incompatible offices, that person must withdraw ([SBE Form P-25](#)) as a candidate from all but one of such offices **within five business days** following the last day for petition filing. If petitions are filed for the same person for more than one political party, the candidate shall not be certified for either primary ballot for any office. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9), 10-7)

OPTIONAL FILINGS:

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

Code of Fair Campaign Practices:

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

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

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

NOMINATION PAPERWORK & FORMATTING

COMPLETING A STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

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

The candidate must swear to or affirm the accuracy of the statements within the Statement of Candidacy, sign the Statement of Candidacy, and have the statement notarized. The Statement of Candidacy must accompany the nomination papers and should be attached at the beginning of the packet. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-10.1, 10-4)

PREPARING PETITION SHEETS

The petition signature sheets must be original, all one uniform size, and numbered consecutively, beginning with the top petition signature sheet as the number "1." The Statement of Candidacy, optional filings (Loyalty Oath, Code of Fair Campaign Practices), and receipt for filing the Statement of Economic Interests should be attached to the petition sheets, preferably on top, and do not need to be of uniform size to the petition sheets nor be numbered. The petition signature sheets must be neatly fastened together in book form at one edge in a secure and suitable manner (paperclips, clipboards, etc., are not secure ways to fasten petitions and those bound in this manner will not be accepted by the State Board of Elections). The petitions must contain the original signatures of the voters and the original signature of the circulator and shall not be photocopies or duplicates of such sheets. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

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

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

NAMES ON PETITION SHEETS AND STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

The candidate's name should appear in exactly the same form on the petition sheets, Statement of Candidacy, and Loyalty Oath. The SBE will certify each candidate's name as it appears on the first numbered page of the petition sheets (other election authorities may follow a different policy with regards to petitions filed with their offices). A candidate's

failure to match the name on the petition to the name on the Statement of Candidacy can result in the candidate not being certified for the ballot.

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

USING A NICKNAME OR OTHER TITLES ON FORMS

The candidate's given name, initials, nickname by which the candidate is commonly known, or a combination thereof may be used in addition to the candidate's surname. No other designation such as a title, degree or nickname suggesting or implying possession of a title, degree or professional status, or similar information may be used in connection with the candidate's surname. Also, a candidate may not use a political slogan as part of the candidate's name on the ballot, notwithstanding that the political slogan may be part of the candidate's name.

(10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, 7-17(b), 10-5.1, 16-3(e))

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

CANDIDATE LEGAL NAME CHANGE*

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

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

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

***NOTE:** that these requirements **do not** apply to name changes resulting from adoption to assume an adoptive parent's or parents' surname, marriage or civil union to assume a spouse's or partner's surname, dissolution of marriage or civil union or declaration of invalidity of marriage or civil union to assume a former surname, or a name change that conforms the candidate's name to their gender identity.

(10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, 7-17(b)-(c), 10-5.1, 16-3(e)-(f))

SIGNING AND CIRCULATING PETITIONS

PETITION CIRCULATOR REQUIREMENTS

A petition circulator must be:

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

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

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

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

CIRCULATOR'S STATEMENT

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

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

SIGNING A PETITION

A signer must sign their own signature on the petition, meaning they cannot sign for someone else, such as a spouse, family members, or other persons in the household. A signer must also be a registered voter

CIRCULATING RESTRICTIONS:

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

SIGNING RESTRICTIONS:

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

*This differs for nonpartisan and independent candidates. The number of seats to be elected is the number of petitions that a voter can sign.

in the political subdivision in which the candidate is seeking nomination or election. (10 ILCS 5/3-1.2, 7-10, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4) Petition signers shall indicate on such petition their residence addresses (written or printed) including the street address or rural route number, as well as the city, village or town, county, and state. The state, county, city, village, and town of residence may be pre-printed on the petition form when all of the electors signing the petition form reside therein. Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the residence address. A petition signer must be a registered voter from the address shown opposite their signature on the petition. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4)

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

STRIKING SIGNATURES FROM A PETITION

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

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

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

COMPUTING SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

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

- In **political subdivisions**: take the total votes cast for the candidate for such political party that received the highest number of votes in such political subdivision at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that subdivision. For the 2027 election cycle, the calculations could be based on results from the 2021, 2023, or 2025 election cycle, as applicable.
- In **wards or districts of political subdivisions**: take the total votes cast for the candidate for such political party who received the highest number of votes in such ward or district at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that ward or district. For the 2027 election cycle, the calculations could be based on the 2021, 2023, or 2025 election cycle, as applicable.

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS RECEIPT

OBTAINING A STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS FORM

Candidates filing a petition with the State Board of Elections may obtain a Statement of Economic Interests form from the State Board of Elections or the Office of the Secretary of State. Candidates filing with their election authority or local election official may obtain Statement of Economic Interests forms from the county clerk's office.

FILING THE FORM

For candidates that file petitions with the State Board of Elections, a completed Statement of Economic Interests **form** must be filed with the Index Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, located at 111 East Monroe, Springfield, IL 62756. For candidates filing with an election authority, the Statement of Economic Interests may be filed with the county clerk in the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is

associated is located. For more information on filing the form, contact your election authority or the Secretary of State's Index Division at (217) 782-7017 or (312) 814-8218.
(5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5, 4A-106)

FILING THE RECEIPT

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

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

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

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

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

NOTICE OF OBLIGATION

The official with whom nomination papers are filed must provide to each candidate a [notice of obligation](#) to comply with the Illinois Campaign Financing Act at the time they file nomination papers. If a candidate files nomination papers by mail, or an agent of the candidate files the nomination papers, the clerk or secretary with whom the petitions were filed will send the notice to the candidate by first class mail. The notice will state that the manual of instructions and forms for statements required to be filed under Article 9 of the Election Code are available from the State Board of Elections. Forms may also be downloaded from the SBE's [website](#). (10 ILCS 5/7-12(7), 9-16, 10-6.1; 60 ILCS 1/45-35)

WHO IS REQUIRED TO FILE WITH THE SBE?

Candidates, groups, or individuals who raise or spend more than \$5,000 in any 12-month period in support of or in opposition to a candidate or public question, or for electioneering communications, generally must file paperwork to create a political committee with the State Board of Elections. (10 ILCS 5/9-3) Once created, political committees must then file disclosure reports with the Board, detailing the money they raise and spend. This filing obligation continues until a committee ceases operations, disposes of any remaining assets, and files an acceptable "Final Report" with the Board—even if the committee has not raised money or made any contributions within a filing period.
(10 ILCS 5/9-5, 9-10, 9-11)

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

Any entity other than a natural person that spends more than \$5,000 during a 12-month period on independent expenditures or other expenditures supporting or opposing a candidate, must organize as a political committee and file disclosure reports with the SBE. Individuals who spend more than \$3,000 during any 12-month period on independent expenditures supporting or opposing a particular candidate are required to file a special written disclosure with the SBE. This disclosure, which must be filed within two business days of exceeding the \$3,000 threshold, gives information about the person making the independent expenditure as well as the dates, amounts, and nature of the spending. Once the

threshold is reached, the individual is required to report additional independent expenditures made in connection with the same election, in \$1,000 increments, until the conclusion of the election. (10 ILCS 5/9-3, 9-8.6)

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

INFLUENCING VOTES WITH PUBLIC FUNDS

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

FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT

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

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

MORE ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

For more information on filing reports, campaign finance questions, and committee related questions, click [here](#) for frequently asked questions on campaign disclosure. If you have further questions, visit the Campaign Disclosure section of our [website](#) or contact the Division of Campaign Disclosure at (217) 782-4141.

OBJECTIONS TO NOMINATING PAPERS

FILING OBJECTIONS

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

Objections should be filed with the same entity with which candidates filed the nomination papers. Objections must, minimally, include the name(s) and address(es) of the objector(s). (10 ILCS 5/10-8)

The last day to file an objection will depend on the filing period. For specific deadlines, see the SBE [Election and Campaign Finance Calendar](#) for 2027. (10 ILCS 5/7-13, 10-8)

PROCESSING OBJECTIONS

No later than noon on the second business day after receipt of an objector's petition, the State Board of Elections, election authority, or local election official shall transmit by registered mail or receipted personal delivery the Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers and the original objector's petition to the chair of the proper electoral board designated in Section 10-9 (see electoral boards for political subdivision offices on pages 25 and 26) or its authorized agent. The official shall transmit a copy of the objector's petition by registered mail or receipted personal delivery, to the candidate whose Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers are objected to, addressed to the place of residence designated in the Certificate of Nomination or nomination papers.

(10 ILCS 5/10-8)

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AS THE ELECTORAL BOARD

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

(10 ILCS 5/10-10)

IN CASES WHERE THE SBE IS NOT THE ELECTORAL BOARD

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

The following electoral boards are designated to hear and pass upon objections to nomination petitions of candidates for political subdivision offices:

- 1) **County Officers Electoral Board: County Clerk (Chair), Circuit Court Clerk, State's Attorney, or their designees. In Peoria County, the county election commissioners will constitute the County Officers Electoral Board. (10 ILCS 5/10-9(2), 10-9(2.5))**

For all counties: jurisdiction includes county offices and judicial offices of a district, subcircuit, or circuit coterminous with or less than a county, school district offices, and special district offices. For school districts located in two or more counties, the county officers electoral board of the county in which the principal office of the school district is located shall hear and pass upon objections to nominations of candidates for school district office in that school district.

For Cook County only: jurisdiction includes hearing objections to petitions of candidates for congressional or legislative office, if the district is wholly within Cook County, unless the district is wholly

or partially within the jurisdiction of a municipal board of election commissioners. Precinct committee member. (10 ILCS 5/7-13, 10-9)

- 2) **Municipal Officers Electoral Board: Mayor or president of board of trustees (Chair), the municipal clerk, and one eligible member of the city council or board of trustees who has served the greatest number of years as a member of the council or board. (10 ILCS 5/10-9(3))**
For officers of municipalities (e.g. cities, villages, and incorporated towns).
- 3) **Education Officers Electoral Board: Presiding officer of the community college district board (Chair), the secretary of the community college district board, and the eligible elected community college board member having the longest term of continuous service as a board member. (10 ILCS 5/10-9(5))**
For community college districts.
- 4) **Municipal Boards of Election Commissioners: Where a city, a community college district, or a special purpose district (e.g., fire protection district, etc.) is located entirely within the jurisdiction of a municipal board of election commissioners, that board shall constitute the electoral board for that political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/10-9(6))**

ELECTORAL BOARD MEETING

The meeting of the electoral board shall not be less than three nor more than five days after receipt of the objector's petition by the chair of the electoral board. The Municipal Officers Electoral Board, and the Education Officers Electoral Board may meet at the location (other than their county courthouse) where the governing body of the municipality, school, or community college district, respectively, holds its regularly scheduled meetings, if that location is available, provided that voter records may be removed from the offices of an election authority only at the discretion and under the supervision of the election authority. The electoral board on the first day of its meeting shall adopt rules and procedures for the introduction of evidence and the presentation of arguments and may, in its discretion, provide for the filing of briefs by the parties to the objection or by other interested persons. (10 ILCS 5/10-10)

Note: The county officer's electoral board hears objections to the nominations of candidates for school district offices. (10 ILCS 5/10-9)

FILING FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

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

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

LOTTERY

FILINGS REQUIRING A LOTTERY

Simultaneous filings of candidate nominating petitions for the same office occur for those candidates **in line at 8:00 a.m.** (or whenever the opening hour of the business may be; for example, if the office opens at 9:00 a.m., all candidates in line as of 9:00 a.m. are in the lottery) or for petitions received after midnight of the first day for filing in the first U.S. Postal Service delivery of that day, on the first day of filing. Simultaneous filings can also occur during the last day of filing **during the last hour** of the filing deadline between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., or the last hour of regular business operations of the filing officer.

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

CONDUCTING THE LOTTERY

Per the State Board of Elections' administrative rules codified as Title 26, Chapter 1, Section 201.40 and 202.40 of the Illinois Administrative Code, the following system has been approved:

1. The names of all candidates who filed simultaneously for the same office shall be listed alphabetically and shall be numbered consecutively commencing with the number one, which shall be assigned to the candidate whose name is listed first on the alphabetical list. Candidates filing a group petition for the same office shall be treated as one in the alphabetical list. For example, if five candidates by the name of Downs, Brown, Edwards, Cook, and Adams have filed simultaneously, they will be arranged alphabetically and assigned numbers as follows: Adams, one; Brown, two; Cook, three; Downs, four; and Edwards, five. If the same candidates filed but Cook and Adams filed a group petition and Cook's name appeared first on the petition, then the candidates would be arranged as follows: Brown, one; Cook and Adams, two; Downs, three; and Edwards, four.
2. All ties will be broken by a single drawing. A number shall be placed in a container representing each number assigned to each candidate and group of candidates pursuant to the alphabetical listing procedures set forth in paragraph 1 above. For example, if the largest number to be used for any office is five, then numbers one, two, three, four, and five will be placed in a container. In this manner, sufficient numbers will be placed in the container to conduct a drawing for all offices at the same time.
3. After the numbers are placed in the container, they shall be drawn one at a time from the container after they have been thoroughly shaken and mixed. The candidate or group of candidates in the position on an alphabetical list corresponding to the first number drawn shall be certified ahead of the other candidates listed on the alphabetical list. The candidate or group of candidates in the position on the alphabetical list corresponding to the second number drawn will be certified second and so forth until all numbers have been drawn. For example, where no group petitions were filed, if candidates Adams, Brown, Cook, Downs, and Edwards filed simultaneously at 8:00 a.m. on the first day of filing, and the number three is first drawn, then candidate Cook, who is listed in the third position on the alphabetical list, shall be certified first on the ballot. If the number one is drawn second, then candidate Adams, who is listed in the first position on the alphabetical list, shall be certified second on the ballot, and so on. For offices where group petitions were filed, using the

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

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

(26 Ill. Adm. Code §§ 201.40, 202.40)

MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

Commission Form – Municipal

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Nonpartisan, non-municipal, or municipal-commission form ([SBE Form P-4](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5, 4A-106.5) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified elector of the municipality and one-year residency in the municipality preceding the election.
(65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(a))

A person is not eligible to take the oath of office for a municipal office if that person is, at the time required for taking the oath of office, in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to the municipality or has been convicted in any court located in the United States of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(b))

If a person is a resident of a municipality immediately prior to the active duty military service of that person or that person's spouse, resides anywhere outside of the municipality during that active duty military service, and immediately upon completion of that active duty military service is again a resident of the municipality, then the time during which the person resides outside the municipality during the active duty military service is deemed to be time during which the person is a resident of the municipality for purposes of determining the residency requirement. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(d))

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Equal to at least 1% of the total vote cast for mayor at the last preceding election for mayor in the municipality.
(65 ILCS 5/4-3-8)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election).
(10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

WHERE TO FILE

With the Municipal Clerk, or in those municipalities that have a municipal Board of Election Commissioners, with the clerk of that Board.

TERM

4 years and until their successors are elected and qualified. (65 ILCS 5/4-3-4)

TERM BEGINS

The terms of elected municipal officers shall commence at the first regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities after receipt of the official election results from the county clerk of the regular municipal election at which the officers were elected, except as otherwise provided by ordinance fixing the date for inauguration of newly elected officers of a municipality. The ordinance shall not, however, fix the time for inauguration of newly elected officers later than the first regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities in the month of June following the election. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-15)

"Corporate authorities" means (a) the mayor and alderpersons or similar body when the reference is to cities, (b) the president and trustees or similar body when the reference is to villages or incorporated towns, and (c) the council when the reference is to municipalities under the commission form of municipal government. (65 ILCS 5/1-1-2(2))

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

MAYOR OR PRESIDENT, ALDERPERSON OR TRUSTEE, CLERK, TREASURER

Mayor-Alderperson and President-Trustee Form – Municipal

NOTE: In municipalities with a population over 5,000, candidates of established political parties file petitions to be placed on the consolidated primary election ballot.

Municipalities: Municipalities of 5,000 or less population may determine by ordinance, no later than November 15, 2026, that political parties shall nominate candidates for municipal offices by primary election in accordance with Article 7 of the Election Code. (10 ILCS 5/7-1(b))

Cities: Cities of 10,000 or fewer inhabitants may, by ordinance, allow for the appointment of a city treasurer by the mayor, subject to the advice and consent of the city council. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-15-5)

Villages of fewer than 5,000 inhabitants may, by resolution, choose to have the clerk appointed by the village president with the concurrence of the village board. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-90(a))

This procedure for the election of officers includes municipalities that have adopted the managerial form and retained or later adopted the mayor-alderperson or president-trustee form of electing their officers. (65 ILCS 5/5-1-2)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party ([SBE Form P-10](#), for primary); New Party ([SBE Form P-8](#) or [SBE Form P-8A](#), for consolidated election); Independent ([SBE Form P-3](#), for consolidated election); Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-5](#), for primary, as applicable)

Certificate of Officers: New Party officers authorized to fill vacancies in nomination ([SBE Form P-8C](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party ([SBE Form P-1](#), for primary, [SBE Form P-1K](#), for caucus); New Party ([SBE Form P-1D](#)); Independent ([SBE Form P-1B](#)); Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-1A](#))

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified elector of the municipality and one-year residency in the municipality preceding the election. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(a))

Alderpersons must reside in the ward at least one year prior to their election. Trustees elected from districts must reside in their municipality at least one year prior to their election. For trustees elected by district, in villages with a population of over 5,000, each of the districts shall be represented by one trustee who shall have been a resident of the district for at least six months immediately before their election in the first election after redistricting. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(c), 3.1-25-75(a)(b))

A person is not eligible to take the oath of office for a municipal office if that person is, at the time required for taking the oath of office, in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to the municipality or has been convicted in any court located in the United States of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(b))

If a person is a resident of a municipality immediately prior to the active duty military service of that person or that person's spouse, resides anywhere outside of the municipality during that active duty military service, and immediately upon completion of that active duty military service is again a resident of the municipality, then the time during which the person resides outside the municipality during the active duty military service is deemed to be time during which the person is a resident of the municipality for purposes of determining the residency requirement. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(d))

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: For president, mayor, trustee, or clerk, at least 0.5% (.005) of the qualified primary electors of the candidate's party at the last regular election in the city, incorporated town, town, or village. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(e))

For alderperson, at least .5% (.005) of the qualified primary electors of the candidate's party at the last regular election within the ward, but in no event shall the number of required signatures be less than 25.

In the first primary election following redistricting of wards or trustee districts of a municipality or the initial establishment of wards or districts, a candidate's petition for nomination must contain the number of signatures equal to at least 0.5% of the total number of votes cast for the candidate of that political party who received the highest number of votes in the entire municipality at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from the entire municipality, divided by the number of wards or districts. In no event shall the number of signatures be less than 25. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(e))

New Party: For the consolidated election, not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted in the last regular election in the district or political subdivision in which the district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For the first election following redistricting of municipal wards or districts, or for the first election following the initial establishment of such districts or wards in a municipality, a petition to form a new political party in a municipal ward or district shall be signed by qualified voters of the district or ward equal to not less than 5% of the total number of votes cast at the preceding municipal election, as the case may be, for the municipal office voted on throughout the municipality for which the greatest total number of votes were cast for all candidates, divided by the number of districts or wards, but in any event not less than 25 qualified voters of the district or ward. In the case of a petition to form a new political party within a political subdivision in which officers are to be elected from districts and at-large, such a petition shall consist of separate components for each district from which an officer is to be elected. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

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

Example: If 1,000 voters cast ballots at the last regular election in the district or political subdivision, the formula of 5% - 8% would result in a signature requirement of 50 – 80. A difference of 50 between the minimum and maximum is required. (10 ILCS 5/10-3) Therefore, the signature requirement would be 50 – 100.

For the first election following redistricting of municipal wards or districts, or for the first election following the initial establishment of such districts or wards in a municipality, nomination papers for an independent candidate for alderperson or trustee of the municipality shall be signed by qualified voters of the district or ward equal to not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of votes cast at the preceding general municipal election, as the case may be, for the municipal office voted on throughout the municipality for which the greatest total number of votes were cast for all candidates divided by the number of districts or wards, but in any event not less than 25 qualified voters of the district or ward. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

Nonpartisan (City): For the consolidated primary election, not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in the district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3, 10-3.1)

Nonpartisan (Village): 1% of the total vote cast at the last preceding election in the village for president. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-30)

FILING DATES

For established political party candidates and nonpartisan candidates filing for a primary: October 19-26, 2026 (not more than 127 nor less than 120 days prior to the consolidated primary). (10 ILCS 5/7-12(3), 10-6(4))

For new party candidates and independent candidates: November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

Caucus certificates for nomination for established party candidates: December 14-21, 2026 (not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-1(a))

WHERE TO FILE

With the appropriate city or village clerk, or in those cities having a Board of Election Commissioners, with the clerk of that Board.

