



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3031

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Rep. Janet Yang Rohr

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/13-1	from Ch. 46, par. 13-1
10 ILCS 5/13-2	from Ch. 46, par. 13-2
10 ILCS 5/13-3	from Ch. 46, par. 13-3
10 ILCS 5/13-4	from Ch. 46, par. 13-4
10 ILCS 5/14-1	from Ch. 46, par. 14-1
10 ILCS 5/14-3.1	from Ch. 46, par. 14-3.1
10 ILCS 5/14-4	from Ch. 46, par. 14-4
10 ILCS 5/14-5	from Ch. 46, par. 14-5

Amends the Election Code. Provides that an election authority may, at its discretion, appoint a judge of election who is unaffiliated with a political party. Sets fourth requirements concerning the selection and appointment of judges unaffiliated with a political party in various types of election precincts. Makes conforming changes.

LRB104 03106 SPS 13124 b

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing
5 Sections 13-1, 13-2, 13-3, 13-4, 14-1, 14-3.1, 14-4, 14-5, and
6 as follows:

7 (10 ILCS 5/13-1) (from Ch. 46, par. 13-1)

8 Sec. 13-1. In counties not under township organization,
9 the county board of commissioners shall at its meeting in July
10 in each even-numbered year appoint in each election precinct 5
11 capable and discreet persons meeting the qualifications of
12 Section 13-4 to be judges of election. Where neither voting
13 machines nor electronic, mechanical or electric voting systems
14 are used, the county board may, for any precinct with respect
15 to which the board considers such action necessary or
16 desirable in view of the number of voters, and shall for
17 general elections for any precinct containing more than 600
18 registered voters, appoint in addition to the 5 judges of
19 election a team of 5 tally judges. In such precincts the judges
20 of election shall preside over the election during the hours
21 the polls are open, and the tally judges, with the assistance
22 of the holdover judges designated pursuant to Section 13-6.2,
23 shall count the vote after the closing of the polls. However,

1 the County Board of Commissioners may appoint 3 judges of
2 election to serve in lieu of the 5 judges of election otherwise
3 required by this Section (1) to serve in any emergency
4 referendum, or in any odd-year regular election or in any
5 special primary or special election called for the purpose of
6 filling a vacancy in the office of representative in the
7 United States Congress or to nominate candidates for such
8 purpose or (2) if the county board passes an ordinance to
9 reduce the number of judges of election to 3 for primary
10 elections. The tally judges shall possess the same
11 qualifications and shall be appointed in the same manner and
12 with the same division between political parties as is
13 provided for judges of election.

14 In addition to such precinct judges, the county board of
15 commissioners shall appoint special panels of 3 judges each,
16 who shall possess the same qualifications and shall be
17 appointed in the same manner and with the same division
18 between political parties as is provided for other judges of
19 election. The number of such panels of judges required shall
20 be determined by regulations of the State Board of Elections
21 which shall base the required numbers of special panels on the
22 number of registered voters in the jurisdiction or the number
23 of vote by mail ballots voted at recent elections, or any
24 combination of such factors. The county board of commissioners
25 may, at its discretion, appoint a judge of election who is
26 unaffiliated with a political party.

1 Such appointment shall be confirmed by the court as
2 provided in Section 13-3 of this Article. No more than 3
3 persons of the same political party or, if the county board of
4 commissioners appoints a judge unaffiliated with a political
5 party, 2 persons of the same political party and one person who
6 is unaffiliated with a political party, shall be appointed
7 judges of the same election precinct or election judge panel.
8 The appointment shall be made in the following manner in each
9 election precinct: (1) if the county board of commissioners
10 does not appoint a judge unaffiliated with a political party
11 in an election precinct, the ~~The~~ county board of commissioners
12 shall select and approve 3 persons as judges of election in the
13 ~~each~~ election precinct from a certified list, furnished by the
14 chair of the County Central Committee of the first leading
15 political party in such precinct, and the county board of
16 commissioners shall also select and approve 2 persons as
17 judges of election in the ~~each~~ election precinct from a
18 certified list, furnished by the chair of the County Central
19 Committee of the second leading political party; or (2) if the
20 county board of commissioners does appoint a judge
21 unaffiliated with a political party in an election precinct,
22 the county board of commissioners shall select and approve one
23 person who is unaffiliated with a political party as a judge of
24 election in the precinct who makes application in a manner
25 prescribed by the county board of commissioners, the county
26 board of commissioners shall select and approve 2 persons as

1 judges of election in the election precinct from a certified
2 list, furnished by the chair of the County Central Committee
3 of the first leading political party in such precinct, and the
4 county board of commissioners shall select and approve 2
5 persons as judges of election in the election precinct from a
6 certified list, furnished by the chair of the County Central
7 Committee of the second leading political party. However, if
8 only 3 judges of election serve in each election precinct, no
9 more than 2 persons of the same political party or, if the
10 county board of commissioners appoints a judge unaffiliated
11 with a political party, one person from each political party
12 and one person who is unaffiliated with a political party,
13 shall be judges of election in the same election precinct; and
14 the appointment of judges which political party is entitled to
15 ~~2 judges of election and which political party is entitled to~~
16 ~~one judge of election~~ shall be determined in the same manner as
17 set forth in the next two preceding sentences with regard to 5
18 election judges in each precinct. Such certified list shall be
19 filed with the county clerk not less than 10 days before the
20 annual meeting of the county board of commissioners. Such list
21 shall be arranged according to precincts. The chair of each
22 county central committee shall, insofar as possible, list
23 persons who reside within the precinct in which they are to
24 serve as judges. However, he may, in his sole discretion,
25 submit the names of persons who reside outside the precinct
26 but within the county embracing the precinct in which they are

