General Election November 4, 2014

VOTER GUIDE

A Non-Partisan Guide Published for the Students, Faculty, and Staff of the University of Illinois at Chicago

Created by Student Leadership Development and Volunteer Services, part of Student Development Services in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Encouraging students and members of the UIC campus community to become informed and engaged citizens
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Quick Facts

The general election is November 4, 2014.

Grace period voter registration at designated locations begins October 8 and ends November 4.

Early voting at certain locations begins October 20 and ends November 2. To find an early voting location, visit http://www.elections.il.gov/votinginformation/earlyvotinglocations.aspx

The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot by mail is October 30. Returned ballots must be returned postmarked by November 3.

To find your polling place for general voting on November 4, visit http://www.elections.il.gov/VotingInformation/RegistrationLookup.aspx

To find out what your district is and who your U.S. Representative is, visit http://www.elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx

This voting guide is a nonpartisan publication sponsored by UIC’s Office of Student Leadership Development and Volunteer Services. This department does not endorse any candidate or political party and does not take a position on any of the included ballot questions.
About this Guide

This guide was created by the Office of Student Leadership Development and Volunteer Services (SLDVS) at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Our mission emphasizes civic engagement in both personal and academic perspectives. This year, we have partnered with the Department of Political Science and with Undergraduate Student Government in efforts to increase the number of registered student voters. This guide follows up that push for registration with a drive for education. As an office invested in leadership and service, we want our students to be engaged and informed.

This nonpartisan guide does not endorse any candidate or political party and does not take a position on any of the ballot questions. We attempted to find positions for candidates on every issue, but not all positions were found.

The first section of this guide presents information on how to register to vote and the voting process in Illinois. The second part of the guide introduces the candidates for the statewide races for executive office. The third part of the guide presents information on the candidates for United States Senator and Representatives. The final part of this guide presents background information on the ballot questions that are up for a vote in Illinois. Underlined terms and laws are defined in a glossary in the back of this guide.

The information in this guide was collected from sources, including the Illinois State Board of Elections, Vote411.org, OnTheIssues.org, and VoteSmart.org. Specific information from those sources is cited on individual pages.

For questions or comments about this guide, please contact Student Leadership Development and Volunteer Services at 312-996-4500 or sldvs@uic.edu.
Registering to Vote in Illinois

While the regular voter registration deadline was October 7 (the last day to register online), you can still register to vote! You may register under the Grace Period up until Election Day, November 4, 2014. During this period of time, which runs from October 8 through Election Day, voters can register or update their registration at the location designated by their county board of elections. To find a Grace Period location, go to your county or city board of elections website. For Chicago, that website is http://www.chicagoelections.com/en/grace-period-registration-and-voting.html. If you register during a “Grace Period,” you must register in person and then immediately vote during that same visit.

Registration Eligibility
In order to register to vote in Illinois, you must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years old by Election Day
- A resident of your precinct at least 30 days before Election Day

Identification Required for Registration
For in-person registration, you must bring two forms of identification, including at least one showing your current address Acceptable forms of ID include but are not limited to: driver's license, the voter's social security card, public aid identification card, utility bill, employee or student identification card, or copy of your lease for your residence.
Check Your Registration Status
You can check your voter registration status by visiting www.elections.il.gov and going to the link called “Registration and Polling Place Information.”

Requesting an Absentee Ballot

Any qualified voter can request an absentee ballot and vote by mail. The application must be submitted by mail by October 30 or in person by November 4. If you vote via absentee ballot, you cannot vote in a polling place on Election Day unless you submit your ballot to the officials at the polling place or sign an affidavit stating you did not fill out the ballot. Mailed absentee ballots must be postmarked no later than midnight on the night prior to the election (November 3).

What if You Moved Recently?

If you moved within 27 days of the election within the same precinct, you can vote a full ballot by signing an affidavit regarding your move. If you moved within 30 days before the election to a new precinct, and did not transfer your registration you can vote a full ballot at the old polling place after completing an affidavit.

The information on these pages was found from the Illinois State Board of Election page: http://www.elections.state.il.us/infoforvoters.aspx
On Election Day

To find your polling place for general voting on November 4, visit http://www.elections.il.gov/VotingInformation/RegistrationLookup.aspx. You MUST vote at your polling place. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

What Do You Need to Bring?

Most Illinois voters do not need to show ID to cast a ballot. However, if you registered by mail without including ID with your registration, you need to bring two of the following forms of identification: Illinois driver’s license or state ID, other current photo ID, current utility bill, current bank statement, recent government document or paycheck with name and address, or a current college ID card.

What if Your Name is not on the Voter List?

If your name doesn't appear on the official voter list or if your vote is successfully challenged, you may cast a provisional ballot. If a provisional ballot is cast in the correct precinct, you have seven days after the election to deliver documentation and/or ID to show that your registration was valid and then your ballot will be counted. The election official at the polling place will provide information on where to submit that information.
Your Rights at the Polls

- You may request instruction on how to use the ballot or voting equipment before your vote.
- If you reside in a jurisdiction with a substantial population of voters who speak a primary language other than English, there may be ballots available to you in other languages.
- If you need assistance in voting by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write English may be given assistance by a person of your choice or you can request assistance from election judges at the polling place.
- Even if your status as a voter is challenged or your name does not appear on the voter list, you may cast a provisional ballot.
- You may not be denied the right to vote if you are entitled to vote.
- If you see any attempts to commit fraud, you can report this to the Illinois State Board of Elections complaint hotline at 866-513-1121.
- If you see or experience actual or attempts of discrimination or intimidation, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at 800-253-3931.

