



2019 State Democratic Convention

DELEGATE SELECTION RULES FLORIDA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

PREAMBLE TO DELEGATE SELECTION RULES

The Florida Democratic Party (FDP) shall be guided by its affirmative action goals and policies in all phases of the Delegate Selection Process in order that the process shall be open and free from all forms of discrimination.

The Florida Democratic Party encompasses many different groups and ideologies and every effort will be made to ensure that all are included in the Delegate Selection Process.

The FDP and its County Executive Committees shall make certain that all groups traditionally underrepresented in party affairs are made aware of and included in the Delegate Selection Qualifying Procedure and given proper consideration in the appointment process.

The FDP State Party Chair and officers of each County DEC shall be responsible for disseminating Delegate Qualification Information through media when possible.

Some groups are traditionally underrepresented in FDP activities. Therefore, delegate appointments allotted by the State Party Chair, Vice Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer will be used to compensate for any shortfalls of representation in the entire body of delegates.

The FDP is committed to the election of Democratic office holders as promulgated in our Party's Charter & Bylaws and the Rules of the 2019 State Convention. Therefore, elected delegates to the State Convention shall execute by written oath and affirmation of the loyalty oath before qualifying as delegates to the State Convention. The exception to this will be representatives of organizations that are not able to make partisan endorsements.

SECTION I: ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES

Delegates to the Florida Democratic Party 2019 State Convention shall be selected based on the following formula:

A. AUTOMATIC DELEGATES (Estimated totals)

1. County Chairs, Vice Chairs, State Committeemen & Committeewomen.....	268
2. Other State Exec. Committee Members not otherwise entitled to automatic appointment.....	30
3. Elected Officials	
o Democratic U.S. Senators and Members of Congress	13
o Democratic State Cabinet Members.....	1
o State Democratic Legislators.....	63
o Clerk of the Court	18
o Sheriff	7
o Property Appraiser.....	15
o Tax Collector.....	14
o Supervisor of Elections	28
o Public Defender	10
o States Attorney	7
o County Commissioner	122
o Superintendent of Schools	26
o School Board	146
o Democratic Municipal Officers.....	871
TOTAL.....	1,341
4. Florida Democratic Party Caucus Presidents	
o Democratic Asian American Caucus	1
o Democratic Black Caucus	1
o Democratic Caribbean Caucus.....	1
o Democratic County Chairs' Association	1
o Democratic Disability Caucus	1
o Democratic Environmental Caucus	1
o Democratic Faith-Based Caucus.....	1
o Democratic Jewish Caucus	1
o Democratic LGBTQA Caucus	1
o Democratic Haitian American Caucus.....	1
o Democratic Hispanic Caucus	1
o Democratic Labor Caucus	1
o Democratic Muslim American Caucus	1
o Democratic Progressive Caucus	1
o Democratic Senior Caucus.....	1
o Democratic Student Caucus.....	1
o Democratic Veterans Caucus.....	1
o Democratic Women's Club of Florida	1
o Florida Young Democrats.....	1
o Small County Coalition	1
TOTAL.....	20
TOTAL AUTOMATIC DELEGATES	1,659
B. APPOINTED DELEGATES	
1. Party Officials	
o State Chair's Appointments	100
o State 1st Vice Chair's Appointments	50

○ State Vice Chair (4x10 each).....	40
○ State Secretary's Appointments	10
○ State Treasurer's Appointments	10
○ DNC Members' Appointments (10 each).....	170
○ State Committeewomen/men's Appointments (10 each)	1340
○ County Chairs' Appointments (10 each).....	670
TOTAL.....	2,390
2. Elected Officials	
○ Democratic U.S. Senators and Members of Congress Appointments (10 each).....	130
○ Democratic State Cabinet Members Appointments.....	10
○ Senate & House Democratic Leader's Appointments (10 each).....	20
○ Democratic Legislators' Appointments (5 each).....	280
TOTAL.....	440
3. Florida Democratic Party Caucus President's Appointments	
Democratic Asian American Caucus	10
Democratic Black Caucus.....	10
Democratic Caribbean Caucus.....	10
Democratic Disability Caucus	10
Democratic Environmental Caucus	10
Democratic Faith-Based Caucus	10
Democratic Jewish Caucus	10
Democratic LGBTQA Caucus.....	10
Democratic Haitian American Caucus	10
Democratic Hispanic Caucus of Florida	10
Democratic Labor Caucus.....	10
Democratic Muslim American Caucus	10
Democratic Progressive Caucus	10
Democratic Senior Caucus.....	10
Democratic Student Caucus.....	10
Democratic Veterans Caucus.....	10
Democratic Women's Club of Florida.....	10
Florida Young Democrats.....	10
Democratic County Chairs' Association	10
Small County Coalition	10
TOTAL.....	200
TOTAL APPOINTED DELEGATES	3,030
C. COUNTY ELECTED DELEGATES (see below*).....	1,556
TOTAL CONVENTION DELEGATES (Section I. A-C)	6,300

