



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER
DEKALB COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Tasha Sims, DeKalb County Clerk & Recorder



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Tuesday, November 3, 2026 – General Election Important Dates

Candidate & Ballot Deadlines

Friday, August 21: Last day for the Illinois State Board of Elections to certify the names of established political party candidates for the General Election.

Thursday, August 27: Last day for the County Clerk to certify the General Election ballot.

Thursday, September 3: Last day to file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a Write-In Candidate.

Referenda Question Deadlines

Monday, August 17: Last day for local governing boards to adopt a Resolution or Ordinance to allow a binding or advisory public question to appear on the ballot.

Thursday, August 27: Last day for local officials to certify questions of public policy to the Election Authority.

Voter Registration, Early Voting & Mail Voting Dates

Thursday, September 24: First day of Early Voting at the office of the Election Authority & First Day the Election Authority may mail official ballots to voters who have applied to vote by mail.

Tuesday, October 6: Voter registration closes for Deputy Registrars and local election officials.

Wednesday, October 7 – Tuesday, November 3: Grace period registration & voting.

Sunday, October 18: Online voter registration closes at 11:59 p.m.

Thursday, October 29: Last day to apply for a ballot by mail.

Tuesday, November 3: General Election Day. Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Ballot Counting & Canvassing Results Deadlines

Tuesday, November 17: Deadline for validating and counting provisional ballots and timely postmarked mail ballots received after Election Day.

Tuesday, November 24: Last day for the County Clerk to canvass election results and proclaim results.

Disclaimer: This is not legal advice. The DeKalb County Clerk & Recorder's Office is providing this for general information purposes only. All Candidates should consult with legal counsel regarding election matters. The DeKalb County Clerk & Recorder's Office cannot recommend an attorney or give legal advice on these matters.

For the complete Election Calendar and Candidates Guide please visit the Illinois State Board of Elections Website:

www.elections.il.gov