

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ILLINOIS EDUCATION FUND
SAMPLE CANDIDATE PARTICIPATION POLICY
for a Primary or a General Election**

Candidates' forums or debates sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Illinois Education Fund are held to provide a forum for thoughtful discussion of the important issues. Candidates invited are those who have demonstrated that there is significant voter interest in their candidacies. The League also seeks to stimulate voter interest and participation with these events.

A candidate may participate if he or she meets each of the following criteria:

1. **CONSTITUTIONAL ELIGIBILITY** – Candidates must meet the requirements of the Illinois and the United States constitutions.
2. **FORMAL CAMPAIGN** – Candidates must show evidence that a formal campaign is being waged, such as campaign headquarters, campaign staff/volunteers, position papers, and campaign appearances.
3. **VOTER INTEREST** – Candidates must demonstrate that there is significant voter interest and support of their candidacies as evidenced by receipt of ten percent of support in one or more statewide nonpartisan public opinion polls conducted not more than thirty days prior to the election and at least ten days prior to the debate.

The League of Women Voters of Illinois Education Fund will reserve the right to determine that the above criteria have been met.