The information on these pages was found from the Illinois State Board of Election page. :
http://www.elections.state.il.us/infoforvoters.aspx
Governor and Lieutenant Governor

Candidates: Running mates listed together in the order of Governor/Lieutenant Governor

- Democrat: Pat Quinn (Incumbent)/Paul Vallas https://www.quinnforillinois.com
- Republican: Bruce Rauner/Evelyn Sanguinetti http://brucerauner.com/
- Libertarian: Chad Grimm/Alex Cummings http://www.grimmforliberty.com/

Positions

Abortion:

- Quinn supports Roe v. Wade and opposes the Parental Notification of Abortion Law
- Rauner supports Roe v. Wade and supports the Parental Notification of Abortion Law
- Grimm opposes Roe v. Wade

Budget and Economy:

- Quinn opposes ending the temporary income tax increase of 2011 and supports increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit
- Rauner supports ending the income tax increases of 2011 and creating Right-to-Work zones
- Grimm supports eliminating the state income tax

Education:

- Quinn opposes school vouchers
- Rauner supports increasing school choice and school vouchers
- Grimm has no published position on education
Gun Control:

- Quinn supports a ban on assault weapons and increased gun control
- Rauner opposes a ban on assault weapons
- Grimm opposes gun control laws

Healthcare:

- Quinn supports the Affordable Care Act
- Rauner opposes the Affordable Care Act
- Grimm has no published position on healthcare

Immigration:

- Quinn supports pathways to citizens for undocumented immigrants
- Rauner supports comprehensive immigration reform and tightening border control
- Grimm has no published position on immigration

Medical Marijuana:

- Quinn supports the medical marijuana law
- Rauner opposes the medical marijuana law
- Grimm supports legalization of marijuana

Minimum Wage:

- Quinn supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 an hour
- Rauner opposes increasing the minimum wage
- Grimm supports eliminating the minimum wage

Same-Sex Marriage:

- Quinn supports same-sex marriage
- Rauner supports public votes on same-sex marriage
- Grimm has no published position on same-sex marriage
Attorney General

Candidates:

- Democrat: Lisa Madigan (Incumbent)  
  http://lisamadigan.org/
- Republican: Paul Schimpf  
  http://www.schimpf4illinois.com/
- Libertarian: Ben Koyl  
  http://koyl4ilattorneygeneral.com/

Positions

Abortion:

- Madigan supports *Roe v. Wade* and supports the Parental Notification of Abortion Law
- Schimpf opposes *Roe v. Wade*
- Koyl supports the Parental Notification of Abortion Law

Budget and Economy:

- Madigan opposes ending the income tax increases of 2011 and supports pension reform
- Schimpf supports ending the income tax increases of 2011 and supports pension reform
- Koyl supports ending the income tax increases of 2011 and downsizing the Attorney General Budget
Campaign Finance:

- Madigan supports the full disclosure of all sources of campaign income
- Schimpf supports the full disclosure of all sources of campaign income
- Koyl has no published position on campaign finance

Gun Control:

- Madigan opposes concealed carry laws
- Schimpf supports concealed carry laws
- Koyl supports concealed carry laws

Healthcare:

- Madigan supports the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act
- Schimpf opposes the expansion of Medicaid and supports the repeal of the Affordable Care Act
- Koyl has no published position on healthcare

Medical Marijuana:

- Madigan has no published position on medical marijuana
- Schimpf opposes the medical marijuana law
- Koyl supports legalization of marijuana

Same-Sex Marriage:

- Madigan supports same-sex marriage
- Schimpf opposes same-sex marriage and supports a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage
- Koyl supports same-sex marriage
Secretary of State

Candidates:

- Republican: Mike Webster [http://websterforillinois.net/](http://websterforillinois.net/)

Positions

Budget and Economy:

- White supports lowering liability fees for companies
- Webster supports lowering liability fees for companies and decreasing regulations for businesses
- Michel supports decreasing regulations for businesses and eliminating the State Board of Elections

Campaign Finance:

- White supports the full disclosure of all sources of campaign income.
- Webster supports the full disclosure of all sources of campaign income.
- Michel opposes the full disclosure of all sources of campaign income.
Libraries:
- White supports increasing technology in libraries
- Webster supports increasing technology in libraries
- Michel has no published position on libraries

Road Safety:
- White supports increasing penalties on driving under the influence
- Webster supports increasing penalties on driving under the influence
- Michel opposes the use of red light and speed cameras

Same-Sex Marriage:
- White supports same-sex marriage
- Webster has no published position on same-sex marriage
- Michel has no published position on same-sex marriage

Technology:
- White supports increasing technological initiatives to allow more drivers to renew licenses and plates online
- Webster supports increased ease in renewing licenses and plates, including the use of kiosks
- Michel has no published position on technology

Term Limits
- White opposes term limits
- Webster supports term limits
- Michel has no published position on term limits
Comptroller

Candidates:

- Republican: Judy Baar Topinka (Incumbent)
- Democrat: Sheila Simon
  [http://sheilasimon.org/](http://sheilasimon.org/)
- Libertarian: Julie Fox

Positions

Budget and Economy:

- Topinka supports combining the offices of the Comptroller and the Treasurer
- Simon opposes combining the offices of the Comptroller and the Treasurer
- Fox supports combining the offices of the Comptroller and Treasurer

Campaign Finance:

- Topinka, Simon, and Fox all support the full disclosure of all sources of campaign income.