1 to serve. He must, however, submit the names of at least 2
2 residents of the precinct for each precinct in which his party
3 is to have up to 3 judges and must submit the name of at least
4 one resident of the precinct for each precinct in which his
5 party is to have up to 2 judges. The county board of
6 commissioners shall acknowledge in writing to each county
7 chair the names of all persons submitted on such certified
8 list and the total number of persons listed thereon. If no such
9 list is filed or such list is incomplete (that is, no names or
10 an insufficient number of names are furnished for certain
11 election precincts), the county board of commissioners shall
12 make or complete such list from the names contained in the
13 supplemental list provided for in Section 13-1.1. The election
14 judges shall hold their office for 2 years from their
15 appointment, and until their successors are duly appointed in
16 the manner provided in this Act. The county board of
17 commissioners shall fill all vacancies in the office of judge
18 of election at any time in the manner provided in this Act.

19 (Source: P.A. 100-337, eff. 8-25-17; 100-1027, eff. 1-1-19.)

20 (10 ILCS 5/13-2) (from Ch. 46, par. 13-2)

21 Sec. 13-2. In counties under the township organization the
22 county board shall at its meeting in July in each
23 even-numbered year except in counties containing a population
24 of 3,000,000 inhabitants or over and except when such judges
25 are appointed by election commissioners, select in each

1 election precinct in the county, 5 capable and discreet
2 persons to be judges of election who shall possess the
3 qualifications required by this Act for such judges. Where
4 neither voting machines nor electronic, mechanical or electric
5 voting systems are used, the county board may, for any
6 precinct with respect to which the board considers such action
7 necessary or desirable in view of the number of voters, and
8 shall for general elections for any precinct containing more
9 than 600 registered voters, appoint in addition to the 5
10 judges of election a team of 5 tally judges. In such precincts
11 the judges of election shall preside over the election during
12 the hours the polls are open, and the tally judges, with the
13 assistance of the holdover judges designated pursuant to
14 Section 13-6.2, shall count the vote after the closing of the
15 polls. The tally judges shall possess the same qualifications
16 and shall be appointed in the same manner and with the same
17 division between political parties as is provided for judges
18 of election.

19 However, the county board may appoint 3 judges of election
20 to serve in lieu of the 5 judges of election otherwise required
21 by this Section (1) to serve in any emergency referendum, or in
22 any odd-year regular election or in any special primary or
23 special election called for the purpose of filling a vacancy
24 in the office of representative in the United States Congress
25 or to nominate candidates for such purpose or (2) if the county
26 board passes an ordinance to reduce the number of judges of

1 election to 3 for primary elections.

2 In addition to such precinct judges, the county board
3 shall appoint special panels of 3 judges each, who shall
4 possess the same qualifications and shall be appointed in the
5 same manner and with the same division between political
6 parties as is provided for other judges of election. The
7 number of such panels of judges required shall be determined
8 by regulations of the State Board of Elections, which shall
9 base the required number of special panels on the number of
10 registered voters in the jurisdiction or the number of
11 absentee ballots voted at recent elections or any combination
12 of such factors. The county board may, at its discretion,
13 appoint a judge of election who is unaffiliated with a
14 political party.

15 No more than 3 persons of the same political party shall be
16 appointed judges in the same election district or undivided
17 precinct. The election of the judges of election in each ~~the~~
18 ~~various~~ election precinct ~~precincts~~ shall be made in the
19 following manner: (1) if the county board does not appoint a
20 judge unaffiliated with a political party in an election
21 precinct, the ~~The~~ county board shall select and approve 3 of
22 the election judges in the ~~each~~ precinct from a certified list
23 furnished by the chair of the County Central Committee of the
24 first leading political party in such election precinct and
25 shall also select and approve 2 judges of election in the ~~each~~
26 election precinct from a certified list furnished by the chair

1 of the County Central Committee of the second leading
2 political party in such election precinct; or (2) if the
3 county board does appoint a judge unaffiliated with a
4 political party in an election precinct, the county board
5 shall select and approve one person who is unaffiliated with a
6 political party as a judge of election in the precinct who
7 makes application in a manner prescribed by the county board,
8 the county board of commissioners shall select and approve 2
9 persons as judges of election in the election precinct from a
10 certified list, furnished by the chair of the County Central
11 Committee of the first leading political party in such
12 precinct and the county board shall also select and approve 2
13 persons as judges of election in the election precinct from a
14 certified list, furnished by the chair of the County Central
15 Committee of the second leading political party. However, if
16 only 3 judges of election serve in each election precinct, no
17 more than 2 persons of the same political party or, if the
18 county board appoints a judge unaffiliated with a political
19 party, one person from each political party and one person who
20 is unaffiliated with a political party, shall be judges of
21 election in the same election precinct; and the appointment of
22 judges ~~which political party is entitled to 2 judges of~~
23 ~~election and which political party is entitled to one judge of~~
24 ~~election~~ shall be determined in the same manner as set forth in
25 the next two preceding sentences with regard to 5 election
26 judges in each precinct. The respective County Central

