



For Immediate Release – November 5, 2018

2018 Midterm Election Overview

At the November 6, 2018 Midterm Election, Chicago voters will help determine contests for Illinois governor and other statewide offices, members of Congress, members of the Illinois General Assembly, and other county and judicial offices.

The 2,069 precinct polling places in Chicago will be open on Election Day from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The ballots will include several citywide and local referenda that are both binding and advisory questions. Voters will decide binding measures on whether to create a new taxing district for mental-health services in precincts in the Logan Square, Avondale and Hermosa neighborhoods. Various other advisory measures cover topics like rent control, whether to ban plastic straws, gun control, property-tax exemptions and hearings on safe water.

Chicago Election Board Chairwoman Marisel A. Hernandez said there are four basic steps every voter should follow:

- (1) Verify your registration,
- (2) Know where to vote,
- (3) Have your IDs ready, if needed, and
- (4) Know your ballot.

Voters will find their registration status, polling place, and sample ballot all at www.chicagoelections.com/info. The web site also offers ID requirements for those who need to use Election Day Registration.

Voters are encouraged to review their sample ballots, take notes and bring those notes to the polls.

To ensure a trouble-free election, the Chicago Election Board will have more than 400 investigators and technicians assigned to Election Day duty. This will include roving investigators assigned to every ward who will be making unannounced inspections of polling places – and investigators who are assigned to respond to calls for assistance, Hernandez said.

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Election Central hotlines: 312-269-7870

Voters who witness anything irregular or encounter a problem on Election Day are urged to call the Board's "Election Central" hotline at **312-269-7870**. These telephone lines will be staffed by Board personnel, attorneys versed in election law, equipment trouble-shooters, as well as language assistance in Spanish, Chinese, Hindi, Gujarati, Urdu, Polish and Korean. These "Election Central" hotlines will be operational on Election Day only.

TWO paper ballots on Election Day

On Election Day, voters who use the paper ballots should be issued two paper ballots: an "A" ballot with election contests and local referenda and a "B" ballot with judicial retention and citywide referenda.

Mail your Vote By Mail Ballot by Nov. 6

More than 120,000 Chicago voters applied to Vote By Mail, the highest total ever. "Voters should try to get those ballots in the mail Monday if possible, on Election Day at the very latest," Hernandez said. Mailed ballots postmarked on Election Day or earlier can be counted even if they arrive up to two weeks after Election Day; however, those with postmarks Nov. 7 or later cannot be counted.

Any voter who applied for and has not received or cannot return their Vote By Mail ballot should go to the Precinct Polling Place assigned to their home address to vote on Election Day. Voters may surrender Vote By Mail ballots to the Election Judges and/or sign an affidavit to say that the ballot did not arrive. Voters cannot drop-off their Vote By Mail ballots for counting at the precinct without spoiling that first ballot and voting a new ballot.

Election Day Registration

Those voters who have moved or need to register for the first time should find their correct precinct and polling place at chicagoelections.com/info. Once at the correct precinct and polling place, a voter may use Election Day Registration by presenting two forms of ID, at least one of which shows the voter's current address.

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Highest Midterm Registration since 1982

A total of 1.503 million Chicagoans were registered to vote for this election. Thanks to online registration and the initial phase of automatic registration in Illinois, this is the highest registration for a Midterm Election since 1982, up 9.9% from the 1.368 million registered in 2014.

More than 200,000 expected to use Early Voting in Chicago

As of late Sunday, nearly 200,000 Chicago voters had used Early Voting, far exceeding the 113,000 who used Early Voting ahead of the 2014 Midterm Election.

On Mon., Nov. 5, all 51 Chicago Early Voting sites are scheduled to be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

However, six “permanent” Early Voting sites (the Loop Super Site, Roden Library, Welles Park, the West Side Learning Center at Malcolm X College, the King Community Center and Mount Greenwood Park) will remain open through 7 p.m. on Mon., Nov. 5.

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**Voter Registrations & Turnouts in Midterm Elections
City of Chicago**

Year	Registrations	Turnout
2018	1,503,353	To be determined
2014	1,368,708	48.81%
2010	1,334,807	52.88%
2006	1,360,747	49.25%
2002	1,364,931	53.16%
1998	1,363,971	55.17%
1994	1,358,513	46.71%
1990	1,424,986	52.69%
1986	1,439,235	58.44%
1982	1,549,282	68.51%

Early Voting through Nov. 4, 2018

Rank	Ward	Voters	Section	Rank	Ward	Voters	Section
1	47	6,832	North	26	38	3,919	Northwest
2	42	6,690	Loop North	27	33	3,771	Northwest
3	19	6,594	Southwest	28	50	3,708	North
4	41	6,239	Northwest	29	27	3,676	West
5	4	6,175	South	30	11	3,497	South
6	44	6,088	North	31	6	3,486	South
7	48	5,891	North	32	13	3,370	Southwest
8	43	5,877	North	33	17	2,765	South
9	2	5,834	North	34	23	2,759	Southwest
10	32	5,479	North	35	28	2,749	West
11	3	5,415	South	36	37	2,738	West
12	40	5,033	North	37	10	2,562	Southeast
13	46	5,030	North	38	25	2,443	South
14	34	4,980	South	39	20	2,395	South
15	1	4,908	North	40	26	2,392	Northwest
16	49	4,852	North	41	35	2,304	Northwest
17	39	4,666	North	42	30	2,186	Northwest
18	5	4,640	South	43	36	2,021	Northwest
19	45	4,581	Northwest	44	16	1,838	South
20	18	4,512	Southwest	45	24	1,813	West
21	8	4,447	South	46	31	1,756	Northwest
22	9	4,410	South	47	14	1,563	Southwest
23	21	4,392	South	48	12	1,392	Southwest
24	7	4,195	South	49	22	1,246	Southwest
25	29	4,058	West	50	15	1,017	South

195,184

Nov. 6, 2018 Midterm Election Pre-Election Participation By Age Group in Chicago

Age Group	Registrations	Early Voting	Vote By Mail	Total Pre-Election voting	Pre-Election Participation Rate
18-24	139,138	7,990	8,510	16,500	11.86%
25-34	352,583	30,255	28,645	58,900	16.71%
35-44	272,865	28,935	18,325	47,260	17.32%
45-54	232,071	33,013	13,280	46,293	19.95%
55-64	228,211	41,836	16,139	57,975	25.40%
65 and up	278,485	53,155	32,020	85,175	30.59%
All voters	1,503,353	195,184	116,919	312,103	20.76%

Participation in Early Voting and Vote By Mail through Nov. 4, 2018

Comparison of Vote By Mail Applications in Chicago 2014, 2016 and 2018

Year	2014	2016	2018	1944 (1)
Applications	40,869	102,086	116,919	116,117

Includes Applications for Civilian Vote By Mail, Military/Overseas, Pre-Trial Detainees

(1) Chicago's previous all-time Vote By Mail record from World War II