

ELECTION CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION - MARCH 20, 2012

September 6, 2011	First day to circulate petitions for established political parties (90 days before last day to file)
November 28 – December 5, 2011*	Petition filing period for established political parties (not more than 113 and not less than 106 days prior to the general primary)*
December 12, 2011	Last day to withdraw when an individual has filed for 2 or more incompatible offices (filed within 5 business days after last day for filing)
December 12, 2011	Last day to file objections to nominating petitions for November 28 through December 5 filing period (filed within 5 business days after last day for filing)
December 14, 2011	Last day to conduct lottery for November 28 through Dec. 5 filing period (conducted within 9 days following the last day of petition filing)
December 19 – 27, 2011	Special judicial filing period (not more than 92 nor less than 85 days prior to the general primary for vacancies occurring during November 14-December 5)
December 19, 2011	Last day to file petition for public question (certain exceptions apply)
January 3, 2012	Last day to adopt a resolution or ordinance for binding/advisory public question
January 4, 2012	Last day to file objections to nominating petitions for special judicial filing period (filed within 5 business days after last day for filing)
January 4, 2012	Last day to withdraw when an individual has filed for 2 or more incompatible offices during the special judicial filing period (filed within 5 business days after last day for filing)
January 5, 2012	Last day to conduct lottery for special judicial filing period (conducted within 9 days after last day for filing)
January 12, 2012	Last day for candidates of established political parties to withdraw nomination papers with the SBE

January 12, 2012	Certification of ballot by SBE (68 days before general primary)
January 18, 2012	Last day for established party candidates to file withdrawal of nomination papers in the office of the county clerk (62 days before general primary)
January 18, 2012	Last day for the county clerk to certify to the board of election commissioners the names of all candidates to be voted for in said board's jurisdiction (62 days before general primary)
January 19, 2012**	Last day to file a Declaration of Intent to be a write-in candidate with the appropriate election authority or authorities (61 days prior to the election)**
February 6, 2012	Last day for E/A to have ballots available for mailing to persons in the U.S. service or their spouse and dependents, citizens temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the U.S. and nonresident civilians (45 days prior to primary)
February 9, 2012	First day any registered voter within the confines of the U.S. to make application by mail or in person to the E/A for an official ballot. (40 days prior to primary)
February 21, 2012	Last day for registration or transfer of registration within the office of the election authority. Registration closes 27 days preceding an election. (Please check with the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners or the Cook County Clerk's office as other provisions may apply)
February 22, 2012	First day for grace period registration and grace period voting in the office of the election authority or at a location designated for this purpose by the election authority. Grace period voting may be done by mail at the discretion of the election authority. (begins at the close of registration and continues until the 7 th day prior to the election)
February 27, 2012	First day for early voting at the office of the election authority or at a location designated by the election authority for this purpose. (begins 22nd day preceding election and extends through the 5 th day prior to an election)
March 12, 2012	Last day for any member of the U.S. Service, spouse, and dependents to make application for an absentee ballot and the last day for the election authority to mail such ballot. (not less than 10 days before the election)

<p>March 12, 2012</p>	<p>Last day for any nonresident civilian and any citizen of the U.S. temporarily residing outside the U.S. to make application for an absentee ballot and the last day for the election authority to mail an official ballot containing federal offices only. (not less than 10 days before the election)</p>
<p>March 13, 2012</p>	<p>Last day for grace period registration and grace period voting in the office of the election authority. Grace period voting may be done by mail at the discretion of the election authority. (7th day prior to election)</p>
<p>March 15, 2012</p>	<p>Last day for early voting at the office of the election authority or at a location designated by the election authority. (5th day before election)</p>
<p>March 15, 2012</p>	<p>Last day for the election authority to receive an application for an absentee ballot from any registered voter within the confines of the U.S. and for the election authority to mail such ballot. (5th day before election)</p>
<p>March 19, 2012</p>	<p>Last day to make application in person to vote an absentee ballot</p>

*P.A. 96-1008 changed the filing periods for presidential preference candidates, delegates, and alternate delegates to 113-106 days prior to the general primary. There is a provision that if party rules conflict with that date an alternate filing period is provided. Current statute left the alternate filing period as 69-62 days for presidential preference candidates and 83-76 days before the general primary for delegate/alternate delegate candidates. Proposed legislation would amend 96-1008 changing the alternate filing periods for presidential preference, delegate/alternate delegate candidates to 78-71 days prior to the general primary.

The 78-71 day period prior to the general primary is January 2 through January 9, 2012. January 2 is a state holiday so the filing period would be January 3 through January 9 pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/1-6 of the Election Code.

** Proposed Amendment to P.A. 96-1008 would change the write-in filing deadline to 68 days prior to the election which would be January 12, 2012