"The Office of the City Clerk for the City of Kankakee is pleased to provide general information about the 2021 municipal elections to inform interested citizens and potential candidates of important dates and other information required to run for elected, municipal office.

The information contained on this webpage or otherwise provided by the City Clerk's office is NOT legal advice and should NOT be relied upon as such. Sample petition forms and other information is derived from information from the Illinois State Board of Elections. In addition to the information available through the City Clerk's office, a complete State of Illinois Candidate's Guide is published annually by the Illinois State Board of Elections. The State Board of Elections also publishes an Election Official's Handbook and the Election Campaign and Finance Calendar. The guides are available approximately six months prior to the Consolidated Election. The guides are available on the Illinois State Board of Elections website: https://elections.il.gov/. For further detailed and complete information, please refer to the Illinois Election Code (10 ILCS 5/1-1, et seq.) and the Illinois Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/1-1-1, et seq.).

Any information contained herein is not binding, is subject to change, and should not be construed as sufficient argument in response to any objection to any candidate's nominating papers. You are STRONGLY encouraged to seek competent legal advice concerning your rights and obligations as a voter or as a candidate for public office and you should NOT rely solely on the contents of this webpage or any publication. If you do not have an attorney and need assistance in finding one, the Chicago Bar Association has a Lawyer Referral Service that is available at (312) 554-2001 (hearing impaired: (312) 554-2055) and at the following website: https://lrs.chicagobar.org/

Specific petition signature requirements for prospective candidates depends on the type of candidacy, the party affiliation (if any) and the specific office sought. Calculations are made using election result data from the previous municipal election(s). Election result data may be obtained from the Kankakee County Clerk (the Election Authority that administers elections for the City).

All forms should be completed prior to filing. Please note that the City Clerk's office will NOT provide notary services for nominating petitions and will not provide specific advice regarding any candidacy."

MAYOR OR PRESIDENT, ALDERMAN OR TRUSTEE, CLERK, TREASURER

Mayor-Alderman and President-Trustee Form – Municipal

NOTE: Candidates of established political parties file petitions to be placed on the consolidated primary election ballot in municipalities of over 5,000 population.

Municipalities: Municipalities of 5,000 or less population may determine by ordinance, no later than November 15, 2020, that political parties shall nominate candidates for municipal offices by primary election in accordance with Article 7 of the Election Code. (10 ILCS 5/7-1(b))

Cities: Cities of 10,000 or fewer inhabitants may, by ordinance, allow for the appointment of a city treasurer. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-15-5)

Villages of fewer than 5,000 inhabitants may, by resolution, choose to have the clerk appointed by the village president with the concurrence of the village board. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-90(a))

This procedure for election of officers includes municipalities which have adopted the managerial form and retained or later adopted the mayor-aldermanic or president-trustee form of electing their officers. (65 ILCS 5/5-1-2)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Established Party (SBE Form P-10, for primary); New Party (SBE Form P-8 or SBE Form P-8A, for consolidated election); Independent (SBE Form P-3, for consolidated election); Nonpartisan (SBE Form P-5, for primary, as applicable)

Certificate of Officers: New Party officers authorized to fill vacancies in nomination (SBE Form P-8C)

Statement of Candidacy: Established Party (SBE Form P-1, for primary, SBE Form P-1K, for caucus); New Party (SBE Form P-1D); Independent (SBE Form P-1B); Nonpartisan (SBE Form P-1A)

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates (SBE Form P-1C)

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106)

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections or the county clerk.

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified elector of the municipality and one-year residency in the municipality preceding the election. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(a))

Aldermen must reside in the ward at least one year prior to their election. Trustees elected from districts must reside in their municipality at least one year prior to their election. For trustees elected by district in villages with a population of over 5,000, each of the districts shall be represented by one trustee who shall have been a resident of the district for at least six months immediately before their election in the first election after redistricting. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(c), 3.1-25-75(a)(b))

If a person is a resident of a municipality immediately prior to the active duty military service of that person or that person's spouse, resides anywhere outside of the municipality during that active duty military service, and immediately upon completion of that active duty military service is again a resident of the municipality, then the time during which the person resides outside the municipality during the active duty military service is deemed to be time during which the person is a resident of the municipality for purposes of determining the residency requirement. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(d))