Payments:

- Topinka supports expedited payments to charitable and nonprofit organizations
- Simon opposes expedited payments and supports first-due approach to billing
- Fox supports expedited payments on loan interest
Treasurer

Candidates:
- Republican: Tom Cross  
- Democrat: Mike Frerichs  
- Libertarian: Matthew Skopek  
  [http://matthewskopek.com/5percent.html](http://matthewskopek.com/5percent.html)

Positions

Budget and Economy:
- Cross supports combining the offices of the Comptroller and the Treasurer and opposes the temporary income tax increase of 2011
- Frerichs supports combining the offices of the Comptroller and the Treasurer and supports the temporary income tax increase of 2011

Campaign Finance:
- Cross supports the full disclosure of all sources of campaign income.
- Frerichs supports the full disclosure of all sources of campaign income.

Investments:
- Cross supports investing overseas
- Frerichs supports divesting state investments in companies that move jobs overseas

*Note: No published positions for Matthew Skopek were available*
U.S. Senator

Candidates:

- Democrat: Dick Durbin (Incumbent)  
  http://www.dickdurbin.com/

- Republican: Jim Oberweis  
  http://www.jimoberweis.com/

- Libertarian: Sharon Hansen  
  http://www.sharonhansenforussenate.org/

Positions

Abortion:

- Durbin supports *Roe v. Wade* and opposes the Parental Notification of Abortion Law

- Oberweis opposes *Roe v. Wade*

- Hansen opposes *Roe v. Wade*

Budget and Economy:

- Durbin opposes ending *earmark spending* and supports increased *stimulus* spending

- Oberweis supports ending *earmark spending* and opposes increased *stimulus* spending

- Hansen supports abolishing the Federal Reserve and the Internal Revenue Service

Education:

- Durbin opposes *school vouchers*

- Oberweis supports increasing charter schools

- Hansen supports *school vouchers* and abolishing the Department of Education

Gun Control:

- Durbin supports increased gun control laws

- Oberweis opposes increased gun control laws

- Hansen opposes increased gun control laws
Healthcare:
- Durbin supports the Affordable Care Act
- Oberweis supports repealing the Affordable Care Act
- Hansen supports repealing the Affordable Care Act

Immigration:
- Durbin supports comprehensive immigration reform
- Oberweis supports a guest worker program
- Hansen opposes open borders for immigration

Medical Marijuana:
- Durbin supports the medical marijuana law
- Oberweis supports the medical marijuana law
- Hansen supports legalization of marijuana

Minimum Wage:
- Durbin supports increasing the minimum wage to $10 per hour nationwide
- Oberweis supports increasing the minimum wage to $10 per hour for workers 26 years of age or older
- Hansen supports eliminating the minimum wage

Same-Sex Marriage:
- Durbin supports same-sex marriage
- Oberweis opposes same-sex marriage
- Hansen personally opposes same-sex marriage but believes licenses to marry are not required

Term Limits:
- Durbin opposes term limits
- Oberweis supports term limits
- Hansen has no published position on term limits
Information about Your Congressional District

What is my district?

Illinois is divided into 18 congressional districts, each of which is represented by a member of the United States House of Representatives.

It’s important to note that your congressional district is different from your senate or representative districts, both of which refer to districts that are used to elect state senators and representatives to the Illinois state congress. Your congressional district is used to elect representatives to the federal U.S. Congress.

To find your district, you can look on your voter card or visit http://www.elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx.

What will be on your ballot?

Depending on your district, you will have different candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives seat associated with your district.

What does this guide cover?

This guide includes information on the congressional districts in and near Chicago: Districts 1-10.

The guide does not cover any of the other districts besides those named above. It also does not provide information on any of the district-specific ballot
questions, though it does cover the ballot questions that appear on every state ballot.

**Map**

This is a guideline map and should not be used in place of the official website. However, it may help you visualize the Chicago-area districts. *Note: This map includes districts that are not summarized in this guide.*
U.S. Representative: District 1

This district includes some or of all of:

Alsip, Blue Island, Calumet Park, Chicago, Country Club Hills, Crestwood, Dixmoor, Elwood, Evergreen Park, Frankfort, Frankfort Square, Harvey, Manhattan, Markham, Merrionette Park, Midlothian, Mokena, New Lenox, Oak Forest, Oak Lawn, Orland Hills, Orland Park, Palos Heights, Posen, Riverdale, Robbins, Tinley Park, and Worth

Candidates:
- Democrat: Bobby Rush (Incumbent)
  http://rush.house.gov/
- Republican: Jimmy Tillman II
  http://www.jimmylee2dcexpress.info/

Positions

Abortion:
- Rush supports Roe v. Wade
- No published position found for Tillman

Budget and Economy:
- Rush supports increased stimulus spending and increased taxation on high-income earners
- Tillman opposes increased spending and supports tax credits to small businesses that hire workers in low-income areas
Education:
- Rush opposes school vouchers
- Tillman supports school vouchers for low income families

Gun Control:
- Rush supports increased gun control laws
- Tillman opposes local law enforcement agencies having access to weapon-grade equipment.

