

**ARAB AMERICAN INSTITUTE**

Primary Election Day: March 20, 2018

General Election Day: November 6, 2018

Polls are open 6:00am - 7:00pm

**WHY SHOULD I VOTE?**

Here in the U.S., it's your right to cast a ballot. Whether you are interested in school improvements, better roads, or lower taxes; whether your priority is immigration reform or loosening restrictions on small businesses; whether you're concerned about government accountability, environmental protection, or U.S. foreign policy- the ballot box is where you get to choose your city priorities, your state laws, and our federal policies.

**DEADLINES**

Voter registration deadline for Primary: Feb. 20, 2018

Absentee ballot application deadline for Primary: March 15, 2018

Absentee ballot receipt deadline for Primary: March 20, 2018\*

Voter registration deadline for General: Oct. 21, 2018

Absentee ballot application deadline for General: Nov. 1, 2018

Absentee ballot receipt deadline for General: Nov. 6, 2018\*

\*Must be postmarked by this date, and received no later than April 3 and Nov. 20, respectively.

**HOW TO VOTE**

To find out if you are eligible to vote in Illinois, for information on how to register to vote, to find your polling place, and to access online forms, please visit the State Board of Elections website <https://www.elections.il.gov/> or call (312) 814-6440.

**DO I NEED AN ID TO VOTE?**

Illinois State law does not require you to provide proof of identification to cast a ballot unless you are voting for the first time and did not provide a photo ID at the time of registration or are registering on election day as part of the registration grace period. If you are on an inactive voter list, you may be required to present two forms of ID. In any case it is advisable to bring a valid photo ID. These voters must bring two forms of identification and at least one must include your current address:

Acceptable forms of identification are:

- Driver's license or state issued ID card
- Passport
- Employee ID card
- Credit or debit card
- Military ID
- Student ID
- Health club ID
- Insurance plan ID
- Social Security card
- Utility bill in your name
- Public assistance ID card
- Lease or rental contract

If you are on an inactive voter list, you may be required to present two forms of ID. In any case it is advisable to bring a valid photo ID. More information can be found here: <https://bit.ly/1E08ayd>.

**EARLY VOTING**

Illinois allows voters to vote early without providing any reason. Early voting for the Primary is from Feb. 8 to March 19; and early voting for the General Election is from Sept. 27 to Nov. 5.

**ABSENTEE VOTING**

If you are not able to make it to the polls on Election Day, you can apply to cast your ballot by mail. Requests for a by-mail ballot can be made 90 days prior to the election, and recipients can begin voting by mail 40 days prior to the election. You may obtain an application by mail, in-person, or online by contacting your County Clerk or Board of Election Commissioners. Their contact information can be found here: <https://bit.ly/1kpE4KP>. Visit the State Board of Elections website for more information: <https://bit.ly/2JSUnzG>.

**RESOURCES** For more information on voting in your state please visit [www.aaiusa.org/illinois](http://www.aaiusa.org/illinois).