Office of the County Clerk

Karen A. Yarbrough, Cook County Clerk

Fuesday, February 23, 2021 – Consolidated Primary Election General Information

Candidate Filing Dates & Deadlines

Tuesday, August 25: First day to circulate petitions for established political parties and nonpartisan candidates (municipalities)

Monday, November 16 – Monday, November 23: Petition filing period for established political party candidates & nonpartisan candidates (municipalities)

Wednesday, December 2: Last day for filing objections to nomination papers of candidates who filed during the November 16 – November 23 filing period

*Last day to withdraw (incompatible offices)

*Last day to conduct ballot placement lottery

Thursday, December 17: Last day to file a Withdrawal of Candidacy with the local election official or authority

Thursday, December 24: Last day to file a notarized Declaration of Intent to be a Write-in Candidate

Referenda Question Deadlines

Monday, November 23: Last day for filing petitions for referenda for the submission of questions of public policy with the local election official

Monday, December 7: Last day for local governing boards to adopt a resolution or ordinance to allow a binding public question to appear on the ballot

Certification of Ballot Deadline

Thursday, December 17: Last day for the local election official to certify candidates, offices and any referenda questions to the election authority

Voter Registration, Early Voting & Mail Voting

Friday, January 8: Military & overseas ballots available

Thursday, January 14: First day to mail ballots (if available)

Tuesday, January 26: Voter registration closes for deputy registrars and local election officials

Wednesday, January 27 - Monday, February 22 Grace period registration & voting period

Sunday, February 7: Online voter registration closes

Monday, February 8 – Monday, February 22: Early Voting period

Thursday, February 18: Last day to apply for a ballot by mail

Friday, February 19: Nursing home voting

Disclaimer: This is not legal advice. The Cook County Clerk's office is providing this for general information purposes only. All Candidates should consult with legal counsel regarding election matters. The Cook County Clerk'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
 - Visit the Cook County Clerk's Website: www.cookcountyclerk.com