



# 2018 Illinois Marathon Relay Official Information

Thank you for choosing to participate in the University of Illinois Alumni Association Marathon Relay. Please review the following information before Saturday, April 28, to ensure a smooth race day experience. Each team receives 5 race numbers (one per runner plus one on a race number belt).

Note: All relay teams that are meeting at the starting line should park in the Research Park lots south of St. Mary's Road and west of First Street. See the start/finish map at this link: [http://illinoismarathon.com/wp-content/uploads/IL\\_Marathon\\_parking-stage\\_map.pdf?x16837](http://illinoismarathon.com/wp-content/uploads/IL_Marathon_parking-stage_map.pdf?x16837)

Please give yourself ample time to get to your exchange. Follow the explicit driving directions we've given you to get from exchange zone to exchange zone. They may appear to take you far out of your way, but they are designed to take you around areas affected by the race. Not doing so could result in your team getting stuck in traffic and missing the timely exchange with your runner.

## IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### What are the approximate distances for the four different relay legs?

Leg 1 = 6.7; Leg 2 = 6.9; Leg 3 = 6.9; Leg 4 = 5.7

### Does the team pick which runner runs which leg?

Yes, you determine the order of your runners.

### Where are the 3 relay exchange zones, and what are the best directions to drive there on race day?

**Exchange Zone A (mile 6.7)** is located on Amber Lane, just east of the Meijer store in Urbana, on the left (south) side of the street.

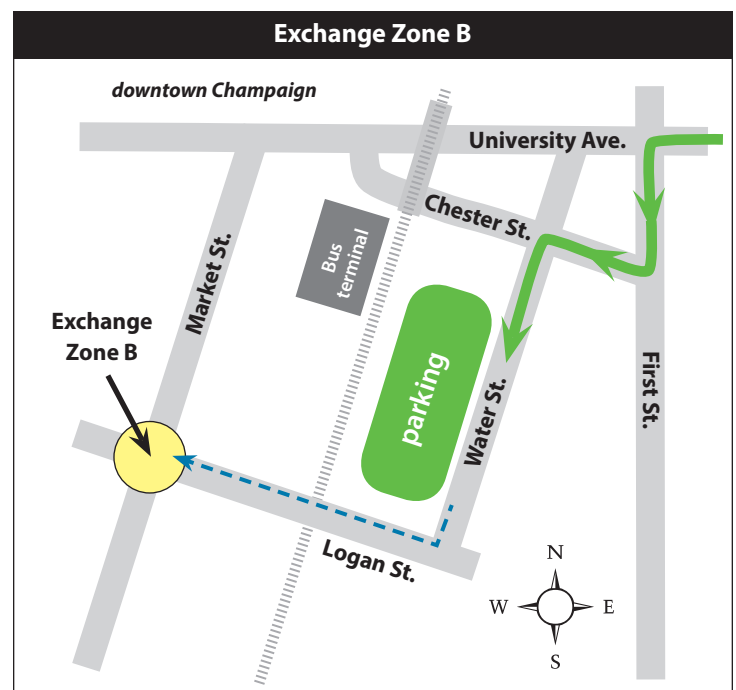
**Follow this route to get to Exchange Zone A parking (at the Meijer grocery store) from the starting area.**

From the Research Park parking lots off of Oak Street or the E-14 lot off of Oak Street, go south on Oak to Hazelwood. Turn left on Hazelwood and then right on First Street until you come to Windsor Road. Turn left on Windsor Road. Turn right on Race Street to Curtis Road (1 mile). Turn left on Curtis Road to Philo Road (1 mile). Go left on Philo Road to the intersection of Philo and Windsor and turn right on Windsor and enter the Meijer parking lot. Park in the north side of the lot. The exchange zone is just north of the parking lot. The average drive time from the start to Exchange Zone A is 10 minutes.

**Exchange Zone B (mile 13.6)** is located on Logan Street at the intersection of Market and Logan.

**Follow this route to get from the Exchange Zone A parking area to the Exchange Zone B parking area.**

Drive out the south end of the Meijer parking lot onto Windsor. Go left on Windsor Road and travel east to High Cross Road. Turn left onto High Cross Road and drive north until you come to the light after you pass Wal-mart. This road is Route 150/High Cross Road. Turn left here and travel to the second stop light, which is University Avenue and Route 150. Turn left and follow University Ave all the way down to First St. (approximately 2.9



miles). Turn left (south) to First St. A police officer will be staffing this intersection, and you will need to show your vehicle pass to be able to go south. Go to the very first street on your right (Chester St.) and turn right (West). Go one block and turn left (south) on Water St. You will park in the large parking lot on your right. To get to the exchange zone, walk south (right out of the lot) toward Logan St. and then turn to your right when you get to the sidewalk. You will need to stay on the sidewalk as the street will have runners on it. The exchange zone is just past the viaduct.

