BWLA 2026 NONPARTISAN VOTER GUIDE

I. VOTER ELIGIBILITY

Registration and Voting Information

- Vote411 - Illinois Personalized Voting Information
  - Check your registration, find your polling place, review voting options and deadlines, and access personalized nonpartisan election information.
- Vote.gov - Illinois Official Voter Registration Information
  - Register to vote, update your registration, or access official registration information.
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission - Illinois Voter Resources
  - Federal election information and connections to state and local election authorities.

Registration Deadlines

- U.S. Vote Foundation - Illinois Election Dates and Deadlines
  - A quick review of the upcoming date for voters in the states and voters that are overseas or military based via Tuesday, November 3, 2026.
- Elections Center - Illinois Election Dates 2026: Voter Deadlines
  - IL Congressional, State, Gubernatorial and Judicial General Election dates from early voting to the ballot return deadline. Polling period 6:00AM-7:00PM for in person voting. Early voting began October 19 and ends November 2, 2026.

Voter ID Requirements

- VoteRiders - Illinois Voter ID Rules
  - Current voter-ID requirements, acceptable forms of identification, alternatives available to voters without ID, and information for voting in person and by mail. VoteRiders also provides free voter-ID assistance.
- Cook County Clerk - Voter ID Need and Not Needed
  - Information about when voters do and do not require identification, and what forms of ID are needed when ID is required.

Voting Rights

- ACLU Illinois - Know Your Rights - Voting in Illinois
  - Guidance on exercising voting rights, responding to voter intimidation, obtaining assistance at the polls, and accessing disability and language accommodations.
- Election Protection - 2026 Black Voters Survival Guide
  - An Election Protection resource developed to help Black voters and other voters of color understand voting challenges, obtain trusted information, and know where to turn for help.

Voting Accessibility

Voters with Disabilities

- National Disability Rights Network - Illinois Voting Rights & Disability Access
  - Resources developed for voters with disabilities, including information about accessible voting, assistance at the polls, guardianship, and connections to Protection and Advocacy organizations in every state and territory.
- Chicago Board of Election Commissioners - Accessibility/Voters with Disabilities
  - A brief overview of how to accommodate voters with disabilities, covering a range of accessibility needs.

Voters Who are Nonbinary or Transgender

- ACLU Illinois - Know Your Rights To Vote If You Are Non-Binary Or Transgender
  - Guide to voting in Illinois as a trans, non-binary, or gender-nonconforming person.

Non-English Speaking Voters

- ACLU Illinois - Know Your Voting Rights for Non-English Speakers
  - Election Protection hotline phone numbers in English, Spanish, Arabic, American Sign Language, and Asian & Pacific languages.

Voters with a Criminal Record

- Campaign Legal Center - Restore Your Vote
  - Information and assistance regarding voting rights for people with felony convictions.

- Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights - Know Your Rights Flyer for System-Impacted Voters

Voters Who Are Unhoused
- Chicago Coalition to End Homelessness - Know Your Rights to Vote if You are Houseless

II. VOTING IN THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026 ELECTION

Ways to Vote

Voting By Mail
- Chicago Elections - Mail In Vote
  - Instructions for Chicago residents who are seeking to vote by mail.
- Cook County Clerk - Vote By Mail
  - Instructions for suburban Cook County voters on mail-in ballots.

Early Voting In-Person
- Chicago Elections - Early Voting Centers
  - Information on how to locate your local early voting center.
- League of Women Voters Chicago - UPCOMING ELECTION
  - Information on how to find early voting locations in Chicago.

Student Voting
- FAQ Students Regarding Voting | VoteU
  - Information for students deciding whether to vote in their new campus location or home state.
- IL Elections | College Student Voter Guide & Vote Riders | Illinois

Voting on Election Day
- Illinois State Board of Elections - Polling Place Lookup
  - Direct link for Illinois voters to look up their polling location based on their zip code.
- Chicago Board of Election Commissioners - City of Chicago Voter Information
  - Election Day voting information for voters in the City of Chicago.
- Cook County Clerk - Suburban Cook County Voter Information
  - Election Day voting information for voters in suburban Cook County.

What's on the Ballot

Issues on the Ballot
- BallotPedia
  - List of Illinois local ballot measures.

Candidates on the Ballot
- Cook County Clerk - All Candidates
  - List of all candidates on the November 3, 2026 ballot in Cook County.

U.S. Senate Candidates
- CBS Chicago - Who is running for U.S. Senate in Illinois in the 2026 general election?
  - Information about each candidate running for U.S. Senate in Illinois. Includes links to each candidate's campaign website.

Judicial Candidates
- Cook County November 2026 Judicial Election Guide
  - Nonpartisan guide to all 61 appellate and circuit court judges running for retention in Cook County's judicial retention elections.

School Board Candidates
- Chicago Suntimes - 2026 Chicago School Board Voter Guide: Candidates & Map

- Candidates running for the Chicago School Board in the November 3, 2026 election. Voters can enter their address, neighborhood, or school to find out which candidates will appear on their ballots and compare candidates.

Election Misinformation

- Brennan Center - Election Misinformation
  - Research and practical resources for how to fight back against election misinformation, including deceptive AI-generated content, common voting myths, election rumors, and strategies for identifying misleading information.

Voter Intimidation & Interference

- Brennan Center - Voter Intimidation Resources
  - Legal and practical resources explaining protections against voter intimidation and election interference, including current federal and state safeguards.
- Transformative Justice Coalition - Election Protection Resources
  - Transformative Justice Coalition's voter resources, including Barbara R. Arnwine's downloadable "72+ Forms of Voter Suppression" guide, which identifies a wide range of barriers and tactics that may affect voter access and participation.
- Brennan Center - Vote Safely in 2026
  - What to do if ICE or federal agents come to the polls.

Election Protection Hotlines

- Election Protection: to connect with trained, nonpartisan Election Protection volunteers.
  - English: 866-OUR-VOTE (**1-866-687-8683**)
  - Spanish: 888-VE-Y-VOTA (**1-888-839-8682**)
  - Asian languages: 888-API-VOTE (**1-888-274-8683**)
  - Arabic: 844-YALLA-US (**1-844-925-5287**)
  - American Sign Language video call number: 301-818-VOTE (**301-818-8683**)
- Illinois State Board of Elections: to contact the State Board of Elections, which serves as the central authority for all Illinois election law, information and procedures in Illinois.
  - Springfield Office: **217-782-4141**
  - Chicago Office: **312-814-6440**
- Equip for Equality Voting Helpline: for voters with disabilities who need help or have problems voting on Election Day.
  - **1-800-537-2632**