



## **2020 Nevada State Democratic Convention**

### **Overview**

The 2020 Nevada State Democratic Party (NV Dems) State Convention will take place from June 11 through June 14, 2020. In order to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the NV Dems State Convention will take place remotely through a process that prioritizes the completion of essential party business and the election of National Delegates in the final step of the caucus-to-convention process.

### **Revised State Convention Dates:**

- Friday, May 15 - Thursday, May 21: State Convention Registration period
- Friday, May 22 - Saturday, May 30: State Convention Credentialing period
- Thursday, June 11 - Saturday, June 13: State Convention Voting period
- Sunday, June 14: National Delegate Meeting

### **Remote Process:**

NV Dems is working to streamline the State Convention process by conducting only essential business remotely. The below process will allow:

- State Delegates to elect National Delegates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention
- State Delegates to adopt the 2020 NV Dems platform
- State Delegates to elect the 2020-2022 State Central Committee Members, Nevada's Presidential Electors, and At Large Members to the Executive Board
- The 2018-2020 Central Committee to elect the DNC National Committeeman and Committeewoman

In order to accomplish this, NV Dems have created a remote process for registration, credentialing, and voting.

### **Registration Period: May 15 - May 21**

During this period, all delegates and alternates elected from the County Convention will be able to register for the State Convention. Delegates and alternates can register by completing an online registration form.

- Registration will open on **May 15 at 9:00 a.m.** and close on **May 21 at 11:59 p.m.**
- A phone option for registration will be provided to any delegate who requested it during the County Convention process.
- Registrants must provide the following information in order to successfully register:
  - First name, last name, date of birth, home (voting) address, email address, phone number, candidate preference and county of residence.
  - Confirm they participated in the Nevada Caucus either during Early Vote (February 15-18) or on Caucus Day (Feb 22) and at which location.
  - How they want to vote during the State Convention: Online or By Phone
  - That they are a registered Democrat and were elected a delegate or alternate at their County Convention

- **Candidates for National Delegate** must declare their intent to run by filling out the online form available on the NV Dems website by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020**. Declarations will not be accepted after that date and time.
  - All candidates will have an opportunity to send delegates up to three messages in support of their candidacy, either written (with a maximum of 250 words), or a video statement of 2 minutes or less. Captioned videos are requested for accessibility.
  - Any candidate that is eligible to run in multiple categories, must declare their intent in all categories by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020**.
  - Candidates are responsible for all travel and expenses to the Democratic National Convention. The Democratic National Convention is currently scheduled for the week of August 17th.
- **Candidates for NSDP Executive Board At-Large**, must declare their intent to run by filling out the online form available on the NV Dems website by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020**. Declarations will not be accepted after that date and time.
  - All candidates will have an opportunity to send up to three messages in support of their candidacy to delegates, either written (with a maximum of 250 words), or a video statement of 2 minutes or less. Captioned videos are requested for accessibility.
- **Candidates for DNC National Committeewoman and National Committeeman** must declare their intent to run by filling out the online form available on the NV Dems website by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020**. Declarations will not be accepted after that date and time.
  - All candidates will have an opportunity to send up to three messages in support of their candidacy to Central Committee members, either written (with a maximum of 250 words), or a video statement of 2 minutes or less. Captioned videos are requested for accessibility.
- All delegates and alternates will also be offered the opportunity to nominate themselves as a member of the State Central Committee during the registration process.

**Confirmation/Credentialing Period: May 22 - 30**

- The Credentials Committee appointed by the State Party Chair will confirm that all registered attendees are eligible for the State Convention. Eligible delegates and alternates will need to meet the following criteria:
  - Participated in the caucus either during early vote or on Caucus Day
  - Registered Democrat
  - Elected as a delegate or alternate from the County Convention
- NV Dems will notify all eligible participants of their delegate status by **June 3** by email.
- Each credentialed participant will be provided with a unique passphrase by email at the start of the voting process that will verify their identity during the online voting process.
- At the end of the credentialing period, alternates who register will be seated as delegates into delegate spots by presidential preference and in order of registration.
- If there is an insufficient number of alternates of a particular presidential preference to replace absent delegates of that presidential preference, then those delegate positions shall remain vacant.

