

PETITION CIRCULATOR REQUIREMENTS

A petition circulator must be:

- 18 years of age or will be 18 by the date of the upcoming Consolidated Election; and
- A citizen of the United States (can be from outside of the district, county, or state).

The circulator must personally witness all signatures given and sign the required circulator's statement affirming that all signatures were given in the presence of the circulator. No one may be considered a circulator of any petition page except the person who signs the circulator's statement. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

Petition sheets must not be circulated more than 90 days preceding the last day for the filing of the petitions. The circulator's statement on a candidate's petition must specify either the dates on which the sheets were circulated, the first and last dates on which the sheet was circulated, or that none of the signatures on the sheet were signed more than 90 days preceding that last day for filing of the petitions.

See page 7 for dates when candidates may start circulating petition sheets. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4) NOTE: Blank nomination petitions may be reproduced prior to circulation. The signatures of the signers, circulator, and the notary public must be original. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

CIRCULATOR'S STATEMENT

A petition circulator must complete the circulator's statement at the bottom of each petition sheet certifying the circulator's address, age, citizenship information, and that the signatures on that sheet were signed in the presence of the circulator.

The circulator must certify that the signatures are genuine and, to the best of the circulator's knowledge, that the persons signing were duly registered voters of the political subdivision for which the candidate or candidates shall be nominated or elected, and that their respective registration addresses are correctly stated therein. This statement shall be sworn to and signed by a notary. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

Petition circulators shall indicate on such petition their residence addresses (written or printed) including the street address or rural route number, as well as the county, city, village, or town. (10 ILCS 5/7-10, 10-4)

SIGNING A PETITION

A signer must sign the signer's own signature on the petition, a signer cannot sign for someone else, such as another member of the family or another person in the household.

A signer must also be a registered voter in the political subdivision in which the candidate is seeking nomination or election. (10 ILCS 5/3-1.2, 7-10, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4)

Petition signers shall indicate on such petition their residence addresses (written or printed) including the street address or rural route number, as well as the city, village or town, county, and state. The state, county, city, village, and town of residence may be pre-printed on the petition form when all of the electors signing the petition form reside therein.

Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the residence address. A petition signer must be a registered voter from the address shown opposite the signature on the petition. (10 ILCS 5/7 10, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4) NOTE: A petition signer may change party affiliation from one election to another. *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51 (1973); *Sperling v. County Officers Electoral Board*, 57 Ill. 2d 81, 309 N.E. 2d 589 (Ill. 1974)

CIRCULATING RESTRICTIONS:

A circulator may not circulate petitions for more than one political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4); *Schober v. Young*, 322 Ill. App. 3d 996, 751 N.E.2d 610 (4th Dist. 2001)

1. A circulator may not circulate petitions for an independent candidate(s) in addition to candidates for a new political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)
2. A circulator may not circulate petitions for more than one new political party. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)
3. A circulator may not circulate petitions for an established party and an independent or new party candidate. (10 ILCS 5/10-4)

SIGNING RESTRICTIONS:

A signer may not sign petitions for a candidate of more than one political party for the same election. (10 ILCS 5/7-10)

1. A signer may sign petitions of one established political party for the Consolidated Primary and one new political party or independent candidate for the following Consolidated Election. (10 ILCS 5/10 3)
2. A signer may sign petitions of as many candidates of the same political party as desired.*