Registering to vote is the first step in participating and building a better democracy. Every student who can vote, should vote—not just in presidential elections but in every election.

Anyone who is a U.S. Citizen and 18 by the next election can register to vote:
- At the Secretary of State’s office when you obtain your Driver’s License or State ID
- By downloading a voter registration application from our website, cookcountyclerk.com
- Or ask your teacher or school official where registration is available on campus

Register others: The Clerk’s office also works with colleges throughout suburban Cook County to organize voter registration efforts. We can help:
- Provide deputy registrar trainings for those looking to conduct a registration drive
- Establish comprehensive programs that build registration into the enrollment process
- Provide registration materials and posters
- Provide a web link that will link directly to voter registration forms and key election information

We are eager to work with you to determine how best to register students at your school.

Serving on Election Day

It was a great experience, and I would do it again in a heartbeat.

Philip James Delap
Roosevelt University

When I went to the bank to deposit the check, the teller asked me if I served in the Election then thanked me for that. It was a pleasant feeling.

Monika Buczek
UIC

I had a great experience. I hope to serve as an Equipment Manager year after year!

Monica Randall
Loyola

Cook County Clerk’s COLLEGE PROGRAM

By getting involved early in life, students learn that they can make a difference both locally and globally. As part of the Cook County Clerk’s College Program, students have the opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at the democratic process. They may participate as paid poll workers on Election Day and/or learn how to effectively organize a voter registration effort on campus.
The Clerk's office recruits students to serve in our suburban Cook County polling places. Students get paid to serve their community on Election Day while getting a behind-the-scenes look at the democratic process. Of students who have served in the past:

- 74 percent report being more likely to vote in the future
- 92 percent report that they would be willing to serve again in the future

There are two positions available to students who are interested in participating: Election Judge or Polling Place Technician. The two positions are similar as both involve assisting voters, but Polling Place Technicians are also responsible for setting up and maintaining our voting equipment. Due to the additional responsibility, Polling Place Technicians receive more training and higher pay.

**Compensation:**
- Election Judges earn $250
- Polling Place Technicians earn $385

**Qualifications:**
- U.S. citizen
- Fluent in English (bilingual judges always needed)
- Either a registered voter of Cook County OR a college student with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Election Judges Must:**
- Complete an online and hands-on training class
- Set up the night before the election
- Work from 5 a.m. until polls close at 7 p.m., the results are transmitted, and the equipment has been packed up.

**Polling Place Technicians Must:**
- Have access to a car and a cell phone on Election Day
- Complete two hands-on training classes (each class lasts about 3.5 hours)
- Complete an online training course
- Be willing to work outside your home area in suburban Cook County (NOTE: PPTs will be placed as close to home as possible but in some cases may need to travel)
- Set up the voting equipment (with assistance) the night before the election
- Assist voters and manage equipment from 5 a.m. until the results are transmitted and the equipment has been packed up at the end of the night
- Deliver materials from your precinct to a nearby receiving station.

**How to Apply:**
Apply online at cookcountyclerk.com/students.

For more information, contact us at 312.603.0961 or by email at Student.Coordinator@cookcountyil.gov.