TERM

4 years. The term may be reduced to 2 years by public question. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-65) Any municipality of less than 500,000 population that originally voted to shorten terms may submit a public question to lengthen terms. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-75(a))

TERM BEGINS

The terms of elected municipal officers shall commence at the first regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities after receipt of the official election results from the county clerk of the regular municipal election at which the officers were elected, except as otherwise provided by ordinance fixing the date for inauguration of newly elected officers of a municipality. The ordinance shall not, however, fix the time for inauguration of newly elected officers later than the first regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities in the month of June following the election. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-15)

"Corporate authorities" means (a) the mayor and alderpersons or similar body when the reference is to cities, (b) the president and trustees or similar body when the reference is to villages or incorporated towns, and (c) the council when the reference is to municipalities under the commission form of municipal government. (65 ILCS 5/1-1-2(2))

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

MAYOR, COUNCILMEMBERS AT-LARGE (AND FROM DISTRICTS IN SOME CITIES), CLERK, TREASURER

Council-Manager Form of Government – Municipal

NOTE: Upon adoption of the managerial form of government, the procedures for electing municipal officers will remain the same as prior to the adoption of 65 ILCS 5/Art. 5. A public question may be approved by the voters to establish a different type of municipal organization in conjunction with the managerial form.

The council-manager form is the only form of municipal government covered (for election of officers) by Article 5 of the Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/Art. 5). Other cities and villages which have adopted Article 5 and have retained or later adopted the mayor-alderperson form or the president-trustee village form will follow the provisions under Article 3.1 of the Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/Art. 3.1) for the election of officers. Cities and villages that have adopted or retained a commission form would follow provisions under Article 4 of the Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/Art. 4) for the election of officers.

Refer to the appropriate section of this guide for either mayor-alderperson, president-trustee, or commission form if the municipality is also a managerial form.

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-5](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified elector of the municipality and one-year residency in the municipality preceding the election.
(65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(a))

A person is not eligible to take the oath of office for a municipal office if that person is, at the time required for taking the oath of office, in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to the municipality or has been convicted in any court located in the United States of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(b))

If a person is a resident of a municipality immediately prior to the active duty military service of that person or that person's spouse, resides anywhere outside of the municipality during that active duty military service, and immediately upon completion of that active duty military service is again a resident of the municipality, then the time during which the person resides outside the municipality during the active duty military service is deemed to be time during which the person is a resident of the municipality for purposes of determining the residency requirement. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(d))

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is

again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Cities and villages that retained or later adopted Article 3.1 of the Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/Art. 3.1), see Mayor-Alderperson and President-Trustee form for signature requirements.

If a city has adopted the nonpartisan form of government as authorized by Article VII of the Constitution, the signature requirements are those in 10 ILCS 5/10-3 of the Election Code (Independent signature requirements) as authorized by the second paragraph of 10 ILCS 5/10-3.1; not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in the district or political subdivision in which the district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

Signature requirements are governed by the form of government prior to the adoption of Council-Manager.

Council-Manager (formerly Commission): 1% of the total vote cast at the last preceding election in the municipality for mayor. (65 ILCS 5/4-3-8, 5-2-12)

Council-Manager (formerly nonpartisan President/Trustee): 1% of the total vote cast at the last preceding election in the village for president. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-20, 3.1-25-30)

Council-Manager (formerly a city/village whose candidates ran as independents): not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in the district or political subdivision in which the district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

FILING DATES

October 19-26, 2026 (not more than 127 nor less than 120 days prior to the consolidated primary). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(4))

WHERE TO FILE

With the municipal clerk, or in those cities having a Board of Election Commissioners, with the clerk of that Board.

TERM

4 years. The term may be reduced to 2 years by public question. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-65) Any municipality of less than 500,000 population who originally voted to shorten terms may submit a public question to lengthen terms. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-75(a))

TERM BEGINS

The terms of elected municipal officers shall commence at the first regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities after receipt of the official election results from the county clerk of the regular municipal election at which the officers were elected, except as otherwise provided by ordinance fixing the date for inauguration of newly elected officers of a municipality. The ordinance shall not, however, fix the time for inauguration of newly elected officers later than the first regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities in the month of June following the election. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-15)

"Corporate authorities" means (a) the mayor and alderpersons or similar body when the reference is to cities, (b) the president and trustees or similar body when the reference is to villages or incorporated towns, and (c) the council when the reference is to municipalities under the commission form of municipal government. (65 ILCS 5/1-1-2(2))

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

MUNICIPAL – CITY OF CHICAGO

Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer and Alderperson

Vacancies Only

NOTE: Please contact the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners for further information as to whether any vacancies in office exist that need to be filled by election in 2027.

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-5](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Cook County Clerk. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified elector of the municipality and one-year residency in the municipality preceding the election. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(a))

For alderperson, one-year residency in the ward preceding the election. (65 ILCS 20/21-14(a))

A person is not eligible to take the oath of office for a municipal office if that person is, at the time required for taking the oath of office, in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to the municipality or has been convicted in any court located in the United States of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(b))

If a person is a resident of a municipality immediately prior to the active duty military service of that person or that person's spouse, resides anywhere outside of the municipality during that active duty military service, and immediately upon completion of that active duty military service is again a resident of the municipality, then the time during which the person resides outside the municipality during the active duty military service is deemed to be time during which the person is a resident of the municipality for purposes of determining the residency requirement. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(d))

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

All nominations in the city shall be by petition. Each petition for nomination of mayor, city clerk, and city treasurer must be signed by at least 12,500 legal voters of the city (65 ILCS 20/21-28(b)). Each petition for alderperson must be signed by at least 473 legal voters of the ward (65 ILCS 20/21-28(a)).

FILING DATES

October 19-26, 2026 (not more than 127 nor less than 120 days prior to the consolidated primary).
(10 ILCS 5/10-6(4))

WHERE TO FILE

With the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, 69 W. Washington, 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60602.

TERM

4 years. No person shall be elected to the office of city treasurer for two terms in succession unless the city, by ordinance, establishes different succession terms.
(65 ILCS 20/21-5(b), 21-12, 21-22(a))

TERM BEGINS

Mayor, clerk, treasurer, and alderperson terms begin at noon on the third Monday in May following the election. Terms begin on May 17, 2027. (65 ILCS 20/21-5(b), 21-12, 21-22(a))

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

PARK COMMISSIONER, TRUSTEE

Park District

NOMINATION PAPERS

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

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Park Commissioner: must be a qualified elector of the park district with one-year residency in the park district preceding the election. (70 ILCS 1205/2-11)

A person is not eligible to serve as park commissioner if that person is in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to the park district or has been convicted in any court located in the United States of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony. (70 ILCS 1205/2-11)

Pleasure Driveway and Park District Trustees: shall be legal voters of and reside within the park district. (70 ILCS 1205/2-15)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Signature requirements for general park district commissioners and Pleasure Driveway and park district trustees: Petition must be signed by not less than 2% of the number of ballots cast at the last election for trustee or commissioner in the district, but in no case by less than 25. (70 ILCS 1205/2-11, 2-17)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

WHERE TO FILE

With the Park District Secretary. (70 ILCS 1205/2-11)

TERM

5 Commissioners: 6-year term. (70 ILCS 1205/2-12)

7 Commissioners: 6-year term, by resolution or public question. (70 ILCS 1205/2-10a)

5-7 Commissioners: 4-year term, by resolution or public question. (70 ILCS 1205/2-12a)

Pleasure Driveway and Park District

President and 6 trustees: 4-year term. (70 ILCS 1205/2-15)

Township Park District

3 Commissioners: 6-year term. (70 ILCS 1205/2-19)

TERM BEGINS

Commissioners and Pleasure Driveway and Park District Trustees shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. (70 ILCS 1205/2-12, 2-15)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD – TRUSTEE

Public Library District

NOMINATION PAPERS

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

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified elector of the library district with one-year residency in the library district at the time nomination papers are filed. (75 ILCS 16/30-20(d))

A person is not eligible to serve as a library trustee who, at the time of filing nomination papers, is in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to the library district or has been convicted in any court located in the United States of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony. (75 ILCS 16/30-20(e))

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

A number of qualified voters residing in the district equivalent to at least 2% of the votes cast at the last election for library trustees, or 50, whichever is less. (75 ILCS 16/30-20(a))

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

WHERE TO FILE

With the Library District Secretary. (75 ILCS 16/30-20(a))

TERM

7 Trustees: 6-year terms. The library board may, by resolution, change to 4-year terms. (75 ILCS 16/30-10)

TERM BEGINS

The third Monday of the month (May 17, 2027) following the regular election of trustees.
(75 ILCS 16/30-10, 30-40(e))

Within 74 days after their election or appointment, the incumbents and new trustees shall take their oaths of office and meet to organize the board. (75 ILCS 16/30-40(a))

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

LOCAL LIBRARY BOARD – TRUSTEE

Municipal – Township

NOTE: In villages under the commission form of government, the Library Board of Trustees is appointed by the village council. (75 ILCS 5/4-2)

NOMINATION PAPERS

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

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Resident of the incorporated town, village, or township involved. (75 ILCS 5/4-3.3)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Petition must be signed by at least 25 legal voters residing in the incorporated town, village (except a village under the commission form of government), or township. (75 ILCS 5/4-3.3)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

WHERE TO FILE

Local municipal or township clerk. (75 ILCS 5/4-3.3)

TERM

7 Trustees: 6 years for incorporated towns, villages, and library boards. (Library Board may change to 4-year terms by resolution). (75 ILCS 5/4-3.1)

7 Trustees: 4 years for Township Public Libraries. (75 ILCS 5/4-3.2)

TERM BEGINS

Trustees hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. (75 ILCS 5/4-3.1) Within 60 days after their election, the trustees shall take the oath of office and meet to organize the board. (75 ILCS 5/4-6)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

REGIONAL BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES (REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Single county Regional School Trustee ([SBE Form P-21A](#)); Multi-county Regional School Trustee ([SBE Form P-21](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

No person shall be eligible for the office of member of the regional board of school trustees who is not a voter of the educational service region and qualified to vote in the election for members of the regional board of school trustees, or who is a member of a school board, or who is a school board employee, or who holds any county office. (105 ILCS 5/6-3)

The regional board of school trustees, in both single county and multi-county educational service regions, shall consist of seven members. In single county regions, not more than one trustee may be a resident of any one congressional township; however, in case there are fewer than seven congressional townships in the region, then not more than two of such trustees may be residents of the same congressional township. In two-county regions, at least two trustees shall be residents of each county. In regions of three or more counties, at least one trustee shall be a resident of each county. If more than seven counties constitute the educational service region, the regional board of school trustees consists of one resident of each county. (105 ILCS 5/6-2)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Petitions must be signed by at least 50 qualified voters from the educational service region. In addition, the petition shall specify the county and township (or road district) of the candidate's residence. (105 ILCS 5/6-10)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

WHERE TO FILE

Single-county region candidates file with the county clerk.

Multi-county region candidates file with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704. (105 ILCS 5/6-10)

TERM

7 members: 6-year terms. (105 ILCS 5/6-17)

TERM BEGINS

Third Monday in May following the election (May 17, 2027). (105 ILCS 5/6-17)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

Boards of Education

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: At-Large ([SBE Form P-7](#)); Districts 1-7 ([SBE Form P-7A](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Any person who, on the date of election, is a citizen of the United States, of the age of 18 years or over, a resident of the State and the territory of the district for one year preceding the election, and a registered voter is eligible. A member shall not be a school trustee or a child sex offender as defined in Section 11-9.3 of the Criminal Code of 2012. (105 ILCS 5/10-10)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Petitions must be signed by at least 50 qualified voters or 10% of the voters, whichever is less, residing within the district. (105 ILCS 5/9-10)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

WHERE TO FILE

With the county clerk or the county board of election commissioners, as the case may be, of the county in which the principal office of the school district is located. (105 ILCS 5/9-10)

TERM

4 years (may be changed to 6 years by public question). (105 ILCS 5/9-5)

TERM BEGINS

Within 40 days after the election. (105 ILCS 5/10-16)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

SCHOOL DIRECTOR* AND TOWNSHIP LAND COMMISSIONER**

*In districts having a population fewer than 1,000.

**In counties of fewer than 220,000 inhabitants containing townships with common school lands, there shall be three land commissioners elected in the same manner as provided for election of school directors. (105 ILCS 5/15-24)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Board of Education Petition ([SBE Form P-7](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Any person who, on the date of election, is a citizen of the United States, is of the age of 18 years or over, is a resident of the State and of the territory of the district for at least one year immediately preceding the election, is a registered voter, is not a school trustee or a school treasurer, and is not a child sex offender as defined in Section 11-9.3 of the Criminal Code of 2012 shall be eligible to the office of school director or land commissioner. (105 ILCS 5/10-3)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Petition must be signed by at least 25 qualified voters or 5% of the voters, whichever is less, residing within the district. (105 ILCS 5/9-10)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

WHERE TO FILE

School Director candidates file with the county clerk or the county board of election commissioners, as the case may be, of the county in which the principal office of the school district is located. (105 ILCS 5/9-10)

Township Land Commissioner candidates file with the Township Land Commissioner's Secretary. (105 ILCS 5/9-2(d))

TERM

4 years. (105 ILCS 5/10-4)

TERM BEGINS

School Directors and Land Commissioners shall meet and organize within 40 days after the election by appointing one of their number president and another as clerk. (105 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-16)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

BOARD MEMBER – BOARD OF EDUCATION

City of Peoria Only under 105 ILCS 5/33

NOMINATION PAPERS

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

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Peoria County Election Commission. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Shall be a citizen of the United States, shall have been a resident of the district for at least one year immediately preceding the election, and shall not be a child sex offender as defined in Section 11-9.3 of the Criminal Code of 2012. (105 ILCS 5/33-2)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

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

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

WHERE TO FILE

With the Peoria County Election Commission, 4422 Brandywine Drive, Suite 1, Peoria, IL 61614.

TERM

5 years (may be changed to 4-year terms by public question). (105 ILCS 5/33-1, 33-1a)

TERM BEGINS

All terms shall commence on July 1 following the election (July 1, 2027). (105 ILCS 5/33-1a)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TRUSTEE*

* Southwestern Illinois Community College District Trustees (522) and Lincoln Land Community College District Trustees (526) run from separate sub-districts; all others run at-large.

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Community College Petition ([SBE Form P-6](#)); Southwestern Illinois Community College District ([SBE Form P-6A](#)); Lincoln Land Community College ([SBE Form P-6A](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Each member must on the date of the election be a citizen of the United States, of the age of 18 years or over, and a resident of the State and the territory that on the date of the election is included in the community college district for at least one year immediately preceding the election. (110 ILCS 805/3-7(c))

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

At least 50 qualified voters or 10% of the voters, whichever is less, residing within the district. (110 ILCS 805/3-7.10)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

WHERE TO FILE

With the Secretary of the Board of the Community College District or designated representative. **If the Secretary is an incumbent board member seeking re-election, a disinterested person must witness the filing of the Secretary's petition.** (110 ILCS 805/3-7.10)

TERM

6 years. (110 ILCS 805/3-7(b))

Lincoln Land Community College (526) and Southwestern Illinois Community College (522): The trustees are divided into two groups (as equally as possible for LLCC (526)), with terms of 4 and 6 years or 6 and 4 years. (110 ILCS 805/3-7a, 3-7c)

TERM BEGINS

Following the canvass and within 28 days of the election. (110 ILCS 805/3-8)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TRUSTEE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Fire Protection District ([SBE Form P-4-2](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Resident of the fire protection district. (70 ILCS 705/4a)

NOTE: In the case of a multi-county district, the number of trustees for each county shall be proportional to the number of district residents from that county in relation to the district's total population. Not more than one trustee can be from a municipality unless that municipality has more than 50% of the population in the district. (70 ILCS 705/4(a)(4))

No person is eligible to serve on the board of any fire protection district if that person has been convicted of a felony under the laws of this State or comparable laws of any other state or the United States or is in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to a fire protection district. (70 ILCS 705/10.1)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

At least 25 voters or 5% of the voters, whichever is less, residing within the district. (70 ILCS 705/4a)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

WHERE TO FILE

With the Secretary of the Fire Protection District Board. (70 ILCS 705/4a)

TERM

6 years. (70 ILCS 705/4a)

TERM BEGINS

Third Monday in May following the election (May 17, 2027). (70 ILCS 705/4a)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT TRUSTEE

NOMINATION PAPERS

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

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Resident of the district. (70 ILCS 3705/4.2(c))

Note: In the case of a multi-county district, the number of trustees for each county shall be proportional to the number of district residents from that county in relation to the district's total population. (70 ILCS 3705/4(4))

No trustee or employee of such district shall be directly or indirectly interested in any contract, work, or business of the district or the sale of any article, the expense, price, or consideration of which is paid by such district, nor in the purchase of any real estate or property for or belonging to the district. (70 ILCS 3705/4)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Nomination of a candidate for Trustee shall be signed by at least 0.5% of the total number of registered voters of the political subdivision for which the nomination is made or a minimum of 25, whichever is greater. (10 ILCS 5/10-3.1)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

WHERE TO FILE

With the Secretary of the Water District.

TERM

4-year terms (staggered). (70 ILCS 3705/4.2(d)(1))

TERM BEGINS

First Monday in May 2027 (May 3, 2027) or until successors have been elected and qualified. (70 ILCS 3705/4.2(d)(4))

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

FOX WATERWAY AGENCY DIRECTOR

1 Director to be elected from Lake County, 2 Full Term Directors, 1 (2-year Unexpired) Director to be elected from McHenry County

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Fox Waterway Agency ([SBE Form P-4-1](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Lake County Clerk (the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located). (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Must be a resident of a member county (Lake or McHenry) and the territory of the agency and at least 18 years of age. (615 ILCS 90/5)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

At least 200 qualified voters of the applicable county who reside within the territory of the agency. (615 ILCS 90-5)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (615 ILCS 90/5)

WHERE TO FILE

With the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704.

TERM

4 years and until their successors are elected and qualified. (615 ILCS 90/5)

TERM BEGINS

Third Monday in May following the election (May 17, 2027). (615 ILCS 90/5)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

FOX METRO WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT TRUSTEE

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Fox Metro Water Reclamation District ([SBE Form P-4-3](#))

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Kendall County Clerk (the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located). (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Must be a resident of a member county and the territory of the agency. (70 ILCS 2405/3)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

At least 100 signatures of registered voters residing within the Fox Metro Water Reclamation District. (70 ILCS 2405/3)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

WHERE TO FILE

With the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704. (10 ILCS 5/7-12)

TERM

4 years and until their successors are elected and qualified. (70 ILCS 2405/3)

TERM BEGINS

First Tuesday after the first Monday in the month following the month of election (May 4, 2027). (70 ILCS 2405/3)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

(In counties with a population of more than 30,000 but less than 90,000)

NOMINATION PAPERS

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

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Must be a resident of the forest preserve district. (70 ILCS 805/3.5(a))

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Nomination of a candidate for Trustee shall be signed by at least 0.5% of the total number of registered voters of the political subdivision for which the nomination is made or a minimum of 25, whichever is greater. (10 ILCS 5/10-3.1)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

WHERE TO FILE

With the Secretary of the District.

TERM

5 Commissioners: 4-year terms. (70 ILCS 805/3.5(a)(b))

TERM BEGINS

On the third Monday of the month (May 17, 2027) following the election. (70 ILCS 805/3.5(a))

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

SPRINGFIELD METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION AND AUDITORIUM AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBER

NOMINATION PAPERS

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

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

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

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the Sangamon County Clerk (the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located). (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Registered voter and qualified to vote within the metropolitan area. (70 ILCS 200/255-70)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Nomination of a candidate for member of the Board shall be made by a petition filed with the county clerk, signed by at least 50 voters qualified to vote at the election. (70 ILCS 200/255-75)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

WHERE TO FILE

With the Sangamon County Clerk, 200 S. 9th Street, Rooms 101 & 105, Springfield, IL 62701. (70 ILCS 200/255-75)

TERM

4-year terms. (70 ILCS 200/255-65, as modified by U.S District Court consent decree entered July 11, 1988)

TERM BEGINS

Within 15 days of election, April 21, 2027. (70 ILCS 200/255-90)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SIGNING PETITIONS

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

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

Are abbreviations allowed on petitions?

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

Are pencil signatures allowed?

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

Can ditto marks be used on the petitions?

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

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

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

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

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

May a voter who voted republican in the last primary election now sign a petition for a democratic candidate?

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

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

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

May a voter sign a petition for someone else?

No. A registered voter must personally sign the petition. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

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

Yes, a signer can sign petitions for as many candidates of the same established political party as they want, but they may not sign petitions for different established parties in the same election. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-3)

May a voter sign petitions for more than one candidate for the same office?

Yes, a signer can sign petitions for more than one candidate for the same office, as long as the candidates are of the same established political party. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-3)

CIRCULATING PETITIONS

May candidates circulate their own petitions?

Yes.

When can the circulator start collecting signatures?

