

Dem-NPL District Delegates FAQ

Q: What is a district delegate?

A: A delegate is a voting representative, elected by their district, to represent the district at the state convention.

Q: How do you become a district delegate?

A: District Dem-NPLers at the district convention will elect delegates. If not enough people show up to fill the spots allotted to the district, the district may choose to vote to allow the district chair to fill the remaining spots after the convention has adjourned.

Q: What do I need to do to become a delegate?

A: Participate in the district convention and be elected by your district. You will be required to fill out a registration form and be asked to pay an optional registration fee.

Q: What if more people show up than spots?

A: If more people are interested in being delegates than the district is allotted, the district will hold an election at their convention to choose who will represent the district. The district chair will choose how to conduct this election, with guidance from the State Party headquarters.

Q: How many delegates does each district get?

A: At the August 2019 Policy Committee meeting in Dickinson, ND, the committee voted to allow 750 total delegates. A specific number of delegates is awarded to each district based on a percentage of the statewide Democratic votes cast in that district in the last election. Please see the attached form for the number of delegates and alternates that your district is allowed to register.

Q: What will a delegate vote on at the State Convention?

A: At the 2020 convention, district delegates will endorse Dem-NPL candidates for: U.S. House, Governor and Lt. Governor, Public Service Commissioner, Treasurer, Auditor, and Insurance Commissioner. The delegates may potentially vote to offer a letter of support to a candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

A: District delegates will also have a chance to select delegates to represent our state at the the 2020 Democratic National Convention in Milwaukee in July.

A: Platform and Resolutions: The delegates will vote to approve a platform and resolutions that represent that party's principles and values.

A. District Delegates will also have the chance to hear from speakers, participate in training and break-out sessions, meet legislative candidates from across the state, and more.

Q: When is the convention?

A: March 19-22 in Minot at the Clarion Hotel Convention Center

March 19: Platform committee meeting – only members of the platform committee need to be present

March 20 and 21 – Endorsement of statewide and federal candidates and election of delegates to the Democratic National Convention in Milwaukee. **ALL delegates present.**

March 22 – Training for endorsed state house and senate candidates, local/municipal candidates, and others wishing to participate

Q: What if I would like to attend the convention, but not be a delegate?

A: There are paid guest passes available which will allow floor seating, and anyone is able to purchase tickets for other convention events, such as the banquet, luncheon, pub crawl, etc.

Q: I would like to be a delegate, but what if something comes up and I cannot attend?

A: Each district is allotted a certain number of alternate, in the event a delegate doesn't or can't show up.

Q: Do I have to vote the way my district wants?

A: Delegates are unbound, meaning they can vote however they wish.

Q: What else happens at the convention?

A: Networking with fellow Dem-NPLers across the state. It's a fun time to meet new people and see many friends we have met throughout the years.

A: Headline Speaker(s) - Last convention, former Vice President Joe Biden was the keynote speaker. The 2020 speaker has not yet been announced.

A: There may be other meetings/gatherings for the Young Democrats of ND, College Democrats of ND, House and Senate Dem-NPL Caucus, Women's Caucus, etc.

A: There are booths from several organizations, progressive businesses, candidates, and other groups to provide information, materials, and education to attendees.