### **Voting Period: June 11 - June 13**

- In order to accommodate an online election process, all voting will happen on a google form that is specific to each delegate.
- In order to ensure secure participation, the results of the voting process will be verified on a delegate level based on the matching of each unique passphrase.
  - Each credentialed **delegate** will be provided with a unique passphrase at the start of the voting process that will verify their identity during the online voting process.
  - If a delegate casts more than one ballot their final ballot will be recognized as their official vote and the previous ballots will be invalidated.
- **June 11 at 12:00 a.m. until June 12 at 5:00 p.m.**
  - Voting opens to all state convention delegates for District Level National Delegates on June 11, 2020 12:00 a.m. and closes on June 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
  - This form will be emailed to each delegate by **June 11 at 12:00 am.**
- **June 13, 2020, 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.**
  - Voting opens to all State Convention Delegates for PLEO and At Large National Delegates and Alternates, At Large Members to the Executive Board, 2020-2022 State Central Committee Members, Nevada's Presidential Electors, and adoption of the platform.
  - Voting opens to 2018-2020 Central Committee members to elect the DNC National Committeeman and Committeewoman.

Delegates will be able to find all information and resources pertaining to the convention process on the NV Dems website. This will include the delegate statements for individuals who are running for National Delegate and At-Large Members to the NSDP Executive Board. As part of the convention process, NV Dems is exploring a speaking program, including a keynote speaker, that would be livestreamed.

This page intentionally left blank.



## 2020 Nevada State Democratic Convention

### CONVENTION RULES

#### A. Convention Organization

##### I. State Convention Delegates and Alternates

- a. All delegates and alternates to the state convention must be registered Democrats residing in the county for which they are representing at the convention.
- b. Any preference group that received delegates at the county convention shall be entitled to no more than half of that number of alternates for each county, as rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- c. All delegates and alternates must have been elected at their respective county convention.
- d. The Nevada State Democratic Party may solicit a suggested voluntary contribution from attendees to the State Convention.

##### II. Registration

- a. Registration will open on **May 15 at 9:00 a.m.** and closes on **May 21 at 11:59 p.m.**
- b. A phone option for registration will be provided to any delegate that requested it during the County Convention process.
- c. Registrants must provide the following information in order to successfully register:
  - I. First name, last name, date of birth, home (voting) address, email address, phone number, candidate preference and county of residence.
  - II. Confirm they participated in the Nevada Caucus either during Early Vote (February 15-18) or on Caucus Day (Feb 22) and at which location.
  - III. Affirm they are a registered Democrat and were elected a delegate or alternate at their County Convention.
  - IV. How they wish to vote during the State Convention: Online or By Phone
- d. Any delegate or alternate who has not registered by 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2020 shall be considered to have vacated their position.

##### III. Permanent Officers

- a. The Chair of the Nevada State Democratic Party shall be the Convention Chair, the First Vice Chair of the Nevada State Democratic Party shall be the Convention Co-Chair, and the Secretary of the Nevada State Democratic Party shall be the Convention Secretary.

#### **IV. Credentials and Quorum**

- a. The Credentials Committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Nevada State Democratic Party prior to the Convention.
- b. All disputes over credentials or the credentialing process shall be heard by the Credentials Committee.
- c. The Credentials Committee shall have the responsibility of determining the attendance of delegates and alternates to the Convention and the number of delegates awarded to each preference group pursuant to the Nevada Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.
- d. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the registered delegates shall constitute a quorum for the Convention. Once a quorum has been certified, the business of the convention shall not be subject to the suggestion of a lack of quorum.