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

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

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

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

No. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

May a circulator circulate petitions for more than one candidate for the same office?

Yes, if the candidates are of the same established political party. Circulators may not circulate petitions for candidates of more than one political party, or for an independent candidate in addition to one political party.

May a circulator circulate petitions for more than one political party?

No. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

Is the circulator required to be a registered voter?

No, but they must:

- be a United States citizen;
- be at least 18 years of age by the immediately following general or consolidated election; and (10 ILCS 5/3-6)
- include their current address on the circulator's affidavit. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

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

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

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

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

May a candidate's relative circulate their petition?

Yes, relatives of a candidate can circulate their petitions, as long as they are qualified and complete the circulator's affidavit.

Who can remove a signature from a petition?

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

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

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

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

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

Must the notary put the date of their commission expiration on the document?

Yes, the notary stamp indicates the date the commission expires.

Must the notary live in the same county as the candidate?

No, but the notary must be authorized to administer oaths in the place where the notarial act is performed.

How can I get a copy of the registered voters in my political subdivision?

The State Board of Elections manages a database of voter registration information provided by the Illinois election jurisdictions. For more information, contact your election authority or the Division of Voter Registration Services at (217) 782-4141.

FILING PETITIONS

May a candidate file in person or by mail?

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

Do candidates have to file their own nomination papers?

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

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

Yes. An established political party petition may contain the names of candidates for several offices to be filled at the upcoming election. The nominating papers must contain a separate Statement of Candidacy signed by each candidate and a receipt for the filing of a Statement of Economic Interests by each candidate. The Loyalty Oath is optional, but if the candidates choose to file a Loyalty Oath, a separate signed by each candidate should be included. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)

May a candidate file for more than one office?

Yes, however, the candidate must withdraw from all but one office within five business days following the last day of petition filing if the offices are incompatible. The withdrawal notice must be in writing and notarized. If the candidate does not withdraw, their name will not be certified for any office. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(9), 10-7) Withdrawal notices should be provided to the entity with which the candidate filed their nomination papers The Office of the Illinois Attorney General has issued a number of opinions on incompatibility of offices. For questions concerning the same, contact the [Opinions Bureau](#) of the Attorney General's office at (217) 782-9070.

When may petitions be mailed?

There are no statutory requirements regarding a time element for mailing petitions; however, all petitions must be **received** during the filing period. All petitions received in the office prior to the opening of the office on the first day of the filing period or after the close of the office on the last day of the filing period will be returned to the sender. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 10-6.2)

May a petition that has been filed be changed?

No. A petition once filed may not be added to or altered; however, the receipt(s) for filing Statements of Economic Interests may be filed at any time during the filing period. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12(8))

When a candidate withdraws their nomination papers, are the papers returned to the candidate?

No. The original documents are not returned but remain in the office where they were filed. They must remain in the office for a period of at least six months. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(12), 10-7)

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

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

NOTE: Candidates who file petitions during the last hour of filing (between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.) on the last day to file petitions will be entered into a lottery to determine the final ballot position. (Illinois Administrative Rules, Title 26, Section 201.40)

May a candidate file as an independent for a school office?

No. All candidates for school offices run on a “nonpartisan” basis. “Independents” run in partisan elections but choose not to associate with a political party, so the word “independent” identifies them on the ballot label.

When are petitions open to the public?

Upon their filing with the proper office. As a practical matter, there will be some delay in availability while the State Board of Elections, election authority, or local election official processes each petition. All certificates of nomination and nomination papers when presented or filed shall be open (under proper regulation) to public inspection and the State Board of Elections, election authorities, and local election officials having charge of nomination papers shall preserve the same in their respective offices not less than six months. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(12), 10-7)

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

State of Illinois



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STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS TO BE FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK

Name: _____

Candidate For (Entity & Position): _____

Other offices, departments, or agencies that require you to file a Statement of Economic Interests form:

Full mailing address:

Preferred email address (optional): _____

Instructions

You may find the following documents helpful to you in completing this form:

- (1) federal income tax returns, including any related schedules, attachments, and forms; and
- (2) investment and brokerage statements.

To complete this form, you do not need to disclose specific amounts or values or report interests relating either to political committees registered with the Illinois State Board of Elections or to political committees, principal campaign committees, or authorized committees registered with the Federal Election Commission.

The information you disclose will be available to the public.

You must answer all 7 questions. Certain questions will ask you to report any applicable assets or debts held in, or payable to, your name; held jointly by, or payable to, you with your spouse; or held jointly by, or payable to, you with your minor child. If you have any concerns about whether an interest should be reported, please consult your department's ethics officer, if applicable.

Please ensure that the information you provide is complete and accurate. **If you need more space than the form allows, please attach additional pages for your response.** If you are subject to the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, your ethics officer must review your statement of economic interests before you file it. Failure to complete the statement in good faith and within the prescribed deadline may subject you to fines, imprisonment, or both.

1. If you have any single asset that was worth more than \$11,600 as of the end of the preceding calendar year and is held in, or payable to, your name, held jointly by, or payable to, you with your spouse, or held jointly by, or payable to, you with your minor child, list such assets below. In the case of investment real estate, list the city and state where the investment real estate is located. If you do not have any such assets, list "none" below.

2. Excluding the position for which you are required to file this form, list the source of any income in excess of \$8,700 required to be reported during the preceding calendar year. If you sold an asset that produced more than \$8,700 in capital gains in the preceding calendar year, list the name of the asset and the transaction date on which the sale or transfer took place. If you had no such sources of income or assets, list "none" below.

Source of Income / Name of Asset	Date Sold (if applicable)
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

This will be returned to you when statement is filed in the Office of the County Clerk.

(COMPLETE BUT DO NOT DETACH)

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of your Statement of Economic Interests, filed pursuant to the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. The Statement was filed as of this date.

Name: _____

Entity & Position for which this statement is filed: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

3. Excluding debts incurred on terms available to the general public, such as mortgages, student loans, and credit card debts, if you owed any single debt in the preceding calendar year exceeding \$11,600, list the creditor of the debt below. If you had no such debts, list "none" below.

List the creditor for all applicable debts owed by you, owed jointly by you with your spouse, or owed jointly by you with your minor child. In addition to the types of debts listed above, you do not need to report any debts to or from financial institutions or government agencies, such as debts secured by automobiles, household furniture or appliances, as long as the debt was made on terms available to the general public, debts to members of your family, or debts to or from a political committee registered with the Illinois State Board of Elections or any political committee, principal campaign committee, or authorized committee registered with the Federal Election Commission.

4. List the name of each unit of government of which you or your spouse were an employee, contractor, or office holder during the preceding calendar year other than the unit or units of government in relation to which the person is required to file and the title of the position or nature of the contractual services. If you or your spouse had no such affiliations, list "none" below.

Name of Unit of Government	Title or Nature of Services

5. If you maintain an economic relationship with a lobbyist or if a member of your family is known to you to be a lobbyist registered with any unit of government in the State of Illinois, list the name of the lobbyist below and identify the nature of your relationship with the lobbyist. If you do not have an economic relationship with a lobbyist or a family member known to you to be a lobbyist registered with any unit of government in the State of Illinois, list "none" below.

Name of Lobbyist	Relationship to Filer

6. List the name of each person, organization, or entity that was the source of a gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, valued singly or in the aggregate in excess of \$600 received during the preceding calendar year and the type of gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, excluding any gift or gifts from a member of your family that was not known to be a lobbyist registered with any unit of government in the State of Illinois. If you had no such gifts, list "none" below.

7. List the name of any spouse or immediate family member living with the person making this statement employed by a public utility in this State and the name of the public utility that employs the relative. If no such spouse or immediate family member is employed by a public utility in this State, list "none" below.

Name and Relation	Public Utility

VERIFICATION

"I declare that this statement of economic interests (including any attachments) has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is a true, correct and complete statement of my economic interests as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. I understand that the penalty for willfully filing a false or incomplete statement is a fine not to exceed \$2,500 or imprisonment in a penal institution other than the penitentiary not to exceed one year, or both fine and imprisonment."

(Printed Name of Filer)

(Signature)

(Date)

DO NOT DETACH

(WILL BE RETURNED AS YOUR RECEIPT)

Persons Required to File a Statement of Economic Interests

1. All Elected Officials
2. All members of Boards or Commissions unless they function only in an advisory capacity
3. All government employees who are compensated for services and not as independent contractors and who:
 - are, or function as, the head of a department, division, bureau, authority or other administrative unit within the unit of local government, or who exercise similar authority within the unit of local government;
 - have direct supervisory authority over, or direct responsibility for the formulation, negotiation, issuance or execution of contracts entered into by the unit of local government in the amount of \$1,000 or greater;
 - have authority to approve licenses and permits by the unit of local government; this item does not include employees who function in a ministerial capacity;
 - adjudicate, arbitrate, or decide any judicial or administrative proceedings, or review the adjudication, arbitration or decision of any judicial or administrative proceedings within the authority of the unit of local government;
 - have authority to issue or promulgate rules and regulations within areas under the authority of the unit of local government; or
 - have supervisory responsibility for 20 or more employees of the unit of local government.

For Candidates for Office

Candidates for office must file their Statement of Economic Interests via paper with the DuPage County Clerk pursuant to [5 ILCS 420/4A-108\(b\) 3](#).

Statements of Economic Interests **cannot** be e-mailed or sent electronically to the DuPage County Clerk's office. A paper statement must be filed with the office.

Please download the most updated version below:

- [Statement of Economic Interests \(PDF\)](#)

The Statement of Economic Interests is a double-sided, legal size document. The receipt portion of the form must be intact, as it will serve as your proof of filing. If you are unable to print the form to the specifications, you may obtain a paper copy from the DuPage County Clerk's office.

If you have any questions, please call the office at [630-407-5500](#).

Precinct Committeemen candidates are **NOT** required to file a Statement of Economic Interest.

Economic Interest

Filers:

- [File an EI Statement](#)
- [Economic Interest Instructions \(PDF\)](#)
- [Filer FAQs](#)

Public:

- [Search/View EI Statements](#)
- [Visit Economic Interest Portal](#)

Units of Government/Agency:

[UOG/Agency Portal](#)

STATEMENTS OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS



The Illinois Governmental Ethics Act ([5 ILCS 420/](#)) provides that certain elected municipal office holders, candidates, officials and employees are required to file a Statement of Economic Interests.¹

By February 1 of each year, each municipality is required to notify the local county clerk of individuals that are required to file a Statement of Economic Interests. The county clerk is then required to provide the appropriate form and instructions on how to file it. The Statement of Economic Interests must be filed by May 1 of each year.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS REQUIRED TO FILE A STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS

1. All elected officials and candidates for elected office.
2. All appointed members of a governing board, zoning board, zoning board of appeals or planning commission, and appointed members of other boards or commissions who have authority to authorize the expenditure of funds, but not members of boards or commissions who function only in an advisory capacity.
3. All government employees who are compensated for services (not as independent contractors) who:
 - are, or function as, the head of a department, division, bureau, authority or other administrative unit, or who exercise similar authority;
 - have direct supervisory authority over or direct responsibility for the formulation, negotiation, issuance or execution of contracts in an amount of \$1,000 or greater;
 - have authority to approve licenses and permits, but not including employees who function in a clerical capacity;
 - adjudicate, arbitrate or decide any judicial or administrative proceeding, or review the adjudication, arbitration or decision of any judicial or administrative proceeding;
 - have authority to issue or adopt rules and regulations; or,
 - have supervisory responsibility for 20 or more employees.
4. Members of the board of any pension fund established under the Illinois Pension Code, if not required to file under any other provision of Section 4A-101.5 of the Act.

REQUIRED DISCLOSURES

[Public Act \(P.A.\) 102-0664](#), effective January 1, 2022, amended provisions of the Act and expanded the disclosure of financial interests required to be included in the Statement of Economic Interests. **The Act does not require the disclosure of specific dollar amounts or values of the financial interests reported.**

¹ [5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5](#)

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS, WHO ARE REQUIRED TO FILE, MUST DISCLOSE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

- Assets valued in excess of \$10,000, held individually, jointly with a spouse or jointly with a minor child or children;
- Assets in a trust, based on the total value of the assets, regardless of whether distributions have been made;
- Sources of income in excess of \$7,500 annually for the filer and spouse;
- The sale or transfer of assets resulting in capital gains in excess of \$7,500 and the date of the transaction;
- Creditors of a debt in excess of \$10,000 owed by the filer, jointly with a spouse or jointly with a minor child or children;
- Name of the unit of government for which the filer or spouse was an employee, contractor or office holder (not including the position for which the Statement is being filed);
- Names of lobbyists who have an economic relationship with, or are a family member of, the filer;
- The source and type of gifts, individually or in the aggregate, in excess of \$500 in the preceding year; and,
- Names of spouse and immediate family members employed by a public utility and the name of the public utility.²

The Act does not require the disclosure of specific dollar amounts or values of the financial interests reported.

ASSETS INCLUDE:

- Stocks;
- Bonds;
- Mutual funds;
- Exchange traded funds;
- Commodity futures;
- Investment real estate;
- Beneficial interests in trusts; and,
- Business and partnership interests.

ASSETS DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Personal residences;
- Personal vehicles;
- Savings or checking accounts;
- Bonds, notes or securities issued by federal, state or local governments;
- Medicare benefits;
- Inheritances or bequests;
- Diversified funds;
- Annuities;
- Pensions;
- Retirement accounts;
- College savings plans;
- Qualified tax-advantaged savings programs for disability-related expenses; and,
- Tangible personal property.

² See P.A. 102-0813 effective May 13, 2022.



DEBTS INCLUDE:

- Any money or monetary obligation owed at any time during the preceding calendar year to an individual, company or other organization, other than a loan that is from a financial institution, government agency or business entity that is granted on terms made available to the general public; or,
- Any debt not specifically exempted (see “Debts Do Not Include”).

DEBTS DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Debts to or from financial institutions or government entities, such as mortgages, student loans, credit card debts or loans secured by automobiles, household furniture or appliances, as long as those loans were made on terms available to the general public and do not exceed the purchase price of the items securing them;
- Debts to or from a political committee registered with the Illinois State Board of Elections or political committees, principal campaign committees or authorized committees registered with the Federal Election Commission; or,
- A loan from a member of the filer’s family not known by the filer to be registered to lobby under the Illinois Lobbyist Registration Act.

HOW DO I GET MY STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS FORM AND WHERE DO I FILE THE FORM?

Each local county clerk will provide the form and may require the form to be filed electronically or to be filed in written form. An example of a [Statement of Economic Interests form is available via this link](#). A county clerk may require a slightly different form. Provisions requiring certification of review by an ethics officer apply to State of Illinois officials, and do not apply to municipal officials unless a local ordinance requires that review.

Candidates for municipal office are required to include a receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interests in their candidate submissions in order to appear on an election ballot.

DEFINITIONS IN THE ACT

In addition to the definitions of assets and debts detailed in this fact sheet, specific definitions for terms apply to the Statement of Economic Interests, and include the following:

CREDITOR: means an individual, organization or other business entity to whom money or its equivalent is owed, no matter whether that obligation is secured or unsecured, except that if a filer makes a loan to members of his or her family, then that filer does not, by making such a loan, become a creditor of that individual.

DIVERSIFIED FUNDS: means investment products, such as mutual funds, exchange traded funds or unit investment trusts, that invest in a wide variety of securities across multiple sectors or asset classes. These do not include sector funds.

DEFINITIONS IN THE ACT (continued)

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP: means any joint- or shared-ownership interests in businesses and creditor-debtor relationships with third parties, other than commercial lending institutions, where: (a) the filer is entitled to receive (i) more than 7.5% of the total distributable income, or, (ii) an amount in excess of the salary of the Governor (SFY 2022: \$184,800); or, (b) the filer together with his or her spouse or minor children is entitled to receive (i) more than 15%, in aggregate, of the total distributable income, or, (ii) an amount in excess of two times the salary of the Governor (SFY 2022: \$369,600).

FAMILY: means a filer's spouse, children, step-children, parents, step-parents, siblings, step-siblings, half-siblings, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandparents and grandchildren, as well as the parents and grandparents of the filer's spouse, and any person living with the filer.

FILER: means a person required to file a Statement of Economic Interests pursuant to this Act.

INCOME: means pension income and any income from whatever source derived, required to be reported on the filer's federal income tax return, including, but not limited to: compensation received for services rendered or to be rendered (as required to be reported on any Internal Revenue Service forms, including, but not limited to, forms W-2, 1099, or K-1); earnings or capital gains from the sale of assets; profit; interest or dividend income from all assets; revenue from leases and rentals, royalties, prizes, awards or barter; forgiveness of debt; and, earnings derived from annuities or trusts other than testamentary trusts. This does not include compensation earned for service in the position that necessitates the filing of the Statement of Economic Interests, or investment or interest returns on items excluded as an asset or income from the sale of a personal residence or personal vehicle.

INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE: means any real property, other than a filer's personal residence, purchased to produce a profit, whether from income or resale. Investment real estate must be reported on the Statement but only by listing the city and state where the real estate is located.

LOBBYING and LOBBYIST: mean engaging in activities that require registration under the Illinois Lobbyist Registration Act or an individual who is required to be registered to engage in lobbying activities pursuant to the Illinois Lobbyist Registration Act.

PERSONAL RESIDENCE: means a filer's primary home residence and any real property held by the filer and used by the filer for residential purposes and not for commercial or income generating purposes.

SECTOR FUNDS: means investments in mutual funds or exchange traded funds invested in a particular industry or business.

SPOUSE: means a party to a marriage, a party to a civil union or a registered domestic partner.

A complete list of definitions is [available via this link \(5 ILCS 420/Art.1\)](#).

Municipal officials and candidates for municipal office should thoroughly review the Statement of Economic Interests, including applicable terms, definitions and disclosure requirements, in advance of each May 1 filing deadline to ensure compliance with the Act.

The Office of the Illinois Secretary of State published guidance on the Statement of Economic Interests ([available via this link](#)).

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY**NONPARTISAN**

NAME:	OFFICE:
	A Full Term is sought, unless an unexpired term is stated here: ____ year unexpired term
ADDRESS – ZIP CODE:	CITY, VILLAGE OR SPECIAL DISTRICT:

If required pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, 8-8.1 or 10-5.1, complete the following (this information will appear on the ballot)

FORMERLY KNOWN AS _____ UNTIL NAME CHANGED ON _____
 (List all names during last 3 years) (List date of each name change)

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS.
 County of _____)

I, _____ being first duly sworn (or affirmed), say that I reside at _____, in the City, Village, Unincorporated Area of _____
 (if unincorporated, list municipality that provides postal service) Zip Code _____, in the County of _____, State of Illinois; that I am a qualified voter therein, that I am a candidate for Nomination/

Election to the office of _____ in the _____
 (Name of City, Village or Special District)

to be voted upon at the election to be held on _____ (date of election) and that I am legally qualified to hold such office and that I have filed (or I will file before the close of the petition filing period) a Statement of Economic Interests as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act and I hereby request that my name be printed upon the official ballot for Nomination/Election to such office

 (Signature of Candidate)

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) by _____ before me, on _____
 (Name of Candidate) (insert month, day, year)

(SEAL)

 (Notary Public's Signature)

____ATTACH TO PETITION____

10 ILCS 5/7-10.1

Suggested
Revised July, 2004
SBE No. P-1C

LOYALTY OATH
(OPTIONAL)

United States of America)
)
State of Illinois) SS.

I, _____, do swear (or affirm) that I am a citizen of the United States and the State of Illinois, that I am not affiliated directly or indirectly with any communist organization or any communist front organization, or any foreign political agency, party, organization or government which advocates the overthrow of constitutional government by force or other means not permitted under the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of this State; that I do not directly or indirectly teach or advocate the overthrow of the government of the United States or of this State or any unlawful change in the form of the governments thereof by force or any unlawful means.

(Signature of Candidate)

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) by _____ before me,
(Name of Candidate)

on _____
(insert month, day, year)

(Notary Public's Signature)

(SEAL)

NONPARTISAN PETITION
(NON-MUNICIPAL AND COMMISSION FORM OF MUNICIPALITY)

We, the undersigned, qualified voters in the _____ in the
(unit of government)
County of _____ and State of Illinois, do hereby petition that the following named person shall be a Nonpartisan
Candidate for election to the office hereinafter specified, in the aforesaid unit of government, to be voted for at the election to be held
on _____ (date of election).

NAME:	OFFICE:
ADDRESS:	
A Full Term is sought, unless an unexpired term is stated here: _____ year unexpired term	

If required pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/10-5.1, complete the following (this information will appear on the ballot)

FORMERLY KNOWN AS _____ UNTIL NAME CHANGED ON _____
(List all names during last 3 years) (List date of each name change)

NAME (VOTER'S SIGNATURE)	VOTER'S PRINTED NAME (optional)	STREET ADDRESS OR RR NUMBER	CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE	COUNTY
1.			.IL	
2.			.IL	
3.			.IL	
4.			.IL	
5.			.IL	
6.			.IL	
7.			.IL	
8.			.IL	
9.			.IL	
10.			.IL	

State of _____)
County of _____)

SS.