A person is not eligible to take the oath of office for a municipal office if that person is, at the time required for taking the oath of office, in arrears in the payment of a tax or other indebtedness due to the municipality or has been convicted in any court located in the United States of any infamous crime, bribery, perjury, or other felony. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-5(b))

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Established Party: For president, mayor, trustee, or clerk, at least .5% (.005) of the qualified primary electors of their party in the city, incorporated town, town, or village. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(e))

For alderman, at least .5% (.005) of the qualified primary electors of their party within their ward, but in no event shall the number of required signatures be less than 25. (10 ILCS 5/7-10(e))

New Party: For the consolidated election, not less than 5% of the total number of persons who voted in the last regular election in the district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

For the first election following redistricting of municipal wards or districts, or for the first election following the initial establishment of such districts or wards in a municipality, a petition to form a new political party in a municipal ward or district shall be signed by qualified voters of the district or ward equal to not less than 5% of the total number of votes cast at the preceding municipal election, as the case may be, for the municipal office voted on throughout the municipality for which the greatest total number of votes were cast for all candidates, divided by the number of districts or wards, but in any event not less than 25 qualified voters of the district or ward. In the case of a petition to form a new political party within a political subdivision in which officers are to be elected from districts and at-large, such petition shall consist of separate components for each district from which an officer is to be elected. (10 ILCS 5/10-2)

Independent: For the consolidated election, not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in the district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

Example: If 1,000 voters cast ballots at the last regular election in the district or political subdivision, the formula of 5% - 8% would result in a signature requirement of 50 – 80. Illinois statutes (10 ILCS 5/10-3) require a difference of 50 between the minimum and maximum. Therefore, the signature requirement would be 50 – 100.

For the first election following redistricting of municipal wards or districts, or for the first election following the initial establishment of such districts or wards in a municipality, nomination papers for an independent candidate for alderman or trustee of such municipality, shall be signed by qualified voters of the district or ward equal to not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of votes cast at the preceding general municipal election, as the case may be, for the municipal office voted on throughout such county or municipality for which the greatest total number of votes were cast for all candidates divided by the number of districts or wards, but in any event not less than 25 qualified voters of the district or ward. (10 ILCS 5/10-3)

Nonpartisan (City): For the consolidated primary election, not less than 5% nor more than 8% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons who voted at the last regular election in the district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. (10 ILCS 5/10-3, 10-3.1)

Nonpartisan (Village): 1% of the total vote cast at the last preceding election in the village for president. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-25-30)

FILING DATES

For established political party candidates and nonpartisan candidates filing for a primary, November 16-23, 2020 (not more than 99 nor less than 92 days prior to the consolidated primary). For new party candidates and independent candidates, December 14-21, 2020 (not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the consolidated election). Caucus certificates for nomination for established party candidates are filed December 14-21, 2020.

WHERE TO FILE

With the appropriate city or village clerk, or in those cities having a Board of Election Commissioners, with the clerk of that Board.

TERM

4 years. The term may be reduced to 2 years by referendum. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-65) Any municipality of less than 500,000 population that originally voted to shorten terms may submit a proposition to lengthen terms. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-75(a))

TERM BEGINS

The terms of elected municipal officers shall commence at the first regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities after receipt of the official election results from the county clerk of the regular municipal election at which the officers were elected, except as otherwise provided by ordinance fixing the date for inauguration of newly elected officers of a municipality. The ordinance shall not, however, fix the time for inauguration of newly elected officers later than the first regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities in the month of June following the election. (65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-15)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

Reports must be filed either on paper or electronically with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704 or 100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 14-100, Chicago, IL 60601.

10 ILCS 5/10-3, 10-4, 10-5.1

X__BIND HERE__X

Suggested
Revised March 2020
SBE No. P-3

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE PETITION

We, the undersigned, qualified voters in the _____ of _____ in the County of _____ and State of Illinois, do hereby petition that the following named person shall be an Independent Candidate for election to the office hereinafter specified to be voted for at the _____ Election to be held on _____(date of election).