1 Committee chair shall notify the county board by June 1 of each
2 odd-numbered year immediately preceding the annual meeting of
3 the county board whether or not such certified list will be
4 filed by such chair. Such list shall be arranged according to
5 precincts. The chair of each county central committee shall,
6 insofar as possible, list persons who reside within the
7 precinct in which they are to serve as judges. However, he may,
8 in his sole discretion, submit the names of persons who reside
9 outside the precinct but within the county embracing the
10 precinct in which they are to serve. He must, however, submit
11 the names of at least 2 residents of the precinct for each
12 precinct in which his party is to have up to 3 judges and must
13 submit the name of at least one resident of the precinct for
14 each precinct in which his party is to have up to 2 judges.
15 Such certified list, if filed, shall be filed with the county
16 clerk not less than 20 days before the annual meeting of the
17 county board. The county board shall acknowledge in writing to
18 each county chair the names of all persons submitted on such
19 certified list and the total number of persons listed thereon.
20 If no such list is filed or the list is incomplete (that is, no
21 names or an insufficient number of names are furnished for
22 certain election precincts), the county board shall make or
23 complete such list from the names contained in the
24 supplemental list provided for in Section 13-1.1. Provided,
25 further, that in any case where a township has been or shall be
26 redistricted, in whole or in part, subsequent to one general

1 election for Governor, and prior to the next, the judges of
2 election to be selected for all new or altered precincts shall
3 be selected in that one of the methods above detailed, which
4 shall be applicable according to the facts and circumstances
5 of the particular case, but the majority of such judges for
6 each such precinct shall be selected from the first leading
7 political party, and the minority judges from the second
8 leading political party. Provided, further, that in counties
9 having a population of 3,000,000 inhabitants or over the
10 selection of judges of election shall be made in the same
11 manner in all respects as in other counties, except that the
12 provisions relating to tally judges are inapplicable to such
13 counties and except that the county board shall meet during
14 the month of January for the purpose of making such selection,
15 each township committeeperson shall assume the
16 responsibilities given to the chair of the county central
17 committee in this Section for the precincts within his or her
18 township, and the township committeeperson shall notify the
19 county board by the preceding October 1 whether or not the
20 certified list will be filed. Such judges of election shall
21 hold their office for 2 years from their appointment and until
22 their successors are duly appointed in the manner provided in
23 this Act. The county board shall fill all vacancies in the
24 office of judges of elections at any time in the manner herein
25 provided.

26 Such selections under this Section shall be confirmed by

1 the circuit court as provided in Section 13-3 of this Article.
2 (Source: P.A. 100-337, eff. 8-25-17; 100-1027, eff. 1-1-19.)

3 (10 ILCS 5/13-3) (from Ch. 46, par. 13-3)

4 Sec. 13-3. After the judges of election have been selected
5 and approved as hereinbefore provided, a report of such
6 selections shall be made by the county board and filed in the
7 circuit court, and application shall then be made by the
8 county board to the court for their confirmation and
9 appointment, whereupon the court shall enter an order that
10 cause be shown, if any exists, against the confirmation and
11 appointment of such persons so named on or before the opening
12 of the court on a day to be fixed by the court. The county
13 board shall immediately give notice of such order and the
14 names of all such judges so reported to such court for
15 confirmation and their residence and the precinct for which
16 they were selected by causing a notice to be published in one
17 or more newspapers in the county and if no newspaper be
18 published therein then by posting such notice in 5 of the most
19 public places in the county. The notice shall state that a list
20 of judges of election is available for public inspection in
21 the office of the election authority. If no cause to the
22 contrary is shown prior to the day fixed, and if, in each
23 precinct, at least one judge representing each of the two
24 major political parties has been certified by the county clerk
25 as having satisfactorily completed within the preceding 6

1 months the training course and examination for judges of
2 election, as provided in Section 13-2.1 and 13-2.2 of this
3 Act, such appointment shall be confirmed by order entered by
4 that court.

5 If in any precinct the requisite 2 judges have not been so
6 certified by the county clerk as having satisfactorily
7 completed such course and examination, the county clerk shall
8 immediately notify all judges in that precinct, to whose
9 appointment there is no other objection, that all such judges
10 shall attend the next such course. The county clerk shall then
11 certify to the court that all such judges have been so notified
12 (and such certification need contain no detail other than a
13 mere recital). The appointment of such judges shall then be
14 confirmed by order entered by the court. If any judge so
15 notified and so confirmed fails to attend the next such
16 course, such failure shall subject such judge to possible
17 removal from office at the option of the election authority.

