

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

Candidates' forums or debates sponsored by the League of Women Voters of (local League) Education Fund are held to provide a forum for thoughtful discussion of the important issues before the voters. The League 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. **STATE ELECTION LAWS** – The candidate must meet all requirements to be on the ballot according to state election law or must have filed a notarized declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate at least ten days prior to debate.
3. **FORMAL CAMPAIGN** – The candidate must show evidence that a formal campaign is being waged, such as campaign headquarters, campaign staff/volunteers, position papers, and campaign appearances. A candidate for local government office may meet this criterion by having only an informal organization.

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