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

If required pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/10-5.1, 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)

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 _____)
) SS.
County of _____)

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 of 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 registered voters of the political division in which the candidate is seeking elective office, and 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. _____

10 ILCS 5/10-2, 10-4, 10-5.1

X...BINDA HERE...X

Suggested
Revised March 2019
SBE No. P-8

PETITION FOR NOMINATION
(To Form a New Political Party)

We, the undersigned, qualified voters of the _____ of _____ in the County of _____ and State of Illinois, do declare that it is our intention to form a new political party in the political division aforesaid, to be known and designated as the _____ Party, and do hereby petition that the following named persons shall be candidates for the offices hereinafter specified, to be voted at the _____ Election to be held on _____ (date of election).

THE NEW PARTY'S SLATE OF CANDIDATES IS HEREBY PRESENTED

NAME	OFFICE	ADDRESS - ZIP CODE

(A Full term is sought by each candidate in slate unless an unexpired term is specified along with the office in the "OFFICE" space provided above)

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)

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 _____)
) SS.
County of _____)

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 of 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 registered voters of the political division in which the candidate is seeking elective office, and 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. _____

10 ILCS 5/10-2, 10-4, 10.5-1 X...BIND HERE...X Suggested

Revised April 2018

SBE No. P-8A

PETITION FOR NOMINATION AND FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY (IN CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE IN WHICH OFFICERS ARE TO BE ELECTED FROM DISTRICTS OR WARDS AND AT-LARGE)

We, the undersigned, qualified voters of District/Ward Number _____ in the City, Town or Village of _____, in the County of _____ and State of Illinois, do hereby declare that it is our intention to form a new political party in such city, town or village to be known as the _____ Party and the following named persons shall be candidates of such party for the offices hereinafter specified to be voted at the election to be held on _____(date of election).

NAMES OF CANDIDATES FOR OFFICES TO BE ELECTED AT-LARGE

NAME OF CANDIDATE	OFFICE	ADDRESS - ZIP CODE

NAMES OF CANDIDATES FOR OFFICES TO BE ELECTED BY DISTRICT OR WARD

NAME OF CANDIDATE	OFFICE	DISTRICT OR WARD	ADDRESS - ZIP CODE

(A Full term is sought by each candidate in slate unless an unexpired term is specified along with the office in the "OFFICE" space provided above)

If required pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/10-5.1, 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)

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	

State of _____)
) SS.
County of _____)

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 of 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 registered voters of the political division in which the candidate is seeking elective office, and 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. _____

10 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-5.1

_____ATTACH TO PETITION_____

Suggested
Revised March 2020
SBE No. P-1D

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

NEW POLITICAL PARTY

NAME:	ADDRESS – ZIP CODE:
PARTY:	OFFICE:
CITY, VILLAGE, COUNTY, DISTRICT OR STATE:	A Full Term is sought, unless an unexpired term is stated here:_____year unexpired term

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, _____ 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, that I am a candidate for election to the office

of _____in the _____
(Name of City, Village, Township, County, District or State)

to be voted upon at the 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 election) 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 ballot for election to such office.

_____
(Signature of Candidate)

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) by _____, on _____
(Name of Candidate) (insert month, day, year)

(SEAL)

_____
(Notary Public's Signature)

10 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-5.1

_____ATTACH TO PETITION_____

Suggested
Revised March 2020
SBE No. P-1B

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

INDEPENDENT

NAME:	CITY, VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP, COUNTY, DISTRICT or STATE
ADDRESS – ZIP CODE:	OFFICE: A Full Term is sought, unless an unexpired term is stated here: ____ year unexpired term

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,_____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, that I am a candidate for election to the office of _____ in

the _____to be voted upon at the election to be held on _____ and that
(Name of City, Village, Township, County, District or State) (date of election)

I am legally qualified (including being the holder of any license that may be an eligibility requirement for the office to which I seek election) 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 ballot for election to 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)

_____ATTACH TO PETITION_____

10 ILCS 5/7-10.1

Suggested
Revised July, 2004
SBE No. P-1C

LOYALTY OATH
(OPTIONAL)

United States of America)
) SS.
State of Illinois)

