

Macoupin County

# Countywide Candidates Courtesy Petition Packet

**MARCH 17, 2026 PRIMARY**

# Table of contents

	1
<b>Table of contents</b>	<b>2</b>
Obtain Legal Counsel and Format of Paperwork	2
<b>Countywide Candidates</b>	<b>3</b>
Offices Up and Qualifications	3
<b>Signature Requirements</b>	3
What Forms Must Be Filed To Run	4
Filing Your Petitions and How Ballot Order is Determined	5
Notes about signing a petition	6
Who Can Circulate Petitions	7

## Obtain Legal Counsel and Format of Paperwork

This packet of information is being provided by the Macoupin County Clerk's office as a courtesy to prospective candidates. Information and suggested forms are also available on the Illinois State Board of Elections website at [www.elections.il.gov](http://www.elections.il.gov). It is important to note that Nominating Petition papers are subject to legal challenge by objectors if improperly completed. Please be advised that the Clerk and staff are not able to provide legal opinions to individuals regarding their petition papers. Prospective candidates are encouraged to consult their own legal advisors on questions related to qualifications for office, preparation of petition papers, circulator requirements, signature requirements, etc., because once the petition papers are officially filed they cannot be changed or amended.

# Countywide Candidates

## Offices Up and Qualifications

County Clerk                      4 year term begins December 1, 2026

County Treasurer                4 year term begins December 1, 2026

Sheriff                              4 year term begins December 1, 2026

### Qualifications

- 18 years old
- United States citizen
- Registered voter in county
- For Sheriff only: not a convicted felon, resident of the county for one year, and has completed the Minimum Standards Basic Law Enforcement Officers Training Course as prescribed by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board or a substantially similar training program

## Signature Requirements

Here are the minimum number of signatures required to get on the ballot.

- Democratic candidates – 89 signatures
- Republican candidates – 98 signatures

## What Forms Must Be Filed To Run

These are the forms you need to file during the filing period to get your name on the ballot.

1. Statement of Candidacy
  - Must Include candidate's name, address, office running for, term of office, and political party if running in a primary.
  - Make sure the information matches the information that is printed on the petition sheets.
2. Petition Pages
  - Top will include the same candidate's name, address, office running for, term of office, and political party if running in a primary as statement of candidacy.
  - Each page should be numbered starting with number 1, working consecutively.
  - The bottom section should be completed by whoever circulates the page and collects the signatures.
  - Each page must be notarized
3. Receipt of Filing Statement of Economic Interest
  - This form must be filed with the County Clerk and a receipt issued.
  - The receipt is the only form that may be added to your petition papers once they have been filed.
  - Filing the receipt later will not change the date or time of the original filing, but it must be filed with the County Clerk's office by close of business on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.
  - A candidate who filed a Statement of Economic Interests for the same unit of government within the calendar year need only file a duplicate receipt, which is available at the County Clerk's office.
4. Loyalty Oath
  - Optional form
  - If completed, the candidates name should be exactly the same as it is on the Statement of Candidacy.

## Filing Your Petitions and How Ballot Order is Determined

- Nomination papers may be filed by mail or in person, either by the candidate or by their representative.
- The first day to file is **Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025** and the last day to file is **Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025** in the Macoupin County Election Office in the Courthouse.
- Filing will be **8:30 am** to **4:30 pm** for all days except the final day to file when filing will remain open until 5:00 pm.
- All petitions filed by persons waiting in line at 8:30 am on the first day of filing and all those petitions received in the day's first mailed delivery are deemed 'simultaneously' filed and a lottery will determine ballot order.
- All petitions received from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm on the last day of filing will also be deemed 'simultaneously' filed and a lottery will determine ballot order.
- All other petitions are placed on the ballot in the order they are filed.
- The ballot lottery will be held nine days following the last day to file and notice will be given to all candidates who are part of the lottery.

## Notes about signing a petition

Here are some things to remember when it comes to who can sign petitions.

1. A signer must sign their own signature on the petition, meaning they cannot sign for anyone else, such as a spouse, family member, or other person in their household.
2. Signers must also be registered voters in the area the candidate is running. For example, if the candidate is running in County Board District 4, the signer must live in that Board District. If the candidate is running in precinct Cahokia 1, the signer must live in Cahokia 1.
3. Signers need to write their street address, city, village, or town, county and state. Some of that information can be preprinted as long as all people signing reside in the same area.
4. Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the residence address.
5. Signers must be registered to vote at that the address they write down.
6. Signers may change which party candidates petitions they sign from one election cycle to the next. For example, if they signed a Republican candidate in 2024, they can sign a Democratic candidates in 2026.
7. However, a signer may only sign **one** political party candidates petitions in the same election. If a signer signs a petition for a Democratic County Clerk candidate this year, they cannot sign a petition for a Republican Sheriff candidate the same year.
8. A signer may sign petitions of as many candidates of the same political party as they wish.

## Who Can Circulate Petitions

1. Here's who can circulate petitions
  - a. They must be at least 18 years old or will be 18 years old by the next General Election
  - b. A citizen of the United States
2. Circulators must personally witness all signatures on the page and sign the required circulator's statement at the bottom of each petition page.
3. Circulators will need to have their circulator statement signature notarized at the bottom of the page before filing. There will be no notaries at the Election office during the filing period.
4. Circulators may not circulate petitions for more than one political party each year.