#### **V. Presidential Preference Alignment**

- a. Delegates to the state convention shall be considered to have aligned with a presidential preference group when they are registered for the convention. A delegate shall be required to designate their presidential preference group at the time of their registration. A delegate who refuses to designate a preference group shall be registered by the Credentials Committee as uncommitted.
- b. The Credentials Committee shall have responsibility of determining the number of delegates within each preference group, and shall upon completion of registration, present a final registration report to the Convention Chair of the size of each preference group.

### **B. Elections**

#### **I. Tellers Committee**

- a. The Tellers Committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Nevada State Democratic Party prior to the convention.
- b. The Tellers Committee shall adopt procedures consistent with these rules and the Nevada Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention to ensure the integrity and orderly operation of the election process.
- c. The Tellers Committee shall administer all tie breakers.

#### **II. General Election Provisions**

- a. All candidates for election shall follow the rules and timelines approved by the Executive Board of the Nevada State Democratic Party and, if applicable, any rules and timelines established by the Nevada Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.
- b. All candidates that meet the filing deadline of **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020** shall be considered nominated for the position for which they filed.
- c. Ballots shall be declared void if there are more votes cast than the number of positions up for election.
- d. Challenges to elections of Delegates to the National Convention shall be settled pursuant to the Nevada Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.

- e. Challenges to all other elections shall be decided by the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Nevada State Democratic Party and must be brought by June 14, 2020.
- f. In the case of a tie the winner shall be chosen by a draw of cards, with aces being high. The suit preference shall be clubs (lowest), followed by diamonds, hearts, and spades (highest).

### III. Election of Delegates to the Democratic National Convention

- a. Delegates to the National Convention shall be elected in accordance with the Nevada Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.
- b. Potential candidates for National Delegate must file their Delegate Intent Forms by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020**.
- c. **Right of Review:** NV Dems will send presidential campaigns a list of all of their eligible delegates who have declared their candidacy for the national convention for review.
  - I. **District Level Delegates and Alternates:** NV Dems shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than **12:00 p.m., May 29, 2020**, a list of all persons pledged to that presidential candidate who have filed for district level delegate or alternate.
  - II. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the State Democratic Chair by **12:00 p.m., May 30, 2020**, a list of all such candidates they have been approved, provided that approval is given to at least three (3) separate individuals for each position for district level delegate and three (3) separate individuals for each district level alternate position.
  - III. **PLEO and At Large Delegates and Alternates:** Following the election of district level delegates and alternates, NV Dems shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than **7:00 p.m., June 12, 2020**, a list of all persons pledged to that presidential candidate who have filed for PLEO or At Large delegate or alternate.
  - IV. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the State Democratic Chair by **9:00 p.m., June 12, 2020**, a list of all such candidates they have been approved, provided that approval is given to at least one (1) for each PLEO delegate and alternate and At-large delegate and alternate position to be selected.
- d. The election of district level delegates and district level alternates to the Democratic National Convention will occur June 11-12, 2020 through a remote voting process using secure Google Forms.
- e. The election of PLEO delegates and alternates and At Large delegates and alternates will occur June 13, 2020 through a remote voting process using Google Forms.
- f. NV Dems will announce the election results and delegates and alternates elected to the National Convention by **June 13 at 8:00 pm**. These results will be posted on [NVDems.com](http://NVDems.com).
- g. Challenges to elections of Delegates to the National Convention shall be settled pursuant to the Nevada Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.

- h. On **June 14 at 5:00 p.m.**, the elected National Convention Delegation will convene via video conference to conduct the election of the Delegation Chair and Standing Committee Members and the appointment of the Delegation Pages. All elected National Delegates will be expected to attend this meeting.