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)

Statement of Economic Interests to be Filed with the County Clerk

Your Name Was Submitted For Filing by an Entity That You Represent
(Type or Print)

Name:

Each Office or Position of Employment for which this Statement is Filed:

Full Post Office Address:

GENERAL DIRECTIONS

The interest (if constructively controlled by the person making the statement) of a spouse or any other party shall be considered to be the same as the interest of the person making the statement. Campaign receipts shall not be included in this statement. **If more space is needed, please attach supplemental listing.**

1. List the name and instrument of ownership in any entity doing business with a unit of local government in relation to which the person is required to file, in which the ownership interest held by the person at the date of filing is in excess of $5,000 fair market value, or from which dividends in excess of $1,200 were received during the preceding calendar year: (In the case of real estate, location thereof shall be listed by the street address, or if none, then by legal description.) No time or demand deposit in a financial institution, nor any debt instrument shall be listed.

Business Entity	Instrument of Ownership	Position of Management

2. List the name, address and type of practice of any professional organization in which the person making the statement was an officer, director, associate, partner or proprietor, or served in any advisory capacity, from which income in excess of $1,200 was derived during the preceding calendar year:

Name	Address	Type of Practice

3. List the nature of professional services rendered (other than to the unit or units of local government in relation to which the person is required to file) to each entity from which income exceeding $5,000 was received for professional services rendered during the preceding calendar year by the person making the statement:

COMPLETE BUT DO NOT DETACH

This section will be returned to you when the Statement is filed with the County Clerk.

Office or Position of Employment for which this statement is filed

(Type or Print)

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP Code

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of your Statement of Economic Interests, filed pursuant to the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. The Statement was filed on this date:

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois. August 2007 — 80M — I-107.8

4. List the identity (including address or legal description of real estate) of any capital asset from which a capital gain of $5,000 or more was realized during the preceding calendar year:

_____

_____

_____

5. List the name of any entity and the nature of the governmental action requested by any entity that has applied to a unit of local government in relation to which the person must file for any license, franchise or permit for annexation, zoning or rezoning of real estate during the preceding calendar year, if the ownership interest of the person filing is in excess of $5,000 fair market value at the time of filing, or if income or dividends in excess of $1,200 were received by the person filing from the entity during the preceding calendar year:

_____

_____

_____

6. List the name of any entity doing business with a unit of local government in relation to which the person is required to file, from which income in excess of $1,200 was derived during the preceding calendar year other than for professional services and the title or description of any position held in that entity: (No time or demand deposit in a financial institution nor any debt instrument need be listed.)

_____

_____

_____

7. List the name of any unit of government that employed the person making the statement during the preceding calendar year, other than the unit or units of government in relation to which the person is required to file:

_____

_____

_____

8. List the name of any entity from which a gift or gifts, or honorarium or honoraria, valued singly or in the aggregate in excess of $500, was received during the preceding calendar year:

_____

_____

_____

VERIFICATION

I declare that this Statement of Economic Interests (including any accompanying schedules and statements) has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is a true, correct and complete statement of my economic interests as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. I understand that the penalty for willfully filing a false or incomplete statement shall be a fine not to exceed $1,000, or imprisonment in a penal institution other than the penitentiary not to exceed one year, or both fine and imprisonment.

_____

Signature of Person Making Statement Date

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois. August 2007 — 80M — I-107.8

DO NOT DETACH
(WILL BE RETURNED AS YOUR RECEIPT)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SIGNING PETITIONS

Are abbreviations allowed on petitions?

Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the resident's address, including the street number.

How should the voter sign their name when they sign the petition?

The voter should sign the petition with the same name that they are registered to vote with; however, signing with a nickname will not invalidate the signature, provided the voter can be identified and it can be shown that the voter is lawfully registered to vote and qualified to sign the petition.

Are pencil signatures allowed?

Yes, but it is advisable to use a pen with dark ink.

Can ditto marks be used on the petitions?

Though ditto marks are not specifically prohibited, it is suggested they be avoided. The use of ditto marks could be objected to and the outcome of an objection cannot be predicted. A circulator can, however, fill in any missing information, except a voter's signature.

