



Washington State Democrats | Every Race in Every Place

National Delegate Selection FAQ

What is a Democratic National Convention delegate?

A national delegate is a person chosen in each state to represent their state at the 2020 Democratic National Convention. They may vote on the Democratic Party Platform at the national level, as well as the 2020 Democratic vice presidential and presidential nominees!

Am I eligible to run for national delegate?

- You must be a WA State registered voter (or pre-registered and 18 years old by Nov. 3, 2020)
- You must be willing to publicly identify as a Democrat

Where do I register to run for national delegate?

You may pre-register to run for state delegate at your LD caucus [here](https://wademscaucus2020.azurewebsites.net/): <https://wademscaucus2020.azurewebsites.net/>. We highly recommend you complete your registration by April 20th, 2020. If you intend to run for national delegate, you will need to submit a letter of intent to stand for election as a national delegate or alternate between **March 23rd** and **May 3rd**, which can be found on page 107 of the Washington State Democratic Central Committee's [Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan](#) on our website. You must also indicate a presidential preference or an intent to run as an uncommitted delegate.

How many national delegates will the Washington State Democratic Party send to the Democratic National Convention?

Washington State will send 107 national delegates plus 7 alternates to the Democratic National Convention in July 2020 in Milwaukee, WI. This total is broken down as follows:

- 18 automatic delegates
- 12 Party Leader & Elected Officials (PLEO) delegates elected in June 2020
- **58 Congressional District (CD)** delegates elected in May 2020
- **19 At-Large** delegates elected in June 2020
- **7 Alternate** delegates elected in June 2020

If you are running for a national delegate position, you will likely be running for either one of the 58 Congressional District positions, or one of the 19 At-Large positions.

What will determine how many delegates each presidential candidate receives?

Washington State votes in a mail-in Presidential Primary election on March 10, 2020. The results of the Presidential Primary election are used to allocate our state's delegates to Democratic presidential candidates. Any candidate who receives at least 15% of the vote within a Congressional District will be allocated delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

Who can vote in Washington State's Democratic Presidential Primary?

All Washington State voters will be eligible to vote in the mail-in primary election on March 10, 2020 in **either** the Republican or Democratic Primary. Voters will receive instructions to **ONLY** mark a candidate preference in either the Democratic or Republican Primary election, as voting in both primaries will render their ballot invalid. Voters do not need to "register" as a member of the party who's primary in which they want to vote, but they will need to sign a declaration on the outside of their ballot declaring their affiliation with one of the two parties for their vote to be counted.



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How do I become a national delegate?

1. The best way to become a delegate is to start by participating in your local **Legislative District caucus**. First, you may pre-register [here](https://wademscaucus2020.azurewebsites.net/): <https://wademscaucus2020.azurewebsites.net/>
 - a. After pre- registering for your local LD caucus using the link above, the next best step is to get elected at the Legislative District level as a delegate to the Washington State Democratic Convention, which will include an invitation to vote for national delegates at your Congressional District (CD) caucus. Any registered voter that publicly identifies as a Democrat can vote for delegates to the State Convention at their LD caucus on either **April 26th, 2020** or **May 3rd, 2020**. The meeting date is determined by locality and the exact date and time can be found while pre- registering for the LD caucuses. You can begin pre- registering for your LD caucus starting in February 2020, however the exact date and time of each caucus will not be available until March 2020.
 - b. Attendees at each Legislative District caucus will separate by presidential preference to elect their allocated delegates to State Convention (allocated according to the March 10th Presidential Primary), resulting in the election of 1400 delegates to State Convention.
2. After this, your next step is to attend the **Congressional District caucuses** on **May 30th, 2020**. *It is not required to have won an LD delegate position to attend and run for national delegate* at the CD caucus on May 30th. Alternatively, you may skip the LD caucuses, and run for national delegate beginning at the CD caucuses, although more campaigning may be needed in order to win since you will not have met fellow voters at the LD caucuses.
 - a. Candidates for national delegate will meet locally in their CD, separate by presidential preference, and those who were elected at the LD caucuses will vote to elect their CD's allocated share of the **58 Congressional District (CD)** delegates (listed below) to the Democratic National Convention. It important to note that while anyone who meets the eligibility requirements can run for national delegate at the CD caucuses, *only* state-level delegates elected at the LD caucuses may *vote* for national delegates at the CD caucuses. If you are elected at your CD caucus as a national delegate, you can vote on the DNC Platform and vote for the presidential nominee at the National Convention in Milwaukee (July 2020).
 - b. The 58 CD delegates to national convention (allocated based on democratic density within a CD) are divided as follows:

