

# HOW TO BECOME A DELEGATE FOR TENNESSEE TO THE 2012 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

*September 3 - 6 in Charlotte, N.C.*

Tennessee's Delegation to the 2012 Democratic National Convention will include 91 Delegates and 7 Alternates. There are three primary types of Delegates: **District-Level**, **At-Large** and **PLEO**.

**District-Level Delegates:** Tennessee is allowed **53 District-Level Delegates and 5 Alternates** chosen by our two-tier convention system. Here are five simple steps for becoming a District-Level Delegate:

1. **File.** District-Level Delegate candidates must complete and return a **Statement of Candidacy** and **Pledge of Support** form to the Tennessee Democratic Party by 12 p.m. CST on March 1. These forms are available at [www.tndp.org](http://www.tndp.org), our office at 1900 Church Street, Suite 203, Nashville, TN 37203, or may be requested via phone at (615) 327-9779. Forms may be returned by hand, mail or via fax (615) 891-7453.
2. **Vote.** All District-Level Delegate candidates **must vote** in Tennessee's Presidential Primary Election on **March 6**. The voter registration deadline for the Primary Election is February 6.
3. **Canvass. Start organizing your friends and supporters.** Start canvassing your community, work, local clubs, friends, and relatives — any Democrat who lives in your home county can attend the caucus to vote for you. To vote at the County Convention, your friends must complete a **Pledge of Support** form. It can be downloaded from [www.tndp.org](http://www.tndp.org) and submitted ahead of time **or** completed during registration immediately before the County Convention.
4. **Caucus. Show up with your supporters to vote at your local County Convention on March 10 at noon.** The County Convention is the first of two caucus elections that elect District-Level Delegates to the Democratic National Convention. Participants in the County Convention elect a group of county delegates (based on population) who will attend the Congressional District Convention and vote to decide the District-Level Delegates. Only those elected at a County Convention will be allowed to vote at the Congressional District Convention.
5. **Caucus, again. Show up with your supporters to vote in the Congressional District Convention on Saturday, March 24 at noon.** County delegates, elected at County Conventions, will then attend the Congressional District Convention to **elect District-Level Delegates for the Democratic National Convention**. The state party will provide a list of candidates for District-Level Delegate who correctly **filed their forms** and **voted in the Primary** (as noted above).

**At-Large Delegates:** Additionally, the TNDP Executive Committee selects **18 At-Large Delegates and 2 Alternates**, offering another way for Democrats to participate in the Democratic National Convention. Candidates for At-Large Delegate should complete a **Statement of Candidacy** and **Pledge of Support** form, specifying their "At-Large" status, and submit it to the TNDP headquarters by **5 p.m. CST on March 1**. At-Large Delegates and Alternates will be selected at the March 31 meeting of the TNDP Executive Committee in Nashville. Interested parties are strongly encouraged to participate in both the District-Level and At-Large Delegate process. Separate forms are required for each.

**PLEO Delegates:** The TNDP Executive Committee also selects **11 Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates** from one of the following categories: big-city mayors and statewide elected officials; state legislative leaders, state legislators, and other state, county and local elected officials and party leaders. PLEO Delegate candidates must file a **Statement of Candidacy** and **Pledge of Support** form with the TNDP headquarters by **12 p.m. CST on March 26**.

**The entire Delegation will be confirmed on March 31.**

**Diversity Goals:** The TNDP is committed to electing a delegation representative of our diverse electorate. Help us meet our diversity goals by encouraging Democrats in these groups, as well as Asian and Native Americans, to become a delegate:

African Americans: 26 | Youth (age 18-34): 16 | LGBT: 5 | Latino: 3 | Disabilities: 2

**For more information about the Delegate Selection process or our Diversity Goals, call (615) 327-9779**