

# Delegate

**Selection Process for the 2020  
Democratic National Convention**

**Maine Dems**

September 2019



# Welcome!

**This is an overview of the presidential primary and delegate selection process in Maine.**

**It covers Maine's new presidential primary, the municipal caucuses, the State Convention and the National Convention.**

**The Maine Democratic Party believes that Democrats participating at every level, from attending a caucus through running for national delegate, deserve an opportunity to know how this process works.**





# Agenda

- ▣ Presidential primary election
- ▣ Municipal caucuses
- ▣ About Maine's national delegation
- ▣ Running for national delegate
- ▣ State Convention
- ▣ National Convention
- ▣ Contact information



# Important Dates

**Feb. 8:** Forms to run for national delegate become available on MDP website.

**March 3:**  
Presidential primary

**March 8:** Municipal caucuses

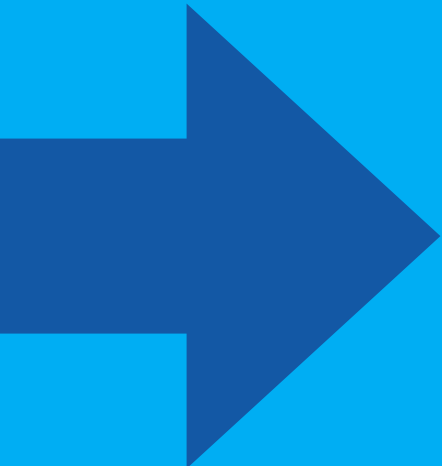
**May 15:** Filing deadline to run for national delegate

**May 29-31:** State convention

**July 13-16:**  
National convention

**Nov. 3:** General election

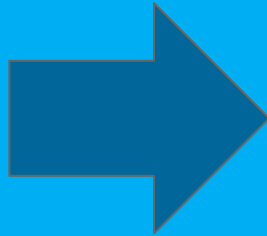




**Presidential  
Primary  
Election:  
March 3, 2020**



Maine is switching from a caucus to a primary for deciding how many national delegates each presidential candidate earns.



A presidential primary is just like any other election, except only registered Democrats can vote. Don't forget to exercise your right to vote!

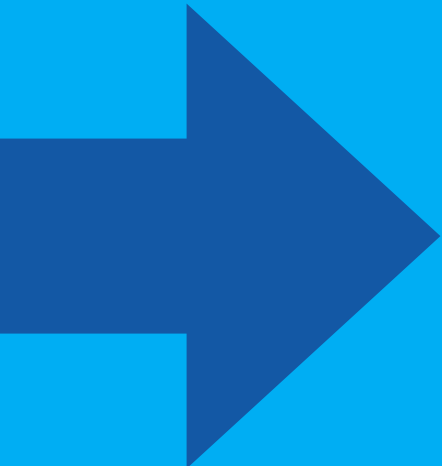


# How will delegates be distributed among primary candidates?



- Sometime in April, the Maine Secretary of State will release official results of the presidential primary.
- Maine's pledged National Convention delegate spots will be apportioned to Democratic presidential primary candidates based on their shares of the primary votes.





# Municipal Caucuses: March 8, 2020





The primary determines the distribution of delegates, but Democrats will still caucus in towns across Maine on March 8 in order to:

- Elect municipal chairs
- Elect representatives to their County Committee
- Elect State Convention delegates
- Meet candidates for local, state, and sometimes even federal office
- Learn about ballot issues
- Start organizing to WIN in 2020!



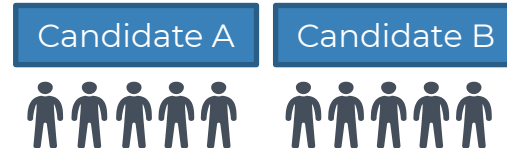
The municipal caucuses play a vital role in giving **ALL** Democrats a voice in their local, county, state, & national Democratic organizations.

**Consider running** for one of these local positions! It's easy, and fun.



# The process

- Caucus attendees will split into groups based on their favored presidential candidate.
- After the number of supporters for each candidate is counted and their share of the delegates is counted attendees will have an opportunity to switch groups. If your group is too small to qualify for a delegate, you can join another group, or try to persuade more people to join yours.
- Each group will then elect the portion of their town's state convention delegates that their candidate is entitled to, based on their level of support.
- They will also elect their municipal committee officers, and elect members of their county party committees.

