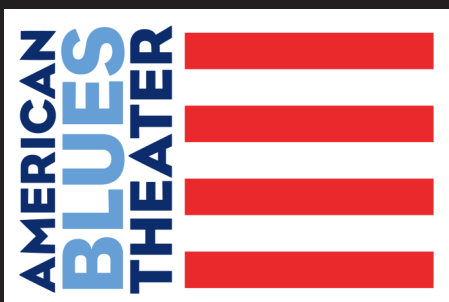


A large circular graphic with a white background, set against a dark blue background. The top half of the circle features three white stars of varying sizes. The bottom half features seven vertical red stripes. The text "VOTER RESOURCES" is centered in the white area.

VOTER RESOURCES



2026 GENERAL ELECTION

A publication of **COMMUNITY SERVICE**
at **AMERICAN BLUES THEATER**

QUICK LINKS:

REGISTER TO VOTE
online

check your
VOTER REGISTRATION

EARLY VOTING
information

order your
MAIL-IN BALLOT

ballot return
DROP BOX LOCATIONS

find your
POLLING PLACE

know your
VOTING RIGHTS

information for
SUBURBAN VOTERS

frequently asked
QUESTIONS

IMPORTANT DATES

for Chicago voters

October 18

DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE ONLINE

In-person registrations continues at all early voting sites and polling locations through November 3, 2026.

October 1 – November 2

EARLY VOTING AVAILABLE AT DOWNTOWN LOCATIONS

Early voting is available at the Downtown Supersite (137 S. State) and Board of Elections Offices (69 W. Washington, 6th Floor).

October 19 – November 2

EARLY VOTING AVAILABLE IN ALL WARDS

Voter registration services & secure drop boxes for mail-in ballots available at every early voting location.

October 29

DEADLINE TO REQUEST A MAIL-IN BALLOT

All mail-in ballots must be postmarked by November 3, 2026.

November 3

ELECTION DAY

Registration services available at all polling locations through the end of the day.

REGISTER TO VOTE

online & in person

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. **ONLINE:** Use your IL driver's license or state ID card to register to vote or to change your name or address. **Deadline for online registration: Sunday, October 18 at 11:59 PM.**
2. **IN PERSON AT EARLY VOTING:** You must show two (2) forms of ID. At least one (1) ID must list your current address. **At all Early Voting sites through close of polls on Tuesday, November 3.**
3. **AT YOUR PRECINCT POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION DAY.** You must show (2) forms of ID. At least one (1) ID must list your current address. **Available through the close of polls on Tuesday, November 3.**

TO REGISTER TO VOTE, YOU MUST:

- be a U.S. citizen
- be 18 on or before the date of the General Election (November 3, 2026)
- live in your precinct at least 30 days before the election
- not claim the right to vote elsewhere
- not be in prison/jail serving time for a conviction.

Note: returning citizens who been released from prison/jail and who meet all other requirements listed above are eligible to register and vote in Illinois. People who have been released and are on parole/probation are eligible to vote in Illinois.

WHEN DO YOU NEED AN ID TO VOTE?

No ID is needed when you are already registered to vote at your current address and are voting at your designated polling place.

Two forms of ID, at least one with your current address, are needed when you are registering, filing a name change, or filing an address change in person during early voting or on Election Day.

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF ID:

- Passport or Military ID
- Driver's License or State ID card
- College/University/School/Work ID
- Vehicle registration card
- Lease, mortgage, or deed to home
- Credit or debit card
- Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid card
- Insurance card
- Civic, union, or professional membership card
- LINK/Public Aid/Department of Human Services card
- Illinois FOID card

MAIL ADDRESSED TO VOTER THAT CAN BE USED AS ID:

- Bill, transcript, or report card from school
- Bank statement, pay stub, or pension statement
- Utility, medical, or insurance bill
- Official mail from any government agency

**A photo ID is never required.*

check or update your **VOTER REGISTRATION**

Even if you're a regular voter, we strongly recommend double-checking the status of your voter registration in advance of the November 3 General Election.



CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION [HERE](#).

FILE A NAME CHANGE OR ADDRESS CHANGE [HERE](#).

SIGNATURE UPDATE FORM:

Are you voting by mail? Has your signature changed over the years? [Use this form to update your signature](#). Fill in all blanks, print, sign and mail it in OR, you may email the completed form as a PDF attachment to registration@chicagoelections.gov

FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE

LOCATE YOUR PRECINCT POLLING PLACE FOR VOTING OR REGISTERING ON ELECTION DAY [HERE](#).

