



# STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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## ELECTION NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **GRACE PERIOD REGISTRATION BEGINS FEBRUARY 19, 2014**

**SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, February 14, 2014** – Although the traditional deadline for registering to vote has passed, a Grace Period that allows Illinois residents to register or change their voting address begins Wednesday, February 19, 2014.

Grace Period Registration continues through Saturday, March 15, 2014. Grace Period Registration is conducted at the office of each of the State's 110 election authorities.

The law requires a person participating in the Grace Period Registration who wants to cast a ballot in the upcoming election to vote at the same office. Those who take advantage of Grace Period Registration are not allowed to vote at an Early Voting Center or at a polling place on Election Day.

Election Day is March 18, 2014.

The registration requirements to be eligible to vote are: be a citizen of the United States; be at least 18 years old by Election Day; and have been a resident of the precinct at least 30 days prior to Election Day.

Public Act 98-051, effective January 1, 2014, allows a person who is 17 years old on the date of the General Primary Election to vote at that primary provided: (1) that person will be 18 years old on the date of the November 4, 2014, General Election; and (2) the person is registered to vote.

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When registering to vote, two forms of identification are required – one must show the current address of the applicant. Public Act 96-0317 adds identification that is acceptable for voter registration. A lease or contract for a residence is now an acceptable form of proof of a voter's residence. Also, a photo identification card issued by a university or college is acceptable only if accompanied by a copy of the voter's lease or mail postmarked to the voter's address.

Illinois residents may check their registration online by going to [www.elections.il.gov](http://www.elections.il.gov) and clicking "Voters" tab and then clicking "Am I Registered to Vote in Illinois" in the center of the page. The new service is made available through the Illinois Voter Registration System database, a requirement of the Federal Help America Vote Act.

The State Board of Elections is an independent state agency charged with the responsibility of having general supervision over the administration of election laws in Illinois. Elections are administered locally by the State's 110 election authorities.

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