I, _____ (Circulator's Name) do hereby certify that I reside at _____, in the

City/Village/Unincorporated Area of _____ (if unincorporated, list municipality that provides postal service) (Zip

Code) _____, County of _____, State of _____ that I am 18 years of age or older (or 17 years of
age and qualified to vote in Illinois), that I am a citizen of the United States, and that the signatures on this sheet were signed in my presence, not more than 90 days
preceding the last day of filing of the petitions and are genuine and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the persons so signing were at the time of signing the
petition registered voters of the political division in which the candidate is seeking elective office, and their respective residences are correctly stated, as above set forth.

(Circulator's Signature)

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) by _____ before me, on _____
(Name of Circulator) (Insert month, day, year)

(SEAL)

(Notary Public's Signature)

SHEET NO. _____

CERTIFICATE OF ATTACHED LIST OF DELETIONS

We, the undersigned persons who have stricken signatures from the attached hereby certify that there is/are _____ page(s) of **CERTIFICATION OF DELETIONS** listing signatures which have been stricken, and are attached hereafter to the petitions of _____ (Name of Candidate) who is a candidate for election to the office of _____ at the _____ Election to be held on _____ (date of election).

The following are the page numbers indicated on the attached **CERTIFICATION OF DELETIONS**:

(CANDIDATE)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

(Circulator)

Every person striking signatures from the petition shall each sign this certificate. This certificate shall be filed as part of the petition, shall be numbered, and shall be attached immediately following the last page of voters' signatures and preceding any **CERTIFICATE OF DELETION** sheet.

SHEET NO. _____

CERTIFICATION OF DELETIONS

I, _____, Candidate or Circulator (circle one) do hereby certify that I have properly initialed the deletions of signatures, listed hereinafter by page and line numbers, from the petition of _____ (Name of Candidate) who is a candidate for election or nomination (circle one) to the office of _____ at the _____ Election to be held on _____ (date of election).

Page No.	Line No.	Page No.	Line No.	Page No.	Line No.

(Signature of Person Deleting Signatures)

Only the person circulating the petition, or the candidate on whose behalf the petition is circulated, may strike any signature from the petition. If deletions are made, this **CERTIFICATION OF DELETIONS** shall be filed as part of the petition.

2027 Consolidated Election

The following dates are for the 2027 Consolidated Election to be held on April 6, 2027. The candidate circulation and filing dates apply to the offices which do not require a primary.

Candidates who are unsure if the office they are running for holds a primary election, a caucus, or if they file directly for the Consolidated Election are encouraged to contact the local election official for the unit of government in question.

The dates included in this abbreviated calendar are not comprehensive of all dates surrounding the election, and do not include all relevant details. For additional detail and statutory references for any of the dates in this calendar, please consult the 2027 Election and Campaign Finance Calendar.

The dates in this calendar are calculated in accordance with the provisions of Public Act 103-0586 (effective May 3, 2024) and Public Act 103-0600 (effective July 1, 2024) which shift the candidate filing periods and related dates for most offices up by 28 days.

August 25, 2026

Petition Circulation Begins for the Consolidated Election

First day to circulate petitions for candidates seeking election in the 2027 Consolidated Election.

November 16, 2026

First Day to File Nomination Papers for the Consolidated Election

First day to file nomination papers with the local election official, election authority, or the State Board of Elections for the 2027 Consolidated Election.

November 23, 2026

Last Day to File Nomination Papers for the Consolidated Election

Last day to file nomination papers with the local election official, election authority, or the State Board of Elections for the 2027 Consolidated Election.

December 2, 2026

Last Day to File Objections to Nomination Papers for the Consolidated Election

Last day to file objections to the nomination papers of candidates who filed during the November 16-18, 2026, filing period.

December 14, 2026

First Day to File Caucus Certificate of Nomination

First day established political party caucus certificates of nomination may be filed in the office of the local election official along with Statement of Candidacy and Loyalty Oath (optional) for each candidate. The receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interest for each candidate may be filed any time during the filing period.

December 21, 2026

Last Day to File Caucus Certificate of Nomination

Last day established political party caucus certificates of nomination may be filed in the office of the local election official along with Statement of Candidacy and Loyalty Oath (optional) for each candidate. The receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interest for each candidate may be filed any time during the filing period.

January 4, 2027

Last Day to File Petitions for Public Questions for the Consolidated Election

Last day to file petitions with the local election official for the submission of questions of public policy. Exceptions to this date apply for various binding questions or backdoor referenda, please refer to the authorizing statute for the question to confirm the deadline.

January 6, 2027

First Day to Submit Vote by Mail Applications for the Consolidated Election

First day to apply for a vote by mail ballot for the 2027 Consolidated Election. Please note that election authorities will not begin mailing ballots until Thursday, February 25, 2027.

DATES FOR THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION ARE CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

DATES FOR THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION ARE CONTINUED BELOW FROM PAGE 4

January 11, 2027

Last Day to File Objections to Petitions for Public Questions for the Consolidated Election

Last day to file objections to petitions for the submission of questions of public policy with the local election official.

January 19, 2027

Last Day for Resolutions for Public Questions for the Consolidated Election

Last day for local governing boards to adopt a resolution or ordinance to allow a binding or advisory question to be placed on the ballot at the 2027 Consolidated Election.

January 28, 2027

Ballot Certification Deadline for the Consolidated Election

Last day for the local election official to certify candidates and public questions to the election authority to be included on the 2027 Consolidated Election ballot.

February 4, 2027

Write-In Candidate Filing Deadline for the Consolidated Election

Last day an individual may file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a write-in candidate with the proper election authority or authorities.

February 19, 2027

Vote by Mail Ballots – UOCAVA

Last business day for the election authority to mail ballots to persons in the United States Service, their spouse, and/or their dependents of voting age, citizens temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States, and nonresident civilians for the Consolidated Election.

February 25, 2027

Early Voting Begins for the Consolidated Election

First day for early voting at the office of the election authority and at any additional locations that may have been designated by the election authority (if a primary was held and more time is required to prepare and print ballots for the Consolidated Election, this is delayed until March 12, 2027).

Voting by Mail Begins for the Consolidated Election

First day for the election authority to mail an official ballot to a voter who has applied for a vote by mail ballot (if a primary was held, this is delayed until March 12, 2027).

March 9, 2027

Close of Voter Registration

Last day for regular registration or transfers of registration within the office of the election authority.

March 10, 2027

Grace Period Registration and Voting Begins for the Consolidated Election

First day of grace period registration and voting at the office of the election authority or at a location designated for this purpose by the election authority.

March 12, 2027

First Day of Early Voting and Voting by Mail if Primary was Held

First day to vote early or by mail if a primary was held in the election jurisdiction and if so much time is required to prepare and print ballots for the Consolidated Election.

March 21, 2027

Close of Online Voter Registration for the Consolidated Election

Last day for voters to register to vote through the [State Board of Elections' website](#).

April 1, 2027

Last Day to Mail Vote by Mail Ballots for the Consolidated Election

Last day for the election authority to receive, by mail, an application for a vote by mail ballot and mail that ballot to the voter. (Note: 1. An earlier deadline is applicable to UOCAVA voters; 2. In-person applications are still accepted until April 5, 2027.)

DATES FOR THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION ARE CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

DATES FOR THE CONSOLIDATED ELECTION ARE CONTINUED BELOW FROM PAGE 4

April 5, 2027

Last Day for Early Voting for the Consolidated Election

Last day for early voting for the 2027 Consolidated Election.

Last Day to Apply In Person for a Vote by Mail Ballot

Last day to apply in person at the office of the election authority for a vote by mail ballot for the Consolidated Election.

April 6, 2027

Consolidated Election

Date of the 2027 Consolidated Election.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

2027



 **YOUR VOICE
YOUR VOTE**

ELECTION CALENDAR

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PREPARED BY PETER MURPHY, IAPD PRESIDENT/CEO AND
JASON ANSELMANT, IAPD GENERAL COUNSEL

IAPD
Illinois Association of Park Districts

This Election Calendar contains key dates associated with the 2027 Consolidated Primary and Consolidated Elections. It includes information and dates IAPD deems most important to its members but does not include every date associated with these elections. For a complete list of all election dates consult the State Board of Elections Campaign and Finance Calendar, which is available under the Legal section of the IAPD website at ILparks.org. All candidates and voters are encouraged to seek the appropriate legal advice concerning their rights and obligations.

For purposes of this calendar, “election authority” means the County Clerk or the Board of Election Commissioners. “Local election official” means the clerk or secretary of a unit of local government or a school district. “Business day” means 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)

All citations contained herein are “Illinois Compiled Statutes, 2024”.

FILING AND REGISTRATION DATES

(a) 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))

(b) If the first or last day of any action required or allowed by the Election Code falls on a State Holiday, Saturday, or a Sunday, 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))

(c) For the section of the Election Code upon which this calendar is based, “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))

(d) To receive specific signature requirements for any particular office, candidates should contact the election authority or local election official who is responsible for receiving the filing of the petition for nomination and/or election to office.

Key Dates Associated with the Consolidated Primary Election – February 25, 2027

2026

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 24

First day notice of intention to file a petition to create a political subdivision, whose officers are to be elected rather than appointed, may be published in a newspaper within the proposed political subdivision, or if none, in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed territory. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(g))

Monday, OCTOBER 26

Last day notice of intention to file a petition to create a political subdivision, whose officers are to be elected rather than appointed, may be published in a

newspaper within the proposed political subdivision, or if none, in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed territory. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(g))

Monday, OCTOBER 26

Last day to file petitions (must contain original sheets signed by voters and circulators) to create a political subdivision with the appropriate officer or board (for park districts, circuit court clerk). (10 ILCS 5/28-2(b); 70 ILCS 1205/2-3)

NOTE: Objections can be filed on or before the date of the hearing with the appropriate circuit court clerk. (10 ILCS 5/28-4)

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 127-120 days before such election (October 19-26, 2026). (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.2; 5/10-6)

NOTE: The circuit court clerk shall publish the hearing date for a public policy petition filed in his/her office not later than 14 days after the petition is actually filed, but at least 5 days before the actual hearing (final orders within 7 days of hearing). (10 ILCS 5/28-4)

NOTE: See the specific statute governing the unit of local government to be established for filing procedures. (10 ILCS 5/28-4)

Monday, NOVEMBER 2

Last day to file objections to petitions to create a political subdivision in the office where the petitions were originally filed (for park districts, circuit court clerk). (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4; 70 ILCS 1205/2-3)

Monday, NOVEMBER 23

Last day for filing petitions (must contain original sheets signed by voters and circulators) for referenda for the submission of questions of public policy (local). [EXCEPTION: proposition to create a political subdivision, referenda held under the provisions of Article IX of the Liquor Control Act and Section 18-120 of the Property Tax Code. (10 ILCS 5/28-2, 28-6, 28-7)]

NOTE: Petitions to initiate back door 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, NOVEMBER 25

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. (10 ILCS 5/19-2, 19-4)

NOTE: Mailing and delivery of ballots does not occur until Thursday, January 14, 2027.

Wednesday, DECEMBER 2

Last day to file objections to petitions for referenda for the submission of questions of public policy (local). Objections to petitions for local referenda are filed with the same office where the petitions were originally filed. [EXCEPTION: proposition to create a political subdivision, referenda held under the provisions of Article IX of the Liquor Control Act, and Section 18-120 of the Property Tax Code.] (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

NOTE: The objection period is five business days. If the office of the appropriate local election official is open on Friday, November 27, then the deadline to file an objection is Tuesday, December 1, 2026.

Monday, DECEMBER 7

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

Monday, DECEMBER 7

Last day for county, municipal, school, township, library, and park boards to authorize the 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 1/30-205, 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, DECEMBER 17

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)

Monday, DECEMBER 28

First day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon within the jurisdiction at the Consolidated Primary. Such notice shall be published once in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the political or governmental subdivision. The notice shall also be given at least ten days before the date of the election by posting 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, or if there is no principal 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)

2027

Monday, JANUARY 4

Last day for the election authority to post a schedule for early voting conducted at the office of the election authority and each temporary location. Such posting shall remain at each site until the last day of the early voting period (February 22, 2027). If the election authority has a website, it shall make the schedule available on the website. (10 ILCS 5/19A-25(b)(d))

Thursday, JANUARY 14

Last day for organizations of citizens that have among their purposes the investigation or prosecution of election fraud, ballot proposition proponents or opponents, and state nonpartisan civic organizations to register their names and addresses and the names and addresses of their principal officers with the proper election authority if the organization(s) wish to qualify for poll watchers at the Consolidated Primary Election. (10 ILCS 5/7-34)

Thursday, JANUARY 14

First day for early voting at the office of the election authority and locations designated by the election authority. Temporary polling places 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)

Monday, JANUARY 25

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 the last day for the election authority to mail such ballot. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.1, 20-3)

Wednesday, JANUARY 27

First day of 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)

Wednesday, FEBRUARY 3

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 10 ILCS 5/13-1 or 13-2. The provisions only apply to employers with 25 or more employees. (10 ILCS 5/13-2.5, 14-4.5)

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 16

Last day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon within the jurisdiction at the Consolidated Primary Election. Such notice shall be published once in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the political or governmental subdivision. The notice shall also be given at least ten days before the date of the election by posting

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, or if there is no principal 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)

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 16

Last day for any voter who is a member of the United States Service, a servicemember's spouse, or servicemember'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 ballot. 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)

Thursday, FEBRUARY 18

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)

Monday, FEBRUARY 22

Last day for early voting at the office of the election authority and 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 election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)

Monday, FEBRUARY 22

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)

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 23

Last day of grace period registration and voting in the office of the election authority or at a location designated for this purpose by the election authority. The election authority should be contacted 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)

Tuesday, February 23, 2027 *Consolidated Primary Election*

Tuesday, MARCH 9

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

Tuesday, MARCH 9

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 or (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 or (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)

Tuesday, MARCH 16

Last day for the election authority to canvass the election results. (10 ILCS 5/18A-15(a))

Tuesday, MARCH 16

The 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, and (4) the number of vote by mail ballots counted following review. The report of this information must be made public by March 23, 2027. (10 ILCS 5/19-20, 20-20)

Key Dates Associated with the Consolidated Election April 6, 2027

2026

Tuesday, AUGUST 25

First day to circulate nomination papers (must contain original sheets signed by voters and circulators) for nonpartisan candidates for park district boards, forest preserve district boards, and fire protection district, library district and municipal library boards, and school and community college boards, who file between November 16-23, 2026 (90 days preceding the last day to file nominating papers). (10 ILCS 5/10-4, 10-6)

Thursday, NOVEMBER 5

First day notice of intention to file a petition to create a political subdivision, whose officers are to be elected rather than appointed, may be published in a newspaper within the proposed political subdivision, or if none, in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed territory. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(g))

Monday, NOVEMBER 16

First day for candidates to file in office of the local election official or board of election commissioners, original nomination papers (must contain original sheets signed by voters and circulators) for nonpartisan candidates in park districts and forest preserves. (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

Monday, NOVEMBER 23

Last day for candidates to file in the office of the local election official or board of election commissioners, original nomination papers (must contain Statement of Candidacy and original sheets signed by voters and circulators) for nonpartisan candidates for park district boards, forest preserve district boards, and fire protection district, library district and municipal library boards, and school and community college boards. (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))

NOTE: The office in which petitions for nomination must be filed shall remain open for the receipt of such petitions until 5:00 P.M. on the last day of the filing period. (10 ILCS 5/1-4)

Monday, NOVEMBER 23

Last day for candidates filing nomination papers during the November 16-23, 2026, filing period to file a Statement of Economic Interests with the county clerk as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. The receipt must be filed on or before this date with the local election official or election authority who received the nomination papers. (5 ILCS 420/4A-105; 10 ILCS 5/10-5)

Wednesday, DECEMBER 2

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

Wednesday, DECEMBER 2

Last day for filing objections to nomination papers for nonpartisan candidates (whose nomination papers were filed during the period November 16-23, 2026) in the office of the election authority or the local election official with whom the nomination papers were originally filed. (10 ILCS 5/10-8)

NOTE: The objection period consists of five business days. If the office of the election authority or local election official is open on Friday, November 27, then the deadline to file an objection is Tuesday, December 1, 2026.

Wednesday, DECEMBER 2

Last day the lottery shall be conducted by the local election official or election authority when two or more petitions are received simultaneously for the same office by more than one candidate as of the opening hour of the filing period on November 16, 2026 or during the last hour of the filing period on November 23, 2026. (10 ILCS 5/10-6.2)

Monday, DECEMBER 7

Last day notice of intention to file a petition to create a political subdivision, whose officers are to be elected rather than appointed, may be published in a newspaper within the proposed political subdivision, or if none, in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed territory. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(g))

Monday, DECEMBER 7

Last day to file petitions (must include original sheets signed by voters and circulators) to create a political subdivision with the appropriate officer or board (for park districts, circuit court clerk). (10 ILCS 5/28-2(b); 70 ILCS 1205/2-3)

NOTE: Objections can be filed on or before the date of the hearing with the appropriate circuit court clerk. (10 ILCS 5/28-4)

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 (November 16-23, 2026). (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

NOTE: The circuit court clerk shall publish the hearing date for a public policy petition filed in his/her office not later than 14 days after the petition is actually filed, but at least 5 days before the actual hearing (final orders within 7 days of hearing). (10 ILCS 5/28-4)

NOTE: See the specific statute governing the unit of local government to be established for filing procedures. (10 ILCS 5/28-4)

Monday, DECEMBER 14

Last day to file objections to a petition to create a political subdivision in the office where the petition was originally filed (for park districts, circuit court clerk). (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4; 70 ILCS 1205/2-3)

2027

Monday, JANUARY 4

Last day for filing petitions (must contain original sheets signed by voters and circulators) for referenda for the submission of questions of public policy (local). [EXCEPTION: Proposition to create a political subdivision, referenda held under the provisions of Article IX of the Liquor Control Act, and Section 18-120 of the Property Tax Code. (10 ILCS 5/28-2, 28-6, 28-7)]

NOTE: Petitions to initiate back door 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.

Wednesday, JANUARY 6

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 25, 2027 (or March 12, 2027, if a primary was held). (10 ILCS 5/19-2, 19-4)

Monday, JANUARY 11

Last day to file objections to petitions for referenda for the submission of questions of public policy (local). Objections to petitions for local referenda are filed with the same office where the petitions were originally filed. [EXCEPTION: Proposition to create a political subdivision, referenda held under the provisions of Article IX of the Liquor Control Act, and Section 18-120 of the Property Tax Code.] (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

Tuesday, JANUARY 19

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

Tuesday, JANUARY 19

Last day for county, municipal, township, library, school 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 1/30-205, 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, JANUARY 28

Last day candidates may file Withdrawal of Candidacy in the office of the local election official or election authority. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

Thursday, JANUARY 28

Last day for local election official to certify candidates and the offices they have filed for to the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/10-15)

Thursday, JANUARY 28

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)

Friday, FEBRUARY 5

First day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon within the jurisdiction at the Consolidated Election. Such notice shall be published once in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the political or governmental subdivision. The notice shall also be given at least ten (10) days before the date of election by posting 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, or if there is no principal 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)

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 16

Last day for the election authority to post a schedule for early voting conducted at the office of the election authority and each temporary location. Such posting shall remain at each site until the last day of the early voting period (April 5, 2027). If the election authority has a website, it shall make the schedule available on its website. (10 ILCS 5/19A-25(b) and (d))

Friday, FEBRUARY 19

Last day for the election authority to have in their office a sufficient number of ballots printed and available for mailing to persons in the United States Service, their spouses, their dependents of voting age, and citizens temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States. (10 ILCS 5/16-5.01)

Thursday, FEBRUARY 25

Last day for organizations of citizens that have among their purposes the investigation or prosecution of election fraud, ballot proposition proponents or opponents, and state nonpartisan civic organizations to register their names and addresses and the names and addresses of their principal officers with the proper election authority if the organization(s) wish to qualify for poll watchers at the Consolidated Election. (10 ILCS 5/17-23, 18-6)

Thursday, FEBRUARY 25

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)

Monday, MARCH 8

First day for election authority to publish notice of the Consolidated Election. The notice must include the polling hours, and the offices for which candidates will be elected. Such notice must also include a list of precinct polling addresses unless published separately at least ten (10) days prior to the Consolidated Election. (10 ILCS 5/12-4)

Monday, MARCH 8

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. Last day for the election authority to mail such a ballot. (10 ILCS 5/20-2.1, 20-3)

Wednesday, MARCH 10

First day of 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)

Wednesday, MARCH 17

Last day for employee to give 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 10 ILCS 5/13-1 or 13-2. The provisions only apply to employers with 25 or more employees. (10 ILCS 5/13-2.5, 14-4.5)

Monday, MARCH 29

Last day for the election authority to publish notice of the Consolidated Election. The notice must include the election date, poll hours, and the offices to be listed on the ballot. Such notice must also include a list of precinct polling addresses unless these are published separately at least ten (10) days prior to the Consolidated Election. (10 ILCS 5/12-4)

Monday, MARCH 29

Last day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon within its jurisdiction at the Consolidated Election. Such notice shall be published once in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the political or governmental subdivision.



