
2024 General Primary and General Election Calendar

The holidays are here, and another election date is on the horizon. The General Primary Election on March 19, 2024 will see candidates for State Senator and Representatives in the General Assembly nominated as well as candidates for county office. Those nominated will stand for election on November 5, 2024.

School, municipal, and local government board members do not stand for election in this cycle, but sometimes have referendum questions on the ballot. The below calendar is primarily focused on dates related to referendum questions. In reviewing and consulting the calendar, please be mindful that while every effort has been made to verify the information in this bulletin, you should consult with legal counsel regarding your particular circumstances. If any dates shown below change due to legislative or administrative action, we will issue a supplemental bulletin describing the changes.

Also, certain dates fall on Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays. The applicable deadline may be moved forward or remain the same depending on the law for that deadline and whether the pertinent government office is open. Action on referendum questions should be taken early to ensure that no challenge can be made to the timeliness of that action.

Complete information and forms are available on the State Board of Elections' web site, www.elections.state.il.us. Chapter, Act and Section references are to the Illinois Compiled Statutes.

2024 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION CALENDAR – KEY DATES			
DATE	DAYS BEFORE ELECTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EVENT
Monday, 12/18/23	92	Board secretary or municipal or local government clerk accepts petitions	Last day for filing petitions for referenda for the submission of questions of public policy. (EXCEPTIONS: propositions to create a political subdivision and referenda held under the provisions of Liquor Control Act Article IX and Property Tax Code Section 18-120.) (10 ILCS 5/28-2(a), 28-6, 28-7)
Tuesday, 12/26/23	84	Objector	Last day to file objections to petitions to submit local public policy questions to referendum. (EXCEPTIONS: propositions to create a political subdivision and referenda held under provisions of Liquor Control Act Article IX and Property Tax Code Section 18-120.) Objections to petitions for local referenda are filed with the same office that received the original petitions. (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)

2024 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION CALENDAR – KEY DATES

DATE	DAYS BEFORE ELECTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EVENT
Tuesday, 1/2/24	77*	Municipal board, school and community college boards, other authorized local governing boards	Last day for board to adopt resolution or ordinance for referendum on binding public policy question. (10 ILCS 5/28-2(c), 28-5.) <i>*Note: Because the 79th day before the election falls on Sunday, December 31, 2023, and Monday January 1, 2024 is New Years' Day, the law permits adoption of a resolution through Tuesday, January 2, 2024. We recommend taking action no later than Friday, December 29, 2024.</i>
Tuesday, 1/2/24	77*	Municipal board, school and community college boards, and other authorized local governing boards	Last day to place advisory referenda on the ballot by resolution. (not less than 79 days before election). (105 ILCS 5/9-1.5; 55 ILCS 5/5-1005.5; 60 ILCS 1/80-80; 65 ILCS 5/3.1-40-60; 70 ILCS 1205/8-30.) <i>*Note: Because the 79th day before the election falls on Sunday, December 31, 2023, and Monday January 1, 2024 is New Years' Day, the law permits adoption of a resolution through Tuesday, January 2, 2024. We recommend taking action no later than Friday, December 29, 2024.</i>
Thursday, 1/11/24	68	Board secretary or municipal or local government clerk	Last day for local election official to certify all public questions to each election authority having jurisdiction over the political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/28-5)
Friday, 1/19/24	60	Election Authority, board secretary, or municipal or local government clerk	First day for election authority to publish Notice of Referenda. (10 ILCS 5/12-1 and 12-5) The election authority shall post a copy of the notice at its principal office. First day for local election official to post, at the principal office of the district, municipality or township, a copy of the notice of any referenda to be submitted to the voters of the political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/12-5)
Thursday, 2/8/24	40	Election Authority	First day for early voting at the office of the election authority and temporary locations designated by the election authority. Temporary polling locations for early voting can be established at the discretion of the

IN BRIEF

2024 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION CALENDAR – KEY DATES

DATE	DAYS BEFORE ELECTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EVENT
			election authority, and the dates and hours are also at the discretion of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)
Monday, 3/11/24	8	Election Authority	Last day for the election authority to publish a notice of any question of public policy to be voted upon within the jurisdiction. The election authority shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the election authority. Board secretaries and municipal, township and local government clerks shall also post a copy of the notice at the principal office of the political or governmental subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/12-5)
Thursday, 3/14/24	5	Election Authority	Last day for the election authority to publish the specimen ballots, as near as may be in the form in which they will appear on the official ballots on Election Day. (10 ILCS 5/24A-18, 24B-18, 24C-18)
Friday, 3/15/24	4	Election Authority	Last day for the election authority to have official ballots available for inspection by candidates or their agents. (10 ILCS 5/16-5)
Monday, 3/18/24	1	Election Authority	Last day for early voting at the office of the election authority and locations designated by the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)
Tuesday, 3/19/24	0	Election Authority	GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
DATE	DAYS AFTER ELECTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EVENT
Tuesday, 4/9/24	21	Election Authority	Last day for canvassing of election results, including referenda results, by proper canvassing board. (EXCEPTION: State Board of Elections as canvassing board) (10 ILCS 5/7-56, 18A-15(a); 22-17)

