

TASHA SIMS

DEKALB COUNTY, ILLINOIS ♦ COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER
110 E. Sycamore St., Sycamore, IL 60178 ♦ (815) 895-7147 ♦ dekalbcountyclerk.il.gov

Frequently Asked Questions about Candidate Filing and Objections March 17, 2026 Primary Election

Who files petitions at the DeKalb County Clerk's Office?

Candidates seeking the following county offices will file nominating papers with the Clerk's office: County Clerk & Recorder, Sheriff, Treasurer, Regional Superintendent of Schools, County Board Members (All 12 Districts: *4-year terms*), and County Board Member (District 5, District 12: *2-year unexpired terms*). The candidates for Precinct Committeepersons are elected at the Primary; everyone else is nominated by their respective parties.

Federal, State and Judicial candidates file with the Illinois State Board of Elections in Springfield, Illinois.

What time does candidate filing begin on Monday, October 27 at the DeKalb County Clerk's Office?

Petition filing will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, October 27 at the DeKalb County Administration Building located at 110 E. Sycamore St., Sycamore, IL.

What happens if several people file simultaneously for the same office?

Candidates running for the same office, standing in line at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, October 27 to file nomination papers will be time-stamped for 8:30 a.m. and included in the lottery for first ballot position and following positions in the order in which their names will appear on the ballot. Additionally, candidates for the same office who file nomination petitions between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. on the last day of filing – Monday, November 3, 2025 – will be included in the ballot lottery for last ballot position. Anyone who filed after 8:30 a.m. on October 27 and before 3:59 p.m. on November 3 will be on the ballot in the order they turned in their nomination paperwork.

When is the deadline for filing nomination papers?

The deadline is 5 p.m. on Monday, November 3 at the DeKalb County Clerk's Office, Election Division, 110 E. Sycamore St., Sycamore, IL.

Can my filings be rejected by the DeKalb County Clerk?

Pursuant to election law, the County Clerk will review nomination papers for apparent conformity with the requirements of the election law, including whether the nomination papers include properly executed original documents. Candidates whose nomination papers are not in apparent conformity with the law will not be certified.

Where are objections to petitions filed?

If the petition was filed with the Clerk's Office, the objection should also be filed with the Clerk's Office, 110 E. Sycamore St., Sycamore, IL.

Voters wishing to file an objection must file an original and two copies – objection petitions that do not include an original and two copies will not be accepted by the Clerk's Office.

When is the last day to file an objection to a petition?

The last day to file an objection with the Clerk's Office is 4:30 p.m. on Monday, November 10, for all local offices.

Who oversees objections?

The DeKalb County Officers Electoral Board hears objections to all petitions filed with the Clerk's Office. The Electoral Board is composed of the designee of DeKalb County Clerk & Recorder, Tasha Sims, who sits as Chair of the Board; DeKalb County State's Attorney, Riley Oncken, or his designee; and DeKalb County Circuit Clerk, Lori Grubbs, or her designee.

What is the objection appeal process?

Once the Board has issued a decision, a losing party may appeal the decision to the DeKalb County Circuit Court.

How can campaigns check whether petition signers are registered to vote? Terminals can be available in our Elections Division of the Count Clerk's Office, 110 E. Sycamore St., Sycamore, IL. Please contact our Office at 815-895-7147 or email at elections@dekalbcounty.org to request the use of the computer terminals.

Additionally, the Clerk's Office can provide a list of registered voters' names and addresses for DeKalb County residents. This can be done by precinct or district. Under Illinois law, such lists are available only to registered campaigns or committees and must be requested in writing.

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