18 If objections to the appointment of any judge be filed
19 prior to the day fixed by the court for confirmation of judges,
20 the court shall hear such objections and the evidence
21 introduced in support thereof, and shall confirm or refuse to
22 confirm such nominations as the interests of the public may
23 require. No reasons may be given for the refusal to confirm. If
24 any vacancy exists at any time the county board shall, subject
25 to the provisions of Section 13-1.1, further report and
26 nominate persons to fill such vacancies so existing in the

1 manner aforesaid, and a court in the same way shall consider
2 such nominations and shall confirm or refuse to confirm the
3 same in the manner aforesaid. Upon the confirmation of such
4 judges, at any time, a commission shall issue to each of such
5 judges, under the seal of such court, and appropriate forms
6 shall be prepared by the county clerk of each county for such
7 purpose and furnished to the county board, and after
8 confirmation and acceptance of such commission, such judges
9 shall thereupon become officers of such court. If a vacancy
10 occurs so late that nomination by the county board and
11 application to and confirmation by the court cannot be had
12 before the election, then the court shall, subject to the
13 provisions of Section 13-1.1, make an appointment and issue a
14 commission to such officer or officers, and when thus
15 appointed such officer shall be considered an officer of the
16 court and subject to the same rules as if nominated by the
17 county board and confirmed by the court, and any judge,
18 however appointed, and at whatever time, shall be considered
19 an officer of court and be subject to the same control and
20 punishment in case of misbehavior. Not more than 10 business
21 days after the day of election, the county clerk shall compile
22 a list containing the name, address, and party affiliation, if
23 any, of each judge of election who served on the day of
24 election, and shall preserve such list and make it available
25 for public inspection and copying for a period of not more than
26 one year from the date of receipt of such list. Copies of such

1 list shall be available for purchase at a cost not to exceed
2 the cost of duplication. The board has the right, at any time,
3 in case of misbehavior or neglect of duty, to remove any judge
4 of election and cause such vacancy to be filled in accordance
5 with this Act. Except for judges appointed under subsection
6 (b) of Section 13-4, the board shall have the right, at any
7 time, to remove any judge of election for failing to vote the
8 primary ballot of the political party he represents, at a
9 primary election at which he served as such judge, and shall
10 cause such vacancy to be filled in accordance with this Act.
11 The board shall remove any judge of election who, twice during
12 the same term of office, fails to provide for the opening of
13 the polling place at the time prescribed in Section 17-1 or
14 Section 18-2, whichever is applicable, unless such delay can
15 be demonstrated by the judge of election to be beyond his or
16 her control. In the event that any judge of election is removed
17 for cause, the board shall specify such cause in writing and
18 make such writing a matter of public record, with a copy to be
19 sent to the appropriate county chair who made the initial
20 recommendation of the election judge. If any vacancies occur
21 or exist more than 15 days before election the judges
22 appointed to such places must be confirmed by such court. The
23 county board shall not voluntarily remove any judge within 15
24 days of such election except for flagrant misbehavior,
25 incapacity or dishonesty, and the reason therefor must
26 afterward be reported in writing to such court and made a

1 matter of public record, with a copy to be sent to the
2 appropriate county chair who made the initial recommendation
3 of the election judge. Provided further that where a vacancy
4 in the office of judge of election exists 20 days or less prior
5 to any election in counties having a population of 3,000,000
6 or more inhabitants, or where such vacancy exists 10 days or
7 less prior to any election in counties having less than
8 3,000,000 inhabitants, the county clerk shall, subject to the
9 provisions of Section 13-1.1, appoint a person of the same
10 major political party to fill such vacancy and issue a
11 commission thereto. The name of the officer so appointed shall
12 be reported to the court as a matter of record and after
13 acceptance of such commission such person shall be liable in
14 the same manner as officers regularly appointed by the county
15 board and confirmed by the court. The county clerk shall have
16 the power on election day to remove without cause any judge of
17 election appointed by the other judges of election pursuant to
18 Section 13-7 and to appoint another judge of election to serve
19 for that election. Such substitute judge of election must be
20 selected, where possible, pursuant to the provisions of
21 Section 13-1.1 and must be qualified in accordance with
22 Section 13-4.

23 If any precinct has increased in voter registration beyond
24 the maximum of 800 provided in Section 11-2, the county clerk
25 may appoint one additional judge of election from each
26 political party for each 200 voters in excess of 800.

1 (Source: P.A. 100-1027, eff. 1-1-19.)

2 (10 ILCS 5/13-4) (from Ch. 46, par. 13-4)

3 Sec. 13-4. Qualifications.

4 (a) All persons elected or chosen judge of election must:

5 (1) be citizens of the United States and entitled to vote at
6 the next election, except as provided in subsection (b) or
7 (c); (2) be of good repute and character and not subject to the
8 registration requirement of the Sex Offender Registration Act;
9 (3) be able to speak, read and write the English language; (4)
10 be skilled in the four fundamental rules of arithmetic; (5) be
11 of good understanding and capable; (6) not be candidates for
12 any office at the election and not be elected
13 committeepersons; and (7) reside in the precinct in which they
14 are selected to act, except that in each precinct, not more
15 than one judge of each party may be appointed from outside such
16 precinct and not more than one judge unaffiliated with a party
17 may be appointed from outside such precinct. Any judge
18 selected to serve in any precinct in which he is not entitled
19 to vote must reside within and be entitled to vote elsewhere
20 within the county which encompasses the precinct in which such
21 judge is appointed, except as provided in subsection (b) or
22 (c). Such judge must meet the other qualifications of this
23 Section.

