



Conventions and Endorsement Meetings

Role of the DCC

Identify, recruit, and
endorse qualified
Democrats for
office

Organize/run
endorsement
conventions &
meetings

Role of a Delegate

1. Listen, learn and talk to the candidate(s) - ask questions!
2. Attend the screening interviews and candidate forums
3. Discuss with other delegates
4. Consider each candidate carefully - electability, qualifications, campaign organization, ability and commitment to the office and helping the entire Democratic ticket
5. Donate and/or volunteer for a campaign
6. Choose to make an early commitment of support or not - candidates will ask
7. Act as a surrogate for the candidate of your choosing (endorse and or nominate)
8. Vote in the endorsement convention or meeting

Steps to get Endorsed

1. Announce candidacy and reach out the Party
2. Contact the delegates to gain their support
3. Set up a campaign and raise money
4. Fill out a candidate application (posted on our website)
5. Interview with our DCC screening committee
6. Get nominated and seconded at an endorsement convention or meeting
7. Win a majority of the delegate votes

Endorsement

Endorsed

(receives a majority of the delegate votes)



Candidate will be placed on the endorsed Democratic ballot line

Not Endorsed



Candidate can choose to run a primary (no primary in a special election)

At the state convention if a state-wide candidate receives 15% of the delegate votes they automatically can be placed on the ballot for the primary

In other conventions if the endorsement is not received, a certain number of signatures of registered Democrats has to be obtained to gain ballot access

Endorsement Conventions

National Convention

(every 4 years)

Endorses the Presidential candidate. Delegates are elected by Congressional district and voted upon by the delegates to the Congressional convention. Any Democrat within that district can run. Certain number of men and women are elected.

State Convention

(every 2 years)

Endorses US Senate; Governor, Lt. Governor; Attorney General; Comptroller; Treasurer; Secretary of the State; Democratic State Central Committee; Democratic National Committee; and Presidential Electors.

The local Party Chair puts together a proposed slate of delegates which are then voted on by the DCC. The total number of delegates is determined by the state party. This year we have the 3rd largest delegation of 75. (New Haven 92, Bridgeport 86)

Endorsement Conventions

Congressional Convention (every 2 years)

The Party Chair puts together a proposed slate of delegates which are then voted on by the DCC. Same total number of delegates as the state convention.

Multi-Town State Senate and State House Convention (every 2 years)

Delegates are DCC members from within the multi-town voting districts. Additional delegates are selected as needed based on the State Party formula. (125 (new), 149, 26 (new), 36)

of delegates to each convention per city/town is based on a formula = # of votes the Democratic Presidential candidate got in the last election cycle averaged with number of registered Democrats divided by 500.

Ex: Biden Votes Stamford 40,437, Registered Dems 34,380 (had the highest votes in the whole state)

Single Town/Municipal Endorsement Meetings

Single Town State Senate and State Representatives (every 2 years)

27, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148

DCC members are the delegates for the city wide races. For endorsement of non city wide, only the DCC members from that district are delegates

Municipal Endorsements (every year)

depending on which terms are up

Mayor (4 years); Board of Representatives (4 years); Board of Finance (4 years with seats up every 2); Board of Education (3 years, with seats up every year); Constable (4 years); Registrar of voters (4 years); Town Clerk (4 years); Probate Judge (4 years); Justice of the Peace (nominated and appointed every 4 years)

Endorsements take place at a regular DCC meeting

Questions?