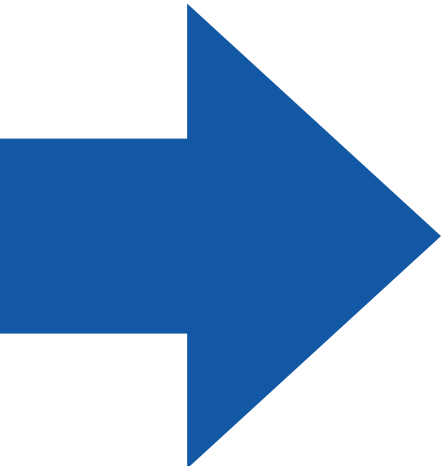




# Maine's National Delegation to the Democratic National Convention



# Maine's National Delegates



Type	Number	Allocated By
1 <sup>st</sup> CD	9	1 <sup>st</sup> District primary results
2 <sup>nd</sup> CD	7	2 <sup>nd</sup> District primary results
PLEO*	3	Statewide primary results
At-Large**	5	Statewide primary results
<b>Maine's Total Pledged Delegates:</b>	<b>24</b>	

\* PLEO delegates are Democratic elected officials and leaders in the Maine Democratic Party.

\*\* Alternates are elected along with the At-large delegates. Each presidential candidate earning enough votes to have national delegates will also have an alternate.



# More on the National Delegation

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- ▣ There are eight automatic, unpledged delegates:
  - ▣ Gov. Janet Mills
  - ▣ U.S. Reps. Chellie Pingree and Jared Golden
  - ▣ Maine Democratic Party officers Kathleen Marra and Erik Gundersen
  - ▣ MDP's DNC members, Sen. Troy Jackson and Rep. Diane Denk.
  - ▣ Former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell
- ▣ Under new DNC rules, automatic delegates will not vote unless there is a second round of voting in the national convention.
- ▣ The entire delegation must be balanced by gender.





# Running for National Delegate



- **The state delegates elected at municipal caucuses will attend the Maine State Democratic Convention, and elect the national delegates to attend the National Democratic Convention on behalf of the presidential candidates.**
- **ANY DEMOCRAT can run to be a national delegate. You do not need to be a state delegate to run for national delegate. All interested Democrats are encouraged to run!**





# How to qualify as a national delegate candidate

Filing forms will be available from the MDP beginning on February 7, 2020. Those running for more than one type of national delegate position must take out papers and gather the required signatures for all positions they are pursuing.

Delegate Type	Signatures Required	From	Due
Congressional District	35	State Convention Delegates & Alternates from District	<b>MAY 15</b>
At-Large	35	State Convention Delegates & Alternates	
PLEO	7	Democratic State Committee members	

Candidates for national delegate will be posted on the MDP website.



In order to win as a national delegate candidate,  
**you will need to campaign.**

The MDP will make the following resources available to all candidates for national delegates:

- Contact information of State Convention delegates
- Space at the State Convention to campaign
- Space at the State Convention to hang up campaign signs



# Representation Goals

The goal is to do our best to make sure Maine's delegation to the national convention looks like Maine Democrats. Candidates for national delegate who meet one or more of these goals may pick as many as apply to them.

African American	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Hispanic/ Latinx	Native American	LGBTQ+	People w/ disabilities	Youth
1	1	1	1	7	4	7

These are goals, not quotas. We need to do our very best to meet or exceed these goals to bring a diverse delegation to Milwaukee.