***ALLOCATION OF COUNTY ELECTED DELEGATES**

Alachua	27	Franklin.....	9	Lee	39	Pinellas.....	75
Baker.....	9	Gadsden	10	Leon	33	Polk	42
Bay	9	Gilchrist.....	7	Levy	5	Putnam	9
Bradford.....	8	Glades	7	Liberty	5	Santa Rosa	7
Brevard.....	42	Gulf	7	Madison	5	Sarasota	33
Broward	160	Hamilton	7	Manatee	24	Seminole	33
Calhoun	8	Hardee	5	Marion	24	St. Johns	15
Charlotte.....	12	Hendry	7	Martin	10	St. Lucie	24
Citrus	11	Hernando.....	12	Miami-Dade.....	170	Sumter.....	11
Clay	10	Highlands.....	6	Monroe.....	9	Suwannee	5
Collier	18	Hillsborough.....	94	Nassau.....	9	Taylor	5
Columbia	9	Holmes	6	Okaloosa.....	8	Union	5
Desoto	7	Indian River	12	Okeechobee	5	Volusia	36
Dixie	7	Jackson	8	Orange	94	Wakulla	5
Duval	70	Jefferson.....	8	Osceola.....	27	Walton	5
Escambia.....	21	Lafayette.....	5	Palm Beach.....	114	Washington	5
Flagler	9	Lake.....	21	Pasco	33	TOTAL	1,597

Seventy-five (75%) percent, and any fraction thereof, of the delegates elected from each county shall be members of the County Democratic Executive Committee, and the remainder shall be non-members. Each delegation of elected delegates must be balanced by gender to the extent possible. In the event a sufficient number of delegates do not get elected from either the DEC member/ non-DEC member or the gender category, then those candidates with the highest number of votes in the other pertinent category shall be deemed elected. The leadership of each county Democratic Executive Committee is strongly encouraged to ensure that a sufficient number of non-Democratic Executive Committee members qualify for election.

If insufficient members of the DEC have filed, and insufficient other delegates have filed, then the excess appointments will revert to the State Party Chair. The State Chair will do his/her best to fill these appointments with persons from the county of the unfilled delegate position.

SECTION II: QUALIFICATION OF DELEGATES

All delegates must be registered Democrats in the State of Florida. Any registered Democrat may run for a delegate position in the county, where registered. All interested candidates are required to file with their County Chair, Vice Chair, State Committeeman, or State Committeewoman between June 24 and July 31, 2019. It is the responsibility of the County Party officers to make delegate filing forms available to any Democrat seeking them during the above-mentioned dates. **At the time of qualifying, each elected delegate to the State Convention shall execute a written Florida Democratic Party loyalty oath before qualifying as a delegate to the Convention. The exception to this will be representatives of organizations that are not able to make partisan endorsements. A signed delegate filing form, which includes a statement of loyalty, shall satisfy this requirement.**

SECTION III: METHOD OF SELECTION -- ELECTED DELEGATES

County Democratic Executive Committees will hold meetings for the purpose of electing delegates between the dates of July 22 and August 30, 2019. The elections may take place at regularly scheduled Democratic Executive Committee meetings during these dates or at specially called meetings. **By July 15, 2019, each County Chair must notify the State Headquarters of the date of his/her DEC's election.** The election shall be conducted pursuant to the Charter and Bylaws of the Florida Democratic Party.

It will be the decision of the County Chair whether or not candidates will be allowed to speak on behalf of their candidacy. If so, each candidate will be allowed one minute to speak. There will be no speaking on behalf of other delegates or on behalf of a slate of delegates.

Only members of that County Democratic Executive Committee, or their proxy, may vote.