#### **IV. District-Level Delegates**

- a. District-level delegates and alternates shall be elected by congressional district and preference groups, if required.
- b. The top vote earners equal to the number of district-level national delegate positions shall be elected national delegate for that breakout.
- c. In the case of a tie for the last national delegate position, the winner shall be chosen by a draw of cards, with aces being high. The suit preference shall be clubs (lowest), followed by diamonds, hearts, and spades (highest).
- d. The election of District-Level Alternate National Delegates shall be in the same manner as described in this section.

#### **V. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) National Delegates**

- a. Pledged PLEO delegates to the national convention shall be chosen by the convention as a whole pursuant to the Nevada Delegate Selection Plan for the 2020 Democratic National Convention.
- b. State Convention delegates shall elect the five (5) PLEO delegates.
- c. If the number of candidates is equal to the number of PLEO delegate spots available, then the convention shall elect the delegates by acclamation. If there are more candidates than the number of PLEO delegates available, an election shall be conducted. If an election is conducted:
  - I. The top vote earners equal to the number of PLEO delegate positions shall be elected a PLEO national delegate.
  - II. In the case of a tie for the last PLEO delegate position, the winner shall be chosen by a draw of cards, with aces being high. The suit preference shall be clubs (lowest), followed by diamonds, hearts, and spades (highest).

#### **VI. At-Large National Delegates**

- a. At-Large National Delegates shall be chosen by the convention as a whole.
- b. State Convention delegates shall elect the eight (8) At-Large delegates and one (1) alternate At-Large alternate.
- c. If the number of candidates is equal to the number of At-Large National Delegates spots available, then the convention shall elect the delegates by acclamation. If there are more candidates than the number of At-Large National Delegates available, an election shall be conducted. If an election is conducted:
  - I. The top vote earners equal to the number of At-Large National Delegate positions shall be elected At-Large National Delegate.
  - II. In the case of a tie for the last At-Large National Delegate, the winner shall be chosen by a draw of cards, with aces being high. The suit preference shall be clubs (lowest), followed by diamonds, hearts, and spades (highest).



- d. The election of Alternate At-Large National Delegates shall be in the same manner as described in this section.

## **VII. Presidential Electors**

- a. Nevada will select six (6) persons to serve as Presidential Electors for the 2020 Presidential election.
- b. Each congressional district caucus will elect 1 elector by a majority vote of all delegates voting in that district.
- c. The state convention will elect 2 electors by a majority vote of all delegates voting.
- d. Candidates for the position of elector must file a statement of candidacy to the chair of the rules and nominations committee by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020.**
- e. Each candidate for the position of elector must file, along with their statement of candidacy, a signed statement of support for the Democratic Party. The statement of support will include a disqualifier clause that will prevent the elector, if elected, from serving in the instance that they are no longer a registered Democrat on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December 2020.

## **VIII. Election of At-Large Members to the Executive Board**

- a. All candidates for At-Large member of the Executive Board must be registered Democrats as of February 1, 2020 and reside in their county for at least 30 days.
- b. All candidates shall file their intent to run as an At-Large member of the Executive Board by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020.**
- c. Delegates from Clark County, Washoe County, and the Rural Counties will cast votes only for candidates from their respective region.
- d. Per the Charter at-large members to the Executive Board shall not exceed 14. The regional breakdown is as follows: Eight (8) must be from Clark County; Four (4) must be from Washoe County; Two (2) must be from the remaining rural counties.
- e. The top vote earners equal to the number of At-Large positions in each region shall be elected At-Large Members for that region.
- f. In the case of a tie, the winner shall be chosen by a draw of cards, with aces being high. The suit preference shall be clubs (lowest), followed by diamonds, hearts, and spades (highest).

## **IX. Election of National Committeewoman and National Committeeman**

- a. All candidates for National Committeewoman and National Committeeman must be registered Democrats as of February 1, 2020 and have resided in their county for at least 30 days from the filing deadline.
- b. Candidates for National Committeewoman and National Committeeman must declare their intent to run by filling out the online form available on the NV Dems website by **10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2020.** Declarations will not be accepted after that date and time.
- c. Voting is limited to current members in good standing of the 2018-2020 Nevada State Democratic Party Central Committee.
- d. All members of the State Central Committee will be sent a secure Google form along with an identifying passphrase that will be required to cast their vote.

