

Documentation Needed to Register to Vote

Illinois 2026 - 2027 Election Cycle

Establish Voter's Identity	Establish Voter's Current Address	
Illinois Driver's License	A copy of a current utility bill	<p>no person shall be registered, unless he applies in person to a registration officer, answers such relevant questions as may be asked of him by the registration officer, and executes the affidavit of registration.</p> <p>The registration officer shall require the applicant to furnish two forms of identification, except in the case of a homeless individual, one of which must include his or her residence address. These forms of identification shall include, but not be limited to, any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • driver's license, • social security card, • public aid identification card, • utility bill, • employee or student identification card, • lease or contract for a residence, • credit card, or • a civic, union or professional association membership card. <p>... The registration officer shall require each applicant for registration to read or have read to him the affidavit of registration before permitting him to execute the affidavit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10 ILCS 5/4-10 10 ILCS 5/5-9 10 ILCS 5/6-37</p>
Social Security card	A lease or a contract for a residence.	
Public Aid (SNAP) Identification card.		
Employee or Student Identification card.		
Credit Card.		
A civic, union or professional association membership card.		
<h3 style="margin: 0;">Other Documentation:</h3> <p>The state allows Election Judges some leeway in what documentation is acceptable. While we cannot list every ID that has ever been accepted in Illinois, we can provide a list of IDs that have commonly been accepted:</p>		
Establish Voter's Identity	Establish Voter's Current Address	
A state issued identification card	Current auto insurance card, where the day of the election is within the insurance coverage period.	
A current US passport or passport card.	A government issued letter or form addressed to the registrant with a printed address and an issue date.	
Identification that meets Real ID requirements.	A government or business form addressed to the registrant with a printed address and an issue date.	
Voter Registration card.	Other federal, state, or local government document with a date that shows the registrant's name and address preprinted.	
US Military ID.	A copy of a current government check with printed address.	
A Firearm Owner's Identification (FOID) card <i>Because the FOID card is re-issued every 10 (ten) years, it is not a good choice for proving residency unless the card was issued within months of the election date.</i>	A postmarked envelope addressed to the registrant <i>If challenged, only one envelope can be used to establish current address.</i>	

Documentation to Register to Vote at the Office of the Election Authority

These state authorized documents can also be used for Grace Period Registration in a Polling Place at the Registering Election Judge's discretion.

Establish Voter's Identity	Establish Voter's Current Address
Driver's license number or	Utility bill
State identification card number	Bank statement
Verification by the last 4 (four) digits of the person's Social Security number	Paycheck
A copy of a current and valid photo identification	Government check
	Other federal, state, or local government document that shows the person's name and address

College or University Students

A photo identification issued by a college or university	<p>a copy of the applicant's contract or lease for a residence or</p> <p>any postmarked mail delivered to the applicant at his or her current residence address</p>
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Sufficient proof of identity shall be demonstrated by submission of

- the person's driver's license number or
- State identification card number or,

If the person does not have either of those,

- verification by the last 4 digits of the person's social security number,
- a copy of a current and valid photo identification, or
 - a copy of a current utility bill,
 - bank statement,
 - paycheck,
 - government check, or
 - other federal, State, or local government document that shows the person's name and address.

A person may also demonstrate sufficient proof of identity by submission of a photo identification issued by a college or university accompanied by either a copy of the applicant's contract or lease for a residence or any postmarked mail delivered to the applicant at his or her current residence address.

10 ILCS 5/4-105
10 ILCS 5/5-105
10 ILCS 5/6-105

Documentation Needed to Register to Vote for a Homeless or Unhoused Registrant

A homeless or unhoused person has the same requirements for providing identification as any other person registering to vote, regarding identification proving identity (examples: Driver's License, State ID, Social Security card, etc.).

BUT instead of showing proof of a current address, the homeless or unhoused person must provide proof of a mailing address.

This proof of a mailing address can consist of but is not limited to:

- a) Mail or a postmarked envelope sent to the person at the address.
- b) A form or correspondence (government correspondence is always a good choice) with the person's mailing address printed on it.
- c) Permission by the owner or representative of the mailing address allowing use of the address.

(b.) A homeless individual must have a mailing address in order to be eligible to register to vote. For purposes of this Act, a mailing address shall constitute a homeless individual's residence for voting purposes. A mailing address of a homeless individual may include, but is not limited to, a shelter, a day shelter, or a private residence...

(c.) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to confer upon homeless individuals any additional privileges or benefits other than the right to register to vote and to be qualified to vote in an election under Articles 4, 5, and 6 of this Code.

10 ILCS 5/3-2(b)