**Exchange Zone C (mile 20.5)** is located on Duncan Road, right by Robeson Park. **Please arrive early at Zone C.**

**Follow this route to get from the Exchange Zone B parking area to the Exchange Zone C parking area.**

Exit the parking lot turning left on Water St (north). At the first stop sign (Chester St), turn right (east) and go to First St. Turn left (north) on First. At the traffic light, turn left (west) on University Ave. Immediately after the viaduct turn right (north) on Chestnut. The road will turn to the left (west) and become Main St. Travel west on Main Street to Walnut Street. At the first light, turn right on Walnut Street and go to Washington Street, where you turn left (west). Go 2 blocks to the T intersection and then turn right (north) onto Neil Street. Take Neil Street to Bradley Avenue. Turn left (west) onto Bradley Avenue and take it all the way to Country Fair Drive (the first stoplight after Bradley & Mattis). Turn left on Country Fair Drive to next stoplight, which is Church Street. Turn right here and onto I-72 west. Take the I-57 exit south off of I-72 and go south on I-57 about 3 miles to the Curtis Road exit (this should be the first exit after you get on I-57). Exit at Curtis Road and turn left off of the exit. Turn left on Duncan Road, which is the first stoplight, and drive 1 mile north to Duncan and Windsor. Parking is available at Robeson Crossing on the northeast corner. Enter from Duncan Road, north of Windsor. Volunteers will be there to direct.

**Follow this route to get from Exchange Zone C parking to Memorial Stadium.**

When coming out of Robeson Crossing parking, you will either be on Windsor (if so, turn left) or Duncan (if so, go left on Duncan and left on Windsor). Take Windsor Road east to First Street (first left after crossing Neil Street). Follow First Street north to the main race parking area ahead, before you reach Kirby Avenue. The average driving time from Exchange Zone C parking to the finish line parking area is 8 minutes.

### **How do we make the “exchange” with our teammates?**

At Number Pickup, your team will receive a race belt with a number attached that has timing strips on it. The belt needs to be worn by the runner currently running for the team. At the Exchange Zone, the arriving runner finds his/her teammate, then takes off the race number belt and gives it to the waiting runner. That runner then puts on the race number belt and begins his/her running leg to the next exchange station.

### **How do I find my relay teammate at the relay exchange stations?**

All relay participants should determine an estimated time it will take to run their individual legs and then communicate that to their teammates. Another helpful hint is to know the color of your teammate’s running attire or to all wear the same running attire.

### **How do we know we’re at an exchange zone?**

Each exchange zone will have a huge sign, and the exchange area will be flagged.

### **Who is in charge at the relay exchange stations?**

The relay exchange zones are managed by official course marshals. The head marshal will be wearing a bright security vest and will be using a megaphone for communication.

### **Will there be any water at the relay exchange zones?**

The relay exchange zones will provide bottled water for the runners finishing their legs at the exchange zone.

### **What do we do with our race belt at the finish in Memorial Stadium?**

Give your race belt to the volunteers handing out Relay finisher medals.

## MISCELLANEOUS RACE DAY TIPS

- Relay Runner #1 starts the race at the official starting line at the intersection of St. Mary's Road and First Street and runs to Exchange Zone A.
- Relay Runner #2 reports to Exchange Zone A and exchanges with Runner #1.
- Relay Runner #3 reports to Exchange Zone B and exchanges with Runner #2.
- Relay Runner #4 reports to Exchange Zone C and exchanges with Runner #3.
- Relay Runner #4 finishes the race at the official finish line inside Memorial Stadium. All four relay team members may cross the finish line together. Teammates should meet their fourth runner on First Street outside the stadium and then run in together.
- Remember to wear the race number belt. **No race number belt, no time.**
- There will be Port-a-Potties available at each relay exchange.
- There is no official sweat drop-off system for the relay. Relay teammates will need to communicate with each other on the exchange of sweat or warm-up clothes.

### IMPORTANT

There is no marathon-sponsored transportation to relay exchange zones. As such, you and your teammates need to determine your time requirements for getting to the exchange zones.

OUR suggested transportation process would be to take one vehicle per team:

- Team drops runner #1 at the start, and runners # 2, 3, and 4 drive to Exchange Zone A.
- After the first exchange, runners #1, 3, and 4 drive to Exchange Zone B.
- Runner #2 exchanges with runner #3 at Exchange Zone B. Runners #1, 2, and 4 drive to Exchange Zone C.
- Runner #3 exchanges with runner #4 at Exchange Zone C.
- After Runner #4 has received the race number belt and has started his/her portion of the relay, runners #1, 2 and 3 depart for Memorial Stadium, parking in the State Farm Center lots or the Research Parking Lots off of Oak Street.

**You should plan to be at your exchange zone AT LEAST 30 to 50 MINUTES BEFORE THE EXPECTED ARRIVAL OF YOUR TEAMMATE!**

**Above all else, do not park anywhere on the course!**