

Candidate Filing Information
March 17, 2026 Primary Election

Candidates for Winnetka's governing boards will run in the Primary Election, held this year on March 17, 2026.

Each year, Cook County issues a Candidates Guide and a Calendar
<https://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/candidates-and-elected-officials>)
and the State issues a Candidate Guide
(<https://www.elections.il.gov/RunningForOffice.aspx?MID=rOINCTNZd9A%3D>) .

You can also contact Jerome Hoynes, Cook County Clerk at New Trier Township for more information.

For Candidates running for one of Winnetka's boards in the March 17, 2026 Primary Election, the key dates are:

August 5, 2025 – 1st day to begin collecting signatures

October 27, 2025 – 1st day Candidates can file to be placed on the Spring Ballot

November 3, 2025 – Last day Candidates can file to be placed on the Spring Ballot.

Please note that in this Primary election, all candidates will be running as independents.

The date for the Fall Town Hall is Oct. 8, 2025 and will be in person.

If you wish to start collecting signatures, you are welcome to start collecting them at any point after August 5.

If you choose to run as a Caucus Candidate and prefer to wait to see if you are slated, you have from the October 8 Fall Town Hall Meeting until the last day of the Filing Period (Nov. 3, 2025) to submit your filing materials to be placed on the Spring Ballot.

According to the Cook County 2026 Candidates Guide, the signature requirements for the March 17, 2026 Primary Election is 5-8% of the number of persons who voted in the Township's last election – which is 2,520 people. (see results here - <https://results425.cookcountyclerkil.gov/>).

The Caucus Council highly recommends you familiarize yourself with the Illinois Election Board's requirements including:

2026 Cook County Candidates Guide –

<https://www.cookcountyclerkil.gov/elections/candidates-and-elected-officials>

State Board of Elections -

<https://www.elections.il.gov/RunningForOffice.aspx?MID=rOINCTNZd9A%3d>

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