



ELECTIONS
OFFICE OF COOK COUNTY CLERK DAVID ORR
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Frequently Asked Questions about Candidate Filing and Objections November 6, 2018 General Election

Who files petitions at the Cook County Clerk's office?

New party candidates and independent candidates seeking the following county offices will file nomination papers with the Clerk's office: President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, County Clerk, Treasurer, Sheriff, Assessor, County Commissioners (Districts 1 – 17), Board of Review Member (Districts 2 & 3); Water Reclamation District Commissioner (three full six year terms and two unexpired two-year term); and sanitary district trustees.

Federal, State and Judicial candidates file nomination papers with the Illinois State Board of Elections in Springfield, Illinois.

What time does candidate filing begin on Monday, June 18 at the Cook County Clerk's office?

Candidate filing will begin at 9 a.m. on Monday, June 18 at the Cook County Clerk's office located at 69 West Washington on the 5th floor.

What happens if several people file simultaneously for the same office?

Candidates for the same office standing in line at 9 a.m. on Monday, June 18 to file nomination papers will be time-stamped for 9 a.m. and included in the ballot lottery. Additionally, candidates for the same office who file nomination petitions between 4 and 5 p.m. on the last day of filing – June 25 – will be included in the ballot lottery. Anyone who filed after 9 a.m. on June 18 and before 3:59 p.m. on June 25 will be on the ballot in the order they turned in their nomination paperwork.

When is the deadline for filing nomination papers?

The deadline is 5 p.m. on Monday, June 25 at the Clerk's office, 69 W. Washington St., Fifth Floor, Chicago.

Where are objections to petitions filed?

If the nomination paperwork was filed with the Clerk's office, the objection should also be filed with the Clerk's office, 69 W. Washington, Fifth Floor, Chicago.

When is the last day to file an objection to a petition?

The last day to file an objection with the Clerk's office is 5 p.m. on Monday, July 2 for all offices.

Who oversees objections?

The Cook County Officers Electoral Board hears objections to all petitions filed with the Clerk's office. The Electoral Board is composed of Cook County Clerk, David Orr or his designee, who sits as Chairman of the Board; Cook County State's Attorney, Kim Foxx, or her designee; and Cook County Clerk of the Circuit Court, Dorothy Brown, or her designee.

In addition to ruling on objections to county candidates, the panel also hears objections to candidates for state senator, state representative and judicial candidates whose districts lie wholly within suburban Cook County or overlap the suburbs and Chicago.

What is the objection appeal process?

Once the board has issued a decision, the losing party can appeal the decision to the Cook County Circuit Court. The court holds expedited hearings for these cases. The losing party can then take the appeal to the Illinois Appellate Court.

How can campaigns check whether petition signers are registered to vote?

The most efficient way to check a person's registration status is through the Clerk's [election website](#). Using the Voter Information tool, campaigns can verify registration status. Additionally, the clerk's office can provide a list of registered voters' names and addresses. This can be done by precinct or district, and is available on CD. Under Illinois law, such lists are available only to campaigns.