



Proposed for consideration by the FDP Rules Committee meeting on

## **2023 State Democratic Convention**

### **DELEGATE SELECTION RULES FLORIDA DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

#### **PREAMBLE TO DELEGATE SELECTION RULES**

The Florida Democratic Party (FDP) shall be guided by its diversity and inclusion goals and policies in all phases of the Delegate Selection Process in order that the process shall be open and free from all forms of discrimination.

The Florida Democratic Party encompasses many different groups and ideologies and every effort will be made to ensure that all are included in the Delegate Selection Process.

The FDP, its County Executive Committees, and State Caucuses shall make certain that all groups traditionally underrepresented in party affairs are made aware of and included in the Delegate Selection Process.

Some groups are traditionally underrepresented in FDP activities. Therefore, delegate appointments allotted by the State Party Chair will be used to compensate for any shortfalls of representation in the entire body of delegates.

All delegates, including automatic and appointed delegates, must submit a delegate filing form by the October 6 deadline in order to be eligible for Delegate credentials.

Given there are many opportunities to be an elected or appointed delegate to State Convention, there are no preset limits on how many delegates can be seated with each County Executive Committee or State Democratic Caucus. However, due to space, safety and health concerns, limitations may be placed on the total number of delegate positions available, and delegate registration may be closed if the limit is reached. Non delegate attendee registration will be made available for those who do not meet the delegate criteria, or register after the delegate filing window has closed. Those interested in attending as a delegate are encouraged to register as soon as the form is available to secure their position.

## **SECTION I: ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES**

Delegates to the Florida Democratic Party 2023 State Convention shall be selected based on the following:

### **A. AUTOMATIC DELEGATES**

1. County Chairs, Vice Chairs, State Committeeman & Committeewoman
  
2. Elected Officials
  - o Democratic U.S. Senators and Members of Congress
  - o Democratic State Cabinet Members
  - o State Democratic Legislators
  - o Clerk of the Court
  - o Sheriff
  - o Property Appraiser
  - o Tax Collector
  - o Supervisor of Elections
  - o Public Defender
  - o States Attorney
  - o County Commissioner
  - o Superintendent of Schools
  - o School Board
  - o Democratic Municipal Officers
  
3. Florida Democratic Party Caucus Presidents

### **B. APPOINTED DELEGATES**

*Delegate Selection Rules*  
*2023 State Democratic Convention*

1. Party Officials
  - o State Chair's Appointments (10)
  - o State 1st Vice Chair's Appointments (5)
  - o State Vice Chairs' Appointments (2 each)
  - o State Secretary's Appointments (2)
  - o State Treasurer's Appointments (2)
  
2. Elected Officials
  - o Democratic Congressmen and Congresswomen Appointments (5 each)
  - o Senate & House Democratic Leader's Appointments (5 each)
  - o Democratic Legislators' Appointments (1 each)

**C. COUNTY DELEGATES (see below\*).....**

**\*GOALS FOR COUNTY DELEGATIONS**

Alachua..... 27	Hamilton..... 1	Okaloosa..... 9
Baker..... 1	Hardee..... 1	Okeechobee..... 2
Bay..... 8	Hendry..... 1	Orange..... 109
Bradford..... 1	Hernando..... 12	Osceola..... 30
Brevard..... 39	Highlands..... 5	PalmBeach.....119
Broward..... 177	Hillsborough..... 106	Pasco.....34
Calhoun..... 1	Holmes..... 1	Pinellas.....72
Charlotte..... 11	Indian River..... 10	Polk.....48
Citrus..... 8	Jackson..... 3	Putnam..... 5
Clay..... 11	Jefferson..... 2	SantaRosa.....8
Collier..... 17	Lafayette..... 1	Sarasota.....30
Columbia.....4	Lake..... 23	Seminole..... 34
Desoto.....2	Lee..... 39	St. Johns..... 15
Dixie..... 1	Leon..... 33	St.Lucie.....27
Duval..... 80	Levy..... 2	Sumter..... 7
Escambia..... 22	Liberty..... 1	Suwannee..... 2
Flagler..... 8	Madison..... 2	Taylor..... 1
Franklin..... 1	Manatee..... 24	Union..... 1
Gadsden..... 6	Marion..... 24	Volusia..... 37
Gilchrist..... 1	Martin..... 8	Wakulla..... 2
Glades..... 1	Miami-Dade..... 170	Walton.....3
Gulf..... 1	Monroe..... 5	Washington..... 1
	Nassau..... 4	

These numbers were chosen by taking the number of registered Democrats and calculated the percent each county was of the total democrats in the state and multiplied that by 1500 which is the total number of delegates.

The leadership of each County Executive Committee is strongly encouraged to ensure that a sufficient number of non-Democratic Executive Committee members register to attend State Convention, and that their county's delegation is balanced by gender to the extent possible.

**SECTION II: QUALIFICATION OF DELEGATES**

All delegates must be registered Democrats in the State of Florida. Any registered Democrat may file for a delegate position. All interested candidates are required to file the official filing form on the FDP website. It is the responsibility of the County Party officers to share delegate filing and State Convention information

with their DEC membership, and for State Caucuses to share the information with their membership throughout the state.