24 (b) An election authority may establish a program to
25 permit a person who is not entitled to vote to be appointed as

1 an election judge if, as of the date of the election at which
2 the person serves as a judge, he or she:

3 (1) is a U.S. citizen;

4 (2) is a junior or senior in good standing enrolled in
5 a public or private secondary school;

6 (3) has a cumulative grade point average equivalent to
7 at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;

8 (4) has the written approval of the principal of the
9 secondary school he or she attends at the time of
10 appointment;

11 (5) has the written approval of his or her parent or
12 legal guardian;

13 (6) has satisfactorily completed the training course
14 for judges of election described in Sections 13-2.1 and
15 13-2.2; and

16 (7) meets all other qualifications for appointment and
17 service as an election judge.

18 No more than one election judge qualifying under this
19 subsection may serve per political party per precinct and no
20 more than one election judge qualifying under this subsection
21 may be unaffiliated with a political party. Prior to
22 appointment, a judge qualifying under this subsection must
23 certify in writing to the election authority the political
24 party the judge chooses to affiliate with or that the judge
25 chooses not to affiliate with a political party.

26 Students appointed as election judges under this

1 subsection shall not be counted as absent from school on the
2 day they serve as judges.

3 (c) An election authority may establish a program to
4 permit a person who is not entitled to vote in that precinct or
5 county to be appointed as an election judge if, as of the date
6 of the election at which the person serves as a judge, he or
7 she:

8 (1) is a U.S. citizen;

9 (2) is currently enrolled in a community college, as
10 defined in the Public Community College Act, or a public
11 or private Illinois university or college;

12 (3) has a cumulative grade point average equivalent to
13 at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;

14 (4) has satisfactorily completed the training course
15 for judges of election described in Sections 13-2.1 and
16 13-2.2; and

17 (5) meets all other qualifications for appointment and
18 service as an election judge.

19 No more than one election judge qualifying under this
20 subsection may serve per political party per precinct and no
21 more than one election judge qualifying under this subsection
22 may be unaffiliated with a political party. Prior to
23 appointment, a judge qualifying under this subsection must
24 certify in writing to the election authority the political
25 party the judge chooses to affiliate with or that the judge
26 chooses not to affiliate with a political party.

1 Students appointed as election judges under this
2 subsection shall not be counted as absent from school on the
3 day they serve as judges.

4 (Source: P.A. 100-1027, eff. 1-1-19.)

5 (10 ILCS 5/14-1) (from Ch. 46, par. 14-1)

6 Sec. 14-1. (a) The board of election commissioners
7 established or existing under Article 6 shall, at the time and
8 in the manner provided in Section 14-3.1, select and choose 5
9 persons, men or women, as judges of election for each precinct
10 in such city, village or incorporated town.

11 Where neither voting machines nor electronic, mechanical
12 or electric voting systems are used, the board of election
13 commissioners may, for any precinct with respect to which the
14 board considers such action necessary or desirable in view of
15 the number of voters, and shall for general elections for any
16 precinct containing more than 600 registered voters, appoint
17 in addition to the 5 judges of election a team of 5 tally
18 judges. In such precincts the judges of election shall preside
19 over the election during the hours the polls are open, and the
20 tally judges, with the assistance of the holdover judges
21 designated pursuant to Section 14-5.2, shall count the vote
22 after the closing of the polls. The tally judges shall possess
23 the same qualifications and shall be appointed in the same
24 manner and with the same division between political parties as
25 is provided for judges of election. The foregoing provisions

1 relating to the appointment of tally judges are inapplicable
2 in counties with a population of 1,000,000 or more.

3 (b) To qualify as judges the persons must:

4 (1) be citizens of the United States;

5 (2) be of good repute and character and not subject to
6 the registration requirement of the Sex Offender
7 Registration Act;

8 (3) be able to speak, read and write the English
9 language;

10 (4) be skilled in the 4 fundamental rules of
11 arithmetic;

12 (5) be of good understanding and capable;

13 (6) not be candidates for any office at the election
14 and not be elected committeepersons;

15 (7) reside and be entitled to vote in the precinct in
16 which they are selected to serve, except that in each
17 precinct not more than one judge of each party may be
18 appointed from outside such precinct and not more than one
19 judge unaffiliated with a party may be appointed from
20 outside such precinct. Any judge so appointed to serve in
21 any precinct in which he is not entitled to vote must be
22 entitled to vote elsewhere within the county which
23 encompasses the precinct in which such judge is appointed
24 and such judge must otherwise meet the qualifications of
25 this Section, except as provided in subsection (c) or
26 (c-5).

1 (c) An election authority may establish a program to
2 permit a person who is not entitled to vote to be appointed as
3 an election judge if, as of the date of the election at which
4 the person serves as a judge, he or she:

5 (1) is a U.S. citizen;

6 (2) is a junior or senior in good standing enrolled in
7 a public or private secondary school;

8 (3) has a cumulative grade point average equivalent to
9 at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;

10 (4) has the written approval of the principal of the
11 secondary school he or she attends at the time of
12 appointment;

13 (5) has the written approval of his or her parent or
14 legal guardian;

15 (6) has satisfactorily completed the training course
16 for judges of election described in Sections 13-2.1,
17 13-2.2, and 14-4.1; and

18 (7) meets all other qualifications for appointment and
19 service as an election judge.

