

# Illinois Notary Practice Questions (25)

Original practice questions written from official Illinois sources. They are not questions from the official exam. These 25 are not on our free 20-question online test or the timed practice exam. Answer key with the official source for each answer is on the last pages.

Free online: 20-question practice test and 50-question timed practice exam at [opspacket.com/notary/illinois/](https://opspacket.com/notary/illinois/). Not affiliated with any state agency.

1. **Is the notary responsible for the truth or accuracy of a document?**
  - A. Only for real estate
  - B. Only for affidavits
  - C. No
  - D. Yes
2. **What must a notary do before taking the acknowledgment of a blind person?**
  - A. Get two witnesses
  - B. Refuse
  - C. Get a doctor's note
  - D. Read the instrument to the person
3. **A notary changes their name. What must they do?**
  - A. Get a new seal only
  - B. Simply email the new name
  - C. Resign and apply for a new appointment
  - D. Keep using the old name for the rest of the term
4. **For an acknowledgment, must the signer sign in the notary's presence?**
  - A. Only for deeds
  - B. Only for corporations
  - C. No, but they must personally appear and state that the signature is theirs
  - D. Yes, always
5. **What is the maximum fine for unlawfully possessing or destroying a notary's official seal?**
  - A. \$500
  - B. \$1,000
  - C. \$5,000
  - D. \$1,500
6. **An Illinois notary may end their electronic notary registration but keep the underlying commission by giving written notice within how many days?**
  - A. 10 days
  - B. 30 days
  - C. 60 days
  - D. 5 days

7. **After a document has been signed, may the notary change anything in it?**
- A. Yes, with initials
  - B. Yes, the date only
  - C. No
  - D. Yes, to fix typos
8. **When may the notary sign the original document as of the original execution date in a remote notarial act?**
- A. Never
  - B. Any time
  - C. If the original and the witnessed copy are received within 30 days of the remote notarization
  - D. Within 1 year
9. **What does the handbook recommend if a notary loses possession of their seal?**
- A. Use a borrowed seal
  - B. Do nothing
  - C. Resign the commission (and report a theft to police and the Secretary of State)
  - D. Order a replacement and keep going
10. **What ink color is acceptable for an Illinois notary seal?**
- A. Black only
  - B. Blue or black
  - C. Red
  - D. Any dark color
11. **May the notary seal be imprinted over the notary's signature?**
- A. Yes
  - B. Only partially
  - C. No
  - D. Only in black ink
12. **What words must appear at the top of an Illinois notary seal?**
- A. "Notary Seal"
  - B. "State Seal"
  - C. "Official Seal"
  - D. "Commonwealth Seal"
13. **A solicitation offering a notary bond must contain what statement in bold type at least 1/4 inch high?**
- A. "WE ARE NOT ASSOCIATED WITH ANY STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY"
  - B. "APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE"
  - C. "OFFICIAL STATE NOTICE"
  - D. No statement is needed

14. **After passing the exam, how long does an Illinois applicant have to apply for a commission?**
- A. One year
  - B. Four years
  - C. Six months
  - D. Two years from the exam date
15. **After receiving the transmitted copy in a remote notarial act, when must the notary sign it and send it back?**
- A. Within 30 days
  - B. Within 10 days
  - C. Within 24 hours after receipt
  - D. Next month
16. **In a remote notarial act, when must the signatory send the notary a legible copy of the signed document?**
- A. Within 1 week
  - B. Same hour
  - C. Within 30 days
  - D. No later than the day after it is signed
17. **A notary charges more than the maximum fee for a first offense. What is the penalty?**
- A. A Class A misdemeanor
  - B. A Class 3 felony
  - C. Nothing
  - D. A \$50 fine
18. **What is the maximum a non-attorney may charge for one complete immigration application?**
- A. \$75
  - B. \$150
  - C. \$100
  - D. \$50
19. **Should a notary ever notarize an unsigned document?**
- A. No
  - B. Yes, if the signer promises to sign
  - C. Yes, for acknowledgments
  - D. Only electronically
20. **What is the term of an Illinois notary bond?**
- A. 1 year
  - B. 4 years, starting on the date of appointment
  - C. Until cancelled
  - D. 2 years

