2026 WILL COUNTY VOTING INFORMATION

GENERAL ELECTION: Tuesday, Nov. 3

For the most accurate and extensive information about voting, visit:

www.willcountyclerk.gov

Will County Clerk's Office: 302 N. Chicago St., Joliet, 815-740-4615

The information below is compiled by the Crete Public Library from information available on the Will County Clerk's website. The Library staff are happy to assist with questions about voting or to help you look up your registration status, polling place, or print a sample ballot.

Crete Public Library: 708-672-8017

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

VOTING IN THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTION in WILL COUNTY

Q: I am not 18 years old yet, but I will be by Election Day. Can I still register to vote?

A: Absolutely! Register at the Library by Oct. 6 or via one of the many ways to do so listed on the Clerk's website as long as you will be 18 years old on Nov. 3rd.

Q: I think I am registered to vote but I'm not sure. How do I check?

A: Look up your status on the Clerk's website or call the Library for assistance.

Q: I forgot to register to vote before the deadline. Is it too late?

A: Absolutely NOT! You still have a few options:

1. You can register online until Oct. 18th at: https://ova.elections.il.gov.
2. You can register at your early voting location as long as you intend to cast your ballot at the same time.
3. You can register at your polling place on Election Day as long as you cast your ballot at the same time.

Q: When will Vote by Mail ballots be mailed?

A: The Will County Clerk's Office begins mailing Vote by Mail ballots 40 days before the election, which is Sept. 24th.

Q: Can I see my ballot before the election so I can make informed decisions?

A: Yes! Visit the Clerk's website to view a sample ballot specific to your precinct or visit the Library and we can help. Often the Clerk's Office mails sample ballots, as well.

Q: I am registered to vote. Where do I go to vote on Election Day?

A: Your polling place is listed on your CURRENT voter registration card, but you can verify the location by visiting the Clerk's website or calling the Library.

Q: On Election Day, I can just go to the same place I voted last time, right?

A: Not necessarily. Polling places sometimes change, for example, due to redistricting. Check the Clerk's website or call the Library for your current polling place.

Q: I've changed my mind and don't want to Vote by Mail. Can I just drop my ballot off at my polling place on Election Day?

A: No, you can't just drop off a completed Vote by Mail ballot at your polling place, but you have a few options:

1. You can drop your ballot at one of the Will County Clerk's ballot drop boxes. The closest to Crete is at Governors State University (Main Bldg). Check the Clerk's website or call the Library for dates and times, as well as other locations.
2. You can drop it off directly at the Will County Clerk's Office (inside or in a secure drop box) no later than 7pm on Election Day.
3. You can bring it to your polling place on Election Day, where they will void it and give you a ballot to vote-in-person instead. If you don't bring your ballot with you, they will give you a provisional ballot, which may be counted after Election Day.

Q: I'm concerned about the security of the drop boxes for Vote by Mail ballots. What's being done to protect them?

A: Drop boxes are located in secure, monitored locations (most are inside a library), and they are being emptied daily so your ballot won't be in the box for long after you deposit it. Most are also under camera surveillance.

Q: Is there any way to know if my Vote by Mail ballot was received?

A: Yes, you can track your ballot, from the request through its receipt at the Clerk's Office, on the Clerk's website.

Q: Does the Vote by Mail ballot need to be received by the Clerk's Office by Election Day?

A: That depends. If you are dropping it off at the Clerk's Office or in a drop box, it must be received, in most instances, by 7pm on Election Day. If you mail it, it must be postmarked by Election Day.

Please note that USPS postmark rules have changed. Mail was formerly postmarked the day it was received. Now it will be postmarked when it is processed, which may be days later. Election officials are urging voters to return their ballots as soon as possible so that their ballot arrives in time to be legitimately counted. You may also use the ballot dropboxes or go into the post office and request a manual postmark at the counter.

Q: When is my Vote by Mail ballot counted?

A: Vote by Mail ballots are tabulated no later than the Provisional Count, scheduled for the second Tuesday after Election Day. Contact the Will County Clerk for more info on this subject.

Q: I want to vote early. Can I go to any early voting location?

A: Not necessarily. Most early voting locations are available to any voter in Will County, but some are only handling voters in their local precincts. Check the Clerk's website to verify you can vote at your preferred location. Crete residents can absolutely vote at the Crete Township office, as well as Governors State University

Q: I am in the hospital, disabled, in the military, or living overseas. Can I still vote?

A: Yes! Visit the Clerk's website or call the Library for information about these special situations.

Crete Public Library
1177 Main St | Crete, IL 60417 | 708-672-8017

This information provided by the Crete Public Library based on information from the Will County Clerk's Office website (Oct. 19, 2026). Direct questions to the Clerk's Office. Updated Oct. 19, 2026.