



CAUCUS

2020

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IOWA DEMOCRATIC PARTY CAUCUS TO CONVENTION

PRECINCT CAUCUSES — 7:00 PM

Monday, February 3rd, 2020

COUNTY CONVENTIONS — TBD

Saturday, March 21st, 2020

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS — 9:00 AM

Saturday, April 25th, 2020

STATE CONVENTION — 9:00 AM

Saturday, June 13th, 2020

NATIONAL CONVENTION — MILWAUKEE, WI

Monday, July 13th-16th, 2020

IOWA REPUBLICAN PARTY CAUCUS TO CONVENTION

PRECINCT CAUCUSES — 7:00 PM

Monday, February 3rd, 2020

COUNTY CONVENTIONS

Saturday, March 14th, 2020

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

Saturday, April 25th, 2020

STATE CONVENTION

Saturday, June 13th, 2020

NATIONAL CONVENTION — CHARLOTTE, NC

Monday, August 24th-27th, 2020

WHERE DO I CAUCUS?

Find your caucus location at
either website below:

IOWA DEMOCRATS

IOWADEMOCRATS.ORG/2020-CAUCUSES

IOWA REPUBLICANS

IOWAGOP.ORG/CAUCUS_LOCATIONS

HOW DO I CAUCUS?

1. Register to vote at your current address

You can register to vote on caucus night, but it's helpful to do so ahead of time. You must be registered with either the Democratic or Republican party to participate.

2. Find your caucus location

Remember, it's not the same as your polling location. Both the Democrats and Republicans will have caucus sites posted online.

3. Arrive at your caucus site early

Each caucus starts at the same time across the state, and you'll need to be in line no later than 7:00 pm sharp. Everyone who is in line by that time will be allowed to enter and begin the registration process.

You must be a U.S. Citizen, an Iowa resident, and at least 18 years of age by Election Day, November 3rd 2020

WHAT HAPPENS ON CAUCUS NIGHT?

On Monday, February 3rd, Iowans will gather in every precinct across the state to discuss their presidential preferences and conduct party business.

Both the Democratic and Republican parties will elect delegates on caucus night. Those delegates will move forward in their party's caucus to convention process—county, district, state, and ultimately, the national party convention.

Precinct-level party leadership will also be elected on caucus night.

CAUCUS NIGHT PROCEDURE

1. Registration

You'll be asked to sign in at the door. If you haven't registered to vote yet, you'll have an opportunity to do so at this time.

2. Caucus begins

The caucus officially opens after all eligible caucus participants are registered. Once a caucus leader is elected, the number of eligible caucus-goers present in the room is announced (this number plays a crucial role in determining candidate viability for the Democrat's caucus process).

3. Presidential candidate surrogates speak

Next, you will hear from presidential candidate surrogates, each vying for your support.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUSES

From this point on, the Democratic & Republican caucuses are completely different.

Republicans use a paper ballot voting system

- **Caucus-goers vote for their preferred Presidential candidate on a paper ballot. If the caucus is small enough, they may vote by raising their hands.**
- **Republican caucuses do not have a viability threshold, unlike Democratic caucuses, so you can vote for any candidate. The votes are counted and recorded, and delegates are awarded based on the counts.**

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUSES

Democrats form presidential preference groups

- The state party pre-assigns each precinct caucus with a certain number of delegates to send to the County, District, and State Conventions.
- Caucus-goers will have the opportunity to pick a Presidential candidate by joining a “preference group.”
- You can join or form an “uncommitted” group if you haven’t made up your mind.
- Each preference group will stand in a designated part of the room, and some candidates may not have any supporters present.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUSES

- Each presidential preference group is required to have a minimum number of people in their group in order to be considered “viable” for the purposes of electing delegates.
- The viability threshold is dependent on the number of delegates your caucus is assigned.

EXAMPLE

Your caucus elects 4 delegates, viability is 15%

If there are 100 caucus-goers in the room, each candidate needs at least 15 people in their preference group to be viable and eligible to elect delegates.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUSES

What if my preference group isn't viable?

- Caucus-goers in non-viable candidate groups have an opportunity to “realign” — to either join a viable preference group or come together to make their own viable group.
- After all groups are viable, delegates are awarded based on the number of caucus-goers in each preference group.

Delegate Awarding

$$\frac{\text{\# of people in the preference group} \times \text{\# of delegates the precinct is electing}}{\text{\# of caucus attendees}}$$

ELECTING DELEGATES, CONVENTION COMMITTEES, & PRECINCT LEADERS

- After Democrats and Republicans have determined which presidential candidates will send delegates to the next stage in the caucus to convention process, they will elect delegates.
- Those delegates will serve on committees for convention: credentials, platform, rules, and arrangements.

We encourage all union members to run for delegate positions and county convention committee positions.

- Next, precinct leaders are elected to represent their precinct on their party's county central committee.

Again, we encourage all union members to run for these positions.

PLATFORM

RESOLUTION DISCUSSION

- Before caucus night comes to a close, the caucus chair will give caucus-goers an opportunity to present platform resolutions for discussion and adoption.
- If you are interested, you may bring along a pre-written caucus resolution. **Your union might have a caucus resolution prepared for you to bring—check with them ahead of caucus night.**

**See page 15 for sample pro-worker resolutions.
You can bring these with you on caucus night!**

For more information, please contact
IFL Political Director, Julianne Frosolone, at
Julianne@IowaAFLCIO.org

LABOR 2020

STRATEGY

- Record turnout on caucus night for union members across Iowa**
- Elect union members to delegate positions & convention committees**
- Elect union members as precinct leaders for County Central Committees**
- Fill the room with union members at County, District, and State Convention**
- If your union has endorsed a presidential candidate, demonstrate your full support for that candidate**

WHY SHOULD I CAUCUS?

It's crucial that union members attend their caucuses, regardless of party preference.

High turnout of union members on caucus night...

- **Helps to ensure worker-friendly candidates get the most delegates in Iowa**
- **Reminds caucus-goers and reporters that workers' issues are a high priority for Iowans**
- **Electing our members to the party central committees means that we can ensure union members are included in party decision-making**

As the saying goes,

“If you don't have a seat at the table, you're probably on the menu.”

SAMPLE RESOLUTIONS

Remember to check with your union to see if they have pre-written resolutions for you to bring to your caucus.

We support every worker's right to organize in order to bargain collectively, whether they are in the public or private sector, including repeal of Chapter 20 changes.

We support continued Davis Bacon protections and the elimination of fund-swapping schemes which eliminate Buy American provisions and prevailing wage requirements.

We support the right of workers to choose their own doctor and/or healthcare in the case of workplace injuries.

We support the rights of unions to bargain over maintenance of membership clauses in their contracts by eliminating Right to Work.

QUESTIONS?



**Contact the Iowa
Federation of Labor,
AFL-CIO**

(515) 262-9571

www.iowaafICIO.org