



# STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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## ELECTION NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **EARLY VOTING DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, MARCH 15**

**SPRINGFIELD, IL, March 14, 2012** – The deadline for voting at an Early Voting Center is Thursday March 15, 2012. The Illinois Primary Election is March 20, 2012.

Voters casting a ballot at an Early Voting Center must display photo identification such as a current driver's license, state-issued ID card or another government-issued ID card.

There are approximately 200 Early Voting Centers in the Chicago metropolitan area and at least one in each of the state's 102 counties.

More information on absentee voting, Grace Period Registration and Early Voting is available at the offices of County Clerks and Board of Election Commissioners and at [www.elections.il.gov](http://www.elections.il.gov).

The primary election system is established by state law. An Illinois voter can vote for candidates of one party only. The established political parties are Republican and Democrat. Voters, however, may request a nonpartisan ballot to vote for any public questions which happen to be on the ballot in their precinct. In that case, a voter would not have to declare a party affiliation. He or she may request a nonpartisan ballot only.

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

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