The County Chair with the State Committeeman and State Committeewoman will be responsible for printing ballots to be used for the election of delegates and ensuring all segments of the County Democratic populace are appropriately represented at the convention.

Ballots will list all Democratic Executive Committee member and non-member candidates separately and alphabetically by name only. The number of delegates to be elected in each category will be stated on the ballot. The State Party shall furnish a sample of a ballot form to be used by each county. In order for a ballot to be valid, the number of candidates voted for in each category must equal the number of positions allocated to the county. All ballots must be signed. In counties electing more than sixty (60) delegates, electors may vote for between 90% and 100% of the total number of delegates to be elected in each category.

The County Chair, Vice Chair, State Committeeman and State Committeewoman will be responsible for tallying the votes immediately following the election. Delegates will be elected by pluralities. In the event of tie votes, lots will be drawn to determine the winner.

No alternates will be elected.

If not enough candidates qualify for election, nominations may be made from the floor. Nominees from the floor must be present to accept or deny the nominations and must meet the qualification requirements and submit a delegate filing form.

It shall be the responsibility of the County Chair to retain all ballots from elections, until 30 days after the election or October 4, 2019.

At the time of election, each elected delegate shall immediately submit a non-refundable **\$45** registration fee for the state convention. County Chairs must collect these fees and send them along with the delegate filing forms to the State Headquarters no later than September 6, 2019. The registration fee for students is \$25.

Each County Democratic Executive Committee shall be responsible for its own expenses incurred in holding the elections. County Democratic Executive Committees may vote to add a surcharge of up to \$15 to the registration fee to defray local expenses related to the Convention.

SECTION IV: AUTOMATIC and APPOINTED DELEGATES

The delegate appointments by the State Chair, State Vice Chairs, State Secretary and State Treasurer of the Florida Democratic Party will be for the purpose of ensuring that all segments of Florida's Democratic populace are represented at the Convention. Each Democratic Executive Committee is encouraged to make written recommendations for such appointments from the county to the State Headquarters by September 6, 2019.

The State Chair will notify all automatic delegates of their appointments by August 15, 2019. Automatic delegates must return their registration forms and fees to the State Headquarters by September 6, 2019.

All delegate appointments except those made by the State Chair, State Vice Chairs, State Secretary and State Treasurer must be made by September 6, 2019. A listing of appointments including names, addresses and telephone numbers, must be received at the State Party Headquarters by this date. Appointed delegates must return their registration forms and fees to the State Headquarters by September 6, 2019.

All delegate appointments made by the State Chair, State Vice Chair, State Secretary and State Treasurer must be made by September 6, 2019.

SECTION V: VACANCIES

Any vacancy in either elected or appointed delegate positions existing after the deadlines for election or appointment may be filled by the State Chair in any manner he/she deems proper by September 27, 2019.

SECTION I: ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF RULES

- A. The Florida Democratic Party 2019 State Convention shall be conducted pursuant to these rules. These rules shall be deemed finally adopted upon approval by majority vote of the Florida Democratic Party State Central Committee.
- B. The State Chair has the right to waive or extend any dates, deadlines, or qualifications contained in said Rules.
- C. A copy of the Rules shall be available on the state party website.
- D. Except as provided for in the Rules, all proceedings shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

SECTION II: OFFICERS

The State Chair of the Florida Democratic Party or his/her designee shall serve as Chair of the Convention. The Chair, may at his/her discretion, appoint other convention officers which may include, but are not limited to, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms and Timekeeper.

SECTION III: AGENDA

The Chair, consistent with these Rules, shall determine the Convention agenda.

SECTION IV: COMMITTEES

Committees and Committee Chairs shall be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the State Chair. All Convention Committees are established as Convention Committees upon approval of these Rules. Unless otherwise specified herein, forty (40%) percent of the Committee membership present in person or by written proxy shall constitute a quorum for the conducting of business by Convention Committees and action shall be taken by majority vote.

A. *Rules Committee*

1. The Florida Democratic Party Rules Committee shall be responsible for proposing to the State Central Committee a set of Rules by which the Convention shall be governed and shall make recommendations to the State Central Committee regarding any proposed amendments to the Rules. The Rules Committee shall also be responsible for proposing to the State Central Committee any rules for the election of Convention delegates and shall make recommendations to the State Central Committee regarding any proposed amendments to the delegate selection Rules.
2. The Rules Committee shall meet prior to or during the Convention at the request of the Chair to resolve any questions regarding the construction or interpretation of the Rules. The decision of the Rules Committee regarding construction or interpretation of the Rules shall be final.

