

MARCH 17

2026 PRIMARY ELECTION

at a glance

DECEMBER
17

Vote By Mail Applications Open

JANUARY
30

**Uniformed and Overseas Citizens
Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)
Balloting Begins**

FEBRUARY
5

Vote By Mail Ballots Begin to be Mailed
**Last day to register for Pollwatcher
Credentials**

FEBRUARY
12

Early Voting begins in Downtown Chicago
• **NEW SUPERSITE LOCATION!** 137 S. State St.
• 69 W. Washington St. – 6th Floor

FEBRUARY
17

Last Day for Paper Voter Registration

FEBRUARY
18

**First day of Same Day Registration
and Voting**

MARCH
1

**Last day to Register to Vote Online at
ova.elections.il.gov**

MARCH
2

**Early Voting begins in all 50 Wards of
Chicago**
Any voter can vote at any Early Voting site!

MARCH
12

Deadline to Apply to Vote By Mail

MARCH
17

Election Day
*Vote at your assigned precinct polling
place or any of 51 vote centers!*

USPS MAIL:

No stamp required. Return your ballot
for free using USPS Mail.



SECURE DROP BOXES

Vote By Mail ballots may be returned
at any of the 52+ Secure Drop Boxes
across the city – for locations, go to:
chicagolections.gov/voting/drop-boxes



BALLOT RETURN DEADLINE

7:00pm, Tuesday, March 17, 2026

Vote By Mail ballots must be properly postmarked by
March 17 or returned via Secure Drop Box by 7:00pm.
Voters are encouraged to return their VBM ballot back
as soon as they can. In Illinois, election authorities
will continue to count properly postmarked ballots
through March 31.

WAYS TO VOTE

VOTE BY MAIL



Learn more at chicagolections.gov/voting/vote-mail

EARLY VOTING



Learn more at chicagolections.gov/voting/early-voting

ELECTION DAY (MARCH 17)



Vote at your assigned precinct polling
place or a vote center between
6:00am-7:00pm. Find your polling
place at chicagolections.gov/voting/your-voter-information



Questions?

Email us at cboe@chicagolections.gov
or call us at 312.269.7900
ChicagoElections.Gov