May a voter sign a petition for someone else?

No. A registered voter must sign the petition in their own person. They may not sign for someone else, such as another member of their own family. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

Can a voter sign more than one established party candidate's petition?

Yes, a signer can sign petitions for as many candidates of the same established political party as they want, but they cannot sign petitions for different established parties in the same election.

CIRCULATING PETITIONS

May a candidate circulate their own petitions?

Yes.

When can the circulator start collecting signatures?

No more than 90 days prior to the last day for filing petitions. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 8-8, 10-4)

If a candidate finds something wrong with their petitions after they are filed, can a new set of petitions be circulated and filed before the end of the filing period?

Yes, but the candidate must cancel the original set of petitions in writing. If the candidate fails to cancel the original set of petitions, then only the original petitions shall be considered filed and all subsequent petitions shall be void. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(11), 10-6.2)

May a circulator circulate petitions for an independent candidate and a partisan candidate, or for more than one political party?

No person shall circulate or certify petitions for candidates of more than one political party, or for an independent candidate or candidates in addition to one political party, to be voted upon at the next primary or general election, or for such candidates and parties with respect to the same political subdivision at the next consolidated election. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

May a circulator circulate petitions for a partisan candidate, or for more than one political party?

No. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

Does the circulator have to be a registered voter?

No, but they must be a United States citizen and be 18 years of age, or 17 years of age by the immediately following general or consolidated election. (10 ILCS 5/3-6) They must also include their current address on the circulator's affidavit.

May a circulator sign as a voter on the petition they are circulating?

Yes, as long as the circulator is a registered voter in the applicable political subdivision or district.

Can a petition sheet be circulated by more than one individual?

No. Only the person who signs the page as circulator can circulate that sheet. By signing as a circulator, the circulator is attesting that all signers signed in their presence. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)

Who can remove a signature from a nominating petition?

Only the circulator or the candidate on whose behalf the petition was circulated may strike a signature; however, an individual can submit a written request to the proper filing office to have their name removed from the petition before the petition is filed. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-3)

Must the notary of the petition be an Illinois notary and may the notary also be a signatory of the petition?

Under the provisions of the Uniform Recognition of Acknowledgements Act (765 ILCS 30/2): "Notarial acts may be performed outside this State for use in this State with the same effect as if performed by a notary public of this State by the following persons authorized pursuant to the laws and regulations of other governments in addition to any other person authorized by the laws and regulations of this State..." "(1) a notary public authorized to perform notarial acts in the place in which the act is performed..."

It has not been definitively determined whether a notary may also be a signatory to a petition. Some electoral boards and circuit courts have upheld petitions where the notary was also a signer of the petition, but the issue has not yet been decided by the Supreme Court or any appellate court in Illinois. A cautious candidate might wish to avoid using a petition signer as the notary so as to avoid the risk of having to defend against an objection on this issue.

For additional information, contact the Index Department of the Secretary of State's office, 111 E. Monroe, Springfield, IL 62756-0001, (217) 782-7017.

Must the notary put the date of his commission expiration on the document?

Yes, the notary stamp indicates the date the commission expires.

Must the notary public live in the same county as the candidate?

No, but the notary must be authorized to administer oaths in the place where the notary act is performed.

FILING PETITIONS

May a candidate file in person or by mail?

A candidate may file either in person or by mail. However, if the candidate wishes to be in the lottery for the first ballot position, it is advisable to file in person as only candidates whose petitions are received in the first mail delivery on the first day of filing are eligible for the lottery. Candidates should mail by United States Postal Service when mailing to the Illinois State Board of Elections.

May a petition contain the names of two or more candidates of the same established party?

Yes. An established political party petition may contain the names of candidates for several offices to be filled at the upcoming election. The nominating papers must contain a separate Statement of Candidacy signed by each candidate and a receipt for the filing of a Statement of Economic Interests by each candidate. The Loyalty Oath is optional.

May a candidate file more than one set of petitions for the same office?

Yes. However, upon notice from the filing office, the candidate must make a selection in writing to the filing office; otherwise, the set of petitions filed first will be considered the official filing.

May a candidate file for more than one office?