20 No more than one election judge qualifying under this
21 subsection may serve per political party per precinct and no
22 more than one election judge qualifying under this subsection
23 may be unaffiliated with a political party. Prior to
24 appointment, a judge qualifying under this subsection must
25 certify in writing to the election authority the political
26 party the judge chooses to affiliate with or that the judge

1 chooses not to affiliate with a political party.

2 Students appointed as election judges under this
3 subsection shall not be counted as absent from school on the
4 day they serve as judges.

5 (c-5) An election authority may establish a program to
6 permit a person who is not entitled to vote in that precinct or
7 county to be appointed as an election judge if, as of the date
8 of the election at which the person serves as a judge, he or
9 she:

10 (1) is a U.S. citizen;

11 (2) is currently enrolled in a community college, as
12 defined in the Public Community College Act, or a public
13 or private Illinois university or college;

14 (3) has a cumulative grade point average equivalent to
15 at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;

16 (4) has satisfactorily completed the training course
17 for judges of election described in Sections 13-2.1,
18 13-2.2, and 14-4.1; and

19 (5) meets all other qualifications for appointment and
20 service as an election judge.

21 No more than one election judge qualifying under this
22 subsection may serve per political party per precinct and no
23 more than one election judge qualifying under this subsection
24 may be unaffiliated with a political party. Prior to
25 appointment, a judge qualifying under this subsection must
26 certify in writing to the election authority the political

1 party the judge chooses to affiliate with or that the judge
2 chooses not to affiliate with a political party.

3 Students appointed as election judges under this
4 subsection shall not be counted as absent from school on the
5 day they serve as judges.

6 (d) The board of election commissioners may select 2
7 additional judges of election, one from each of the major
8 political parties, for each 200 voters in excess of 600 in any
9 precinct having more than 600 voters as authorized by Section
10 11-3. These additional judges must meet the qualifications
11 prescribed in this Section.

12 (Source: P.A. 100-1027, eff. 1-1-19.)

13 (10 ILCS 5/14-3.1) (from Ch. 46, par. 14-3.1)

14 Sec. 14-3.1. The board of election commissioners shall,
15 during the month of July of each even-numbered year, select
16 for each election precinct within the jurisdiction of the
17 board 5 persons to be judges of election who shall possess the
18 qualifications required by this Act for such judges. The board
19 of election commissioners may, at its discretion, appoint a
20 judge of election who is unaffiliated with a political party.

21 The selection shall be made by a county board of election
22 commissioners in the following manner in each election
23 precinct: (1) if the county board of election commissioners
24 does not appoint a judge unaffiliated with a political party
25 in an election precinct, the county board of election

1 commissioners shall select and approve 3 persons as judges of
2 election in the ~~each~~ election precinct from a certified list
3 furnished by the chair of the county central committee of the
4 first leading political party in that precinct and ~~+~~ the
5 county board of election commissioners also shall select and
6 approve 2 persons as judges of election in the ~~each~~ election
7 precinct from a certified list furnished by the chair of the
8 county central committee of the second leading political party
9 in that precinct; or (2) if the county board of election
10 commissioners does appoint a judge unaffiliated with a
11 political party in an election precinct, the county board of
12 election commissioners shall select and approve one person who
13 is unaffiliated with a political party as a judge of election
14 in the precinct who makes application in a manner prescribed
15 by the county board of election commissioners, the county
16 board of election commissioners shall select and approve 2
17 persons as judges of election in the election precinct from a
18 certified list, furnished by the chair of the County Central
19 Committee of the first leading political party in such
20 precinct, and the county board of election commissioners shall
21 select and approve 2 persons as judges of election in the
22 election precinct from a certified list, furnished by the
23 chair of the County Central Committee of the second leading
24 political party. The selection by a municipal board of
25 election commissioners shall be made in the following manner
26 in each election precinct: ~~for each precinct,~~ (1) if the board

1 of election commissioners does not appoint a judge
2 unaffiliated with a political party in an election precinct, 3
3 judges shall be selected from one of the 2 leading political
4 parties and the other 2 judges shall be selected from the other
5 leading political party; or (2) if the board of election
6 commissioners does appoint a judge unaffiliated with a
7 political party in an election precinct, one judge shall be
8 selected who is unaffiliated with a political party, 2 judges
9 shall be selected from one of the 2 leading political parties,
10 and the other 2 judges shall be selected from the other leading
11 political party; if applicable, the parties entitled to 3 and
12 2 judges, respectively, in the several precincts shall be
13 determined as provided in Section 14-4. However, a Board of
14 Election Commissioners may appoint three judges of election to
15 serve in lieu of the 5 judges of election otherwise required by
16 this Section to serve in any emergency referendum, or in any
17 odd-year regular election or in any special primary or special
18 election called for the purpose of filling a vacancy in the
19 office of representative in the United States Congress or to
20 nominate candidates for such purpose.

