

**Illinois**  
**State Board of Elections**

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**SPRINGFIELD, IL, DECEMBER 3, 2003** - Monday, December 8, 2003 is the first day of petition filing for candidates seeking to be nominated at the March 16, 2004, Illinois General Primary Election.

The Illinois State Board of Elections will begin accepting candidate petitions for statewide offices at 8 a.m. December 8 in its Springfield office located at 1020 South Spring Street, Springfield, Illinois.

The petition filing period concludes at 5 p.m. Monday, December 15. Board offices will be open each day of the filing period from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. including Saturday, December 13 but excluding Sunday, December 14 when the office is closed.

Petitions **MUST** be filed in the Board's Springfield office.

All candidates who are in line at 8 a.m. on the first day of filing or whose petitions are received in Springfield in the first mail delivery of the day qualify to participate in a lottery to determine first ballot position. Subsequent filings are positioned in order of filing.

The lottery for all simultaneous 8 a.m. filers will be conducted at 2 p.m. on December 23 in the Board's Springfield, office.

Since most candidates covet the top ballot position, the long line of candidates at the Board's office door early Monday morning has become tradition.

In 2001, 538 candidates filed at 8 a.m.; in 1999, 358 filed; in 1997, 773; in 1995, 826; and in 1993, a record of 980 filed at 8 a.m.

Candidate petition filing information including name, political party, official date and time filed, and filing status will be immediately available on the Board's web site at [www.elections.state.il.us](http://www.elections.state.il.us).

Later, candidate objection information will also be available.

Offices for which candidates will be filing with the State Board of Elections include: United States Senator, Representatives in Congress, state

senators and representatives, judicial vacancies and multi-county offices.

State election law provides for a special judicial filing period for judicial vacancies occurring between November 24 and December 15. The special judicial filing period is from December 29, 2003 to January 5, 2004.

Presidential candidates and their delegates file January 7 thru January 14, 2004.

Candidates for county offices file with their respective county clerks.

For additional information contact the State Board of Elections at (217)782-4141 in Springfield or (312)814-6440 in Chicago

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