IN BRIEF

2024 GENERAL ELECTION CALENDAR – KEY DATES

DATE	DAYS BEFORE ELECTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EVENT
Monday, 8/5/24	92	Clerk or board secretary of a unit of local government or school district	Last day for submission of petitions for questions of public policy to the board secretary or municipal clerk. (EXCEPTIONS: propositions to create a political subdivision and referenda held under the provisions of Liquor Control Act Article IX and Property Tax Code Section 18-120.) (10 ILCS 5/28-2(a), 28-6, 28-7)
Monday, 8/12/24	85	Objector	Last day to file objections to petitions to submit local public policy questions to referendum. (EXCEPTIONS: propositions to create a political subdivision and referenda held under provisions of Liquor Control Act Article IX and Property Tax Code Section 18-120.) Objections to petitions for local referenda are filed with the same office that received the original petitions. (10 ILCS 5/10-8, 28-4)
Monday, 8/19/24	78* (See note to right in “Event” column.)	Municipality, school board, and eligible units of local government	Last day for board to adopt resolution or ordinance for referendum on binding public policy question (not less than 79 days before election). (10 ILCS 5/28-2(c), 28-5) <i>*Note: Because the 79th day before the election falls on Sunday, August 18, 2024, the law permits adoption of a resolution through Monday, August 19, 2024. We recommend taking action no later than Friday, August 16, 2024.</i>
Monday, 8/19/24	78* (See note to right in “Event” column.)	Municipality, school board, and eligible units of local government	Last day to place advisory referenda on the ballot by resolution. (not less than 79 days before election). (105 ILCS 5/9-1.5; 55 ILCS 5/5-1005.5; 60 ILCS 1/80-80; 65 ILCS 5/3.1-40-60; 70 ILCS 1205/8-30) <i>*Note: Because the 79th day before the election falls on Sunday, August 18, 2024, the law permits adoption of a resolution through Monday, August 19, 2024. We recommend taking action no later than Friday, August 16, 2024.</i>
Thursday, 8/29/24	68	Clerk or board secretary of a unit of local government or school district	Last day for local election official to certify all public questions to each election authority having jurisdiction over the political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/28-5)

2024 GENERAL ELECTION CALENDAR – KEY DATES

DATE	DAYS BEFORE ELECTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EVENT
Friday, 9/6/24	60	Election Authority, and clerk or board secretary of a unit of local government or school district	First day for election authority to publish Notice of Referenda. (10 ILCS 5/12-1 and 12-5.) The election authority shall post a copy of the notice at its principal office. First day for board secretary or municipal or township clerk as local election official to post, at the principal office of the district, municipality or township, a copy of the notice of any referenda to be submitted to the voters of the political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/12-5)
Thursday, 9/26/24	40	Election Authority	First day for early voting at the office of the election authority and temporary locations designated by the election authority. Temporary polling locations for early voting can be established at the discretion of the election authority, and the dates and hours are also at the discretion of the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)
Monday, 10/7/24	29	Election Authority	Last day for election authority to publish Notice of General Election . (10 ILCS 5/12-1 and 12-5)
Tuesday, 10/8/24	28	Election Authority	Last day for regular registration or transfer of registration in office of the election authority. Exception: grace period registrants. (10 ILCS 5/4-6, 4-16; 5-5, 5-23; 6-29, 6-50, 6-53, 6-54) Last day for registration of voters by deputy registrars, including municipal, township and road district clerks and precinct committeemen. (10 ILCS 5/4-6.2, 5-16.2, 6-50.2)
Monday, 10/21/24	15	Clerk or board secretary of a unit of local government or school district	First day for early voting at permanent polling places other than the office of the election authority. These permanent polling places are to be open on holidays, Saturdays and Sundays. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15)
Monday, 10/28/24	8* (See note at right in “Event” column.)	Election Authority, board secretary, or municipal or local government clerk	Last day for election authority to publish Notice of Referenda. 10 ILCS 5/12-5. The election authority shall post a copy of the notice at its principal office. Last day for board secretary or municipal or local government clerk as local election official to post, at

2024 GENERAL ELECTION CALENDAR – KEY DATES

DATE	DAYS BEFORE ELECTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EVENT
			the principal office of the district, municipality, or township, a copy of the notice of any referendum to be submitted to the voters of the political subdivision. (10 ILCS 5/12-5) <i>*Note: Because the 10th day before the election falls on Saturday, October 26, 2024, the law permits publication of the notices through Monday, October 28, 2024. We recommend the local election official post no later than Friday, October 25, 2024.</i>
Friday, 11/1/24	4	Election Authority	Last day for the election authority to have official ballots available for inspection by candidates or their agents. (10 ILCS 5/16-5)
Monday, 11/4/24	1	Election Authority, Voter	Last day for early voting at the office of the election authority and locations designated by the election authority. (10 ILCS 5/19A-15, 19A-20)
Tuesday, 11/5/24	0	Election Authority	GENERAL ELECTION Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
DATE	DAYS AFTER ELECTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EVENT
Tuesday, 11/26/24	21	Election Authority	Last day for canvassing of election results, including referenda results, by proper canvassing board. (EXCEPTION: State Board of Elections as canvassing board.) (10 ILCS 5/7-56, 18A-15(a); 22-17)

2023 Robbins Schwartz

This newsletter is published periodically by Robbins Schwartz. Although the information contained in this publication is considered accurate, it is not, nor should it be construed to be, legal advice. If you have a problem or experience an incident that involves a topic addressed in this publication, please seek a legal opinion that is based upon the facts in your specific case. Questions and comments about this publication and address changes should be directed to: M. Neal Smith at Robbins Schwartz | 312-332-7760 or 630-929-3639 | marketing@robbins-schwartz.com.