If on Election Day, the poll worker cannot find your name on the list of registered voters, confirm that you are at the correct polling place:

- Request that the poll workers check a statewide system (if one is available) to see if you are registered to vote at a different polling place.
- If the poll worker does not have access to a statewide system, ask them to call the main election office.
- You can also call 1-866-OUR-VOTE and ask for help verifying your proper polling place.



order your **MAIL-IN BALLOT**



1. APPLY TO VOTE BY MAIL.

Any Chicago voter may apply online now to vote by mail for the November 3 General Election. No reason or excuse is needed to vote by mail.

Chicago voters who apply online to Vote By Mail will receive emails:

- When their application is accepted,
- When their ballot is sent to them,
- When the Election Board receives their Ballot Return Envelope, and
- When their ballot has been processed and counted.

The deadline to apply to Vote By Mail is **Thursday, October 29.**

2. MARK YOUR BALLOT.

Follow all instructions that come with your ballot and be sure to vote in secret.

NOTE: When marking your ballot, use a felt-tip pen. Do not use a red pen, because red ink cannot be read by the ballot scanners.

3. RETURN YOUR BALLOT.

The Board supplies all Vote By Mail voters with postage-paid Ballot Return Envelopes to return the ballots.

The signed and sealed Ballot Return Envelope may be returned:

- Through the U.S. Postal Service or a licensed courier.
- In a [Secured Drop Boxes](#) at any Chicago Early Voting location.

NOTE: precinct polling places do not have drop boxes.

- By personal delivery to the Election Board at 69 W. Washington, Sixth Floor.

NOTE: Any mail ballot that is postmarked after Election Day cannot be counted, by law. If a ballot envelope is placed in a US Postal Service box on or near Election Day, that envelope may be postmarked late and may not be eligible to be counted.

WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND AND WANT TO VOTE IN PERSON?

Voters may take the Vote By Mail ballot to any Early Voting site or their precinct polling place or nearest vote center on Election Day, surrender the ballot, and then vote on a new ballot. If you have not yet received your ballot in the mail, you will be asked to sign an affidavit form and then you will be allowed to vote.

ballot return DROP BOX LOCATIONS

VOTE BY MAIL SECURED DROP BOXES—SITES & HOURS

Submit your Ballot Return Envelope at any of the Chicago Election Board's Secured Drop Boxes. Chicago voters may use any Secured Drop Box in the city.

NOTE: Whether you use the US mail or a Drop Box, you must use the signed and sealed Ballot Return Envelope with your name on it to submit your ballot!

From October 19 - November 3 - Use the Drop Box at any of the below Early Voting Sites.



Weekdays: 9:00am - 6:00pm | **Saturday:** 9:00am - 5:00pm | **Sunday:** 10:00am - 4:00pm
Election Day: 6:00am - 7:00pm (November 3)

Ward 1	Goldblatts Building	1615 W. Chicago
Ward 2	Near North Library	310 W. Division
Ward 3	Dawson Technical Institute	3901 S. State
Ward 4	Dr. Martin Luther King Center	4314 S. Cottage Gr.
Ward 5	Southside YMCA	6330 S. Stony Island
Ward 6	Whitney Young Library	415 E. 79th
Ward 7	Trumbull Park	2400 E. 105th
Ward 8	Olive Harvey College	10001 S. Woodlawn
Ward 9	Palmer Park	201 E. 111th
Ward 10	Vodak- East Side Library	3710 E. 106th
Ward 11	McGuane Park	2901 S. Poplar
Ward 12	McKinley Park Library	1915 W. 35th
Ward 13	Clearing Library	6423 W. 63rd
Ward 14	Archer Heights Library	5055 S. Archer
Ward 15	Brighton Park Community Campus	4830 S. Western
Ward 16	Lindblom Park	6054 S. Damen
Ward 17	Thurgood Marshall Library	7506 S. Racine
Ward 18	Wrightwood Ashburn Library	8530 S. Kedzie
Ward 19	Mt Greenwood Park	3721 W. 111th
Ward 20	Bessie Coleman Library	731 E. 63rd
Ward 21	West Pullman Library	830 W. 119th
Ward 22	Toman Library	2708 S. Pulaski
Ward 23	St Faustina Kowalska Parish	5157 S. McVicker
Ward 24	St Agatha Catholic Parish	3151 W. Douglas
Ward 25	Rudy Lozano Library	1805 S. Loomis
Ward 26	Humboldt Park Library	1605 N. Troy
Ward 27	Union Park Field House	1501 W. Randolph