21 If only 3 judges of election serve in each election
22 precinct, no more than 2 persons of the same political party
23 shall be judges of election in the same election precinct, and
24 ~~the appointment of judges which political party is entitled to~~
25 ~~2 judges of election and which political party is entitled to~~
26 ~~one judge of election~~ shall be determined as set forth in this

1 Section for a county board of election commissioners'
2 selection of 5 election judges in each precinct or in Section
3 14-4 for a municipal board of election commissioners'
4 selection of election judges in each precinct, whichever is
5 appropriate. In addition to such precinct judges, the board of
6 election commissioners shall appoint special panels of 3
7 judges each, who shall possess the same qualifications and
8 shall be appointed in the same manner and with the same
9 division between political parties as is provided for other
10 judges of election. The number of such panels of judges
11 required shall be determined by regulation of the State Board
12 of Elections, which shall base the required number of special
13 panels on the number of registered voters in the jurisdiction
14 or the number of absentee ballots voted at recent elections or
15 any combination of such factors. A municipal board of election
16 commissioners shall make the selections of persons qualified
17 under Section 14-1 from certified lists furnished by the chair
18 of the respective county central committees, or each ward
19 committeeperson in a municipality of 500,000 or more
20 inhabitants, of the 2 leading political parties. Lists
21 furnished by chairmen of county central committees or ward
22 committeepersons, as the case may be, under this Section shall
23 be arranged according to precincts. The chair of each county
24 central committee or ward committeepersons, as the case may
25 be, shall, insofar as possible, list persons who reside within
26 the precinct in which they are to serve as judges. However, he

1 may, in his sole discretion, submit the names of persons who
2 reside outside the precinct but within the county embracing
3 the precinct in which they are to serve. He must, however,
4 submit the names of at least 2 residents of the precinct for
5 each precinct in which his party is to have up to 3 judges and
6 must submit the name of at least one resident of the precinct
7 for each precinct in which his party is to have up to 2 judges.
8 The board of election commissioners shall no later than March
9 1 of each even-numbered year notify the chairmen of the
10 respective county central committees or ward committeepersons,
11 as the case may be, of their responsibility to furnish such
12 lists, and each such chair shall furnish the board of election
13 commissioners with the list for his party on or before May 1 of
14 each even-numbered year. The board of election commissioners
15 shall acknowledge in writing to each county chair or ward
16 committeepersons, as the case may be, the names of all persons
17 submitted on such certified list and the total number of
18 persons listed thereon. If no such list is furnished or if no
19 names or an insufficient number of names are furnished for
20 certain precincts, the board of election commissioners shall
21 make or complete such list from the names contained in the
22 supplemental list provided for in Section 14-3.2. Judges of
23 election shall hold their office for 2 years from their
24 appointment and until their successors are duly appointed in
25 the manner herein provided. The board of election
26 commissioners shall, subject to the provisions of Section

1 14-3.2, fill all vacancies in the office of judges of election
2 at any time in the manner herein provided.

3 Such selections under this Section shall be confirmed by
4 the court as provided in Section 14-5.

5 (Source: P.A. 100-1027, eff. 1-1-19.)

6 (10 ILCS 5/14-4) (from Ch. 46, par. 14-4)

7 Sec. 14-4. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the
8 ~~The~~ leading political party represented by a minority of all
9 the commissioners in the board shall be entitled to 2 of the
10 judges in each precinct with an even number, and 3 of the
11 judges in each precinct with an odd number, and the other
12 leading political party shall be entitled to 3 judges in the
13 even and 2 judges in the odd number precincts; and if only 3
14 judges of election serve in each precinct, the leading
15 political party represented by the minority of all the
16 commissioners in the board shall be entitled to one of the
17 judges of election in each precinct with an even number, and 2
18 of the judges of election in each precinct with an odd number,
19 and the other leading political party shall be entitled to 2
20 judges of election in the even and one judge of election in the
21 odd number precincts; and it shall be the duty of such
22 commissioners to observe this division in all respects in
23 making such appointments. +

24 (b) If a judge unaffiliated with a political party is
25 appointed as a judge of election in a precinct, the leading

1 political party represented by a minority of all the
2 commissioners and the other leading political party shall both
3 be entitled to 2 judges of election in that precinct and, if
4 only 3 judges of election serve in that precinct, the leading
5 political party represented by the minority of all the
6 commissioners in the board and the other leading political
7 party shall both be entitled to one judge of election in that
8 precinct. The number of precincts in which a judge
9 unaffiliated with a political party are appointed shall be the
10 same between even and odd number precincts.

11 (c) This ~~except that this~~ Section does not apply to
12 appointments by county boards of election commissioners under
13 Section 14-3.1.

14 (Source: P.A. 91-357, eff. 7-29-99.)

15 (10 ILCS 5/14-5) (from Ch. 46, par. 14-5)

16 Sec. 14-5. After the judges are selected and have agreed
17 to serve as provided in Sections 14-1 to 14-4, inclusive, then
18 a report of such selections shall be made and filed in the
19 court, and application shall then be made by the board to the
20 circuit court for their confirmation and appointment,
21 whereupon the court shall enter an order that cause be shown,
22 if any exists, against the confirmation and appointment of
23 such persons so named, on or before the opening of the court on
24 a day to be fixed by the court. And the board of commissioners
25 shall immediately give notice of such order and the names of

1 all such judges so reported to such court for confirmation,
2 and their residence and the precinct for which they were
3 selected, by causing a notice to be published in one or more
4 newspapers in such city, village or incorporated town, and if
5 no newspaper be published in such city, village or
6 incorporated town, then by posting such notice in 3 of the most
7 public places in such city, village or town. The notice shall
8 state that a list of judges of election is available for public
9 inspection in the office of the election authority. If no
10 cause to the contrary is shown prior to the day fixed, and if,
11 in each precinct, at least one judge representing each of the
12 two major political parties has been certified by the board of
13 commissioners as having satisfactorily completed within the
14 preceding 6 months the training course and examination for
15 judges of election, as provided in Section 14-4.1 of this Act
16 such appointments shall be confirmed by order entered by that
17 court.