21. **If some information on a certificate is illegible, does that affect the validity of the transaction?**
- A. Only for deeds
  - B. Yes, unless re-notarized within 30 days
  - C. Yes, it voids the transaction
  - D. No
22. **A non-attorney notary advertises notary services in Spanish. What must the ad include?**
- A. A government seal
  - B. Only the fee schedule
  - C. Nothing
  - D. The notice "I AM NOT AN ATTORNEY LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW IN ILLINOIS..." in English and Spanish
23. **Are notary applications and appointments public records in Illinois?**
- A. No
  - B. Yes
  - C. Only for attorneys
  - D. Only after 5 years
24. **Is an electronic notary who used reasonable care liable for damages caused by the system's failure to comply with the Act?**
- A. Only up to the bond
  - B. Yes, always
  - C. Only for real estate
  - D. No, and contract waivers of this immunity are void
25. **What happens on a second violation of the Section 3-103(a) advertising rules?**
- A. Permanent revocation of the commission
  - B. A larger fine only
  - C. A warning letter
  - D. A 30-day suspension

## Answer key and sources

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|----|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | <b>C</b> | Handbook FAQ.<br>Source: Illinois Notary Public Handbook (I PUB 16, March 2026), FAQ, <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                  |
| 2  | <b>D</b> | Section 6-104(e).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6-104(e), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                                                      |
| 3  | <b>C</b> | Handbook FAQ.<br>Source: Illinois Notary Public Handbook (I PUB 16, March 2026), FAQ, <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                  |
| 4  | <b>C</b> | Practice note to Section 6-105.<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6-105 practice note, <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                             |
| 5  | <b>B</b> | Section 7-107.<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/7-107(c), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                                                         |
| 6  | <b>B</b> | Section 7-108(m).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/7-108(m), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                                                      |
| 7  | <b>C</b> | Section 6-104(g).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6-104(g), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                                                      |
| 8  | <b>C</b> | Section 6-102.5(c)(3).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6-102.5(c)(3), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                                            |
| 9  | <b>C</b> | Handbook FAQ.<br>Source: Illinois Notary Public Handbook (I PUB 16, March 2026), FAQ, <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                  |
| 10 | <b>A</b> | Handbook and Section 6-103(c).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6-103(c); Illinois Notary Public Handbook (I PUB 16, March 2026), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a> |
| 11 | <b>C</b> | Handbook guidance.<br>Source: Illinois Notary Public Handbook (I PUB 16, March 2026), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                  |
| 12 | <b>C</b> | Section 3-101(a); the handbook lists the order, starting with “Official Seal.”<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/3-101(a), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>         |
| 13 | <b>A</b> | Section 5-102.<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/5-102, <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                                                            |
| 14 | <b>D</b> | 176.205(a).<br>Source: 14 Ill. Adm. Code 176.205(a), <a href="https://ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/014/014001760C02050R.html">https://ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/014/014001760C02050R.html</a>                                                                               |
| 15 | <b>C</b> | Section 6-102.5(c)(2).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6-102.5(c)(2), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                                            |
| 16 | <b>D</b> | Section 6-102.5(c)(1).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6-102.5(c)(1), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                                            |
| 17 | <b>A</b> | Section 3-104(c); a second offense within 5 years is a Class 3 felony.<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/3-104(c), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                 |
| 18 | <b>A</b> | Section 3-104(a)(5), not counting government application fees.<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/3-104(a), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                         |

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| 19 | <b>A</b> | Handbook FAQ.<br>Source: Illinois Notary Public Handbook (I PUB 16, March 2026), FAQ, <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a> |
| 20 | <b>B</b> | Section 2-105(a).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/2-105(a), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                     |
| 21 | <b>D</b> | Section 6-103(c).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6-103(c), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                     |
| 22 | <b>D</b> | Section 3-103(a). A single desk plaque is excepted.<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/3-103(a), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>   |
| 23 | <b>B</b> | Handbook FAQ.<br>Source: Illinois Notary Public Handbook (I PUB 16, March 2026), FAQ, <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a> |
| 24 | <b>D</b> | Section 6A-102.<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/6A-102, <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                         |
| 25 | <b>A</b> | Section 3-103(a).<br>Source: 5 ILCS 312/3-103(a), <a href="https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf">https://www.ilsos.gov/content/dam/publications/pdf_publications/ipub16.pdf</a>                                     |