# Running to be a delegate, Q&A

Q. Can I run as more than one type of delegate?

A. Yes! E.g. One person can run to be a Congressional District and At-Large delegate (but they can only win one)

Q. Can a person qualify for more than one of the representation goal categories?

A. Yes! E.g. disabled and young, Hispanic and transgender, Asian and gay

Q. If I don't fit any of those representation goal categories, can I still run and win?

A. Yes! While we seek to elevate these under-represented groups, that does not exclude others





# The 2020 Maine Democratic State Convention



# The 2020 Maine Democratic State Convention will be on May 29 - 31, at the Cross Center in Bangor

**Friday, May 29:** Convention organization, great workshops for activists and volunteers, PARTIES!

**Saturday, May 30:** Election of Democratic State and National Committee representatives, election of some national convention delegates

**Sunday, May 31:** Other convention business, including the platform.



# National delegates at State Convention

**Maine's delegation to the national convention will meet as a group on Sunday**, right after the state convention. The delegates will elect a chair, two convention pages, and one member for each of the national convention Rules, Credentials and Platform Committees. **Being a National delegate is fun...but it's also an important job!**



**What if I run for  
national delegate  
and don't win?**



**You can still go to the  
National Convention  
as a guest or  
volunteer!**



**[www.milwaukee2020.com](http://www.milwaukee2020.com)**







**The 2020  
National  
Democratic  
Convention:  
July 13-16,  
Milwaukee, WI**



# What happens at the National Convention?

- Every morning, the Maine state delegation will meet for breakfast, receive their credentials, and get info about the coming day
- Each day will include meetings with presidential candidate groups, seminars, and issue groups
- Every evening there will be lots of parties, concerts, and opportunities to rub elbows with the stars of the Convention.



# July 15, the BIG DAY!



On Wednesday, July 15, delegates will cast their votes for the presidential nominee in the morning. Later in the day, the Maine delegation will take their place in the main arena to announce how Maine's delegates voted, and watch the nominee's acceptance speech.

# Convention Costs



- National delegates are responsible for the cost of attending the National Convention.
- The DNC usually partners with an airline to offer discounts, and hotel rooms are booked in blocks for each state delegation to reduce the expense.
- If cost is a barrier for you, many national delegates have been able to fundraise to meet Convention costs. The MDP may be able to offer limited assistance.



# Getting There



- **Make reservations as soon as you can. Roundtrip flights from Portland, ME to Milwaukee are currently around \$750.**
- **Typically, you fly in on Sunday to Milwaukee Airport, and fly out Friday.**
- **Keep an eye out for package deals from the DNC.**

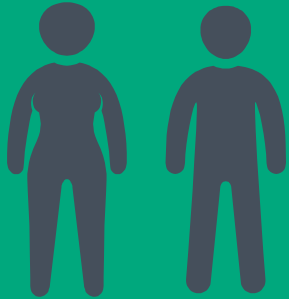


# Staying There

- The DNC has already booked a block of rooms near the convention site for the Maine delegation.
- It is HIGHLY recommended you stay with the delegation to save costs and ensure you get your credentials each day.
- Rooms will cost \$400/night, with a 4 night minimum. Costs can be reduced by sharing a room with other delegates.



# Friends and Family



- **Friends and family will be responsible for their own separate lodging.**
- **Unless they get their own credentials as a guest or volunteer, they will not be able to attend the Convention.**



# More Information:

Maine Democratic Party website:  
[www.mainedems.org](http://www.mainedems.org)

Under the “Delegate Selection” button, you will find:

- Delegate Selection Plan
- Filing forms
- This presentation





# Training

Trainers will be coming to county and municipal parties to give training sessions from November 2019 through February 2020, and webinars will be held in February. Trainers will also set up sessions with groups having an affinity with Democrats. If you have questions or would like to schedule a training session, please contact:

**Lisa Roberts**

MDP Executive Director  
[lisa@mainedems.org](mailto:lisa@mainedems.org)

**Wayne Kinney**, Affirmative  
Action Committee Chair, at  
[delegateinfo@mainedems.org](mailto:delegateinfo@mainedems.org)



# Thank you!

Whatever your role in Maine's 2020 Democratic vote – from registering and voting to running for national delegate – you are important and needed.

We don't need to tell you this election is important. Please sign up at [mainedems.org](https://mainedems.org) to volunteer, and consider donating to the party and the candidates of your choice.

- Kathleen Marra, MDP Chair



# Credits

**Pat Washburn,  
Affirmative Action  
Committee Member**

**Lisa Roberts,  
MDP Executive Director**

**Wayne Kinney, Executive  
Committee Member,  
Rules Committee Member,  
and Chair of Affirmative  
Action Committee**

**April Thibodeau,  
MDP Political Affairs &  
Training Director**

