

Want to be a National Delegate in Denver?

Step 1: Get an Application

You must declare your candidacy to be a National Delegate by filling out the Texas Democratic Party application form, available online at the following website:

<http://www.txdemocrats.org/page/-/2008%20Convention/2008%20Statement%20of%20Candidacy.pdf>

Step 2: Follow the Application Guidelines

After you download the application form, you must fill it out and have it notarized by a registered Notary Public.

Step 3: Consider Your Options

There are three categories of National Delegate:

126 Pledged Senatorial District Delegates, chosen by State Delegates in the various State Senatorial Districts.

42 At-Large Delegates, selected by the State Convention Nominations Committee.

25 Elected Officials and Party Officials, reserved for Elected and Party officials, including Precinct Chairpersons. Priority for these seats is given to higher-ranking officials.

Step 4: Turn in Your Application on Time

Completed forms must be delivered to the Texas Democratic Party between April 21 and May 21 at 5:00 PM. Any forms that do not arrive at the headquarters office within this window will be disqualified. You can mail or hand-deliver the application to:

Texas Democratic Party Headquarters
505 West 12th St. Suite 200
Austin, TX 78701

Step 5: Campaign for Votes

National Delegates will be elected by the vote of State Delegates in each respective State Senatorial District. If you wish to be a National

Delegate, you must win the support of the Obama State Delegates in your District. Just like any other candidate for office, you should vie for votes by campaigning, whether over the telephone, in prepared fliers, via emails, during personal conversations, or on door-to-door canvasses.

Step 6: Know Your District

The results of the March 4 primary vote determine the number of National Delegates allocated to each presidential candidate in the various State Senate Districts.

To see how many Delegates are allocated to your District, visit the link below:

<http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=pYaTYsIKgs2GQFH2uM4QnWw>

Step 7: Understand Your Chances

There will be far more applicants than there are National Delegate seats, so most applicants will not be selected. However, you can understand your chances by thinking about a few factors:

Your District – The more Obama National Delegate seats available in your District, the better your chances to win.

Your Competition – The more Obama candidates running for National Delegate, the longer your chances to win.

Your Gender – The Texas Democratic Party rules require the National Delegation to be evenly balanced between men and women (See chart linked above). Because of these rules, there may not be a National Delegate seat available to your gender in your District.

Your At-Large Appeal – The Nominations Committee selects At-Large Delegates in order to satisfy the Affirmative Action provisions of the Party rules. If you are a member of an underrepresented group, you may have a better chance of winning one of these seats. Also, the Committee typically gives preference to Delegates who competed to become Pledged Senatorial District Delegates.

Step 8: At the Convention

The National Delegate election will take place on the Friday night of

the State Convention (June 6) after the selection of Committee members. At that point, Obama and Clinton supporters will separate into their respective groups to elect National Delegates.

In most cases, National Delegate candidates will only run against opponents of the same gender. A coin toss decides which gender election takes place first, then the elections rotate genders until all seats are filled. After the initial vote trims the field to the two leading vote-getters, a run-off election decides the contest.

You can run in every election in your Senatorial District where your gender is eligible until you win a seat or all seats are filled.