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The notice shall also be given at least ten (10) days before the date of the election by posting 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, or if there is no principal 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)

Monday, MARCH 29

Last day for any voter who is a member of the United States Service, a servicemember's spouse, or a servicemember'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 servicemember's precinct of residence and the last day for the election authority to mail such ballot. Members of the Armed Forces may apply via facsimile machine or other methods of electronic transmission. (10 ILCS 5/20-2, 20-2.3, 20-3)

Thursday, APRIL 1

Last day for 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)

Friday, APRIL 2

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

Monday, APRIL 5

Last day for early voting at the office of the election authority and 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 election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)

Monday, APRIL 5

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)

Monday, APRIL 5

Last day for the election authority in counties having a population of not more than 500,000 to publish a list of all the nominations that are to be voted for at the Consolidated Election. (10 ILCS 5/16-10)

Tuesday, APRIL 6

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. The election authority should be contacted 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)

Tuesday, April 6, 2027
Consolidated Election**Tuesday, APRIL 20**

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

Tuesday, APRIL 20

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 or (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 or (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 no later than 14 days after the election. (10 ILCS 5/19-8)

Tuesday, APRIL 27

Last day for the election authority to canvass the election results. (10 ILCS 5/22-17)

Tuesday, APRIL 27

The 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, and (4) the number of vote by mail ballots counted following review. The report must be made public by May 4, 2027. (10 ILCS 5/19-20, 20-20)

BEFORE PROCLAMATION BY THE 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 5/24A-15, 24B-15, 24C-15)

AFTER PROCLAMATION CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

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

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

Each successful write-in candidate elected shall file the following documents with the proper election authority or the State Board of Elections prior to taking office: (1) a Loyalty Oath (optional), (2) a Statement of Candidacy, and (3) a receipt for filing a Statement of Economic Interest. (10 ILCS 5/22-7)

DISCOVERY RECOUNT

Within five days after the last day for the proclamation of the results, petitions for discovery recount may be filed by any qualified individual (who came within 5% of the votes cast for any successful candidate) with the appropriate election authority. (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 5/23-4, 23-5, 23-19, 23-20)



SERVING ON A PARK DISTRICT BOARD

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?



SO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON THE PARK DISTRICT BOARD... WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

By Peter Murphy, President and CEO
Illinois Association of Park Districts

If you are appointed or elected to the park board, you will become a leader who has accepted a major civic responsibility. You should be willing to make a commitment to give freely of your time and talents to help strengthen and further the park, recreation and conservation mission of your community.

As a board member, you will take on the responsibility for helping to set goals, formulate policies and establish services that will meet the present and future needs of the citizens of your district. The success of your agency depends to a great degree on how well you understand your role and how effectively you address your responsibilities as a board member.

More than 2,100 citizens serve on Illinois park district, forest preserve and recreation boards. Effective board members are respected citizens, well known and active in community affairs and interested in the total recreational needs of their communities.

Serving without compensation, locally elected commissioners represent their fellow citizens and interpret their views. They have the primary responsibility of spending tax monies, fees and donations designated for park and recreation services. They spend, and spend wisely, millions of dollars every year.



BOARD OBLIGATIONS

As a board member, it is important that you commit to the “big picture” and the long-term effects of the decisions you make. You should use sound judgment by weighing the pros and cons of each issue, be open to new ideas, and make ethical decisions. In addition, it helps to have the capacity to “take the heat” when unpopular, but necessary, decisions are made.

Board Members:

- Adopt policies that allow the organization run efficiently, effectively, legally and ethically.
- Request, receive, evaluate and make decisions based on well researched guidance from the executive.
- Interpret the agency’s mission, values and vision to the public.
- Monitor operational and capital finances.
- Hire, fire, supervise, evaluate and support the executive.
- Establish policies after consideration of pros and cons of each issue.
- Help set a strategic direction that adopts goals relating to the vision and mission of the agency.
- Act as a resource, a sounding board and as the eyes and ears of the citizens of the community, making sure that the agency is meeting their needs.
- Develop, maintain and update long-range plans.
- Adopt and adhere to a code of ethics.



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The Illinois Association of Park Districts publishes books, provides training and assists board members in their desire to serve the public.

Effective Board Members:

- Have an attitude of cooperation, open-mindedness and objectivity.
- Are motivated only by a desire to serve the citizens and the agency.
- Work with the executive, not over or around him or her.
- Inspire the community’s confidence, respect and support.
- Spend time in board meetings on strategic planning, policies and procedures, not on operational details that are the executive’s responsibility.
- Make no disparaging remarks about the agency, other board members or their opinions.
- Keep high ethical standards.
- Display a talent for working well with others.
- Do not promise voting outcomes prior to learning the facts of any issue.
- Do not make decisions until all sides of an issue have been presented.
- Support board decisions even when a decision conflicts with personal views.

THE ELECTION PROCESS

Park district boards in Illinois are comprised of five or seven members called commissioners or trustees. To be eligible to serve as an elected commissioner or trustee, you must live in the district for at least one year prior to election day. Terms are for six years, but the board or the community can elect to change terms to four years. In general, two seats are up for election in the spring of each odd-numbered year.

Briefly, the steps to being elected are:

1. In the fall of an even-numbered year, pick up a statement of economic interest and candidate petitions at your park district office.
2. Gather signatures of eligible voters so that your name may be placed on the ballot. You must obtain 25 valid signatures or 2 percent of the number of ballots cast for commissioner or trustee in the last election, whichever number is greater.
3. File the nominating petitions and a statement of candidacy with the park district secretary between 113 and 106 days prior to election day (usually in late December of an even-numbered year).
4. File a statement of economic interests with your county clerk (and a receipt with the park district secretary) on or before the final day for filing petitions.
5. Choose whether to file with the appropriate official clerk an optional loyalty oath and a voluntary statement of compliance with the Fair Campaign Practices Act.
6. File campaign finance disclosure forms with the State Board of Elections, if you raise or spend a prescribed amount on your campaign.

For specific details, contact your park district's executive director, board secretary or county clerk. Or, check the State Board of Elections' website at elections.il.gov.

Visit the IAPD online at
ILparks.org

TRAINING & RESOURCES FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE BOARD MEMBERS

The Illinois Association of Park Districts has a number of resources that are available to you as a candidate and as an elected board member.

These resources include such important publications as The Park District Code, the Illinois Park District Law Handbook, and the Guide to the Open Meetings Act and FOIA.

In addition, the IAPD helps board members understand the financial procedures of Illinois park districts with such publications as the Illinois Park District Financial Procedures and the Guide to Public Sector Employment Laws.

We encourage you to visit our website at ILparks.org and take advantage of the plethora of member resources that area available to you as you build your understanding of the park district system in Illinois.

As a newly elected board member, you will be receiving the Illinois Parks and Recreation magazine which contains timely information on trends and governance issues.

The IAPD also has robust educational offerings for new and seasoned board members alike and you are encouraged to participate in these throughout the year, such as:

- The opportunity to track your board service and education by applying for IAPD Board Development Program.
- The IAPD offers the Board Self-Evaluation that allows a board to take a look at themselves to determine their level of effectiveness and efficiency of operation. This specialized training will be of great benefit to new board members as well as seasoned board members. It defines roles and responsibilities, describes duties for oversight and governance and assists in defining leadership within the agency.

To find out more about IAPD's online resources or other IAPD educational services, contact:

Peter Murphy, Esq., CAE, IOM
211 East Monroe Street | Springfield, IL 62701
217.523.4554 | pmurphy@ILparks.org



Wheaton Park District

FINANCIAL POLICIES & DOCUMENTATION

Visit the Wheaton Park District Online Transparency Portal for access to the following:

- Finance Documents & Policies
- 2026 Budget & Reports
- Board of Commissioners General Practices Manual
- Government Directory
- General Use Ordinances

Scan the code below or visit
wheatonparkdistrict.com/transparency



The State of Illinois 2026 Candidate's Guide and 2027 Election & Campaign Finance Calendar can be found on the DuPage County website at
www.elections.il.gov/Main/Publications.aspx



2026 Local Government Directory for the Wheaton Park District DuPage County, IL

Our Mission

To create vibrant, welcoming spaces and activities that inspire fun, foster connection, strengthen the community, and enrich well-being for all.

Our Vision

To be the community leader in offering fun and inclusive experiences inspired by nature, powered by creativity, built on collaboration, and guided by integrity.

Our Values (CREATE)

Community, Respect, Excellence, Adventure, Teamwork, Equity

821 acres of open space

278,466 sq. ft. of permeable pavers mediating stormwater issues

5,200+ trees reduce runoff by 50,000 gallons of water a year

2,500+ early childhood, teen, adult and senior programs (41,000+ participants)

150,000+ visitors to Cosley Zoo

54 parks

70 athletic fields (multi-purpose)

1.8 MILLION facility visitors per year

102,000 volunteer hours



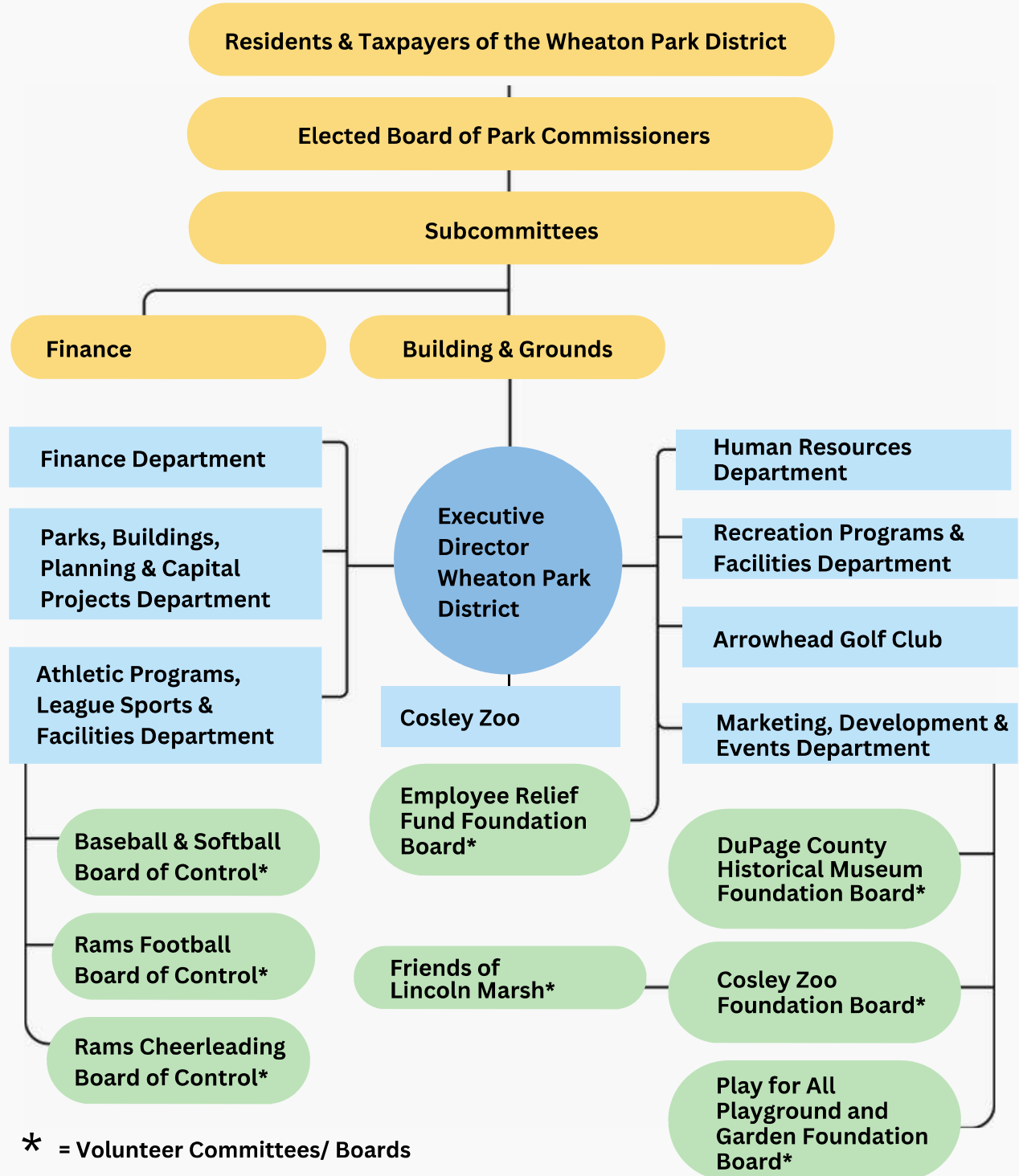
To access commonly requested information such as copies of budgets, meeting minutes or other basic operational documents, please visit the Wheaton Park District Transparency Portal, available at wheatonparkdistrict.com/transparency or by scanning the QR code.

All financial transactions the Wheaton Park District has conducted since 2011 are presented in its OpenGov portal, launched February 22, 2017. They can be found at wheatonparkdistrict.opengov.com or linked from the transparency portal.



For Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Compliance, see page 10 of this document.

Block Diagram/Organizational Chart of Functional Subdivisions



Block diagram/agency organization structure certified by: _____

Staff Member Name / Initial / Date

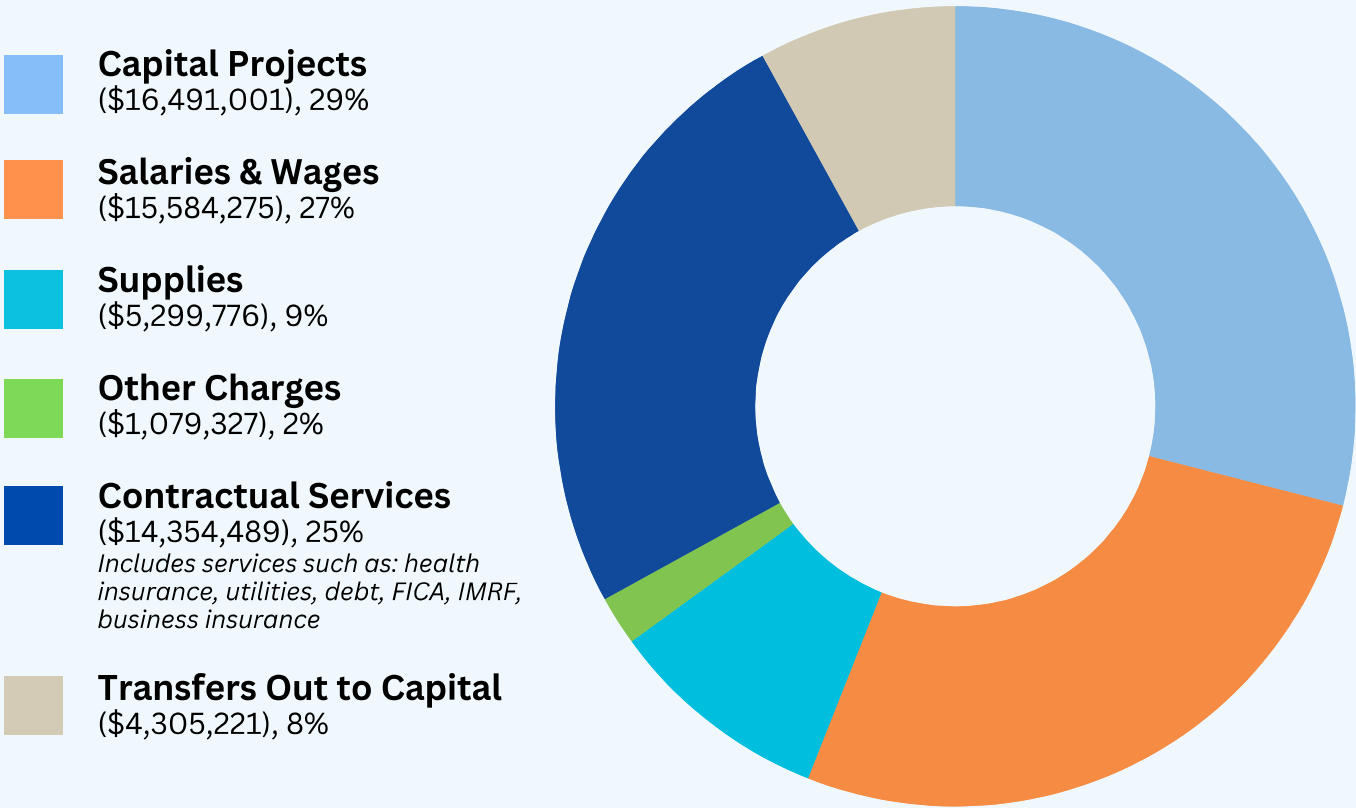
SUMMARY OF PURPOSE

A park district is a form of local special-purpose district intended to provide public parks and recreation in or near its geographic boundaries. Some park districts, like Wheaton Park District, also own or maintain related cultural facilities such as monuments, zoos, sports venues, music venues, or museums.

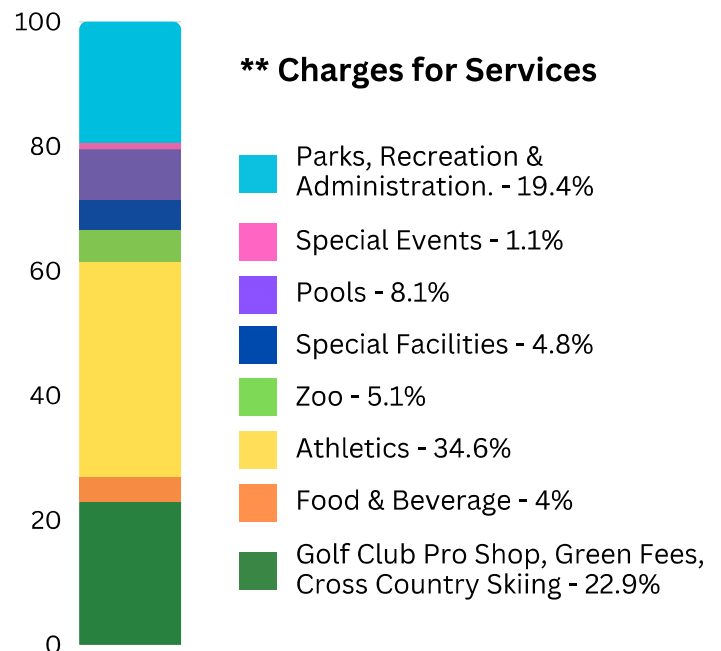
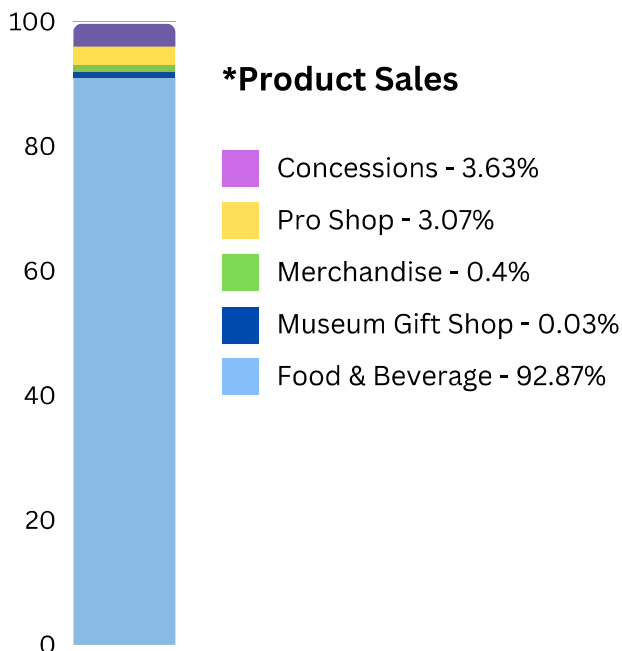
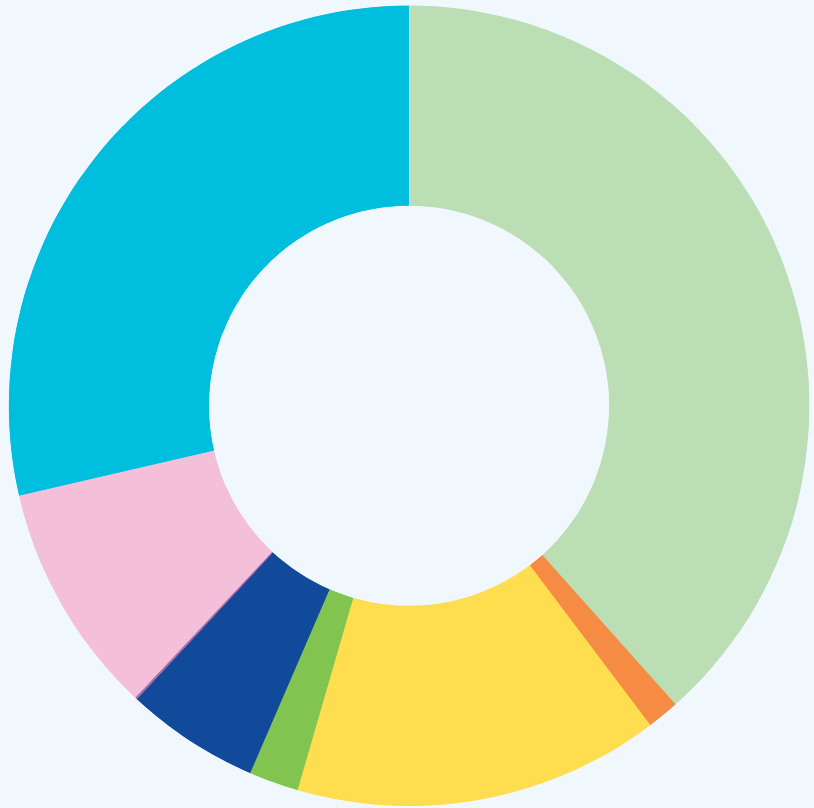
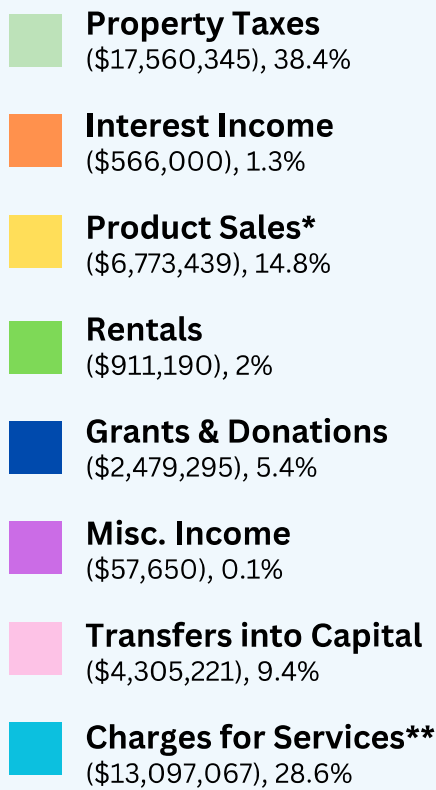
Park districts are prevalent in the United States. State statutes often have a general law to provide for park districts’ creation, dissolution, geographic borders, and annexation; the selection of governing boards, often referred to as park boards; and the criteria for levying property taxes on behalf of the district. Park districts sometimes obtain additional revenue by charging admission fees for some venues and through donations or voluntary memberships in a way similar to not-for-profit organizations; in addition, sometimes a park district is assisted by a private not-for-profit organization set up specifically for the purpose of assisting the local public park system.

