

ASK AN EXPERT

DUPAGE COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

What do voters need to know about the March 20 primary?

Question: Who can vote in Illinois?

Answer: U.S. citizens who are 17 on March 20 and will be 18 on or before Nov. 6 (the date of the general election) are eligible to vote as long as they have lived in their precinct at least 30 days prior to the election, are not serving a sentence in a penal institution following a conviction and cannot claim the right to vote anywhere else.

Q: How do I register to vote?

A: Residents may register online through Sunday, March 4. "Grace period" registration may be completed in conjunction with early voting now through March 19 (see next question). DuPage County voters also may register at their local precinct on Election Day.

Q: Where is early voting offered?

A: The closest location for early voting is Downers Grove Village Hall, 901 Burlington Ave. Early voting will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturdays March 5-17.

Early voting is available now through March 19 at the election commission, 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton. Hours through March 3 are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Starting March 5, hours are 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Other locations offer early voting as well. For a full list, visit dupageco.org/election.

Q: Can I vote by mail?

A: Yes. Voters can request a ballot online by visiting dupageco.org/election or by calling (630) 407-5600. Ballots must be requested by March 15 and postmarked by March 20.

Q: When and where do I vote on March 20?

A: You can search for your polling place online (by name or street address) at dupageco.org/election. Polls are open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Q: Do I have to declare my party to vote?

A nonpartisan ballot in a primary election allows a voter to vote only on referendums. To vote on candidates, a particular party ballot must be

requested. Voters can request a ballot for any party, unless they have signed a petition for a candidate of a particular party. Then they may not request a ballot for the opposite party.

Q: Which contested races will be on the ballot?

Democratic primary

- governor/lieutenant governor — J.B. Pritzker/Juliana Stratton, Chris Kennedy/Ra Joy, Daniel Bliss/Litesa Wallace, Bob Daiber/Jonathan Todd, Tio Hardiman/Patricia Avery, Robert Marshall/Dennis Cole

- attorney general — Pat Quinn, Renato Mariotti, Scott Drury, Nancy Rotering, Kwame Raoul, Jesse Ruiz, Sharon Fairley, Aaron Goldstein

- U.S. House 5th District — Benjamin Wolf, Mike Quigley, Sameena Mustafa, Steven Schwartzberg

- U.S. House 6th Districts — Kelly Mazeski, Amanda Howland, Sean Casten, Jennifer Zordani, Becky Wilkins, Ryan Huffman, Carole Cheney

- Illinois House 47th District — James Caffrey, Anne Somerkamp

- DuPage County Board District 2 — (vote for 2) Elizabeth Chaplin, Arlene Kendorski, Claire Goldenberg
- DuPage County Board District



3 — Julie Renehan, Mehr Qayyum, John Basco

- 18th Judicial Circuit (Fawell) — David Stevens, Jeffrey Jacobson, Raleigh Kalbfleisch

Republican primary

- governor/lieutenant governor — Bruce Rauner/Evelyn Sanguinetti, Jeanne Ives/Rich Morthland
- attorney general — Erika Harold, Gary Grasso

- DuPage County sheriff — Frank Bibbiano, James Mendrick

- DuPage County Board District 3 — Martin Tully, Greg Abbott, Greg Hart

One DuPage County referendum is on the ballot: "Should the DuPage County Election Commission be dissolved and its functions consolidated with the office of the DuPage County Clerk?"

For a full list of candidates, see the sample ballot inserted in today's paper.

— compiled by Pamela Lannom from the election commission's website