- I. All ballots will be sent on **June 13 by 6:00 a.m.** with the election process running until **June 13 at 6:00 p.m.**
- II. Phone voting will be an option for members who are unable to vote via Google form.
- e. The top vote earner for DNC Committeewoman and DNC Committeeman shall be elected DNC Committeewoman and DNC Committeeman.
- f. In the case of a tie, the winner shall be chosen by a draw of cards, with aces being high. The suit preference shall be clubs (lowest), followed by diamonds, hearts, and spades (highest).
- g. Election results will be posted on the NV Dems website by **June 13 at 8 p.m.**

#### **X. Election of Members to the State Central Committee**

- a. The election of State Central Committee Members will be conducted at the county level.
- b. Any delegate or alternate registering to participate in the State Convention may nominate themselves to the State Central Committee during the registration process.
- c. Members of the current State Central Committee (2018-2020) who are not delegates or alternates to the State Convention will be afforded the opportunity to nominate themselves to a new, two-year term.
  - I. Current State Central Committee members will receive a form that allows them to submit their information for nomination from May 15 - May 21.
- d. Each county's State Central Committee members will be elected by acclamation if the total number of nominations is less than or equal to the total number of spots allocated to the committee in that county.
- e. If a county's number of nominations exceeds the total number of members allocated to that county, an election by ballot shall be conducted.

#### **XI. Nevada State Democratic Party Platform**

- a. The State Party platform will be voted on by the entire state delegation.
- b. The Platform Committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Nevada State Democratic Party prior to the Convention.
- c. The Platform Committee shall meet and propose a platform to the Convention.
- d. The platform, as proposed by the Platform committee, shall be made available by **May 11, 2020** in electronic format, and to the extent practicable, made available in written form for review by the Convention delegates prior to any vote.
- e. After the draft has been posted, the Platform Committee will begin accepting proposed amendments or additional planks to the platform through an online submission form.
- f. Any proposed amendments or additional planks to the platform must be made to the platform committee by **May 27, 2020**.
- g. The Platform Committee will advise and hold a series of platform hearings to discuss these proposed amendments and additional planks to the platform the week of **May 18, 2020**.
- h. Each amendment or additional plank will be reviewed and voted on by the Platform Committee following these hearings.
- i. Any amendment or additional plank approved by a majority of the Platform Committee will be added to the platform.

- j. A final draft of the platform will be submitted to the Chair of the Nevada State Democratic Party by the Platform Committee by **May 30, 2020**.
- k. To accommodate an online election, there will be no amendment process after the final draft has been submitted by the Platform Committee on **May 30, 2020**.
- l. The platform will be voted on by all credentialed delegates during the State Convention using a secure remote voting form.
- m. The platform, as proposed by the Platform Committee, shall be voted upon as a whole. The platform shall be adopted if approved by a majority vote.
- n. The adopted platform will be hosted at [nvdems.com](http://nvdems.com)

## **C. Miscellaneous**

### **I. Suspension of the Rules**

- a. These rules of the 2020 Nevada State Democratic Convention may only be suspended in the instance where an unforeseen circumstance in these rules has prohibited the convention from conducting its required business.
- b. Under no circumstances shall these rules be suspended for taking any action contrary to expressed intent or will of these rules.
- c. The Convention Chair shall rule any motion to suspend the rules out of order based on the above criterion.

### **National Convention Delegate Proceedings: June 14**

On **June 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**, the elected National Convention Delegation will convene via video conference to conduct the election of the Delegation Chair and Standing Committee Members and the appointment of the Delegation Pages. All elected National Delegates will be expected to attend this meeting.