



## **2025 Democratic State Convention FAQs**

Every year following a presidential election, the Delaware Democratic Party hosts its quadrennial Democratic State Convention (DSC). The State Convention is the culmination of the statewide reorganization process and is when State Party Officers and convention committee reports are voted on.

### **When is the 2025 Democratic State Convention?**

Delaware's 2025 DSC will be held Saturday, June 21, 2025. Doors will open at 9:00 am, and the convention will gavel to order at 10:00 am.

### **Where is the 2025 Democratic State Convention?**

Delaware's 2025 DSC will be held in Dover, Delaware.

### **What happens at the Democratic State Convention?**

The primary order of business at the DSC is to elect State Party Officers and to vote on reports from the Convention Committees.

### **How long is the Democratic State Convention?**

The time needed to conduct the business of the DSC is difficult to predict as it is highly dependent upon what comes from the floor of the convention. Delegates should plan for the convention to take up to three hours. For planning purposes, a tentative agenda for the DSC is included in the call to convention posted on [www.deldems.org/DSC2025](http://www.deldems.org/DSC2025)

### **What are the Convention Committees?**

Three Committees are expected to present reports at the DSC.

#### **Platform Committee**

The Platform Committee has been working on revisions to the State Party Platform. A final draft of an updated Party Platform will be put to a vote at the Democratic State Convention.

#### **Resolutions Committee**

The Resolutions Committee considers any resolutions that are submitted in writing and will present a report, compiling the resolutions, on the floor of the Convention. Any Delegate may submit a resolution to the committee

#### **Standing Rules Committee**

Should any delegate have their credentials (eligibility) challenged, the Rules Committee will hear the challenge. The Rules Committee is also drafting revisions to the State Party Rules. A final draft of updated rules is expected to be put to a vote at the Democratic State Convention.



## **Will delegates see the Committee Reports before the Democratic State Convention?**

Yes, each committee plans to share its report or final draft with delegates ahead of the DSC. The Rules and Platform Committees are working on final drafts to be released ahead of the DSC. The Resolutions Committee is currently accepting submissions for resolutions to be included in its final report.

## **How do I submit a resolution?**

DSC delegates can submit a resolution for consideration by emailing [kate@deldems.org](mailto:kate@deldems.org). Resolutions must be submitted by the end of business on Monday, June 9, 2025

## **Who votes at the Democratic State Convention?**

The voting body of the DSC is comprised of Delegates from each of the 41 State House Districts. Delegates were elected by their local Democratic District Committees in the month of March 2025.

## **Can I see a list of the State Convention Delegates?**

Any delegate may request the list of State Convention Delegates and Alternates by emailing state party staff.

## **How is voting being conducted at the Democratic State convention?**

In the case of a contested election or close vote, DSC voting will take place on signed paper ballots.

## **Is proxy voting allowed at the Democratic State Convention?**

No, proxy voting is not permitted at the DSC. Delegates who are unable to attend the convention will be replaced by an Alternate, elected by their District Committee in March 2025. If the District Committee did not elect any or enough Alternates, the delegate's seat remains vacant and the District loses representation.

## **What are the State Party Officer positions?**

The five Party Officer positions on the ballot at the DSC are State Party Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary.

## **Who are the candidates for the State Party Officer Positions?**

As nominations are made from the floor of the convention, delegates may not know who all of the candidates are until after nominations are closed. There is no pre-convention filing requirement, like in a state-run election.

Many Democrats who are seeking State Party Officer positions will campaign ahead of time by proactively reaching out to delegates.



### **Will candidates be given time to address the Democratic State Convention?**

Yes, after being nominated, candidates for State Party Officer positions will each be given **three minutes** to deliver remarks to the assembled delegates.

Delegates who are making nominations from the floor will not be given additional time for nomination speeches. Only the nominee will have time for remarks.

### **Can non-delegates attend the Democratic State Convention?**

The DSC, like all DelDems public meetings, is open to all registered Delaware Democrats. While they will not be able to vote or speak from the floor, non-delegates are welcome to attend the DSC.

### **Is there a difference between the Vice Chair positions?**

In most ways, the two Vice Chair positions are functionally the same. Due to the rules intended to prevent gender imbalance, the Vice Chair who is not of the same gender identity as the State Chair is considered the Ranking or First Vice Chair. The First Vice Chair is first in the line of succession should the Chair be unable/unwilling to perform their duties. Per National Party Rules, the First Vice Chair is also a member of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and the Association of State Democratic Committees (ASDC).

### **How can I support the Democratic State Convention?**

The State Party will need volunteer support for the DSC to help provide assistance to delegates during the convention. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering at the DSC please contact State Party staff.

The State Party also has sponsorship opportunities available for the DSC. If you or your organization is interested in sponsoring the convention, please contact Travis Williams at [travis@deldems.org](mailto:travis@deldems.org).