

ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS  
ELECTION DATE: APRIL 4, 2023



Election Overview

The April 4, 2023, election is a municipal election across Illinois. In Chicago, the election is a “run-off” election for the top vote getters from the previous February 28 election for mayor and city council (alderpersons) elections. Outside of Chicago, the election is a consolidated general election for municipal offices.

Registration Eligibility

**Eligible:** (1) U.S. Citizen; (2) Live in Illinois at least 30 days prior to Election Day (March 5, 2023, or earlier); and (3) Turn 18 on or before the election date of April 4, 2023.

**Not Eligible:** (1) You are currently incarcerated under a felony conviction (including people on furlough, at a residential re-entry facility, or on work-release); or (2) You claim the right to vote anywhere else. People in pre-trial detention who have not been convicted are eligible to vote.

How to Register (including Election Day Registration)

**In Person:** Register in person at the office of the election authority, at driver services facilities, or with deputy registrars who are appointed in each jurisdiction.

**Identification:** 2 forms of ID (e.g., driver’s license, utility bills, postmarked mail), one showing your current home address.

**Deadline\*:** Up to 28 days before Election Day (March 7, 2023).

**By Mail:** Fill out and mail form located at [www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/VotingRegistrationForms.aspx](http://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/VotingRegistrationForms.aspx) (or on your local election authority’s website).

**Identification:** Either (1) driver’s license number or SSN number **or** (2) other sufficient identification (e.g., current utility bill, bank statement, or paycheck).

**Deadline\*:** Application must be postmarked at least 28 days before the Election Date (March 7, 2023).

**Online:** Register at <https://ova.elections.il.gov/>

**Identification:** (1) Illinois driver’s license or state ID (including the date it was issued) and (2) the last 4 digits of SSN.

**Deadline\*:** 16 days before the Election Date (March 19, 2023).

**\*Even if voters miss registration deadlines, voters may still vote using Election Day Registration or Grace Period Registration!**

**Grace Period Registration:** Beginning 27 days before an election (March 8, 2023, onward) and through Election Day (April 4, 2023), a voter may use Grace Period Registration to register in person or update their voter registration. This is only available in person at designated sites. Registration locations and dates can be found here: <https://www.elections.il.gov/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/EarlyVotingLocationsSearch.aspx>, or contact local election authority. At many locations, a voter will also be able to vote upon using Grace Period Registration.

**Election Day Registration (“EDR”):** Grace Period Registration includes election day registration (EDR) and is required to be available in at least one location within the election jurisdiction. EDR is often available at polling places (counties with population over 100,000 must have EDR at every polling place).

**Note:** If a voter registers to vote or changes their address during Grace Period Registration and wishes to vote in the election occurring during Grace Period Registration, they must vote in person at the same time that they register or update their registration.

Decentralized Election Authority System

The State Board of Elections is a state-wide agency, but Illinois elections are administered locally by the state’s 108 election authorities—county clerks in 101 counties, 1 county election commission, and 6 municipal election commissions (e.g., City of Chicago). Each local authority handles local voter registration programs, trains election judges, selects polling places, gets ballots printed, oversees Election Day activities, and supervises the vote count at the local level. This may result in voting differences between local election authorities.

## Where to Find Your Local Election Authority

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A list is here, but note that cities are at the end: <https://www.elections.il.gov/electionoperations/electionauthorities.aspx>

## Early Voting

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**When:** In jurisdictions with permanent early voting locations, early voting begins at least 15 days prior to an election (March 20, 2023) and, in some jurisdictions, as early as 40 days prior to an election (February 23, 2023) and extends through the end of the day before Election Day (April 3, 2023). Check the website of your local election authority for details on dates and times.

**Where:** <https://www.elections.il.gov/VotingAndRegistrationSystems/EarlyVotingLocationsSearch.aspx>

A list of early voting hours and locations will be available on the Illinois State Board of Elections' website ([www.elections.il.gov](http://www.elections.il.gov)) at least 10 days prior to the beginning of any early voting period. A list of Chicago early voting locations is available here: <https://chicagoelections.gov/en/early-voting.html>.

## Vote-by-Mail

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**Ballot Request:** Apply up to 90 days prior to election. Application must be received no later than 5 days prior to the election (March 30, 2023) if mailed or submitted electronically, and no later than 1 day prior to the election (April 3, 2023) if the application is delivered in person at the office of the election authority.

**Ballot Return:** Vote-by-Mail ballots must be postmarked by Election Day (April 4, 2023) and received within 14 days after the election (April 18, 2023).

## Election Day Voting

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**When:** Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day (if a voter is in line by 7:00pm, they can still vote).

**Where to Find Voter's Polling Location:** <https://ova.elections.il.gov/RegistrationLookup.aspx>

**Chicago Polling Locations:** <https://chicagoelections.gov/en/your-voter-information.html>

## ID When Voting

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In general, voters in Illinois do **NOT** have to provide ID at the polling place to vote a regular ballot. Instead, voters must fill out a form, which includes their signature. Exceptions to this include: **(1)** voters using Grace Period Registration or EDR to register and vote at the same time; **(2)** voters whose right to vote has been successfully challenged (requiring 2 forms of ID) and; **(3)** first-time voters who registered by mail but did not submit sufficient proof of identity (requiring 2 forms of ID the first time they vote, one of which includes voter's current address).

## Criminal Record

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Voters with a conviction who have completed their term of incarceration are eligible to register and vote, including voters on probation or parole. Voters who are currently in pre-trial detention and have not been convicted are eligible to vote.

## Permanent Moves Within the State of Illinois:

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### Moved Within 30 Days of Election Day:

- **Within Precinct:** Voters that **moved within 27 days of Election Day** (March 8 or later) need only fill out an affidavit related to their address change and may do so when they vote.
- **Between Precincts:** If a voter **moved within 30 days of Election Day** (March 5, 2023, or later) voters may have the option of going to the old polling place and vote there after completing an affidavit, utilizing the ballot for that precinct. A voter can also go to an early voting site or universal polling place. A voter may also be able to utilize Grace Period Registration to vote based on their new precinct. Consult with election authority or its published election judge manual for the particular election jurisdiction.

### Moved More than 30 Days Before Election Day:

- Voters that moved **more than 30 days before** Election Day (earlier than March 5, 2023) may transfer or update their registration by the registration deadline **OR** they may update their registration and vote by using Grace Period Registration. In a limited set of circumstances, a voter may vote only for federal offices after completing an address correction form.