○ CD 1: 6 delegates	○ CD 6: 6 delegates
○ CD 2: 6 delegates	○ CD 7: 11 delegates
○ CD 3: 5 delegates	○ CD 8: 5 delegates
○ CD 4: 3 delegates	○ CD 9: 7 delegates
○ CD 5: 4 delegates	○ CD 10: 5 delegates

What happens if I can't make the Legislative District caucuses? (April 26th or May 3rd)

You do not have to be present at the LD caucuses to win; as long as you submit a statement of candidacy, your name will appear on the ballot at your LD caucus. You may submit a brief letter to be read as your candidate speech to the caucus chair (Keep it brief - it must fit into the time allotted for each candidate to speak) or send a representative to run on behalf of you at the LD caucus. We also recommend pre- registering [here](#). If you fail to appear on the ballot at your LD caucus, you can still run for national delegate at the Congressional District caucuses on May 30th, though you will not be able to vote for these delegates because you were not elected as a delegate at your LD caucus. This may require more campaigning, but as long as we receive your letter of intent to stand for election as a national delegate or alternate between **March 23rd** and **May 3rd** (page 107 of the DSAAP) so that your name is included on the ballot on May 30th to run for national delegate, you have the opportunity to attend the National Convention as one of the 58 CD delegates. You can also run for one of the 19 At- Large (or 12 PLEO, if you are eligible) or 7 alternate delegate positions on June 14th following the conclusion of the State Convention, which does not require that you have attended your LD or CD caucus.



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What happens at the WA Democratic State Convention? (June 12th-14th)

The WA State Democratic Convention will take place in Tacoma, WA on July 12th- 14th, 2020, where all state convention delegates will vote on the State Party's platform and participate in the State Convention festivities.

In addition, WSDCC members representing the 49 Legislative Districts in our state will elect 12 PLEO, 19 At Large and 7 Alternate delegates to the Democratic National Convention, following the conclusion of the State Convention. You do not need to have been elected as a delegate to State Convention to run for an At Large or Alternate delegate position to the Democratic National Convention. At Large and Alternate delegate positions are open to any registered (or pre-registered and 18 years old on or before Nov. 3, 2020) WA state voter.

What happens at the Democratic National Convention? (July 13th- 16th)

The Democratic National Convention will take place in Milwaukee, WI on July 13th- 16th, 2020. Democrats from Washington State will send 107 delegates and 7 alternates to participate in the National Convention alongside delegates from across the nation.

How much will attending the National Convention as a delegate cost?

National delegates and alternates are responsible for all costs such as flights, food, hotel, etc. All delegates are required by the Democratic National Committee to stay in their state's host hotel, which in Washington's case is the *Hilton DoubleTree O'Hare Airport*. The Host Committee provides daily transportation to and from the assigned hotel to the convention facility in Milwaukee. Delegates and Alternates must attend each morning's delegation breakfast meeting at the hotel to obtain their convention credentials for that day's session. *Only delegates and alternates are entitled to convention credentials*. Plan to fundraise or budget approximately \$5,000- \$7,000 if you are elected to attend the Democratic National Convention as a delegate.

Where do I find more information?

The Washington State [Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan](#) (DSAAP) may be found on the State Party's website under Party Documents. You can also visit waelectioncenter.com for additional materials. Please email delegatehelp2020@wa-democrats.org for any questions you may have.