Total Operating Budget Capital Budget	
A. Property Taxes for Operating Expenses 2025 tax levy	\$14,636,022
B. Property Taxes for Debt Service & Annual Capital Projects 2025 tax levy	\$2,924,323
C. Total Operating Budget Fiscal Year 2026	\$36,317,867
D. Capital Projects Budget Fiscal Year 2026	\$16,491,001

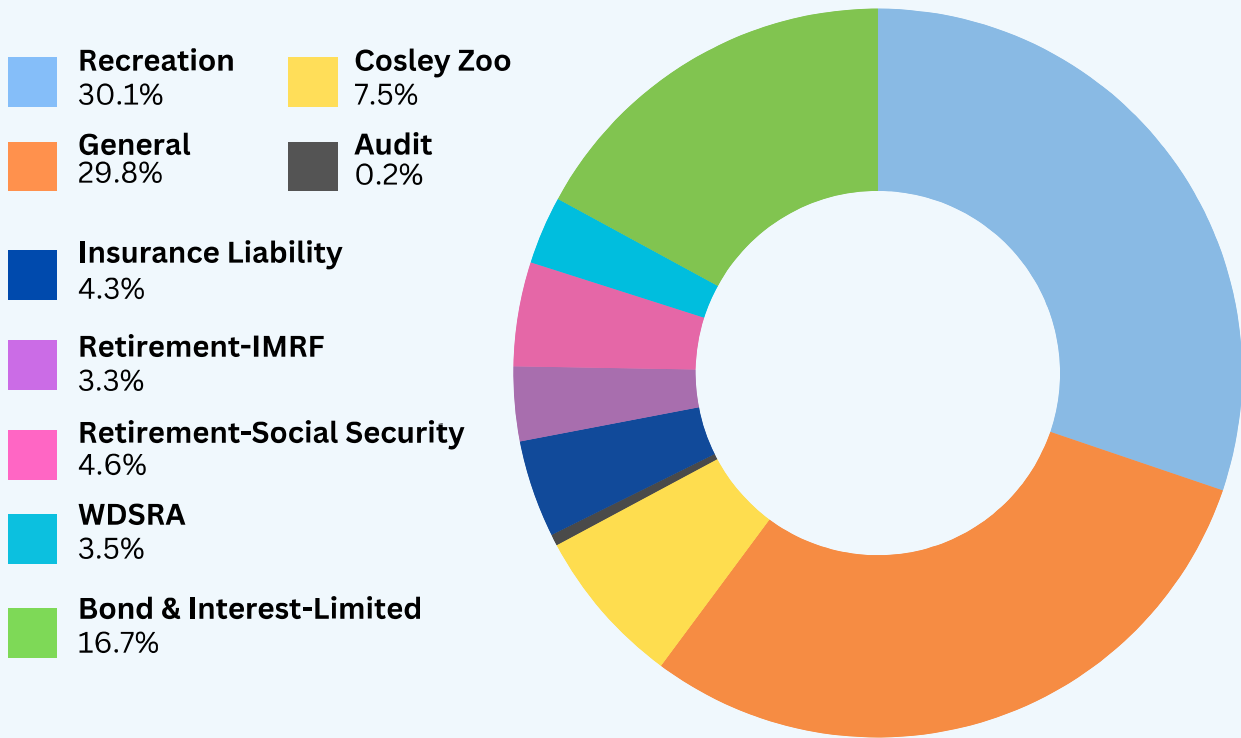
2026 Budget Expenses



2026 Budgeted Revenues



2025 Tax Levy (to be received in 2026)



Levy	\$ Amount
General	\$5,292,578
Recreation	\$5,243,081
Cosley Zoo	\$1,314,552
Audit	\$35,825
Insurance Liability	\$750,640
Retirement-IMRF	\$575,529
Retirement-Social Security	\$807,967
WDSRA	\$610,000
Bond & Interested-Limited	\$2,924,323

Total 2025 Tax Levy Paid in 2026	\$17,554,495
---	---------------------

**For every dollar of
property taxes you paid
in 2025, approximately
8.5 cents went to the
Park District.**



9.3¢ – Regional share to include college, county,
forest preserve, Milton Township, Airport Authority

70.8¢ – School District 200
share of your tax dollar

11.4¢ – City of
Wheaton share of
your tax dollar

8.5¢ – Wheaton
Park District's share
of your tax dollar

Boards, Foundations, and Committees

Board of Park Commissioners - elected at large
commissioners@wheatonparks.org

Role of the Park Board:

The role of the commissioners is to provide leadership to further the mission and vision of the park district. They establish and adopt policies, set a strategic direction, monitor operation and capital expenditures, develop and maintain long-range plans, and oversee the Executive Director. Commissioners can be reached at commissioners@wheatonparks.org.

John Vires - President
Finance Subcommittee Chair
Commissioner Term 2023-2027

William Barrett - Vice President
Commissioner Term 2025-2029

John Kelly
Building & Grounds Subcommittee Chair
Commissioner Term 2025-2029

Bob Frey
Commissioner Term 2023-2027

Terry Mee
Commissioner Term 2023-2027

Linda Pecharich
Commissioner Term 2023-2027

Angela Welker
Commissioner Term 2025-2029

Michael Benard
Annual Appointment Executive Director/Secretary:
mbenard@wheatonparks.org
630.510.4945 OFC | 630.945.7726 CELL
FOIA Compliance Officer & ADA Compliance Officer

Volunteer Boards and Committees Supporting Park District Programs & Facilities

Baseball & Softball Program Board of Control

Dan Sullivan - sullivanand01@gmail.com
Wheaton Park District Youth Baseball and Softball (WPDYBS) is dedicated to providing opportunities for all Wheaton area youth to play baseball and softball in the respective leagues as defined by the Board of Control.

Rams Football Program Board of Control

Frank O'Connor - saharafrank@gmail.com
The purpose of the Wheaton Park District Youth Football League (WPDYFL) shall be to provide a sound and responsible football program for the youth of our community and to encourage the teaching of the fundamentals of football and the ideals of good sportsmanship.

Rams Cheer Board of Control

Gretchen Niemann - gretchen.goetz89@gmail.com
The purpose of the WPDCO shall be to provide a sound and reasonable cheerleading program for the youth of the area, and to encourage the teaching of fundamental cheerleading skills, teamwork, and the ideals of good sportsmanship.

DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation

Marty Keller, President -
foundations@dupagemuseum.org
The foundation is a volunteer board whose primary function is to raise funds to support DuPage County Historical Museum's mission to educate the general public through the collection, preservation, interpretation, and exhibition of materials that document the history of DuPage County and its relationship to Illinois and the nation, and to provide local history services for historical organizations and scholarly endeavors.

Cosley Zoo Foundation

Jennifer Clark, President -
cosleyfoundation@cosleyzoo.org
The foundation is a volunteer board which oversees the various fundraisers and the disposition of monies raised to support ongoing capital development of Cosley Zoo.

Friends of Lincoln Marsh

As a subsidiary of the Cosley Zoo Foundation, the Friends of Lincoln Marsh exists to generate funding for the future development at the Lincoln Marsh Natural Area.

Play for All Garden and Playground Foundation

Mike Benard, President -
mbenard@wheatonparks.org
The Play For All Playground and Garden Foundation exists to create inclusive and universally accessible outdoor play spaces and gardens in DuPage County. Through the cognitive, social, and physical values of play, the Foundation will promote a spirit of inclusion, enhance the quality of life, and support involvement in recreation and wellness activities for all people and abilities.

Employee Relief Fund Foundation

Sandra Simpson, President -
ssimpson@wheatonparks.org
The foundation is run by employees of the district which provides grants of short-term assistance to Wheaton Park District employees experiencing severe financial hardship due to unexpected circumstances. This foundation's primary source of funding is through donations from employees.

Employee Counts and Facilities Information

Full Time, Part Time & Seasonal Totals During Peak Summer Season +



Arrowhead Golf Club

FT: 22 | PT: 199 | Seasonal: 55
26W151 Butterfield Rd. | 630.653.5800
27-hole championship golf course | Restaurant, patio and sports bar | Meeting and banquet space for up to 275 people



Blanchard Building

FT: 0 | PT: 1 | Seasonal: 15
1753 S. Blanchard St.
Summer camps | Recreation programs | Rentals



Central Athletic Complex

FT: 0 | PT: 9 | Seasonal: 20
500 S. Naperville Rd. | 630.690.4880
(for rentals and parties)
2 full-size basketball courts or 4 side basketball courts, 4 volleyball courts, 2 batting cages, indoor soccer training areas, baseball/softball training area | Outdoor ice rinks (winter) | Meeting/birthday party room



Clocktower Mini Golf & Skate Park

FT: 0 | PT: 0 | Seasonal: 5
100 Naperville Rd. | 630.665.1299
(for parties and groups)
Mini golf and skate park | Concessions | Birthday parties and group outings available



Cosley Zoo

FT: 9 | PT: 22 | Seasonal: 9
1356 N. Gary Ave. | 630.665.5534
North American wildlife and farm animals | Educational programs and camps | Seasonal concessions | Unique programs | Birthday parties and rentals | Special events



DuPage County Historical Museum Executive Director Office & Administration

FT: 4 | PT: 5 | Seasonal: 0
102 E. Wesley St. | 630.665.4710
Free admission | Research library | Three floors of exhibits | Guided tours
HO Gauge Model Railroad | Room rentals | Programs & events



Lincoln Marsh Natural Area

FT: 2 | PT: 7 | Seasonal: 5
Main entrance at the corner of Harrison and Pierce Aves. | 630.871.2810
Two miles of trails | Adventure programs and camps | Challenge Course with climbing tower | 151 acres of woodland, wetland and prairie | Environmental education and nature interpretation programs and camps



Mary Lubko Center

FT: 1 | PT: 17 | Seasonal: 0
In Memorial Park | 208 W. Union Ave. | 630.665.1415
Variety of programs for all ages – including fitness, games, sports, performing arts, day and extended travel for active adults | Rentals

Full Time, Part Time, Seasonal Employees 2026*

Full Time Employees: 106
Part Time Employees: 422
Seasonal Employees: 535

*During peak summer season

+Staff counts are approximate and based on season

Employee Counts and Facilities Information

Full Time, Part Time & Seasonal Totals During Peak Summer Season +



Memorial Park Band Shell

FT: 0 | PT: 0 | Seasonal: 8

In Memorial Park | 225 Karlskoga Ave. | 630.665.1415

Concerts and Performances | Special Events



Northside Family Aquatic Center

FT: 0 | PT: 0 | Seasonal: 76

1509 N. West St. | 630.653.3345 (Summer only)

Swim programs and lessons for all ages | Lap swimming

Shade and lounge chair areas for relaxing | Drop slide, body slides, diving boards, volleyball courts, children's play area, sand play areas



Parks Plus Fitness

FT: 1 | PT: 32 | Seasonal: 0

1777 S. Blanchard St. • Lower Level | 630.871.6713

Full fitness facility | Personal Training and Small Group Training

Kidz Kingdom on-site childcare service | Group fitness instruction



Park Services Center

FT: 29 | PT: 16 | Seasonal: 37

1000 Manchester Rd. | 630.653.5429

Maintenance | Capital Projects | Park & Shelter Rental



Prairie Administrative Office

FT: 16 | PT: 9 | Seasonal: 1

Staff Building | 855 W. Prairie Ave. | 630.510.4952

Marketing | Development | Special Events

Human Resources | Finance | Cosley Zoo



Rathje Park House

FT: 0 | PT: 2 | Seasonal: 0

In Rathje Park | 616 Delles Rd. | 630.690.4880

Youth programs | Recreation events



Ray Morrill Community Center

FT: 21 | PT: 100 | Seasonal: 104

1777 S. Blanchard St. | 630.690.4880

Open gym | Indoor track | Parks Plus Fitness & Kidz Kingdom Childcare

Room rentals Program & Photo I.D. registration | Pool pass sales



Rice Pool & Water Park

FT: 0 | PT: 0 | Seasonal: 193

1777 S. Blanchard St. | 630.653.8884 (Summer Only)

Swim programs and lessons for all ages | Group packages, birthday and private parties | Lap swimming | Drop slide, body slides, diving boards, volleyball courts



Toohey Park & Safety City

FT: 0 | PT: 4 | Seasonal: 7

1900 Orchard Rd. | 630.871.2835

Preschool programs | Safety City | Birthday parties

+ Staff counts are approximate and based on season



Government Transparency Portal

Wheaton Park District documents are available for public inspection upon request and are also immediately accessible via the Government Transparency Portal located within the Wheaton Park District website.
wheatonparkdistrict.com/transparency

- **Accounts Payable** - Check approval documentation by date
- **Americans with Disabilities Act**
- **ADA Accessibility Audit and Transition Plan**
- **Annual Reports** - Annual reports of facilities and departments
- **Bid Results** - Include the statement and discussion of issue, bid submissions and summary
- **Board Meetings** - View board meeting agendas, minutes and packets. Videos of regular meetings also available for viewing.
- **Board Meetings Archive** - Archived Board meetings Agendas, Packets, Minutes, and Videos
- **Budget & Financial Reports**
- **Annual operating budgets, annual comprehensive financial reports and general finance reports including:**
 - Monthly Finance Report
 - Compensation Disclosure
 - Treasurer's Report
 - IMRF Employer Cost and Participant Information
 - Finance Policy
- **Capital Projects & Improvements** - Projects currently under construction, future endeavors and recently completed
- **Contracts & Agreements** - Contracts and agreements organized by year and vendor
- **Departments of the District** - Administration and Department Directors
- **FOIA Requests** - Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests overview and officer contact information. FOIA officer training annual certificates available upon request.
- **FOIA Notices or Denials** - An index of notices or denials available upon request
- **Ordinances & Resolutions** - Organized by year with a short description
- **Policies** - Details about policies of the Wheaton Park District
 - Advertising & Sponsorship Policy
 - Canada Geese Management
 - Environmental Policy
 - Finance Policy
 - Outdoor Athletic Area Fee Schedule & Use Policy
 - Park Board Policy & Practices
 - Park Conduct Ordinance
 - Purchase of Resident Benefits by Nonresidents
 - Residency Status
 - Satisfaction Guarantee & Refund Policy
 - Service Animals
 - Social Media
 - Use & Distribution of Images
- **Stakeholder Surveys & Results** - Summary of Wheaton Park District 2020 Stakeholder Survey, 2016 Resident Survey Results and 2025 Stakeholder Survey
- **Strategic Plan** - Strategic plan documents
- **Vendor Payments** - Link to OpenGov Financial Transparency Tool
- **Citizen Concern Forms** - Available to download from the Wheaton Park District website or for pickup at the Community Center.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Designated Contacts

Public documents related to the Wheaton Park District are available at any time. Freedom of Information Officers listed below are available to assist the public with obtaining access to documents they wish to review. In many cases, the information will be available on our website wheatonparkdistrict.com via our Transparency Portal or via wheatonparkdistrict.opengov.com. Your need for public information can typically be met informally.

Michael Benard, Executive Director
& Freedom of Information Officer
mbenard@wheatonparks.org
630.510.4945 OFC | 630.945.7726 CELL

Donna Siciliano, Executive Assistant
& Deputy FOIA Officer
dsiciliano@wheatonparks.org | 630.510.4944

To formally request information under the Freedom of Information Act, visit the link below.
wheatonparkdistrict.com/FOIA

How the Process Works

After a FOIA Request submission is received, the Chief FOIA Officer or Deputy will respond within five (5) business days with the requested materials unless a request is denied or an extension is required. The public has a right to information produced by their government with certain privacy limitations (5ILCS 140/1). When you submit a FOIA request, your information becomes public record and your request as well as our response will be posted on our website. Fee information is also posted at **wheatonparkdistrict.com/FOIA**

- **FOIA Requests** – Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests overview and officer contact information. FOIA officer training annual certificates available upon request.
- **FOIA Notices or Denials** – An index of notices or denials available upon request.

FOIA Fees Allowed Under Section B:

You may opt to inspect original documents at the Wheaton Park District's Administrative Office at 102 E. Wesley St., Wheaton, IL or you may request copies. There is no charge for the first 50 pages of black and white letter or legal sized copies. There is a \$0.15 charge for each additional page.



Wheaton Park District
**Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
Request Form**

Administrative Office
102 E. Wesley St.
Wheaton, IL 60187
Phone: 630-665-4710
Fax: 630-665-5880

Michael Benard, Chief FOIA Officer

1. Complete the following fields. *Please print.*

Full Name: _____ Today's Date: ____/____/____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Phone: _____ Email: _____

2. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq., "Freedom of Information Act," I request the following public record(s) from the Wheaton Park District:

3. Would you prefer to (check one): ☐ Inspect the documents at the Administrative Office
☐ Receive copies of the documents

Note: There is no charge for the first 50 pages of black and white letter or legal sized copies. There is a \$0.15 charge for each additional page. There is no charge to inspect records only.

4. How would you prefer to receive the requested documents? (circle one)

Mail Fax Pick-up Inspect (at the Administrative Office)

5. The purpose of this request is for (check one): ☐ Personal Use ☐ Commercial Use

It is a violation of the Freedom of Information Act for a person to knowingly obtain a public record for a commercial purpose without disclosing that it is for a commercial purpose, if requested to do so by the public body. 5 ILCS 140.3.1(c)). If you are requesting that the public body waive any fees for copying the documents, you must attach a statement of the purpose of the request, and whether the principal purpose of the request is to access or disseminate information regarding the health, safety and welfare or legal rights of the general public. 5 ILCS 140/6(c)).

Important:

- The Wheaton Park District has five (5) business days to respond to non-commercial requests, unless cause for a time extension is cited by the Park District pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/3(d).
- Please retain a copy of this request for your files, if you need to file a review, you will need to submit a copy of your request.

Requestor's Signature: _____

For Office Use Only

Receiving FOIA Agent: _____

Request received: _____ (date/time)

Response period expires: _____ (date/time)

Notes: _____



Wheaton Park District

Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioners General Practices & Policies Manual

Mission Statement To enrich the quality of community life through a diversity of healthy leisure pursuits and a heightened appreciation for our natural world.

