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**FACTS  
FOR VOTERS  
ON REGISTRATION  
AND VOTING**

*Prepared By*

**DAVID D. ORR**

County Clerk of Cook County

**YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE IN GOVERNMENT  
SPEAK OUT — REGISTER!**



## **REGISTRATION**

### **WHEN IS REGISTRATION NECESSARY?**

With few exceptions, all persons in Illinois must register in order to vote. Once registered, however, a voter remains validly registered until such time as the voter moves, has a name change or fails to vote within four years.

The major exception to the registration requirement is granted to members of the United States Service, their spouses and dependents residing with them, while on active duty. These persons may vote by absentee ballot in the precinct in which they resided prior to active duty without having to be registered.

### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER?**

In order to be eligible to register, a person, as of the day of the next election, must be:

- a citizen of the United States
- 18 years of age or older
- a resident within the precinct for at least 30 days

### **RESIDENCE**

A residence is defined as the person's principal dwelling place or permanent abode. It is the place the individual considers to be "home." No one may register from an office or other place of business unless he actually lives at that location.

## **FOREIGN BORN CITIZENS**

Persons born in Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands derive American citizenship at birth.

## **NATURALIZED CITIZENS**

If one has become a citizen through naturalization, either his own or his parents, then that person must provide information concerning that naturalization to the Clerk's office in order to register.

## **WHERE MAY A PERSON REGISTER TO VOTE?**

Residents of Cook County who reside outside the City of Chicago may register to vote at the Office of the County Clerk at the following locations:

118 North Clark Street  
Room 402  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Maywood Civic Center  
1311 Maybrook Drive  
Witcomb Bldg. - Rm. 109  
Maywood, Illinois 60513

Bridgeview Civic Center  
10202 W. 76th Avenue  
Bridgeview, Illinois 60453

Rolling Meadows Civic Center  
2121 Euclid Avenue  
Rolling Meadows, Illinois 60008

Markham Civic Center  
16501 S. Kedzie Avenue  
Markham, Illinois 60426

Skokie Civic Center  
5600 W. Old Orchard Road  
Room 149  
Skokie, Illinois 60077

The Office of the County Clerk has business hours between the hours of 9:00 A.M., and 5:00 P.M. on weekdays and 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon on Saturday. The Clerk's Office is closed on Sundays and all legal holidays.

Residents of Suburban Cook County may also register at their municipal or township clerks' offices. One should consult his local clerk for specific office hours.

Residents of the City of Chicago register with the office of the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, which is located in Room 308 of City Hall. The Board's telephone number is 269-7900.

## **WHEN MAY A PERSON REGISTER TO VOTE?**

### **Clerk's Office Registration**

A citizen may register to vote at the locations shown above on the following dates:

1991 Consolidated Primary Election:

Until January 28, 1991

1991 Consolidated Election:

From February 28, 1991 through  
March 5, 1991

1991 Nonpartisan Election:

From April 4, 1991 through  
October 7, 1991

**PLEASE NOTE: IF YOUR AREA IS NOT CONDUCTING  
A PRIMARY, REGISTRATION WILL  
REMAIN OPEN THROUGH  
MARCH 5, 1991.**

### **Physically Disabled Voters**

Persons who have a permanent physical disability and are unable to leave their residences in order to register may call the Office of the County Clerk to arrange to register in their homes.

### **Change of Address**

A registered voter who has moved from one residence in suburban Cook County to another residence in suburban Cook County may transfer their registration by notifying the Clerk's Office of the move. This can be done by supplying the information of the backside of the person's Verification of Voter's Registration card and forwarding it to the Office of the County Clerk. A transfer of registration can also be made by letter, showing the old and new addresses, or by completing an Application for Transfer of Registration, which may be secured from the Office of the County Clerk. All applications for transfer of registration **MUST** bear the signature of the voter.

A transfer due to change of address must be made by January 28, 1991 in order to vote in the February 26, 1991 Consolidated Primary Election; by March 5, 1991 in order to vote in the April 2, 1991 Consolidated Election; or by October 7, 1991 in order to vote in the November 5, 1991 Nonpartisan Election.

### **Change of Name**

Any registered voter who changes his or her name more than 28 days prior to election day must re-register to be eligible to vote.

# VOTING

## DAYS OF ELECTION IN 1991

Consolidated Primary Election, February 26, 1991

Consolidated Election, April 2, 1991

Nonpartisan Election, November 5, 1991

The polls are open from 6:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

## VOTING BY ABSENT ELECTORS

Certain voters may be eligible to vote as absent electors. They are as follows:

1. Voter who expects to be absent from the County on Election Day
2. Voter who is a Judge of Election in a precinct other than the precinct of residence
3. Voter who is physically incapacitated
4. Voter who is observing a religious holiday and whose tenets of religion prevent the voter from appearing at the polls in person
5. Voter who is performing election duties for the office of an election authority
6. Voter who is in the United States Service
7. Voter who is a citizen temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States
8. Voter who is a non-resident civilian citizen
9. Voter who has changed residence within 30 days of a Federal Election

## VOTING ABSENTEE BY MAIL

Any voter in categories 1 through 5 may apply by mail to vote by absentee ballot not more than 40 days nor less than *5 days prior to the Elections.*

Various dates apply to voter in categories 6 through 9. If the circumstances described in those categories apply, then contact the Office of the County Clerk for specific dates.

If applications for absentee ballot are properly completed by the voter, then an absent voter's ballot will be mailed to the applicant.

## VOTING ABSENTEE IN PERSON

Any other in categories 1 through 5 and category 9 may apply to vote absentee in person in the principal office of the County Clerk up to the day prior to the Elections. Ballots are usually available four weeks prior to the election.

This leaflet has been prepared for your convenience by **David D. Orr**, Cook County Clerk, in the hope that it may serve as a source of information. If you have any other questions about registration or voting you may obtain the information by visiting the office of the County Clerk, Room 402, County Building, or by calling **1-312-443-5150**.

Township: \_\_\_\_\_

Ward: \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct: \_\_\_\_\_

Polling Place: \_\_\_\_\_