Illinois

Voting is the cornerstone right of our democracy. You can only have your voice and your needs reflected in government if you vote. Pre-registration is an important tool that allows people younger than 18 to vote as soon as they are eligible.

✓ Illinois allows 17 year-olds who will be 18 years old by the time of the general election to register to vote.¹
✓ Illinois allows registration on the day of the election²
✓ Those 17 year-olds who qualify can register online or by mailing in the voter registration form (available in English or Spanish).
  o You can also register in person at certain government offices, including the County Clerk’s office and the Board of Election Commissioner’s office.
✓ As soon as you receive your voter ID card in the mail, you can consider yourself registered. If you do not receive your ID card within 3 weeks of registering, contact your election authority.
✓ You can also check your registration status online.

Illinois law does allow 17 year-olds to vote in primary elections, if they will be 18 at the time of the general election.³

Illinois law does allow certain high school students to serve as poll workers. To serve, the student must be a junior or senior “in good standing,” must be a US citizen, must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, must have the written approval of the principal and parent or legal guardian, and must complete a training course.⁴

For more information, see ACS’s resources on pre-registration and youth poll workers in all 50 states.

ACS encourages everyone to learn more about voter registration in their state. ACS is not a voter registration entity. This is simply an informational tool and is not intended, nor should it serve, as legal advice.

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¹ 10 ILCS 5/3-6
² 10 ILCS 5/4-50
³ 10 ILCS 5/3-1
⁴ 10 ILCS 5/13-4(b)