

# How Can A Candidate Lose The Primary But Win The Nomination?

**35%**

**WHY?**

If A Candidate Doesn't Receive 35% of the Vote in the Primary Election then Delegates Elected to Convention will Choose the Nominee

**Attend The  
2018  
Iowa Caucus**

**February 5, 2018**



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

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# How Does A Candidate Lose The Primary But Win The Nomination?

If a candidate doesn't emerge with 35% of the vote after the primary on June 5, 2018, then a special nominating convention will be needed where the delegates elected to the District Convention or State Convention (depending on the race) will choose the nominee. The last time this happened was in 2014 with Iowa's 3rd Congressional District when no candidate reached the threshold of 35% in the Republican primary.

**Republican Primary** was won by Zaun

1. Zaun – 10,522 (24.8%)
2. Cramer – 9,032 (21.3%)
3. Schultz – 8,464 (19.9%)
4. Shaw – 7,220 (17%)
5. Young – 6,604 (15.5%)
6. Grandanette – 661 (1.6%)

Even though Young came in fifth on primary night he edged out State Senator Brad Zaun at the special nominating convention on the 5th ballot. Zaun was the top vote getter on primary night and led every ballot up to that point.

Special Nominating Ballots cast by Delegates were as follows:

The **1st Ballot** was won by Zaun

1. Zaun – 130 (25.3%)
2. Shaw – 118 (23%)
3. Schultz – 95 (18.5%)
4. Young – 86 (16.8%)
5. Cramer – 75 (14.6%)
6. Grandanette – 7 (1.3%)

There was little change in positions with the second ballot, but Zaun and Shaw were the only candidates to gain votes.

The **2nd Ballot** was won by Zaun

1. Zaun – 157 (30.8%)
2. Shaw – 122 (23.9%)
3. Schultz – 88 (17.3%)
4. Young – 81 (15.9%)
5. Cramer – 60 (11.8%)
6. Grandanette - 2 (0.4%)

Grandanette was dropped off the second ballot. Cramer withdrew his name before the 3rd ballot was taken, but he didn't endorse anyone.

In the **3rd Ballot** was won by Zaun but Young and Schultz flipped.

1. Zaun – 188 (37.5%)
2. Shaw – 126 (25.1%)
3. Young – 102 (20.4%)
4. Schultz – 85 (17%)

Schultz was removed from the ballot and he ended up endorsing Young.

In the **4th Ballot** Young then passed Shaw.

1. Zaun – 206 (41.4%)
2. Young – 171 (34.4%)
3. Shaw – 120 (24.1%)

In the **5th Ballot** Young was the winner

1. Young—276 (53.8%)
2. Zaun—221 (43.10%)

# Caucus to Convention Dates

<b>DEMOCRATS</b>	
Precinct Caucuses	Monday, February 5, 2018
County Conventions	Saturday, March 24, 2018
District Conventions	Saturday, April 28, 2018
State Convention	Saturday, June 16, 2018
<b>REPUBLICANS</b>	
Precinct Caucuses	Monday, February 5, 2018
County Conventions	Saturday, March 10, 2018
District Conventions	Saturday, April 28, 2018
State Convention	Saturday, June 16, 2018

## WHERE DO I GO TO CAUCUS?

You can find your precinct name at:

<https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/voterreg/pollingplace/search.aspx>

Once you have identified the precinct in which you reside, consult the Iowa Democratic Party or Iowa Republican Party websites to determine the location and times of your caucus and conventions.

# Who Can Participate in the Caucus?

- Only registered Republicans and Democrats can participate in the caucuses.
- Voters registered as Independents/No Party **CANNOT** participate in the caucuses, however you can change your party affiliation the night of the caucus.
- Only registered Republicans can participate in the Republican caucus.
- Only registered Democrats can participate in the Democratic caucus.
- To qualify to register to vote in Iowa you must be:
  - A U.S. Citizen
  - An Iowa Resident
  - At least 18 years old by the general election on November 6, 2018
- To qualify to register to vote in Iowa you cannot:
  - Be a convicted felon (unless your voting rights have been restored)
  - Be judged mentally incompetent to vote by a court
  - Claim the right to vote in any other place
- There is not a fee charged to attend the caucus
- Observers are allowed to attend as long as they do not become involved in the discussion or voting (observers could include: youth who are not eligible to vote by the next general election, press, campaign staff, volunteers and individuals not registered to vote).

# What Happens at a Precinct Caucus?

## *(Non-Presidential Year)*

People tend to think of the Iowa Caucuses every 4 years when Iowa has the presidential elections, but they are held every 2 years.

- Each precinct will be called to order by the temporary chair, an individual appointed by the county party. After a permanent chair and secretary are elected by the body, business can begin.
- In the Republican precinct caucus there will be no poll for any office since 2018 is not a presidential election.
- In the Democratic precinct caucus **preference group division is allowed** only if 15% or more of the caucus attendees in that precinct vote to divide into preference groups.

The official business of the precinct caucuses includes:

- Electing delegates and alternate delegates to the county convention
- Electing members of standing committees to the county convention
- Electing precinct committeepersons who shall serve on the County Central Committee and are responsible for leading their precinct
- Discussing, submitting, and voting on platform planks to the county convention



## What Happens at a County Convention?

County Conventions, composed of delegates elected at the Precinct Caucus, shall by vote of the accredited delegates:

- Elect delegates and alternate delegates to the Congressional District Convention. Such delegates and alternate delegates so elected shall also represent the county at the State Convention
- Approve and adopt County Platform Resolutions
- Elect members and alternates to the District Convention Committees
- Transact such other Party business as may come before the convention

## What Happens at a District Convention?

District Conventions, composed of delegates elected at the County Convention, shall by vote of the accredited delegates:

- Elect district committeepersons to represent the district on the State Central Committee and who are responsible for leading their District
- Approve and adopt District Platform Resolutions
- Elect members and alternates to the State Convention Committees
- Transact such other Party business as may come before the convention

# What Happens at a State Convention?

The State Conventions, composed of delegates elected at the District Convention, shall by vote of the accredited delegates:

- Approve and adopt the Party platform
- Determine all other matters of party concern
- In gubernatorial election years, the convention shall ratify the nominee for Lieutenant Governor
- Democrats have several contested primaries during the 2018 Primary Election. If a candidate doesn't emerge with 35% of the vote after the primary on June 5th, 2018, then a special nominating convention could be held at the State Convention where the delegates would select the nominee

If a Primary Election goes to a  
Special Nominating Convention

*(which could be held at State Convention)*

**YOU DO NOT HAVE A VOTE IN WHO**  
**THE NOMINEE WILL BE UNLESS YOU ARE**  
**A DELEGATE TO THE CONVENTION**

**Make sure you attend your Precinct Caucus and run to be elected as a Delegate to County, District and State Conventions so YOUR VOTE WILL COUNT to determine the nominees.**

## **Congressional Nominee Example:**

**No Congressional Candidate Receives  
35% of the Vote During The Primary**



**Delegates who were elected to  
attend District Convention  
will select their Nominee**

## **Gubernatorial Nominee Example:**

**No Gubernatorial Candidate Receives  
35% of the Vote During The Primary**



**State Convention Delegates will vote  
to determine who will be the  
Gubernatorial Nominee**

# Delegate Chart

Becoming a delegate is available to all Precinct Caucus attendees.

You can be elected to serve as a delegate at the levels in the flow chart below:



# Contacts



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[www.iowa.iowademocrats.org](http://www.iowa.iowademocrats.org)



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[www.iowagop.org](http://www.iowagop.org)

# Notes

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