

How to Run as a District-Level Delegate Candidate

If you want to run to be one of Florida's 140 District-Level delegates to the 2016 Democratic National Convention to be held July 25-28 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, here are some tips to help you get started.

- You must be a registered Democrat and you must run in the Congressional District (CD) in which you vote.
- Know how many delegates will be elected in your CD. Each CD is allocated between 4-8 District-Level delegate positions, based on the CD's Democratic vote performance. The CD allocation of delegates is available online at www.floridadems.org.
- Support a presidential candidate. To run, you must pledge to support one of the presidential candidates.
- Sign up to help your presidential candidate. The campaign needs to know you support the candidate and are working to help get out the vote for the candidate in the **March 15 Presidential Primary**.
- Based on the results of the Presidential Primary in your CD, District-Level delegate positions will be proportionally allocated to presidential candidates who receive at least 15% of the vote.
- File to run as a District-Level delegate candidate. The delegate filing form will be available from the Florida Democratic Party (www.floridadems.org or call 850-222-3411). Candidates must file between February 1 and **5:00 pm, April 7**. Filing is done directly with the State Party online or by mail. Alternatively, District-Level delegate candidates may file with their respective CD Chair or Vice Chair, or their county's DEC State Committeewoman or State Committeeman.
- Make sure you qualify. Each presidential campaign gets to review the list of folks who want to be one of their delegates. They have until **5:00 pm, April 20** to approve names on the list. Check to be sure you're on the list.
- Get ready for your CD caucus on **Saturday, May 7**. This is an election and you need to get out the vote! Ask everyone you know who is a Democratic voter in your CD who also supports your presidential candidate to come to the CD caucus to vote for you.
- Want to team up? Some delegate candidates run as a group or "slate" and work collectively to get their friends to show up and vote for the slate. It's okay to run together as a slate, but there are no "official" slates.
- Show up early at the CD Caucus on **May 7**. Greet your supporters and other voters who support your presidential candidate. The caucus is a Democratic Party-run election held between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. Voters show up, sign-in, declare which presidential candidate they support, and receive a ballot for that candidate's District-Level delegate candidates.
- Some CDs will have multiple voting locations. By February 1, you will know the locations and if you should recruit "poll workers" to cover the other locations. Also, some CDs may allow early voting on May 5. Make arrangements to be there, if this is available in your CD.
- You can bring signs and pass out literature, buttons, etc. Have your "campaign speech" ready to quickly tell voters who don't know you about why you want to be a delegate.
- At the conclusion of the caucus, the votes will be tallied and the District-Level delegates for your CD will be announced. The CD Chair will notify the State Party about the election results and the Party will certify the delegates to the Democratic National Committee.
- The elected District-Level delegates will meet on **Saturday, May 21** to select 28 Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) delegates, and 46 At-Large delegates and 18 alternates. Individuals must file to run for these positions between February 17 and noon on May 9. These delegates are proportionally allocated to presidential candidates based on the statewide results of the Presidential Primary. Each campaign will be very involved in recruiting and determining who will fill their allocated statewide delegate positions.
- All elected delegates will meet on **Sunday, May 22** to select Florida's 27 standing committee members (9 members each on the Credentials, Platform and Rules Committees), and a Delegation Chair. Standing committee member positions are proportionally allocated to the presidential campaigns and the members (who do not need to be delegates) are nominated by the respective presidential campaign.
- Members of Florida's delegation will join the others from across the nation and around the world to be a part of history at the 47th quadrennial Democratic National Convention **July 25-28** in Philadelphia.