

SCHOOL DIRECTOR* AND TOWNSHIP LAND COMMISSIONER**

*In districts having a population fewer than 1,000.

**In counties of fewer than 220,000 inhabitants containing townships with common school lands, there shall be three land commissioners elected in the same manner as provided for election of school directors. (105 ILCS 5/15-24)

NOMINATION PAPERS

Petitions: Board of Education Petition ([SBE Form P-7](#))

Statement of Candidacy: Nonpartisan ([SBE Form P-1A](#))

Loyalty Oath (optional): All candidates ([SBE Form P-1C](#))

Statement of Economic Interests: Filed with the county clerk of the county in which the principal office of the unit of local government with which the person is associated is located. (5 ILCS 420/4A-106) See page 22 regarding filing the receipt.

Fair Campaign Practices Act (voluntary): Filed with the State Board of Elections.

QUALIFICATIONS

Any person who, on the date of election, is a citizen of the United States, is of the age of 18 years or over, is a resident of the State and of the territory of the district for at least one year immediately preceding the election, is a registered voter, is not a school trustee or a school treasurer, and is not a child sex offender as defined in Section 11-9.3 of the Criminal Code of 2012 shall be eligible to the office of school director or land commissioner. (105 ILCS 5/10-3)

A person convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, for an offense committed on or after November 17, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-562) and committed while the person was serving as a public official in this State, is ineligible to hold any local public office unless the person's conviction is reversed, the person is again restored to such rights by the terms of a pardon for the offense, the person has received a restoration of rights by the Governor, or the person's rights are otherwise restored by law. (730 ILCS 5/5-5-5)

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

Petition must be signed by at least 25 qualified voters or 5% of the voters, whichever is less, residing within the district. (105 ILCS 5/9-10)

FILING DATES

November 16-23, 2026 (not more than 141 nor less than 134 days prior to the consolidated election). (10 ILCS 5/10-6)

WHERE TO FILE

School Director candidates file with the county clerk or the county board of election commissioners, as the case may be, of the county in which the principal office of the school district is located. (105 ILCS 5/9-10)

Township Land Commissioner candidates file with the Township Land Commissioner's Secretary. (105 ILCS 5/9-2(d))

TERM

4 years. (105 ILCS 5/10-4)

TERM BEGINS

School Directors and Land Commissioners shall meet and organize within 40 days after the election by appointing one of their number president and another as clerk. (105 ILCS 5/10-5, 10-16)

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

Reports must be filed either on paper or electronically with the State Board of Elections, 2329 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704 or 69 W. Washington St., Suite LL-08, Chicago, IL 60602.