

## **2026 DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONGRESSIONAL CONVENTION RULES**

Resolved by this Convention that the following shall be the Rules of the 2026 Democratic Congressional Convention:

1. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 12<sup>th</sup> Edition, unless superseded by the State Party Rules and the rules set forth herein, shall be controlling and conclusive on any parliamentary issues arising before this Convention.
2. The order of business at the Convention shall be a session to be called at 6:00 PM on Monday, May 11, 2026 with the order of business as follows:
  - a. Endorsement of Candidate for Congress
  - b. Roll Call Votes and Announcement of the endorsed candidate
  - c. Acceptance speech
  - d. Adjournment.
3. The only persons permitted to address the Convention shall be:
  - a. A delegate or a duly accredited alternate or proxy
  - b. Convention officials and convention staff members
  - c. The endorsed candidate of the convention
  - d. Any other persons granted permission by a majority vote of the Convention
4. All persons addressing the Convention shall use only the microphones at the rostrum, except in the case of roll call votes which shall be reported by the delegation Chair from the microphones located on the Convention floor.
5. No designation of an alternate or proxy shall be effective and the designee named as the alternate or proxy shall not be entitled to vote on a roll call, unless the alternate or proxy form has been filed with the Secretary of the Convention prior to the beginning of any roll call vote.
6. With respect to nominating, seconding and acceptance speeches:
  - a. Candidates for the office of Congress shall be nominated in alphabetical order by their last names.
    - i. No nominations will be entertained unless the written consent of the person to be nominated has been filed with the Secretary of the Convention. Nominations may be made without prior written consent but no nomination shall be deemed valid unless the nominee submits written consent to the Secretary of the Convention prior to the first roll call vote.

- ii. All nominating and seconding shall be carried out solely by a delegate. All nominations shall require a second.
  - iii. The total time for nominating and seconding speeches for each candidate for the offices of Congress shall not exceed eight (8) minutes.
  - iv. The endorsed nominee for the office of Congress shall be limited to an acceptance speech not to exceed five (5) minutes.
7. A vote on the issue of party endorsement as between two or more candidates shall be by roll call of each town delegation, except that the Convention Chair may authorize the town chairs to submit the vote totals of their respective delegations in lieu of a roll call. Prior to the call of the roll, each town delegation shall select from among its members a Chair and a Recording Secretary.
8. On matters before the Convention, other than the party endorsement of candidates, a roll call vote shall be taken whenever, in the opinion of the Chair of the Convention, one-fifth of the delegates vote in favor of a roll call. The procedure for announcing the vote on such roll call votes shall be the same as announcing the roll call vote for the endorsement of candidates in paragraph (2) above.
9. The order of voting in all roll call votes shall be alphabetical by Town Name.
10. Roll call votes will be cast at voting stations designated by the Secretary of the Convention. Each delegation must cast its vote within the time designated by the Chair of the Convention. At the conclusion of the roll call, the Chair shall provide delegations with a 10-minute period to change their votes, which may be extended at the Chair's discretion for good cause.
11. The Chair of each town delegation shall poll the members thereof on the issue then before the Convention and the Recording Secretary of each such delegation shall record the vote of each delegate on forms provided to each town by the Secretary of the Convention. The delegation Chair and the Recording Secretary shall certify to the vote recorded on such forms.
12. When called upon by the Chair of the convention, each delegation Chair shall announce the total vote of his or her town delegation. The delegation Chair shall then file with the Secretary of the Convention the duly certified record of the vote of each member of the particular town delegation.
13. The following rules shall apply to each round of voting:
  - a. First Ballot: On the first ballot, if no candidate for a particular office has received a majority and if any candidate has failed to receive the votes of 7.5% of the delegates present and voting on the first ballot, the Chair will announce those conclusions and any candidate failing to receive 7.5% of the votes shall be eliminated from further consideration by the Convention.
  - b. Second Ballot: On the second ballot, if no candidate for a particular office has received a majority, the Chair will announce that conclusion and only the candidates receiving the two highest amounts of delegate votes on the second ballot shall proceed to the third ballot.

- c. Third Ballot: On the third ballot, the candidate receiving a majority will be the endorsed candidate of the Democratic Party.

14. In the event that the vote of a given town delegation, as announced by the Delegation Chair, is in doubt, only a delegate from that town's delegation may challenge the vote as announced. Such a challenge shall be presented promptly after the disputed announcement, in writing, to the Chair of the Convention or a duly designated assistant. Challenges may be made during a roll call and promptly following the announcement of the delegation vote. However, the Chair of the Convention will not address such challenges until all opportunities for delegations to make changes to the town's vote have been exhausted. In the event any delegate of a given town challenges the vote as announced, the Chair of the Convention or the Chair's designee shall poll the entire delegation. No challenge to an announced vote shall be entertained by the Chair after the final result of any given roll call has been announced by the Chair of the Convention.