Healthcare:
- Rush supports the Affordable Care Act
- Tillman supports the Affordable Care Act

Immigration:
- Rush supports comprehensive immigration reform including a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants
- Tillman supports comprehensive immigration reform

Medical Marijuana:
- Rush supports medical marijuana programs
- No published position for found Tillman

Same-Sex Marriage and Protections:
- Rush supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- No published position found for Tillman
U.S. Representative: District 2

This district includes some or of all of:

Bradley, Bourbonnais, Calumet City, Chicago, Chicago Heights, Country Club Hills, Dolton, Harvey, Hazel Crest, Homewood, Kankakee, Lansing, Markham, Matteson, Park Forest, Richton Park, Riverdale, Sauk Village, Steger and Thornton

Candidates:
- Democrat: Robin Kelly (Incumbent)
  http://robinkellyforcongress.org/
- Republican: Eric Wallace
  http://wallaceforillinois.com/

Positions

Abortion:
- Kelly supports *Roe v. Wade*
- Wallace opposes *Roe v. Wade*

Budget and Economy:
- Kelly supports extending the Earned Income Tax Credit and supports expanded stimulus funding
- Wallace supports tax reform to create a flat tax and supports faith-based community programs as an alternative to government welfare.

Education:
- Kelly opposes school vouchers
- Wallace supports school choice
**Gun Control:**
- Kelly supports increased gun control laws including a ban on assault weapons
- Wallace opposes increased gun control laws and supports easing state restrictions on the purchase and possession of guns

**Healthcare:**
- Kelly supports the Affordable Care Act
- Wallace opposes the Affordable Care Act and supports its repeal

**Immigration:**
- Kelly opposes increasing border enforcement
- Tillman supports comprehensive immigration reform

**Minimum Wage:**
- Kelly supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 per hour
- No published position found for Wallace

**Same-Sex Marriage:**
- Kelly supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Wallace opposes same-sex marriage and opposes the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
U.S. Representative: District 3

This district includes some or of all of:

Chicago, Bridgeview, Burbank, Crest Hill, Hickory Hills, Homer Glen, Justice, La Grange, Lemont, Lockport, Oak Lawn, Palos Heights, Palos Hills, Romeoville, Summit, Western Springs and Worth

Candidates:
- Democrat: Daniel Lipinski (Incumbent)  
  http://www.lipinskiforcongress.com/
- Republican: Sharon Brannigan  
  http://www.branniganforcongress.com/

Positions

Abortion:
- Lipinski opposes *Roe v. Wade* and supports prohibiting federal funding for abortion
- Brannigan opposes *Roe v. Wade* and supports prohibiting federal funding for abortion

Budget and Economy:
- Lipinski supports expanded stimulus funding and increased taxation on high income-earners
- Wallace opposes increasing taxes and supports decreased funding to entitlement programs

Education:
- Lipinski supports school choice and vouchers
- Brannigan opposes the national standards movement
Gun Control:
- No published position found for Lipinski
- Brannigan opposes increased gun control measures

Healthcare:
- Lipinski opposes the Affordable Care Act
- Brannigan opposes the Affordable Care Act and supports its repeal

Immigration:
- Lipinski supports increased border measures and opposes a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants
- Brannigan supports increased border protections

Minimum Wage:
- Lipinski supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 per hour
- No published position found for Brannigan

Same-Sex Marriage:
- Lipinski opposes same-sex marriage and opposes the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Brannigan opposes same-sex marriage and opposes the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
U.S. Representative: District 4

This district includes some or of all of:

Brighton Park, Hermosa, Lower West Side, Gage Park, Albany Park, Irving Park, Avondale, Logan Square, West Town, Humboldt Park, Belmont Cragin, Austin, McKinley Park, South Lawndale, New City, West Elsdon, Archer Heights, Bridgeport, North Center, and Lincoln Park.

Candidates:

- Democrat: Luis Gutierrez (Incumbent)
  http://gutierrez.house.gov/
- Republican: Hector Concepcion
  http://www.concepcionforuscongress.com/

Positions

Abortion:

- Gutierrez supports *Roe v. Wade* and opposes prohibiting federal funding for abortion
- Concepcion opposes *Roe v. Wade* and supports prohibiting federal funding for abortion

Budget and Economy:

- Gutierrez supports increased taxes on high-income earners and supports increased stimulus spending
- Concepcion opposes increased taxes and supports reducing business taxes

Education:

- Gutierrez opposes school vouchers
- Concepcion supports the Chicago Teachers Union
Gun Control:
- Gutierrez supports increased gun control measures
- No published position found for Concepcion

Healthcare:
- Gutierrez supports the Affordable Care Act
- Concepcion opposes the Affordable Care Act

Immigration:
- Gutierrez supports comprehensive immigration reform including a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants
- Concepcion supports comprehensive immigration reform

Medical Marijuana:
- Gutierrez supports medical marijuana programs
- No published position found for Concepcion