B. *Compliance Review and Credentials Committee*

1. The members of the Florida Democratic Party Judicial Committee shall serve as the Compliance Review and Credentials Committee for the Convention.
2. The Compliance Review and Credentials Committee shall be responsible for hearing and ruling on formal written complaints regarding any challenge to an individual delegate's credentials. All challenges to an individual delegate's credentials must be sent in writing to the State Chair at the Florida Democratic Party headquarters to be received by midnight, September 6, 2019.
3. All decisions by the Compliance Review and Credentials Committee shall be made at or before midnight, October 4, 2019 and shall be final.

4. No delegate may be seated on the floor if they have been adjudicated as unqualified by the Compliance Review and Credentials Committee.

SECTION V: VOTING ON ISSUES BY FULL CONVENTION

- A. The State Chair may present to the Convention for adoption such resolutions as she/he in her/his discretion may deem proper. No resolutions or other matter shall be presented to the Convention except as expressly provided in this section and these Rules. No amendment to either a majority or minority resolution may be offered from the convention floor.
- B. It shall be the responsibility of the Chair to determine the presence of a quorum. Forty (40%) percent of the number of delegates present at the outset of the Convention shall constitute a quorum. At any point, one hundred (100) delegates can, by written petition, call for a quorum count.
- C. Sufficient security shall be established to ensure that only delegates are allowed in the areas where voting takes place.
- D. Adoption of resolutions by the Convention shall be by a majority vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.
- E. In the event the vote by rising is not clear, the Chair shall call for a polling of each county delegation. The vote shall be tallied and reported to the podium by the County Chairs or their designees.

SECTION VI: DELEGATE SEATING AND ORGANIZATION

- A. Seating of delegates shall be by county. Separate seating sections may be provided for guests, members of the public and the press by the Chair's discretion.
- B. County Democratic Executive Committee Chairs or their designees shall chair their respective county delegations and be responsible for the conduct of their county's delegates during the Convention.

SECTION VII: ADDRESSES TO THE CONVENTION

Addresses to the Convention by Democratic elected officials, Democratic candidates, special guests, and others shall be at the discretion of the Chair.

SECTION VIII: CONVENTIONEERING

In the interest of keeping order and maintaining the physical condition of the premises, there shall be no distribution of literature, no displaying of signs or banners, or picketing or demonstrating, and no booths of any kind in the Convention Hall or other public Convention rooms or areas, except as designated by the Chair.

TIMELINE

2019 State Democratic Convention

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Date	Description
June 17 - July 31	Delegate filing period. Delegate filing forms available from County Chairs, Vice Chairs, State Committeemen and State Committeewomen.
July 15	Deadline by which County Chairs must submit the DEC's delegate election date to Florida Democratic Party Headquarters.
July 22 - August 30	County Chairs hold delegate elections. All votes will be tallied; registration fees and delegate filing forms collected at the time of the election.
August 15	All automatic delegates will be notified of their appointment by the FDP.
September 6	<p>Registration fees and delegate filing forms must be sent to Florida Democratic Party Headquarters postmarked by midnight on this date.</p> <p>Deadline for all appointments to delegate positions (except appointments by the State Party Chair, Vice Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer).</p> <p>Deadline for DEC's to make written recommendations for appointments by FDP officers.</p>
September 6	<p>Registration fees and delegate filing forms from automatic or appointed delegates must be sent to FDP Headquarters and postmarked by midnight.</p> <p>Deadline for all appointments made by the State Party Chair, Vice Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer.</p> <p>Any challenge to an individual elected or appointed delegate's credentials must be sent in writing to the FDP Headquarters and postmarked by midnight.</p>
September 27	State Chair may fill any vacancy in either elected or appointed delegate positions by this date.
October 4	<p>Ballots from DEC elections must be retained by County Chair until 30 days after the election or until this date.</p> <p>Deadline by which Compliance Review and Credentials Committee will hear and decide any formal written complaint or challenge to delegates elected or appointed to the State Convention.</p>
October 2019	FLORIDA DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S 2019 STATE CONVENTION