Vision Statement We, the Wheaton Park District team, commit to service excellence, financial stability, and an enriched quality of life for our stakeholders. We accomplish this through continuous improvement of people and systems while living our values.

Core Values	Integrity	Fun	Adaptability	Growth
	Kindness	Service	Commitment	

General Practices This General Practices Manual, of the Wheaton Park District Board of Park Commissioners represents an insight into the intent of the members. They are a manifestation of a desire to establish a means of measuring acceptable behavior and protocol that ensures honest and accountable representation. While not possessing the force of the law, the intent of this manual is to provide a guideline for board conduct.

Definitions

1. The Wheaton Park District shall hereinafter be referred to as “the District” or as “The Park District”
2. The Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioners shall hereinafter be referred to as “The Board”
3. The Executive Director shall hereinafter be referred to as “the Director”

Statement of Objectives It shall be the purpose and objective of the district to: provide wholesome and meaningful recreation programs; to preserve, restore and maintain parks and other natural areas; construct, maintain and operate facilities for the recreational, athletic, wellness, social and cultural services to be housed and held for families and individuals in the area served by the District

The District shall, within financial limits set by the Board, obtain, plan, develop, and maintain park and recreation resources to serve the varied recreational interests of the residents of the District. Recreation programs and services shall be planned, developed and operated which, while consistent with the District’s financial ability, will provide a broad and varied selection of activities, both active and passive, to adequately service the recreational needs and interests of all ages, sexes and economic levels in the area served by the District. It is the desire of the District through its programs, services and facilities to provide a better quality of life for its residents in a financially sustainable manner.

Responsibilities of the Board The Board functions under the authority of the Illinois Park District Code, Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 70, ACT 1205 and within the framework of the laws, court decisions, opinions of the Illinois Attorney General and similar mandates from the state and national levels of government. Board members, collectively and individually, act as representatives of all residents of the District in maintaining and promoting the use of park and recreation activities. Through an evaluation of the available resources and the often-conflicting needs and demands of all interested parties and groups, Board members seek to move toward decisions and actions which best serve the recreational needs of the community as a whole.

The Board shall concern itself primarily with board questions of policy rather than with administrative details. The Board should not be involved in the “day to day” operations of the District. The application of these policies is an administrative task to be performed by the Director and his staff who shall be held responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the entire Park District, including all facilities, services and programs. All such facilities, services and programs shall be operated within the financial guidelines determined by the Board.

In the discharge of duties, Board members act as a Board and not as individuals. The individual Board member has no more authority over park and recreation policies or personnel than any other Board member. He/she has no legal right to speak for the Board unless specifically authorized to do so by the action of the Board. It is improper, ill-advised and unethical for individual Board members to make public pronouncements and/or conjectures about matters not yet decided by official Board action. Board members should respect the Board’s commitment to work through its chief executive officer, the Director, by requesting desired information about the facilities, services and programs directly from him/her. Board members should also seek the professional opinion of the Director when asked by a resident to address a particular issue or complaint. Board members who are approached by a District Staff member on a matter of operations or personnel, or who receive concerns or complaints from District Staff, should advise the staff member to contact their immediate supervisor first, the Human Resources Department second, and the Director third to resolve the matter. A Board member should not attempt to resolve the Staff member’s issue themselves. A Board member should advise Staff to follow the chain of command and to reference the District’s personnel policy manual for additional direction.

Board members will abide by the majority vote and support the actions of the Director, when those actions have received the support of the Board via official voting. However, it is not necessary that all Board votes be unanimous. Finally, having ratified the contents of the General Practices Manual, all members of the Board will act in accordance with the provisions of the document.

Financial Authority The Board shall annually, according to State Statutes, appropriate funds and levy taxes for the various operations of the District in order to provide for its needs. The Board shall annually approve a Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, an Audit and shall, if necessary, hold a “Truth in Taxation” hearing as part of its annual tax levy process and shall adhere to all other legal requirements as may be enacted by the State.

Planning & Gathering Resident Input The Board shall provide for the planning, improvement, financing, construction and maintenance of the property of the District. The Director shall lead the Districts Comprehensive Master and Strategic Planning Process and submit for Board Approval said plans on a recurring five-year basis. The Planning process shall include the formal solicitation of Resident / Taxpayer input using a variety of data gathering tools annually and using statistically valid means at 5 years intervals.

Employment of Chief Executive The Board shall employ a properly educated and trained professional to serve as the chief administrator for the District, to fill the position of Executive Director, and to annually evaluate in written form his/her services. The Board shall review and update the Job Description of the Executive Director every 3 years.

Park District Attorney The Board shall retain the services of a qualified attorney either through an annual retainer or on an as-needed basis for purposes of assisting the Board in conducting its regular business according to the legal requirements of the Park District Code.

Appointment of Board Secretary and Treasurer It is the practice of the District for the Board to annually appoint the Executive Director as Board Secretary and the Finance Director as Board Treasurer.

Reimbursable Expenses Individual members of the Board shall be reimbursed for reasonable expense incurred in attending meetings, conferences or in making trips on official business for the Park District when so authorized by the Board. If Board members are elected or selected for Park and Recreation Association involvement, the district will pay associated expenses if the Association does not.

Employment Practices The Board shall approve and regularly review and amend personal policies as described in the District's Personal Policies Manual.

Policies, Ordinances and Resolutions The Board shall enact policies and approve ordinances and resolutions as necessary to see that the District is effectively, legally and safely administrated.

Outside Interests Each action taken by a Board member in the course of their duties will be motivated by the District's best interests and should, therefore, be free of outside influences and self-interest. Board members shall have no direct or indirect financial interest in any aspect of the District's operations. Board and Staff Members will see to it that the Board is aware of all membership or financial interest in companies or organizations doing business with the District.

Board Committees The Board of Commissioners shall maintain a Finance Subcommittee and a Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee. Subcommittee Chairmen shall be appointed by the President annually. The Board President shall create temporary task forces and appoint members on an as needed basis at his or her discretion. The subcommittees and temporary task forces will make recommendations for Board action when appropriate.

Board Liaisons The Board President may appoint a Board member to serve as a District Liaison to affiliated local groups and organizations at his or her discretion. The role of the liaison is to (when possible) attend the meetings of, and communicate the Board's interests to, the local affiliated group or organization and to keep the Board apprised of the activity of the local affiliated groups or organization. Examples of Organizations to which the President may appoint at liaison are: The Cosley Foundation, the DuPage Historical Museum Foundation, Athletic Leagues Boards of Control, Units of Local Government, Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Wheaton Association, and Service Clubs. Absent the appointment of the specific liaison, it shall be the Director's responsibility to keep the Board informed about the activities and interests of affiliated groups and organizations.

Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreements It shall be the practice of the Board to seek cooperative agreements with other units of government with the intent of providing community public services in the most efficient manner possible and for the general improvement of the quality of life for the Residents. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Land Cash Donation Ordinance with the City of Wheaton
- Park School Joint Agreements for Facility & Land Use with CUSD #200
- Agreement with the City of Wheaton for Permitting, Policing of Park Land and the Enforcement of the Park Use Ordinance
- Agreement for the Operation of the DuPage County Historical Museum with the County of DuPage
- Agreement for the Control and Maintenance of a portion of the "Lucent Acquisition" with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Compliance with State & Federal Laws Relevant to Park District Operations The Board shall, through its' Director ensure that District Operations are in compliance with state and federal laws relevant to the delivery of services and the legal execution of business operations. The following is a non-exclusive list of those statutes:

- The Open Meetings Act
- The Freedom of Information Act
- Prevailing Wage Act
- The Americans with Disabilities Act
- The Family and Medical Leave Act
- Illinois Human Rights Act
- Communicable Disease Guidelines via OSHA
- The Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act
- Employer Reporting Requirements Act
- Criminal Background Investigation Act
- Illinois Ethics Act
- Smoke Free Illinois Act
- Toxic Substances Disclosure Act
- Identity Protection Act
- Moveable Soccer Goal Safety Act
- Firearm Concealed Carry Act

- Workplace Transparency Act
- Local Government Efficiency Act

Board Members Development Park District Board members shall have an equal opportunity to attend local, state and national educational conferences and meetings designed to familiarize members with park and recreation issues, governance and legislation, Appropriate educational materials, publications and notices of training or development will be made available to members through the Illinois Association of Park Districts, the National Recreation and Parks Association and other allied service organizations.

Prospective Candidate Information Packet

The Wheaton Park District is committed to promoting public awareness and engagement in local government. The Executive Director, or designee, shall prepare and maintain a prospective candidate information packet that is accurate, up-to-date, and accessible to individuals considering candidacy for the Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioners.

New Board Members Orientation The Director shall provide a newly elected Park Board member with a copy of the Districts' General Practices Manual, the Districts Master and Strategic Plan, the Districts operating budget and most recent financial statements, the Park District Code, the Park Commissioner's Handbook, Park District Financial Procedures, and the minutes of the Park Board meetings for the last six (6) months. Additional materials explaining the powers and duties of the Park District Board and the operations of the Park District can also be provided by the Illinois Association of Park Districts. A New Commissioner Orientation Checklist is used to manage this process. Meeting between the Director and the new member should be arranged by the Director for the purpose of reviewing the material referenced above, answering questions and acquainting the new member with internal operations of the Park District. In addition to the Director and other staff providing specific and factual information, board members should orient the new member to Board beliefs and practices. They should review, as a board, what members, including the new member, should expect of each other. New members will be encouraged to attend workshops conducted by the Illinois Association of Park Districts.

Meeting Attendance While it may not be possible for every Commissioner to attend every Board meeting; a recurrent pattern of missing meetings is not fair to the other Board members or to the taxpayers. Thus, the Board may deem it necessary to share their concern with any Commissioner if that Commissioner regularly fails or neglects to attend regular and special meetings of the Board.

Sexual Harassment Pursuant to Public Act 101-0221, the Workplace Transparency Act, alleged harassment by a commissioner against another elected official can be reported to the Board President. If the Board President is the reporting person or is implicated by the allegation, the report can be made to any other commissioner. Any report under this section must be referred to the district's legal counsel, who must then appoint a qualified independent attorney or consultant to review and investigate the allegations.

Closed Session No Commissioner shall disclose the contents of any discussion, debate, strategy or direction occurring in a properly convened executive or closed session. Any Commissioner disclosing such shall be deemed to have acted in violation of Board rules. Any commissioner who violates Board rules by disclosing the contents of any discussion, debate or direction occurring in a properly convened executive session, may, either upon admission of same, or upon a majority vote of the Board, be subject to discipline, including, but not limited to, verbal reprimand, written reprimand or censure for a defined period of time. Infractions of this Board rule may also result in the Board referring the matter to proper legal authorities for prosecution of charges, including, but not limited to, malfeasance in office and/or official misconduct.

Vacancies A vacancy will occur whenever a member of the Board dies, resigns, becomes under legal disability, ceases to be a legal voter in the District, is convicted of any infamous crime or refuses or neglects to take his or her oath in office. Vacancies shall be filled by advertising directly and in local newspaper of general circulation for applications to fill the vacancy. Of those submitting written applications to the Board, the most qualified, in the Board opinion, will be invited for oral interview with the Board.

Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by a majority of the remaining members of the Board (70 ILCS 1205/2-25). Any person so appointed shall hold his or her office until the next regular election for this office, at which time a member shall be elected to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term, subject to the applicable Illinois Statute.

General Practices Review Review of these General Practices should be completed every other year by the Park Board and Director. Revision shall be by majority vote of the Board.

Board Services The Board of Commissioners performs a valuable and necessary service in providing a sound Park District. The members of the Board provide the service without monetary or other types of compensation.

Quality Employees The Board recognizes that the Park District competes with private, as well as other public, agencies for quality employees. Thus, it is imperative that the Board encourage the Director to maintain, within reasonable financial constraints, a policy of providing a suitable salary and benefits programs for the employees of the District. The Director shall recommend salary ranges for full-time and part-time employees of the District for Board Approval. Salary Ranges should be reviewed and updated every three years.

Meetings Regular Business Meetings, Subcommittee Meetings and Temporary Task Force Meetings are subject to the Open Meeting Act. The board will typically conduct subcommittee meetings on the first Wednesday of each month in preparation for the regular monthly business meeting of the Board on the third Wednesday.

Regular Monthly Meeting The regular meeting of the Board will be held on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. at the City of Wheaton Council Chambers. Should it prove impractical for the Board to meet at this designated time and place, the Board shall determine some other date and/or

place when such meeting shall be held and shall provide notice of that meeting consistent with the Illinois Open Meeting Act. The regular Board meeting should be for discussions on final action only. This makes the Board meetings more efficient and more productive. Concerns of the public that are brought to the Board's attention will be considered at the appropriate time at any given meeting.

Director's Attendance at Meetings of the Board

The Director shall be present at all meetings of the Board except when the Director is excused by the presiding officer.

Roberts Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order will govern in all questions of procedure not otherwise provided herein of meetings of the Board and committees.

Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President or any two members of the Board. Notice of such meetings stating the time and place of the meeting and the purpose for which said meeting is called, shall be provided to Board members and the press through the Secretary, or shall be delivered to each member and press at least 48 hours prior to such meeting per the Open Meetings Act.

Fiscal Year and Annual Meeting

The fiscal year of the District will commence on the first day of January and end the last day of December each year. The Annual Meeting of the Board will be held the third Wednesday in May and shall include election of the office of President and Vice-President and the appointment of the Secretary, Treasurer and Subcommittee Chairmen of the Board.

President

The President shall be the executive officer of the Board it shall be his/her duty to preside at all meeting when present. The President shall call special meeting of the Board on his own motion or upon the request of two or more Commissioners. The president shall cause, through the Executive Director, a notice to be given to all Commissioners of any regular or special meetings of the Board. Subcommittee Chairmen shall be appointed by the President annually. The Board President shall create temporary task forces and appoint members on an as needed basis at his or her discretion. The subcommittees and temporary task forces will make recommendations for Board action when appropriate.

All committees shall keep minutes, and no committee recommendations shall be implemented without approval by the Board. Other committees may be appointed at the discretion of the President. All committees of the Board shall be subjected to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. (5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*)

It shall be the duty of the President to see that all policies of the Board are enforced, and all orders of the Board faithfully executed. The President's vote shall be called for on all matters before the Board with the other Commissioners. The President shall also appoint the Director to serve on the Board of Directors for the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association.

The President is a member of the Board and shall have the right to vote upon all questions coming before the Board. It shall be the duty of the President to sign all Ordinances and Resolutions and all such other documents and paper of the Park District which by law require a signature. The President shall be designated as the Board member authorized to act for, speak on behalf of, or make representations, on

behalf of the Board. The President may delegate the authority to speak on behalf of the Board to the Executive Director.

Vice-President The Vice President shall be vested with the powers to perform the duties of the President in the President's absence or in the event of the President's refusal or inability to act. In the event that both the President and Vice President are absent from the meeting at which a quorum of Commissioners may be present, the Commissioners present shall designate a member or the Secretary to conduct the meeting.

Secretary The secretary shall perform those duties prescribed by statute and as directed by the Board. The Secretary may, in his or her discretion, delegate those secretarial functions to District Staff, to the extent such delegation is not inconsistent with law.

Treasurer The Treasurer shall perform those duties prescribed by statute and as directed by the Board. The Treasurer may, in his or her discretion, delegate those functions to District Staff, to the extent such delegation is not inconsistent with law.

Commissioners As the corporate authority of the District, the Board governs the District. The Board has the power to control and regulate the District and to make and enforce all necessary ordinances, and rules and regulations for the proper management and conduct of the business of the Board for carrying into effect the objects for which the District was formed, and to adopt rules and procedures to regulate Board action and conduct pertaining to the District. Such powers are subject to the provisions of the statutes of the State of Illinois and ordinance of the District.

Commissioners Powers and Duties Pursuant to 70 ILCS 1205/ 2-10, the Board consists of seven (7) persons who shall be elected to four (4) year terms, and until his or her successor has been duly appointed and qualified. The Board shall perform such duties and have such powers as may be delegated to it by statute. The Board may act only in a properly convened meeting, and no Commissioner shall have the authority to act for or make representations on behalf of the Board or under the title of his or her Board position unless specifically authorized by statute, policy, and procedure or by the direction of the Board. The Board must ratify any act delegated to a Commissioner by the Board.

Commissioner Ethics The Wheaton Park District Ethics Ordinance is provided as an addendum to this document.

Board and Executive Director Relations The Board shall assign and delegate the administration and operation of the District to its Executive Director, who shall also serve as Chief Administrator of the District. The written policies of the Board shall guide the Executive Director in the administration of the District. The relationship of the Board and Executive Director shall be conducted on a level of mutual confidence and respect with each recognizing the role and responsibilities of the other. The Board may delegate those powers and duties it possesses by law to the Executive Director to act on its behalf, unless such conduct is specifically authorized by statute to be performed or conducted by the Board.

Written Communication Written communication to the Board from the Public may be submitted to the Executive Director/ Secretary, or the President, at any time Such communications shall be brought to the attention of the Commissioners of the Board at their next meeting and will be acknowledged in the minutes as having been received. A copy of all written communications made on behalf of the Board shall be provided to each Commissioner.

Minutes The board may appoint a Recording Secretary to assist the Secretary with the taking, preparation and keeping of the minutes. The Recording Secretary shall be under the direction and control of the Secretary and, at the Secretary's discretion may keep, or cause to be kept, a true and correct copy of all transactions of the Board in regular and special meetings, open or closed, and committee meetings. The minutes shall include the date, time and place of the meeting; the members of the Board as either present or absent; a summary of discussion on all matters proposed, deliberated, or decided; and a record of any votes taken, including the Commissioner making the motion, the second and the results of the voting.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Board at a regular or special meeting shall be prepared in draft form and copies shall be mailed or delivered to all Commissioners along with the notice of the next regular business meeting. The minutes of the preceding meeting, with any changes made by a motion properly made and carried or as directed by the President without objection shall be approved by the Board and signed by the Secretary at the next business meeting. The official minutes of the Board shall be kept in the District's Administrative Offices and shall be made available to citizens for inspection during regular business hours within (7) days of approval.

The board Shall keep a verbatim recording of all closed sessions for at least eighteen (18) months, in addition to written closed session minutes. The Board shall periodically, but no less than semi-annually, meet to review minutes of all closed sessions. At such meetings a determination shall be made, and reported in open session that the need for confidentially still exists as to all or part of those minutes or that the minutes or portion thereof no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection. (5ILCS 120/2.06; 5 ILCS 140/3)

Rules of Order

- A. **Rule 1. Preparation of the Agenda** The Director, with the concurrence of the presiding officer, is responsible for the preparation of the agenda for all Board meetings including workshops and committee meetings. To the extent possible, a Board packet for the regular Board meeting including the meeting agenda, the monthly bills to be approved and paid, an up-to-date statement of all the income and expenditure listed by fund, as well as a Treasurer's Report showing the financial condition of the District, and all monthly staff reports will be provided to all Commissioners no less than five days prior to meeting. The Agenda will be as Follows:

Call to Order
Presentations
Community Input

Consent Agenda
Unfinished Business
New Business
Staff Reports
Board Member Input/ Discussion
Closed Session (if needed)
Adjournment

- B. **Rule 2. Presiding Officer** The President shall preserve order and decorum, may speak to points of order subject to an appeal by any two (2) members. The President may speak upon any question and otherwise fully participate in the deliberations of the Board without having to vacate the chair, unless required to do so by a conflict of interests. The President shall be able to vote on matters the same as the other Commissioner.
- C. **Rule 3. Quorum** A majority of the duly elected, or appointed, Commissioners will constitute a quorum. However, if no quorum is present for a Regular Monthly Board Meeting, the Commissioners attending must adjourn the meeting.
- D. **Rule 4. Voting** They ayes and nays shall be taken on ordinances, resolutions, and other matters as required by law. All ayes and nays taken shall be recorded in the meeting's minutes. A concurrence of a majority of all commissioners present at a meeting shall be necessary for the passage of any such propositions unless otherwise provided by the law. The roll shall be called in rotating order (with the Board President voting last); such that the voting order is different for successive roll calls. The Secretary shall also record initiation and seconding of the motions and maintain these records. These records, except for the minutes and roll call of legally executed Executive Sessions shall be available for public inspection.
- E. **Rule 5. Questions before the Board** Every question before the Board shall be distinctly stated by the President before it is open for debate. A motion shall be reduced to writing before a vote if so requested by any Commissioner. Commissioners discussing a question shall address the President and no Commissioner shall be deemed to have the floor until recognized by the President. If any question under consideration contains several distinct propositions, the Board may, by a majority of the Commissioners present, divide such questions.
- F. **Rule 6. Ordinance and Resolutions** If required by law, an ordinance or resolution, as well as amendments thereto, shall be reduced to writing before action shall be taken on them. The title of all such ordinances and resolutions shall be read aloud before a vote is taken, except when the Commissioner presents request that it be read in its entirety.