Minimum Wage:
- Gutierrez supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 per hour
- No published position found for Concepcion

Same-Sex Marriage:
- Gutierrez supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Concepcion opposes same-sex marriage and opposes the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
U.S. Representative: District 5

This district includes some or of all of:

Chicago, Elmhurst, Elmwood Park, Franklin Park, La Grange Park, Lakeview, Lincoln Park, Norridge, Northlake, River Grove, Schiller Park and Uptown

Candidates:
- Democrat: Mike Quigley (Incumbent)  
  http://www.quigleyforcongress.com/
- Republican: Vince Kolber  
  http://votevince.com/
- Green: Nancy Wade  
  http://www.wadeincongress.org/

Positions

Abortion:
- Quigley supports *Roe v. Wade* and opposes prohibiting federal funding for abortion
- No published position found for Kolber
- Wade supports *Roe v. Wade* and opposes prohibiting federal funding for abortion

Budget and Economy:
- Quigley supports increased stimulus spending
- Kolber supports creating a 20% flat tax for small business, corporations, and capital
- Wade supports increasing taxes on high-income earners and a Wall Street transaction tax

Education:
- Quigley opposes school vouchers
- Kolber supports school choice
- Wade opposes school choice and supports equalizing education funding between districts
Gun Control:
- Quigley supports increased gun control measures
- No published position found for Kolber
- Wade opposes the transfer of weapons-grade equipment from the Department of Defense to local law enforcement agencies

Healthcare:
- Quigley supports the Affordable Care Act
- Kolber supports reforming the Affordable Care Act
- Wade supports creating universal healthcare

Immigration:
- Quigley supports comprehensive immigration reform including a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants
- Kolber supports comprehensive immigration reform and increased border protections
- Wade supports comprehensive immigration reform including a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants

Minimum Wage:
- Quigley supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 per hour
- Kolber opposes increasing the minimum wage
- Wade supports increasing the minimum wage to $15 per hour

Same-Sex Marriage:
- Quigley supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- No published position found for Kolber
- Wade supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
U.S. Representative: District 6

This district includes some or of all of:

Algonquin, Barrington, Cary, Downers Grove, Gilberts, Glen Ellyn, Hoffman Estates, Lake in the Hills, Lake Zurich, Palatine, South Elgin, West Chicago, Westmont and Wheaton

Candidates:

- Republican: Peter Roskam (Incumbent)
  http://www.roskamforcongress.com/
- Democrat: Michael Mason
  http://michaelmasonforcongress.com/

Positions

Abortion:

- Roskam opposes *Roe v. Wade* and supports prohibiting federal funding for abortion
- Mason supports *Roe v. Wade* and opposes prohibiting federal funding for abortion

Budget and Economy:

- Roskam opposes tax increases and supports reducing business taxes
- Mason supports increased stimulus spending

Education:

- Roskam supports school choice
- Mason supports an emphasis on public education, community colleges, and trade schools
Gun Control:
- Roskam opposes increased gun control measures
- No published position found for Mason

Healthcare:
- Roskam opposes the Affordable Care Act and supports its repeal
- Mason supports the Affordable Care Act

Immigration:
- Roskam opposes immigration reform and supports increased border control
- Mason supports comprehensive immigration reform

Medical Marijuana:
- Roskam opposes medical marijuana programs
- No published position for found Mason

Minimum Wage:
- Roskam opposes increasing the minimum wage
- Mason supports raising the minimum wage

Same-Sex Marriage:
- Roskam opposes same-sex marriage and opposes the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Mason supports same-sex marriage
U.S. Representative: District 7

This district includes some or of all of:

Bellwood, Chicago, The Loop, Forest Park, Gold Coast, Oak Park, Maywood, and the UIC campuses

Candidates:

- Democrat: Danny Davis (Incumbent)  
  http://www.davis.house.gov/
- Republican: Robert Bumpers  
  https://www.linkedin.com/pub/robert-bumpers/18/569/1b3

Positions

Abortion:

- Davis supports Roe v. Wade and opposes prohibiting federal funding for abortion

Budget and Economy:

- Davis supports increases taxes on high-income earners and supports increased stimulus spending

Education:

- Davis opposes school vouchers

Gun Control:

- Davis supports increased gun control measures, including banning large-capacity ammunition and repeal “stand-your-ground” laws
Healthcare:

- Davis supports the Affordable Care Act and supports the creation of a single-payer national health care system

Immigration:

- Davis supports a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants and opposes increased border control

Medical Marijuana:

- Davis supports medical marijuana programs and supports expunging records for first drug offenders after probation.