Florida Democratic Party staff will provide County DECs and State Caucuses with the list of filed delegates for their respective delegations at two (2) intervals prior to the State Convention. County Chairs and State Caucus Presidents will have an opportunity to review candidates that have filed, however, the State Chair will make the final determination of eligibility for attending the Convention. At the time of filing, each delegate applicant shall submit a non-refundable **\$60** registration fee for the State Convention. County DECs are eligible to receive \$10 from the registration fee of each delegate registered by the October 6 deadline. The registration fee for students is \$35, and DECs are eligible to receive \$5 per student registered by the October 6 deadline. Disbursements will be made following the State Convention.

#### **SECTION IV: AUTOMATIC and APPOINTED DELEGATES**

The delegate appointments by the State Chair, State Vice Chairs, State Secretary and State Treasurer of the Florida Democratic Party will be for the purpose of ensuring that all segments of Florida's Democratic populace are represented at the Convention.

The State Chair will notify automatic delegates of their appointments by September 15, 2023. Automatic delegates must submit registration forms and fees to the State Headquarters by October 6, 2023.

All delegate appointments must be made by September 15, 2023. A listing of appointments including names, addresses and telephone numbers, must be received at the State Party office of Party Affairs by this date in order for appointments to be eligible for delegate filing. Appointed delegates must submit their registration forms and fees to the State Headquarters by October 6, 2023.

#### **SECTION I: ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF RULES**

A. The Florida Democratic Party 2023 State Convention shall be conducted pursuant to these rules. These rules shall be deemed finally adopted upon approval by majority vote of the Florida Democratic Party Rules Committee.

B. The State Chair has the right to waive or extend any dates, deadlines, or qualifications contained in said Rules.

C. A copy of the Rules shall be available on the state party website.

D. Except as provided for in the Rules, all proceedings shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

#### **SECTION II: OFFICERS**

The State Chair of the Florida Democratic Party or their designee shall serve as Chair of the State Convention. The Chair, may at their discretion, appoint other convention officers which may include, but are not limited to, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms and Timekeeper.

### **SECTION III: AGENDA**

The Chair, consistent with these Rules, shall determine the Convention agenda.

### **SECTION IV: DELEGATION SIGNS**

Each County Executive Committee and State Caucus is responsible for producing its own sign to represent its delegation during General Session. Seating will be organized by delegation, so the delegation's sign will be the key identifier of that delegation and its location on the Convention Floor.

Each County DEC/Statewide Caucus may create one (1) sign to represent its delegation on the Convention Floor during the General Session. Each delegation's sign should display what makes that delegation unique, and the organization's contributions to our Party.

The sign must:

- Stand on its own, requiring no support by another structure
- Be no taller than 8 feet
- Not have a base that exceeds 3 feet in diameter
- Bear the name of the organization (County Executive Committee or State Caucus)
- Not include any names of candidates or campaigns

Delegations will be asked to place their signs in the Convention Hall during a drop off window. Delegation signs must be delivered fully assembled. Please note signs must be able to be moved around after delivery—they will be placed near the delegation's designated seating area for the General Session. Signs that are dropped off outside of these specifications will not be allowed in the ballroom.

Each delegation is responsible for its sign at all times. Care should be taken to ensure that signs do not pose a safety concern and do not become a nuisance or distraction to other delegates or organizations, or take away from the State Convention. Signs left unattended, or placed in undesignated areas will be removed. The Florida Democratic Party reserves the right to remove any signs from State Convention at its discretion.

### **SECTION V: VOTING BY FULL CONVENTION**

A. The State Chair may present to the Convention for adoption such resolutions as they may, in their sole discretion, deem proper. No resolutions or other matters shall be presented to the Convention except as expressly provided in this section and these Rules. No amendment to a resolution may be offered from the Convention floor.

B. It shall be the responsibility of the Chair to determine the presence of a quorum. Forty (40%) percent of the number of delegates present at the outset of the Convention shall constitute a quorum.

C. Sufficient security shall be established to ensure that only delegates are allowed in the areas where voting takes place.

D. Adoption of resolutions by the Convention shall be by a majority vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

E. In the event the vote by rising is not clear, the Chair shall call for a polling of each delegation. The

vote shall be tallied and reported to the podium by the delegation chairs.

## **SECTION VI: DELEGATE SEATING AND ORGANIZATION**

A. Seating of delegates shall be by county and State Caucus. Separate seating sections may be provided for guests, members of the public and the press at the Chair's discretion.

B. County Democratic Executive Committee Chairs, State Caucus Presidents or their designees shall chair their respective delegations and be responsible for the conduct of their delegates during the Convention.

## **SECTION VII: ADDRESSES TO THE CONVENTION**

Addresses to the Convention by Democratic elected officials, Democratic candidates, special guests, and others shall be at the discretion of the Chair.

## **SECTION IX: TIMELINE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
Augusts 17	Rules Committee review.
September 5 - October 6	Delegate filing period. Delegate filing forms available on the FDP Convention website. Delegate filing fees will be collected at the time of filing.
September 15	All automatic delegates will be notified of their appointment by the FDP.
September 15	Deadline for all appointments to delegate positions.
October 27-29	Florida Democratic Party State Convention