18 If in any precinct the requisite 2 judges have not been so
19 certified by the board of commissioners as having
20 satisfactorily completed such course and examination, the
21 board of commissioners shall immediately notify all judges in
22 that precinct, to whose appointment there is no other
23 objection, that all such judges shall attend the next such
24 course. The board of commissioners shall then certify to the
25 court that all such judges have been so notified (and such
26 certification need contain no detail other than a mere

1 recital). The appointment of such judges shall then be
2 confirmed by order entered by the court. If any judge so
3 notified and so confirmed fails to attend the next such
4 course, such failure shall subject such judge to possible
5 removal from office at the option of the election authority.

6 If objections to the appointment of any such judge is
7 filed prior to the day fixed by the court for confirmation of
8 judges, the court shall hear such objections and the evidence
9 introduced in support thereof, and shall confirm or refuse to
10 confirm such nominations, as the interests of the public may
11 require. No reasons may be given for the refusal to confirm. If
12 any vacancies exist by reason of the action of such board or
13 otherwise, at any time, the board of commissioners shall,
14 subject to the provisions of Section 14-3.2, further report
15 and nominate persons to fill such vacancies so existing in the
16 manner aforesaid, and a court in the same way shall consider
17 such nominations and shall confirm or refuse to confirm the
18 same in the manner aforesaid. Upon the confirmation of such
19 judges, at any time, a commission shall issue to each of such
20 judges, under the seal of such court, and appropriate forms
21 shall be prepared by the board of commissioners for such
22 purpose. After such confirmation and acceptance of such
23 commission, such judges shall thereupon become officers of
24 such court. If a vacancy occurs so late that application to and
25 confirmation by the court cannot be had before the election,
26 then the board of commissioners shall, subject to the

1 provisions of Section 14-3.2, make an appointment and issue a
2 commission to such officer or officers, and when thus
3 appointed such officer shall be considered an officer of the
4 court and subject to the same rules and punishment, in case of
5 misbehavior, as if confirmed by the court, and any judge,
6 however appointed, and at whatever time, shall be considered
7 an officer of court, and be subject to the same control and
8 punishment in case of misbehavior. Not more than 10 business
9 days after the day of election, the board of election
10 commissioners shall compile a list containing the name,
11 address, and party affiliation, if any, of each judge of
12 election who served on the day of election, and shall preserve
13 such list and make it available for public inspection and
14 copying for a period of not more than one year from the date of
15 receipt of such list. Copies of such list shall be available
16 for purchase at a cost not to exceed the cost of duplication.
17 The board of commissioners has the right at any time, in case
18 of misbehavior or neglect of duty, to remove any judge of
19 election, and shall cause such vacancy to be filled in
20 accordance with this Act. Except for judges appointed under
21 subsection (c) of Section 14-1, the board has the right, at any
22 time, to remove any judge of election for failing to vote the
23 primary ballot of the political party he represents at a
24 primary election at which he served as such judge, and shall
25 cause such vacancy to be filled in accordance with this Act.
26 The board shall remove any judge of election who, twice during

1 the same term of office, fails to provide for the opening of
2 the polling place at the time prescribed in Section 17-1 or
3 Section 18-2, whichever is applicable, unless such delay can
4 be demonstrated by the judge of election to be beyond his or
5 her control. In the event that any judge of election is removed
6 for cause, the board shall specify such cause in writing and
7 make such writing a matter of public record, with a copy to be
8 sent to the appropriate county chair who made the initial
9 recommendation of the election judges. The judges of election
10 must be appointed and confirmed at least 35 days prior to the
11 next election.

12 If any vacancy shall occur or exist, more than 5 days
13 before election the judges appointed to such places must be
14 confirmed by such court. Such commissioners shall not
15 voluntarily remove any judge within 5 days of such election,
16 except for flagrant misbehavior, incapacity or dishonesty, and
17 the reasons therefor must afterwards be reported in writing to
18 such court and made a matter of public record, with a copy to
19 be sent to the appropriate county chair who made the initial
20 recommendation of the election judge. If such removal be
21 wilful and without cause, the commissioners shall be punished
22 for contempt of court and subject to removal. The board of
23 election commissioners shall have the power on election day to
24 remove without cause any judge of election appointed by the
25 other judges of election pursuant to Section 14-6 and to
26 appoint another judge of election to serve for that election.

1 Such substitute judge of election must be selected, where
2 possible, pursuant to the provisions of Section 14-3.2 and
3 must be qualified in accordance with Section 14-1.

4 (Source: P.A. 100-1027, eff. 1-1-19.)