Minimum Wage:

- Davis supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 an hour

Same-Sex Marriage:

- Davis supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity

*Note: No published positions for Robert Bumpers were available*
U.S. Representative: District 8

This district includes some or of all of:
Addison, Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Elgin, Elk Grove Village, Glendale Heights, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Lombard, Roselle, Schaumburg, Streamwood, Villa Park and Wood Dale

Candidates:
- Democrat: Tammy Duckworth (Incumbent) http://tammyduckworth.com/
- Republican: Larry Kaifesh http://www.kaifeshforcongress.com/

Positions

Abortion:
- Duckworth supports *Roe v. Wade* and opposes prohibiting federal funding for abortion
- Kaifesh opposes *Roe v. Wade* and supports prohibiting federal funding for abortion

Budget and Economy:
- Duckworth supports increases taxes on high-income earners and supports increased *stimulus* spending
- Kaifesh supports a balanced budget amendment and supports tax reform

Education:
- Duckworth opposes *school vouchers* and supports extending subsidized student loan rates
- Kaifesh supports *school choice*
Gun Control:
- Duckworth supports increased gun control measures
- Kaifesh opposes increased gun control measures

Healthcare:
- Duckworth supports the Affordable Care Act
- Kaifesh opposes the Affordable Care Act and supports its repeal

Immigration:
- Duckworth supports comprehensive immigration reform including a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants
- Kaifesh supports increased border control

Minimum Wage:
- Duckworth supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 an hour
- Kaifesh opposes increasing the minimum wage

Same-Sex Marriage:
- Duckworth supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Kaifesh opposes same-sex marriage and opposes the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
U.S. Representative: District 9

This district includes some or of all of:

Chicago, Des Plaines, Evanston, Glenview, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Mount Prospect, Niles, Park Ridge, Prospect Heights, Wilmette and Winnetka and Arlington Heights

Candidates:

- Democrat: Jan Schakowsky (Incumbent)  
  http://www.janschakowsky.org/

- Republican: Susanne Atanus  
  https://twitter.com/SusanneAtanus

Positions

Abortion:

- Schakowsky supports *Roe v. Wade* and opposes prohibiting federal funding for abortion
- Atanus opposes *Roe v. Wade* and supports prohibiting federal funding for abortion

Budget and Economy:

- Schakowsky supports increased taxes on high-income earners and supports increased stimulus spending
- Atanus supports the government collecting positive daily returns from publically traded corporations and banks

Education:

- Schakowsky opposes school vouchers and supports extending subsidized student loan rates
- Atanus supports charter schools and tuition vouchers
Gun Control:
- Schakowsky supports increased gun control measures including banning large-capacity ammunition
- No published position found for Atanus

Healthcare:
- Schakowsky supports the Affordable Care Act
- Atanus supports reforming the Affordable Care Act

Immigration:
- Schakowsky supports comprehensive immigration reform and opposes increased border control
- Atanus supports open-border policies and a pathway to citizenship with no terms or passport requirements

Medical Marijuana:
- Schakowsky supports medical marijuana programs
- No published position found for Atanus

Minimum Wage:
- Schakowsky supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 an hour
- Atanus supports increasing the minimum wage

Same-Sex Marriage:
- Schakowsky supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Atanus opposes same-sex marriage and opposes the Employment Non-Discrimination Act protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
U.S. Representative: District 10

This district includes some or of all of:

Beach Park, Buffalo Grove, Deerfield, Fox Lake, Grayslake, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, Lake Forest, Lindenhurst, Libertyville, Mundelein, North Chicago, Northbrook, Prospect Heights, Round Lake, Round Lake Beach, Vernon Hills, Waukegan, Wheeling and Zion

Candidates:
- Democrat: Brad Schneider (Incumbent)
  http://schneiderforcongress.com/
- Republican: Robert Dold
  http://doldforcongress.com/

Positions

Abortion:
- Schneider supports *Roe v. Wade* and opposes prohibiting federal funding for abortion
- Dold supports *Roe v. Wade*

Budget and Economy:
- Schneider supports increases taxes on high-income earners and supports increased stimulus spending
- Dold opposes the *income tax increases of 2011* and supports reforming the tax code

Education:
- Schneider supports shared educational standards and maintaining teachers’ rights to unionize
- Dold supports charter schools under strict oversight
Gun Control:
- Schneider supports increased gun control measures including banning large-capacity ammunition
- Dold supports increased gun control measures including universal background checks

Healthcare:
- Schneider supports the Affordable Care Act
- Dold supports reforming the Affordable Care Act

Immigration:
- Schneider supports comprehensive immigration reform including a pathway to citizenship and the DREAM Act
- Dold supports comprehensive immigration reform and the DREAM Act

Minimum Wage:
- Schneider supports increasing the minimum wage to at least $10 an hour
- Dold supports increasing the minimum wage

Same-Sex Marriage:
- Schneider supports same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Dold supports letting states vote on same-sex marriage and supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act extending protections on the basis on sexual orientation and gender identity
Information on Ballot Measures

What are Ballot Measures?

Ballot questions are initiatives that can take two forms. **Legislatively-referred constitutional amendments** are initiatives that have been passed by state legislatures and now stand before the voters. If a referred amendment passes, it will be put into law.

The other type of ballot questions, **advisory questions**, have citizens vote on a non-binding question. That means that no new law or policy will be automatically created or changed if the measure passes. These questions are generally used to gather information about the political opinions of the voters.

What Levels of Ballot Measures are There?

Ballot questions can appear on multiple levels, including state, county, city, ward, or precinct. So a voter in Chicago, Illinois who lives in Cook County may have ballot questions on which everyone in Illinois votes, on which only people in Cook County vote, on which only people in Chicago vote, and possibly on which only people in their precinct vote. If that sounds confusing, do not worry. Your ballot will only have the questions on it that apply to voters registered in your area.