Ward 28	Malcolm X College - West Campus	4624 W. Madison
Ward 29	Amundsen Park	6200 W. Bloomingdale
Ward 30	Kilbourn Park	3501 N. Kilbourn
Ward 31	Portage Cragin Library	5108 W. Belmont
Ward 32	Bucktown-Wicker Park Library	1701 N. Milwaukee
Ward 33	American Indian Center	3401 W. Ainslie
Ward 34	UIC Student Center East	750 S. Halsted
Ward 35	Northeastern IL University El Centro	3390 N. Avondale
Ward 36	West Belmont Library	3104 N. Narragansett
Ward 37	West Chicago Library	4856 W. Chicago
Ward 38	Hiawatha Park	8029 W. Forest Preserve
Ward 39	North Park Village Admin Building	5801 N. Pulaski
Ward 40	Budlong Woods Library	5630 N. Lincoln
Ward 41	Roden Library	6083 N. Northwest
Ward 42	Historic Lawson House	803 N. Dearborn
Ward 43	Lincoln Park Library	1150 W. Fullerton
Ward 44	Merlo Library	644 W. Belmont
Ward 45	Kolping Society of Chicago	5826 N. Elston
Ward 46	Truman College	1145 W. Wilson
Ward 47	Welles Park	2333 W. Sunnyside
Ward 48	Broadway Armory	5917 N. Broadway
Ward 49	Willye B White Park	1610 W. Howard
Ward 50	Northtown Library	6800 N. Western
Downtown	CBOE Drop Box	69 W. Washington
Downtown	Supersite	137 S. State

EARLY VOTING

information

For the November 3 General Election Chicago voters may use **any** Early Voting & Registration location in the city, beginning Monday, October 19 and continuing through Election Day on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

VIEW CHICAGO LOCATIONS & HOURS FOR EARLY VOTING [HERE](#).

Any ballots that voters cast in Early Voting are final. After casting ballots in Early Voting, voters may not return to amend, change or undo a ballot for any reason. It is a felony to vote more than once—or to attempt to vote more than once—in the same election.

Government-issued photo ID is not required but is helpful if there is a question about the voter's registration, address, signature or if there are two voters at the same address with the same names or similar names.

Registration services are available at every Early Voting site. Two forms of ID, one of which shows the voter's current address, are needed to register for the first time or to file a name change or an address update.



EARLY VOTING FOR SUBURBAN VOTERS

Early voting sites in the wider Chicagoland area open on different dates. See below for links & dates.

- **[Suburban Cook County](#)**: Early voting starts Oct. 7 in suburban Cook County, with more locations opening Oct. 19.
- **[DuPage County](#)**: Early voting starts Sept. 24 at five locations. Two dozen more early voting sites open in the county starting Oct. 19.
- **[Kane County](#)**: Early voting starts on Sept. 24 at the Kane County Clerk's Office in Geneva and at the clerk's Aurora satellite office.
- **[Kendall County](#)**: Early voting starts on Sept. 24 at Kendall County Clerk's Office.
- **[Lake County](#)**: Early voting starts on Sept. 24 at the Lake County Courthouse. More locations will be open Oct. 19, with some shutting down by Oct. 31 while others will carry on through the election.
- **[McHenry County](#)**: Early voting starts on Sept. 24 at the McHenry County Election Center and more sites open starting Oct. 19.
- **[Will County](#)**: Early voting starts on Sept. 24 at the Will County Clerk's Office with more sites opening starting Oct. 19.

frequently asked QUESTIONS

WHAT OFFICES WILL BE ON THE BALLOT ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026?

Voters will **ELECT** candidates for the following offices:

- US Senator
- Illinois Governor & Lt. Governor
- Illinois Attorney General
- Illinois Secretary of State
- Illinois Comptroller
- Illinois Treasurer
- Reps in Congress
- State Senator
- Reps in the General Assembly
- Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
- President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners
- County Clerk of Cook County
- Sheriff of Cook County
- Treasurer of Cook County
- Assessor of Cook County
- Commissioners of Cook County
- Commissioner of the Board of Review of Cook County
- Illinois Supreme Court and Appellate Court justices
- Cook County Circuit and Sub-Circuit Judges
- President & Members of the Chicago Board of Education

Voters will also **DECIDE** Retention Questions to Decide Whether Judges Shall Continue to Serve, and Any State, City or Local Referenda Questions.

I MOVED RECENTLY. DO I VOTE IN MY NEW PRECINCT OR MY OLD PRECINCT

If you moved to your current address **at least 30 days before Election Day**, vote at the precinct polling place for your new/current address. You may update your registration and vote at your new precinct polling place with two forms of ID, at least one of which shows your current address. If you moved within Chicago **less than 30 days before Election Day**, vote at the precinct polling place for your old address.