Yes, however, the candidate must withdraw from all but one office within five business days following the last day of petition filing if the offices are incompatible. The withdrawal notice must be in writing and notarized. If the candidate does not withdraw, their name will not be certified for any office.

Does a candidate have to file their own nominating papers?

No. The candidate or an agent of the candidate can file the candidate's petitions.

May a candidate file their own petition and petitions for other candidates at the same time?

Yes.

When may petitions be mailed?

There are no statutory requirements regarding a time element for mailing petitions; however, all petitions must be received during the filing period. All petitions received in the office prior to the opening of the office on the first day of the filing period or after the close of the office on the last day of the filing period will be returned to the sender. (10 ILCS 5/7-12.6, 10-6.2)

May a petition that has been filed be changed?

No. A petition once filed may not be added to or altered; however, the receipt(s) for filing Statements of Economic Interests may be filed at any time during the filing period. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 7-12)

If you are first in line or your petition is in the first mail delivery of the day, will you be first on the ballot?

Not necessarily. If there are two or more candidates in line prior to the opening of the office filing from the same party and for the same office, they would be considered as filing simultaneously along with any petition in the first mail delivery, and will be involved in a lottery to determine ballot position. (10 ILCS 5/7-12(6), 8-9(2), 10-6.2)

NOTE: Candidates who file petitions during the last hour of filing (between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.) on the last day to file petitions are also eligible for a lottery to determine the final ballot position. (Illinois Administrative Rules, Title 26, Section 201.40)

May a candidate file as an independent for a school office?

No. "Independents" run in partisan elections but choose not to associate with a political party, so the word "independent" identifies them on the ballot label. All candidates for school offices run on a "nonpartisan" basis.

When are petitions open to the public?

Upon their filing with the proper office. As a practical matter, there will be some delay in availability while the State Board of Elections or the election authority processes each petition. All certificates of nomination and nomination papers when presented or filed shall be open (under proper regulation) to public inspection and the State Board of Elections, election authorities, and local election officials having charge of nomination papers shall preserve the same in their respective offices not less than six months. (10 ILCS 5/10-7)

CANDIDATE FILING PERIODS
(AND CAUCUS DATE INFORMATION)

ESTABLISHED PARTY AND NONPARTISAN MUNICIPAL OFFICE CANDIDATES

November 16-23, 2020 (10 ILCS 5/7-12(3), 10-6(4))
(Filed not more than 99 nor less than 92 days prior to the date of the primary election)
Filing period for candidates seeking nomination at the **FEBRUARY 23, 2021** Consolidated Primary Election, see page 3.

Petitions may NOT be circulated prior to August 25, 2020. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)
(No more than 90 days preceding the last day for the filing of the petition)

INDEPENDENT, NEW PARTY, COMMISSION-MUNICIPAL, AND NON-MUNICIPAL NONPARTISAN OFFICE CANDIDATES

December 14-21, 2020 (10 ILCS 5/10-6(2))
(Not more than 113 nor less than 106 days prior to the consolidated election)
Filing period for candidates seeking election at the **APRIL 6, 2021** Consolidated Election, see page 5.

Petitions may NOT be circulated prior to September 22, 2020. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)
(No more than 90 days preceding the last day for the filing of the petition)

CAUCUS DATE INFORMATION

In MUNICIPALITIES under 5,000 population, established political parties hold their caucuses on December 7, 2020, and file their certificates of nomination with the municipal clerk during the filing period, December 14-21, 2020.
(10 ILCS 5/10-1(a))

NOTE: Municipalities of 5,000 or less may determine by ordinance (by November 15, 2020) that established political parties shall nominate candidates for municipal offices by primary election. (10 ILCS 5/7-1(b))

TOWNSHIP CAUCUS – December 1, 2020 (60 ILCS 1/45-10)
MULTI-TOWNSHIP CAUCUS – December 2, 2020 (60 ILCS 1/45-25)

New political parties: The SBE does not require new political parties to submit a full-slate of candidates, in accordance with the Seventh Circuit's 2017 ruling which found the full-slate requirement unconstitutional. *Libertarian Party of Illinois v. Scholz, et al.,* 872 F.3d 518 (7th Cir. 2017).