
GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION – MARCH 17, 2026

All precincts

2 year term

ELIGIBILITY/RESIDENCY: A candidate must be a qualified registered voter in the district for which he/she seeks to be a candidate. (10 ILCS 5/5-7)

CIRCULATION PERIOD: August 5, 2025 through November 3, 2025. (10 ILCS 5/2A1.1b)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS: 10 signatures (10 ILCS 5/7-10(i))

NOMINATION PAPERS must contain:

1. Statement of Candidacy: #P-1 (10 ILCS 5/7-10)

The form of the candidate's name for inclusion on the ballot will be taken from the Statement of Candidacy. The Statement of Candidacy form must include, among other requirements, the candidate's name, the candidate's legal address and the office sought. The form of the candidate's name may include his or her given name, initials, or nickname.

Changes cannot be made after the filing of the nomination papers.

2. Petition for Nomination: #P-10 (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-10.2)

The top of each petition page must include the candidate's name, legal address, title of office, term and district (if applicable). The form of the candidate's name should be the same on every petition for nomination page. The form of the candidate's name may include their given name, initials, or nickname. No degree or title may be used, with the exception of the title "Mrs."

Candidates must have the required number of signatures as indicated on the following page.

The person circulating the petition for nomination must complete and sign the bottom portion in the presence of a notary. Each petition page must be notarized. The person circulating the petition for nomination may not notarize their own circulator's affidavit and signature. Blank petition pages may be photocopied or additional forms are available from the Kankakee County Clerk's office.

All petition pages must be the same size (either legal or letter), fastened together and numbered.

3. Loyalty Oath: #P-1C (optional) (10 ILCS 5/7-10.1)

If completed, file with nomination papers.

FILING DATES AND PROCEDURES: (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1b)

1. Nomination papers are filed **Monday, October 27th, 2025 through Monday, November 3rd, 2025**, with the **Kankakee County Clerk** during normal office hours. Petitions may be filed in person by the candidate or a representative, or by mail. **Nomination papers received in the mail before the first day of the filing period will be returned to the sender as not filed.**
2. Nomination papers will be stamped noting the day and hour filed. A receipt is issued to the filer. All petitions filed by persons waiting in line at 8:30 a.m. on the first day of filing, **October 27th, 2025**, and those petitions received in the day's first mail delivery are deemed **"simultaneously"** filed. Petitions filed within the last hour of filing on **November 3rd** are also deemed **"simultaneously"** filed.
3. Candidates for established political parties appear first on the ballot followed by new political party candidates and finally, by independent candidates. Ballot position within each of these categories is determined by the time of filing. A public lottery determines ballot position when two or more petitions from the same political party are simultaneously filed for the same office. The Kankakee County Clerk will notify candidates involved in the lottery of the time and place the lottery is to be held.

This packet of information is being provided by the Kankakee County Clerk's office as a courtesy to prospective candidates. Information and suggested forms are also available on the Illinois State Board of Elections website at www.elections.il.gov. It is important to note that Nominating Petition papers are subject to legal challenge by objectors if improperly completed. The Electoral Board, chaired by the County Clerk, holds hearings to consider and resolve these objections. However, please be advised that the County Clerk and staff are not able to provide legal opinions to individuals regarding their petition papers. Prospective candidates are encouraged to consult their own legal advisors on questions related to qualifications for office, preparation of petition papers, circulator requirements, signature requirements, etc., because once the petition papers are officially filed they cannot be changed or amended.

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

NAME:	OFFICE:
ADDRESS – ZIP CODE:	A Full Term is sought, unless an unexpired term is stated here: _____ year unexpired term
	DISTRICT:
	PARTY:

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, _____ (Name of Candidate) 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 and am a qualified Primary voter of the _____ Party; that I am a candidate for Nomination/Election to the office of _____ in the _____ District, to be voted upon at the primary election to be held on _____ (date of election) and that I am legally qualified (including being the holder of any license that may be an eligibility requirement for the office to which I seek the nomination) 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 _____ (Name of Party) Primary ballot for Nomination/Election for 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)

**PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSON
PRIMARY PETITION**

We, the undersigned, members of and affiliated with the _____ Party and qualified primary electors of the _____ Party, in _____ (township name and precinct number) in the County of _____, State of Illinois, do hereby petition that _____ who resides at _____ in the City, Village, Unincorporated Area of _____ (if unincorporated, list municipality that provides postal service) Zip Code _____, County of _____ and State of Illinois, shall be a candidate of the _____ Party for election to the office of **PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSON**, for _____ (township name and precinct number), to be voted for at the primary election to be held on _____ (date of election).