What this Voter Guide Covers

This guide covers only the five statewide ballot measures. While there are many additional ballot measures for this election, we limited our scope to those questions that the majority of our students would see.
This guide provides a synopsis of the proposed change, an explanation of what the change would mean, and arguments for and against the measure. These arguments are collected from nonpartisan sources and are not a reflection of the opinions or beliefs of the group publishing this guide.

For Other Measures

If you would like more information on the ballot questions appearing on your specific ballot, your local election board website should publish information about the ballot questions or provide a sample ballot.

If you are a voter registered in Chicago, the Chicago City Board of Elections provides a sample ballot here: http://www.chicagoelections.com/en/your-voter-information.html. After you enter your information, you can see your polling place and choose to see a sample ballot including all the measures that will appear on November 4.
Measure: Crime Victims’ Rights

Proposal:

Proposes to amend the Bill of Rights Article of the Illinois Constitution concerning crime victim's rights. Provides that in addition to other rights provided in the Constitution, a crime victim has the right to: (1) be free from harassment, intimidation, and abuse; (2) refuse to disclose information that is privileged or confidential by law; (3) timely notification of all court proceedings; (4) be heard at any proceeding involving a post-arraignment release decision, plea, sentencing, post-conviction or post-adjudication release decision, and any post-arraignment proceeding in which a right of the victim is at issue; (5) receive a report related to the defendant's sentence when available to the accused; and (6) have the safety of the victim and the victim's family considered in denying or fixing the amount of bail, determining whether to release the defendant, and setting conditions of release. Provides that a victim, victim's lawyer, or the prosecuting attorney may assert the victim's constitutional rights in court. Provides that nothing in this Constitutional provision creates any cause of action for compensation or damages against the State, any political subdivision of the State, any officer, employee, or agent of the State, or any officer or employee of the court. Effective upon being declared adopted.

Explanation:

This proposal expands some existing rights for victims of crimes and adds additional new rights. Currently, victims are entitled to fairness and respect throughout the criminal justice process. This amendment would add protections from harassment, intimidation, and abuse. Currently, victims are able to make a statement to the court when a defendant is sentenced. This amendment would allow for victim statements at any post-arraignment court proceeding. This amendment would also require prosecutors and the court to notify victims about defendant conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, or release. Currently, victims may ask for that information.
This amendment also grants new rights. A victim would have the right to notice and a hearing before the court rules on a request for confidential or privileged information relating to the victim. Victims would also have to right to ask a judge to consider their safety and the safety of their families before granting release or bail to a defendant. Lastly, a victim would be allowed to assert their rights in a court that has jurisdiction of the criminal case.

If passed, this amendment would go into effect immediately.

**Arguments For:**

Supporters of this measure argue that victims of crimes deserve stronger protections than what are currently granted by the Constitution. Victims should not fear harassment or intimidation and their safety should be considered when setting conditions for bail and release. If the defendant or their attorney requests private information about the victim, victims should be notified and be allowed to object. The judge can still require that private information be submitted, but the victim’s right to object should be heard. This constitutional amendment would allow victims to enforce their rights.

**Arguments Against:**

Opponents to the proposed amendment argue that it would disrupt the criminal justice process by allowing victims to second-guess prosecutors and judges. The existing rights granted to victims are extensive. The proposed amendments threaten the rights of criminal defendants, not all of whom are guilty. Our judicial system gives criminal defendants the right to access information that could prove their innocence, and this amendment could result in victims preventing the disclosure of those documents.

**More Information:**


Measure: Voter Discrimination

Proposal:
Proposes to amend the Suffrage and Elections Article of the Constitution. Provides that no person shall be denied the right to register to vote or to cast a ballot in an election based on race, color, ethnicity, status as a member of a language minority, sex, sexual orientation, or income. Effective upon being declared adopted.

Explanation:
This proposed amendment would ensure that no law or procedure is passed that intentionally discriminates or unequally impacts the right of a voter to register to vote or to cast a ballot in an election on the basis of their race, color, ethnicity, language, sex, sexual orientation, or income. This proposal does not change the requirements of voting. It adds a new section to the Suffrage and Elections Article in order to protect against voter discrimination.

If passed, this amendment would go into effect immediately.

Arguments For:
Supporters of this measure argue that this amendment protects the fundamental right to vote for the eligible citizens of Illinois. The proposed change would forbid laws and regulations that would seek to prohibit eligible citizens from voting. It would also protect against laws or procedures that resulted in a disparate impact on the abilities on a voter to register or cast a ballot on the basis on race, color, ethnicity, language, sex, sexual orientation or income. Any law that resulted in a disparate impact would be subject to strict judicial scrutiny.

Sponsors of this measure argue that the proposed amendment would protect against voter identification laws.
Arguments Against:

Opponents to this measure argue that this law is not necessary because many of these protections are already in place under federal law. There have been no identified instances of voter discrimination in Illinois that would prove the necessity of this amendment. Instead, this proposed change would increase unnecessary litigation and judicial review.

More Information:


http://ballotpedia.org/Illinois_Right_to_Vote_Amendment_(2014)
Measure: Minimum Wage Increase

Advisory Question:
Shall the minimum wage in Illinois for adults over the age of 18 be raised to $10 per hour by January 1, 2015?