- G. **Rule 7. Addressing the Board** Except during the public comment portion of the regular Board agenda, or as stated in this rule, no person other than the Executive Director or the District's Attorney may address the Board.

A portion of every regular Board meeting shall be provided for public comment. The person wishing to speak shall sign in advance or raise his or her hand in signal to the President. The speaker must be designated and authorized to speak by the President. Each speaker must state his or her name and address and shall limit his or her public participation to a period of three (3) minutes or less so that all persons shall have an adequate opportunity to make their statement to the Board. A maximum of one (1) hour will be spent on public comment.

The President may, at their discretion, extend the time allocated to any speaker as well as the maximum time spent on public comment, taking into account the nature and significance of the topic, as well as the number of speakers present.

The purpose of the public participation is to allow the public the opportunity to make a statement to the Board. The purpose of public participation is not to provoke a debate with the Board. Once an individual has spoken, that individual may not speak on the same issue again. Any limitation regarding addressing the Board may be waived by a majority vote of the Board.

Public comments are important to the Board. However, it is the Board's policy not to take action on items until time has been taken to gather information and discuss all options. Lack of actions does not imply lack of interest in the issues. During the community input portion of the agenda the Board typically will ask residents to provide input prior to accepting input from nonresidents.

- H. **Rule 9. Robert's Rules of Order** The most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern, as appropriate, matters not covered by law and these rules.

- I. **Rule 10. Repeal and Amendment** These Rules of Order and General Practices may be amended or repealed by majority vote of the Commissioners present. A vote on a motion to amend or repeal shall be taken at the next regular meeting following the meeting at which the motion is made.

Initial Adoption November 3, 2010
Reviewed and Amended October 18, 2017
Reviewed and Amended January 15, 2020
Reviewed and Amended June 21, 2023
Reviewed and Amended September 24, 2025

Ayes: 6 Absent: 1

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-2

WHEATON PARK DISTRICT ETHICS ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wheaton Park District, DuPage County, as follows:

Section 1 Definitions

1. The term "business" shall include the actual business entity to which a Wheaton Park District contract is to be awarded as well as any of the business's principals, their immediate families and any other legal entities in which those principals have a controlling interest or otherwise have control over the disbursement of funds.
2. The term "Committee" means an Ethics Committee created by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wheaton Park District pursuant to this Ordinance.
3. The term "compensated time" means any time worked by or credited to an employee that counts toward any minimum work time requirement imposed as a condition of employment with the Wheaton Park District, but does not include any designated Wheaton Park District holidays or any period when the employee is on a leave of absence.
4. The term "compensatory time off" means authorized time off earned by or awarded to an employee to compensate in whole or in part for time worked in excess of the minimum work time required of that employee as a condition of employment with the Wheaton Park District.
5. The term "contribution" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 9-1.4 of the Election Code.
6. The term "employee" means all full-time, part-time and contractual employees of the Wheaton Park District or any appointee.
7. The term "gift" means any gratuity, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance or other tangible or intangible item having monetary value, including, but not limited to, cash, food and drink and honoraria for speaking engagements related to or attributable to government employment or the official position of an employee or officer.
8. The term "leave of absence" means any period during which an employee does not receive (i) compensation for Wheaton Park District employment, (ii) service credit towards Wheaton Park District pension benefits, and (iii) health insurance benefits paid for by the Wheaton Park District.
9. The term "market value" means the price that the gift would bring for assets of like type, quality and quantity in the local market at the time of acquisition.

10. The term "nominal value" means a gift to any one employee worth less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) as an annual aggregate from a particular donor.
11. The term "officer" means all officials, whether elected or appointed, including but not limited to the Board of Park Commissioners, the Executive Director, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
12. The term "political" means any activity in support of or in connection with any campaign for elective office or any political organization, but does not include activities (i) relating to the support or opposition of any executive, legislative or administrative action (as those terms are defined in Section 2 of the Lobbyist Registration Act), (ii) relating to collective bargaining, or (iii) that are otherwise in furtherance of the person's official Wheaton Park District duties.
13. The term "political organization" means a party, committee, association, fund or other organization (whether or not incorporated) that is required to file a statement of organization with the State Board of Elections or a county Executive Director under Section 9-3 of the Election Code, but only with regard to those activities that require filing with the State Board of Elections or a county Executive Director.
14. The term "prohibited political activity" means:
 - a. preparing for, organizing or participating in any political meeting, political rally, political demonstration or other political event;
 - b. soliciting contributions, including but not limited to, the purchase of, selling, distributing or receiving payment for tickets for any political fundraiser, political meeting or other political event;
 - c. soliciting, planning the solicitation of, or preparing any document or report regarding any thing of value intended as a campaign contribution;
 - d. planning, conducting or participating in a public opinion poll in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political organization for political purposes or for or against any referendum question;
 - e. surveying or gathering information from potential or actual voters in an election to determine probable vote outcome in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political organization for political purposes or for or against any referendum question;

 - f. assisting at the polls on election day on behalf of any political organization or candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question;
 - g. soliciting votes on behalf of a candidate for elective office or a political organization or for or against any referendum question or helping in an effort to get voters to the polls;

- h. initiating for circulation, preparing, circulating, reviewing or filing any petition on behalf of a candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question;
 - i. making contributions on behalf of any candidate for elective office in that capacity or in connection with a campaign for elective office;
 - j. preparing or reviewing responses to candidate questionnaires in connection with a campaign for elective office or on behalf of a political organization for political purposes;
 - k. distributing, preparing for distribution or mailing campaign literature, campaign signs, or other campaign material on behalf of any candidate for elective office or for or against any referendum question;
 - l. campaigning for any elective office or for or against any referendum question;
 - m. managing or working on a campaign for elective office or for or against any referendum question;
 - n. serving as a delegate, alternate, or proxy to a political party convention; and
 - o. participating in any recount or challenge to the outcome of any election.
15. The term "prohibited source" includes any person or entity who:
- a. is seeking official action from (i) the officer or (ii) in the case of an employee, by the employee or by the officer or other employee directing the employee;
 - b. does business or seeks to do business (i) with the officer or (ii) in the case of an employee, with the employee or with the officer or other employee directing the employee;
 - c. conducts activities regulated by (i) the officer or (ii) in the case of an employee, by the employee or by the officer or other employee directing the employee;
 - d. has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or non-performance of the official duties of the officer or employee; or
 - e. is registered or required to be registered with the Secretary of State under the Lobbyist Registration Act, 25 ILCS 170/1 *et seq.*, except that an entity not otherwise a prohibited source does not become a prohibited source merely because a registered lobbyist is one of its members or serves on its board of directors.
16. The term "retaliatory action" means the reprimand, discharge, suspension, demotion, or denial of promotion or transfer of any employee in the terms and conditions of

employment, and that is taken in retaliation for an employee's involvement in protected activity.

17. The term "Board of Park Commissioners" means the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wheaton Park District.
18. The term "ultimate jurisdictional authority" means the following: for all employees, the Executive Director.

Section 2 Prohibited Political Activities

1. Officers and employees shall not intentionally perform any prohibited political activity during any compensated time (other than vacation, personal or compensatory time off). Officers and employees shall not intentionally misappropriate any Wheaton Park District property or resources by engaging in any prohibited political activity for the benefit of any campaign for elective office of any political organization.
2. At no time shall any officer or employee intentionally misappropriate the services of any employee by requiring that employee to perform any political activity (i) as part of that employee's Wheaton Park District duties, (ii) as a condition of employment, or (iii) during any time off that is compensated by the Wheaton Park District (such as vacation, personal or compensatory time off).
3. An employee shall not be required at any time to participate in any prohibited political activity in consideration for that employee being awarded any additional compensation or employee benefit, in the form of a salary adjustment, bonus, compensatory time off, continued employment or otherwise.
4. An employee shall not be awarded any additional compensation or employee benefit, in the form of a salary adjustment, bonus, compensatory time off, continued employment or otherwise, in consideration for the employee's participation in any prohibited political activity.
5. Nothing in this Section prohibits activities that are otherwise appropriate for an employee to engage in as part of his or her official employment duties or activities that are undertaken by an employee on a voluntary basis as permitted by law.
6. No person either (i) in a position that is subject to recognized merit principles of public employment or (ii) in a position the salary for which is paid in whole or in part by federal funds and that is subject to the Federal Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration applicable to grant-in-aid programs, shall be denied or deprived of employment or tenure solely because he or she is a member or an officer of a political committee, of a political party, or of a political organization or club.

Section 3 Prohibited Offer or Promise

An officer or employee may not promise anything of value related to the Wheaton Park District, including but not limited to positions with the Wheaton Park District, promotions or salary increases, in consideration for a contribution to a political committee, political party or other entity that has as one of its purposes the financial support of a candidate for elective office.

Nothing in this Section prevents the making or accepting of voluntary contributions otherwise in accordance with law.

Section 4 Contributions on Wheaton Park District Property

No Park Commissioner, employee or candidate for the office of Park Commissioner, or any person required to be registered under the Lobbyist Registration Act, or any officer, employee or agent of any political organization shall intentionally solicit or accept any political campaign contribution on Wheaton Park District property, except as provided in this Section. For purposes of this Section, "Wheaton Park District property" means any building or portion thereof owned or operated exclusively by the Wheaton Park District. "Wheaton Park District property" does not, however, include any portion of a building that is rented or leased from the Wheaton Park District by a private person or entity.

An inadvertent solicitation or acceptance of a contribution is not a violation of this Section so long as reasonable and timely action is taken to return the contribution to its source.

The provisions of this Section do not apply to the residences of Park Commissioners or employees of the Wheaton Park District, except that no fundraising events shall be held at residences owned by the Wheaton Park District or paid for, in whole or in part, with Wheaton Park District funds. The provisions of this Section also do not apply to solicitations by any person required to be registered under the Lobbyist Registration Act, or any officer, employee or agent of any political organization at the DuPage County Historical Museum, the Arrowhead Golf Club or the Leisure Center, provided that such individual or organization is using the facility pursuant to a permit or license issued by the Park District and has paid the required fee for such use.

Regulation

Section 5 Gift Ban

Except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, no officer or employee shall intentionally solicit or accept any gift from any prohibited source or in violation of any federal or state statute, rule, regulation or Wheaton Park District Ordinance. This ban applies to and includes spouses and immediate family living with the officer or employee. No prohibited source shall intentionally offer or make a gift that violates this Section.

Section 6 Exceptions

The restrictions in Section 5 of this Ordinance and in Section 10-10 of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, shall not apply to the following:

1. Opportunities, benefits, and services that are available on the same conditions as for the general public.
2. Anything for which the officer or employee pays the market value.
3. Any (i) contribution as defined in Article 9 of the Election Code, 10 ILCS 5/9-1 *et seq.*, that is lawfully made under that Act or under this Ordinance or (ii) activities associated with a fundraising event in support of a political organization or candidate.
4. Travel expenses for a meeting to discuss Wheaton Park District business.
5. A gift from a relative, meaning those people related to the individual as father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, great uncle, great aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, half sister, and including the father, mother, grandfather or grandmother of the individual's spouse and the individual's fiancé or fiancée.
6. Anything provided by an individual on the basis of a personal friendship, unless the officer or employee has reason to believe that, under the circumstances, the gift was provided due to the official position or employment of the recipient rather than due to the personal friendship.

In determining whether a gift has been provided on the basis of a personal friendship, the officer or employee shall consider the circumstances under which the gift was offered, such as:

- a. the history of the relationship between the individual giving the gift and the recipient of the gift, including any previous exchange of gifts between those individuals;
 - b. whether to the actual knowledge of the officer or employee the individual who gave the gift personally paid for the gift or sought a tax deduction or business reimbursement for the gift; and
 - c. whether to the actual knowledge of the officer or employee the individual who gave the gift also at the same time gave the same or similar gift to other officers or employees.
7. Intra-governmental and inter-governmental gifts. For the purpose of this Ordinance, "intra-governmental gift" means any gift given to an officer or employee of the Wheaton Park District from another officer or employee of the Wheaton Park District; and "inter-governmental gift" means any gift given to an officer or employee of the Wheaton Park District from any member, officer, or employee of any other governmental entity.
 8. Food or refreshments not exceeding \$75 per person in value on a single calendar day; provided that the food or refreshments are (i) consumed on the premises from which they

were purchased or prepared or (ii) catered. For the purpose of this Section, "catered" means food or refreshments that are purchased ready to eat and delivered by any means.

9. Food, lodging, refreshments, transportation and other benefits resulting from the outside business or employment activities (or outside activities not connected to the duties of the officer or employee as an officeholder or employee) of the officer or employee, or the spouse of the officer or employee, if the benefits have not been offered or enhanced because of the official position or employment of the officer or employee and are customarily provided to others in similar circumstances.
10. Educational materials and missions, including meetings with government officials, either foreign or domestic, intended to educate public officials on matters of public policy to which the officer or employee may be invited to participate alone or with other federal, state or local public officials and community leaders.
11. Bequests, inheritances and other transfers at death.
12. Any item or items from any one prohibited source during any calendar year having a cumulative total value of less than \$100.

Each of the exceptions listed in this Section is mutually exclusive and independent of one another.

Section 7 Disposition of Gifts

The recipient of a gift that is given in violation of this Ordinance does not violate this Ordinance if the officer or employee promptly takes reasonable action to return the item to its source or give the item or an amount equal to its value to an appropriate charity that is exempt from income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now or hereafter amended, renumbered, or succeeded.

Section 8 Protected Activity

An officer or employee shall not take any retaliatory action against an employee because the employee does any of the following:

1. discloses or threatens to disclose to a Board of Park Commissioners or to a public body an activity, policy or practice of any officer or other employee that the employee reasonably believes is in violation of a law, rule, regulation or ordinance;
2. provides information to or testifies before any public body conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry into any violation of a law, rule, regulation or ordinance by any officer or other employee; and
3. assists or participates in a proceeding to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 9 Posting

The Wheaton Park District and its officers shall conspicuously display notices of employee protection under this Ordinance.

Section 10 Ethics Committee

1. When a complaint is received, the President shall create a special Ethics Committee to conduct proceedings relating solely to that complaint.
2. In the event that the complaint is directed at the President, the Vice President of the Wheaton Park District Board of Park Commissioners shall create a special Ethics Committee to conduct proceedings relating solely to that complaint.
3. The Committee shall be composed of three (3) members of the Board of Park Commissioners.
4. The Committee shall meet as often as necessary to perform its duties.
5. Upon a final resolution of the complaint, the Committee shall be disbanded.

Section 11 Staff

The Committee shall utilize existing staff, as necessary, and may contract for services that cannot be satisfactorily performed by the staff.

Section 12 Powers and Duties

The Committee shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To promulgate procedures and rules governing the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers.
2. To investigate, conduct research, conduct closed hearings and deliberations, issue recommendations and impose a penalty or fine.
3. To receive information from the public pertaining to its investigations and to require additional information and documents from persons who may have violated this Ordinance.
4. To subpoena witnesses and compel the production of books and papers pertinent to an investigation authorized by this Ordinance.
5. To request that the Attorney General provide legal advice without charge.

The powers and duties of the Committee are limited to matters clearly within the purview of this Ordinance.

Section 13 Complaint Procedure

1. Complaints alleging a violation of this Ordinance shall be filed with the Executive Director of the Wheaton Park District. In the event the complaint is directed at the Executive Director, then the complaint shall be filed with the Board of Park

Commissioners. Such complaints shall be written and shall contain the complainant's address.

2. Upon receipt of a written complaint by the Executive Director, the Executive Director shall forward same to the Board of Park Commissioners, who shall then appoint an Ethics Committee within a reasonable time period. In the event the complaint is directed at the Board of Park Commissioners, the Executive Director shall then appoint an Ethics Committee within a reasonable time period.
3. Within seven (7) business days after the creation of the Ethics Committee, the Committee shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, a notice to the respondent that a complaint has been filed against him or her and a copy of the complaint. The Committee shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, a confirmation of the receipt of the complaint to the complainant within seven (7) business days after the creation of the Committee. The notices to the respondent and the complainant shall also advise them of the date, time and place of the meeting on the sufficiency of the complaint and probable cause.
4. Upon at least twenty-four (24) hours' public notice of the session, the Committee shall meet in closed session to review the sufficiency of the complaint and, if the complaint is deemed to sufficiently allege a violation of this Ordinance, to determine if there is probable cause to proceed based on evidence presented by the complainant. The Committee shall issue notice to the complainant and the respondent of the Committee's ruling on the sufficiency of the complaint and, if necessary, on probable cause within fourteen (14) business days after the closed session meeting. If the complaint is deemed to sufficiently allege a violation of this Ordinance and there is a determination of probable cause, then the Committee's notice to the parties shall include a hearing date scheduled within four (4) weeks after the closed session meeting. If the complaint is deemed not to sufficiently allege a violation, or if there is no determination of probable cause, then the Committee shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, a notice to the parties of the decision to dismiss the complaint and that notice shall be made public.
5. On the scheduled date and upon at least twenty-four (24) hours' public notice of the meeting, the Committee shall conduct a closed meeting on the complaint and allow both parties the opportunity to present testimony and evidence.
6. Within eight (8) weeks after the creation of the Committee, the Committee shall (i) dismiss the complaint or (ii) issue a preliminary recommendation to the alleged violator and to the violator's ultimate jurisdictional authority or impose a fine upon the violator, or both. The particular findings in the instant case, the preliminary recommendation and any fine shall be made public.
7. Within seven (7) business days after the issuance of the preliminary recommendation or imposition of a fine, or both, the respondent may file a written demand for a public hearing on the complaint. The filing of the demand shall stay the enforcement of the preliminary recommendation or fine. Within two (2) weeks after receiving the demand, the Committee shall conduct a public hearing on the complaint after at least twenty-four

(24) hours' public notice of the hearing and allow both parties the opportunity to present testimony and evidence. Within five (5) business days, the Committee shall publicly issue a final recommendation to the alleged violator and to the violator's ultimate jurisdictional authority or impose a fine upon the violator, or both.

8. If a complaint is filed during the sixty (60) days preceding the date of any election at which the respondent is a candidate, the Committee shall render its decision as required under subsection (5) within fourteen (14) days after the Committee is created, and during the fourteen (14) days preceding that election, the Committee shall render such decision before the date of that election, if possible.
9. The Committee may levy a fine of up to \$5,000 against any person who knowingly files a frivolous complaint alleging a violation of this Ordinance.
10. A complaint alleging the violation of this Ordinance must be filed within one (1) year after the alleged violation.

Section 14 Enforcement

1. The Committee may recommend to a person's ultimate jurisdictional authority disciplinary action against the person it determines to be in violation of this Ordinance. The recommendation may prescribe the following courses of action:
 - a. reprimand;
 - b. to cease and desist the offensive action;
 - c. a return or refund of money or other items, or an amount of restitution for services received in violation of this Ordinance;
 - d. dismissal, removal from office, impeachment or expulsion; and
 - e. donation to a charity of an amount equal to the gift.
2. The Committee may impose a fine of up to \$5,000 per violation to be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.
3. The ultimate jurisdictional authority of a person who violates an ethics provision may take disciplinary action against the person as recommended by the Committee or as it deems appropriate, to the extent it is constitutionally permissible for the ultimate jurisdictional authority to take that action. The ultimate jurisdictional authority shall make its action, or determination to take no action, available to the public.
4. If after a hearing the Committee finds no violation of this Ordinance, the Committee shall dismiss the complaint.

Section 15 Penalty

1. An individual who intentionally violates Section 2 or 3 of this Ordinance is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.
2. An individual who intentionally violates Section 4 or 5 of this Ordinance is guilty of a business offense and is subject to a fine of at least \$1,001 and up to \$5,000.

Section 16 Review

The Committee's decision to dismiss a complaint or its recommendation is not a final administrative decision, but its imposition of a fine is a final administrative decision subject to judicial review under the Administrative Review Law of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Section 17 Severance

1. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Wheaton Park District that the several provisions of this Ordinance are severable.
2. If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge any provisions, or part thereof, of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act to be invalid, the corresponding provisions, or part thereof, of this Ordinance shall also be deemed null and void without any further action of the Board. Such judgment shall not affect any other provision or part thereof of this Ordinance declared invalid which are not declared to be invalid in said judgment.
3. If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge any provision, or part thereof, of this Ordinance to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect any other provision, or part thereof, of this Ordinance declared invalid which are not declared to be invalid in said judgment.
4. If any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge invalid the application of any provision, or part thereof, of this Ordinance to a particular person, such judgment shall not affect the application of said provision, or part thereof, to any other person not specifically included in said judgment.

Section 18 Effective Date

This Ordinance shall be effective upon approval by the Wheaton Park District Board of Trustees.

Enacted this 15 day of July, 2009.

Wheaton Park District Board of Park Commissioners

ATTEST:


Secretary


President