WILL MY PRECINCT POLLING PLACE BE THE SAME AS IT WAS IN PAST ELECTIONS?

Whenever possible, the Board tries to keep polling places at the same locations. However, there will be polling place owners who cannot or will not allow us to use that site again. [Click here to find your precinct polling place for Election Day.](#)

WHAT CAN I BRING INTO THE POLLING BOOTH WITH ME?

You can bring notes, sample ballots, and endorsements with you into a polling booth. This includes items on your phone. However, *don't* wear campaign-related clothing: residents wearing any campaign-related clothing or material may be required to remove or cover them while voting.

CAN I TAKE A PHOTO WHILE I'M VOTING?

Illinois prohibits “ballot selfies” — a Class 4 felony punishable by up to three years in prison and a \$25,000 fine in Illinois — so you can't post a photo of a completed ballot on social media. However, there are no laws against taking and posting a selfie with your “I Voted” sticker.

know your VOTING RIGHTS

- If the polls close while you're still in line, stay in line – you have the right to vote.
- If you make a mistake on your ballot, ask for a new one.
- If the machines are down at your polling place, ask for a paper ballot.
- If a poll worker cannot find your name on the list of registered voters, **you are still entitled to a provisional ballot.** After Election Day, election officials must investigate whether you are qualified to vote and registered. If you are qualified and registered, they will count your provisional ballot.
- Under federal law, **voters who have difficulty reading or writing English may receive in-person assistance at the polls from the person of their choice.** This person cannot be the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, or an agent or officer of the voter's union.
- Counties covered by Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act are **required to provide bilingual assistance to voters in specific languages.** This means that they must provide poll workers who speak certain languages, and make all election materials and election-related information available in those languages.
- **It's illegal to intimidate voters** and a federal crime to "intimidate, threaten, [or] coerce ... any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of [that] other person to vote or to vote as he may choose."
- Under federal law, **all polling places for federal elections must be fully accessible to older adults and voters with disabilities.** Simply allowing curbside voting is not enough to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements.
- In federal elections, **every polling place must have at least one voting system that allows voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently.** Usually, this is a machine that can read the ballot to you (for people with vision disabilities or dyslexia), and let you vote by pushing buttons (for people with mobility disabilities).
- If you have difficulty using the materials provided to make your ballot selections, review, or cast your ballot, let a poll worker know and ask for the help you need. **Accessibility is the law.**

IF YOU RUN INTO ANY PROBLEMS OR HAVE QUESTIONS ON ELECTION DAY, CALL THE ELECTION PROTECTION HOTLINE:

English: 1-866-OUR-VOTE / 1-866-687-8683

Spanish: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA / 1-888-839-8682

Arabic: 1-844-YALLA-US / 1-844-925-5287

For Bengali, Cantonese, Hindi, Urdu, Korean, Mandarin, Tagalog, or Vietnamese: 1-888-274-8683

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF ILLINOIS VOTING RIGHTS VISIT THE [ACLU WEBSITE](#).

additional VOTING RESOURCES

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF ILLINOIS

The ACLU works to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties of everyone in this country.

BALLOTPEDIA - SAMPLE BALLOT LOOKUP

Access a sample ballot for your area, including information about each candidate.

BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE

A nonpartisan law and policy organization that works to reform, revitalize, and defend our country's systems of democracy and justice.

COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND

Uses research, public education, citizen engagement, policy development, and litigation to aim to make the promises of the Constitution real for every American.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

A nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

VOTE RIDERS

Provides voter ID assistance so that every American can cast a ballot that counts.

ASIAN AMERICANS ADVANCING JUSTICE - VOTER HOTLINE

The AAJC voter hotline provides answers to questions about voting and offers assistance in nine Asian languages.

CHICAGO VOTES

A nonpartisan, nonprofit organization building a more inclusive democracy by putting power in the hands of young Chicagoans.

DEMOCRACY WORKS

A nonpartisan, non-profit organization dedicated to making voting a simple, seamless experience for all Americans so that no one misses an election.

NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND - VOTING CENTER

LDF's Prepared to Vote and Voting Rights Defender projects work to protect voting rights and support Black political engagement.

VOTE.ORG

A nonpartisan platform that uses technology to simplify political engagement, increase voter turnout, and strengthen American democracy.

VOTING RIGHTS LAB

A non-partisan organization that brings state advocacy, policy, and legislative expertise to the fight for voting rights.



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CHICAGO, IL 60659

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AMERICANBLUESTHEATER.COM

American Blues Theater sits on the original homelands of the Council of Three Fires (Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa). Read full land acknowledgment at americanbluestheater.com/location.