Explanation:
This is advisory question asks voters whether they support increasing the hourly minimum wage to $10 by January 1, 2015. The current minimum wage is $8.25 per hour. This is an advisory question and no law would be created, amended, or repealed as a result of the voting outcomes.

Arguments For:
Supporters of this question argue that increasing the minimum wage fights poverty by providing a decent wage to individuals who are working at minimum-wage jobs. The minimum wage has never been tied to inflation, so its value has eroded significantly. Increasing the minimum wage will increase the weekly earnings of many Illinois workers and families, who will then be able to spend more of their money in the economy.

Arguments Against:
Opponents to this question argue that raising the minimum wage would hurt businesses and result in job loss and increased prices. Businesses would be forced to cut jobs or raise their prices in order to offset increased labor costs. Higher minimum wages will also attract more experienced workers and keep them in minimum-wage jobs longer, which will prevent young workers or workers without job experience from entering the job market.

More Information:
Measure: Prescription Birth Control

Advisory Question:
Shall any health insurance plan in Illinois that provides prescription drug coverage be required to include prescription birth control as part of that coverage?

Explanation:
This is an advisory question asking voters whether prescription birth control should be covered in all health insurance plans that include prescription drug coverage. This is an advisory question and no law would be created, amended, or repealed as a result of the voting outcomes.

Arguments For:
Those who support this question argue that any health insurance policy that includes prescription drug benefits should also include prescription birth control. Supporters of this question argue that employers should not be allowed to opt out of providing contraception coverage.

Arguments Against:
Those who oppose this question argue that employers should not be required to provide contraception coverage in their insurance plans if it conflicts with their religious beliefs. Also, the state law already requires contraception coverage for most insurance plans.

More Information:
Measure: Millionaire Tax Increase for Education

Advisory Question:
Should the Illinois Constitution be amended to require that each school district receive additional revenue, based on their number of students, from an additional 3% tax on income greater than one million dollars?

Explanation:
This is an advisory question asking voters whether they support increasing taxation levels by 3% on incomes greater than one million dollars. The additional tax revenue would be distributed to school districts based on their numbers of students. This is an advisory question and no law would be created, amended, or repealed as a result of the voting outcomes.

Arguments For:
Those who support this question argue that the individuals who are earning the most money should pay a little more to increase the resources for schools. Investment in education will improve our economic outlook and provide a boost for our educational future.

Arguments Against:
Those who oppose this question argue that the additional tax is unfair to those who would be forced to pay more and that it would place undue burdens on small businesses. A tax increase may also drive businesses out of the state.

More Information:
http://ballotpedia.org/Illinois_Millionaire_Tax_Increase_for_Education_Question_(2014)
Glossary of Terms and Laws

**Affordable Care Act (ACA):** Also known as “ObamaCare.” Passed in 2010, this law overhauled the U.S. healthcare system. The ACA expanded public and private insurance options and created state-level insurance changes. It also included mandates for individuals to buy health insurance and banned insurance companies from denying coverage to individuals based on pre-existing conditions. Some states have fully participated in the Medicaid expansion while others have not.

**Concealed Carry Laws:** Laws that allow citizens with appropriate licenses and training to carry a concealed firearm.

**DREAM Act:** A bill that would provide a pathway to permanent residency for undocumented immigrants who arrived in the United States prior to the age of eighteen who graduate from high school, have no criminal records, and serve in the military and/or graduate from a college or university.

**Earmark Spending:** Legislative spending that directs funds to be spent on specific projects, often in the legislator’s home district.

**Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC):** A refundable tax credit to low or moderate income working individuals and families. It reduces the amount of taxes that individuals or families may owe and potentially increases their tax refund.
Employment Non-Discrimination Act: Legislation that would prohibit discrimination in hiring and employment on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. It has not passed the U.S. Congress.

Income tax increases of 2011: On January 12, 2011, Illinois increased personal income taxes from 3% to 5% and business taxes from 4.8% to 7% in order to address the state budget deficit of $13 billion and $8 billion in unpaid state bills. The increases are set to partially expire in 2015, with rates returning to or near their pre-increase levels. The current debate is over whether to make the income tax increases permanent.

National Standards Movement: An educational reform movement that includes the CommonCore standards, which implement new standards in what subject material is covered in each grade of K-12 school.

Medicaid: A social health care program for individuals and families with low incomes or with disabilities. Not to be confused with Medicare, which is a health plan for retired individuals.

Parental Notification of Abortion Law: Illinois law requires abortion providers to notify a parent or adult family member if a woman under age 18 seeks an abortion, unless a judge grants a waiver. The parent does not have to give permission but they must be notified.

Right-to-Work Zones: Right-to-work laws prohibit agreements between labor unions and employers and limit the ability of workers to organize.

Roe v. Wade: The 1973 Supreme Court case that legalized abortion.
**School choice:** School choice refers to policies that allow charter schools to serve as alternatives to public schools. School choice may or may not include vouchers.

**Stimulus:** Also known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the stimulus was a spending bill passed in February 2009 that allocated federal funds to save or create jobs and to invest in infrastructure, educational reform, and renewable energy. This bill invested government money with the goal of limiting the impact of the recession.

**Vouchers:** Vouchers are tuition waivers paid for by the government that allow parents to send their children to private or religious schools. The government gives the parent a set amount of public funds that can be spent at any private school. Vouchers may be included in school choice plans but are rarer.