If required pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/7-10.2, 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 for 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 qualified voters of the _____ Party in the political division in which the candidates is seeking nomination/elective office, and that 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. _____

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)

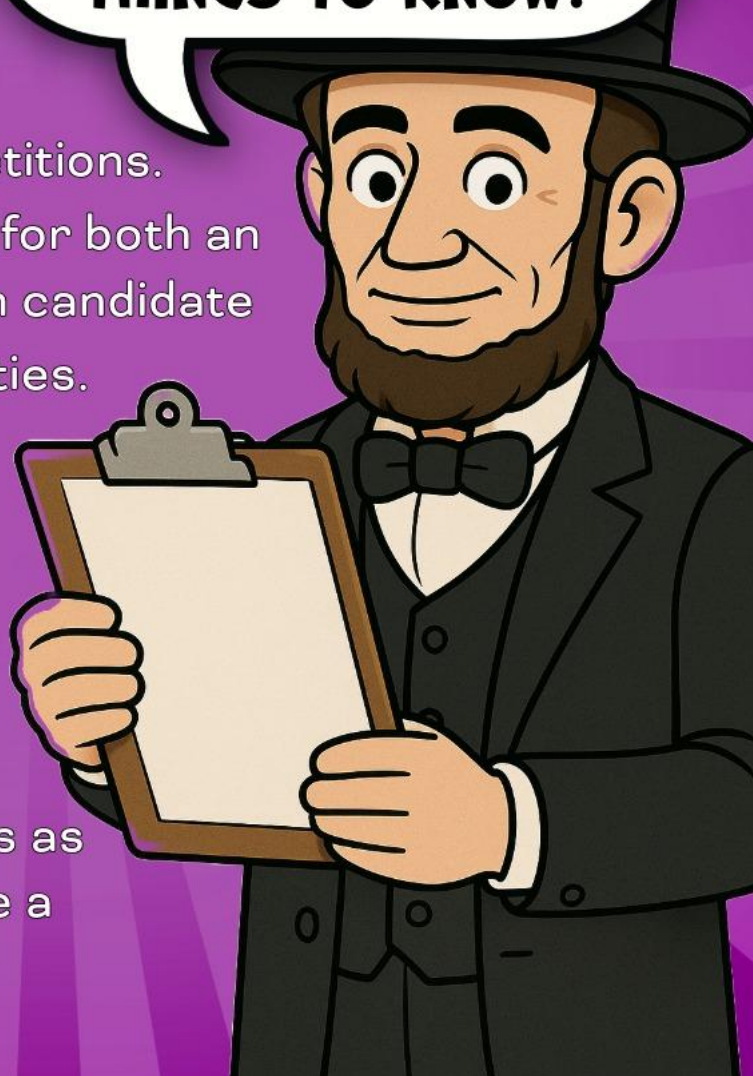
(SEAL)




**MAKING A PLAN TO
CIRCULATE YOUR
PETITIONS LATER THIS
YEAR? HERE ARE SOME
THINGS TO KNOW!**

HONEST ABE TIP №4

- Candidates **can** gather signatures for their own petitions.
- A circulator **cannot** work for both an independent and a partisan candidate or for multiple political parties.
- Circulators must be U.S. citizens and at least 18 years old by the next general election, but they **do not** need to be registered voters.
- **Only** the person who signs as the circulator can circulate a specific petition sheet.





**CALL ME ABE, CALL ME
HONEST—BUT NOT
LAWYER LINCOLN. EVEN
I CAN'T CAMPAIGN IN A
TOP HAT AND A TITLE.**

HONEST ABE TIP №9

Your name should appear exactly the same on the petition sheets, Statement of Candidacy, and Loyalty Oath.

Candidates can use their full name, initials, or a commonly known nickname along with their last name.

Not allowed:

- Titles (like Dr., Judge, or Rev.)
- Degrees (like Ph.D., M.D.)
- Professional or honorary designations
- Political slogans (even if it's part of the candidate's legal name)

Election officials won't certify names that break these rules.

Our posts are for general information only and do not constitute legal advice. For guidance specific to your situation, please consult a qualified attorney.



HONEST ABE TIP №11

Petition Signing Rules (Illinois)

- **Sign Your Own Name** — You must sign the petition yourself. No one else (even family) can sign for you.
- **Be a Registered Voter** — You must be registered at the address listed next to your signature and live in the area where the candidate is running.
- **Include Full Address** — Include your street (or rural route), city/town/village, county, and state. Standard abbreviations are OK. If all signers live in the same place, parts of the address may be pre-printed.
- **One Party Per Election** — You can't sign for candidates from more than one party for the same election.
- **You Can Switch Parties** — You may change party affiliation from one election to the next.

Primary vs. General — You can sign for:

- One established party candidate in the Primary, and
- One new party or independent candidate in the General.
- **Same Party, Multiple Candidates** — You can sign for as many candidates as you want from the same party in a Primary.

FOUR SCORE AND SEVEN YEARS AGO, SOMEONE TRIED TO SIGN FOR THEIR COUSIN. DON'T BE THAT GUY.

