

# An Election Ballot

A **ballot** is used on Election Day to vote for a candidate. It may look something like this:

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**

**STATE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT**  
**LINCOLN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
**NOVEMBER 6, 2012**

Judge \_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**  
 To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

FEDERAL OFFICES	STATE OFFICES	COUNTY OFFICES
<b>PRESIDENT and VICE-PRESIDENT</b> VOTE FOR ONE TEAM	<b>STATE SENATOR</b> DISTRICT 18 VOTE FOR ONE	<b>COUNTY COMMISSIONER</b> DISTRICT 4 VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="radio"/> MITCH RODMAN AND PATRICK RILEY Republican	<input type="radio"/> JANICE RYAN Republican	<input type="radio"/> FLORENCE BRANDT
<input type="radio"/> BROCK O'BANNON AND JUDITH BREYER Democratic	<input type="radio"/> DENNIS CARLSON Democratic	_____ Write-In, if any
<input type="radio"/> GARY JOHNSON AND JIM GRAY Libertarian	_____ Write-In, if any	<b>CITY OFFICES</b> <b>CITY OF HAPPYVILLE</b>
<input type="radio"/> JILL STEIN AND CHERI HONKALA Green Party	<input type="radio"/> MAUREEN MCCARTHY Republican	<b>MAYOR</b> VOTE FOR ONE
_____ Write-In, if any	<input type="radio"/> CATHERINE PRATHER Democratic	<input type="radio"/> THOMAS BARECCA
	_____ Write-In, if any	<input type="radio"/> JUDITH SCHMIDT
	<b>STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT</b>	_____ Write-In, if any
	Failure to vote will have the same effect as voting NO on the amendment.	<b>SCHOOL DISTRICT 36 (HAPPYVILLE SCHOOLS)</b>
	<b>AMENDMENT PHOTO IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR VOTING</b>	<b>SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER</b> VOTE FOR UP TO TWO
	Shall the Illinois Constitution be amended to require all voters to present valid photo identification to vote, effective July 1, 2013?	<input type="radio"/> JAMIE GUENTHER
	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> MATT BETKE
	<input type="radio"/> NO	_____ Write-In, if any
		_____ Write-In, if any

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There may be elections for **state, county, city, and other offices** on one ballot.

Sometimes there is only one candidate for an office. They are **running unopposed**.

If a voter does not want to vote for any candidate on the ballot, they may **write in** a name. This vote will count if the candidate has filed special paper-work ahead of time.

The candidates' **political party** is usually listed below their names.

On this kind of ballot, voters fill in the oval beside a candidate's name.

Sometimes an **amendment**, or change, to the state laws is on the ballot. Voters can vote "YES" or "NO" to the change.

**This is a sample ballot for educational purposes, and uses fictional names and locations.**