



Overview of the California Democratic Party Endorsement Process

For Congressional, State Senate, and State Assembly Races in 2022

Updated 12/01/21

Step 1: CDP Pre-Endorsing Conferences (CDP Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3 g)

- **Purpose:** The CDP Pre-Endorsing Conferences are held locally in each CDP Region in which the Assembly, Odd-Numbered Senate, and Congressional Districts are located to issue endorsement recommendations.
- **Date/Time:** 2022 CDP Pre-Endorsing Conferences will be held on February 12, 2022. Times will vary for each CDP Region; please check the CDP Endorsement webpage (cadem.org/endorsements) for more details. All meetings will be held virtually.
- **Voting Body:** Those eligible to vote in the CDP Pre-Endorsing Conferences include:
 - Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) Members with full voting rights as of January 18, 2022
 - Regular Democratic County Central Committee Members as of January 18, 2022
 - Representatives of participating Democratic Chartered Clubs/Organizations (CCOs)
 - At least five eligible DSCC members, either in person or by vote-by-mail ballot, constitute a quorum.
- **Voting Process:** All ballots must be emailed or mailed to the assigned Regional Director.
- **Rule on Incumbents:** Incumbent Members of Congress, State Senate, or State Assembly are automatically placed on the endorsement consent calendar of the CDP State Convention for consideration, unless 20% of the eligible voters in a given district file an objection 10 days prior to the CDP Pre-Endorsing Conference (February 2, 2021).

Step 2: CDP Endorsing Caucuses (CDP Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3 c)

- **Purpose:** CDP Endorsing Caucuses are held during the CDP State Convention if:
 - A candidate received over 50% but less than 70% of valid votes cast during the Pre-Endorsing Conferences, or
 - A candidate received 70% or more of valid votes cast at the Pre-Endorsing Conference, but the endorsement recommendation was pulled due to a challenge. (CDP By-Laws Art. VIII, Sec. 3 g(13))
- **Date/Time:** The CDP Endorsing Caucuses are held at the CDP State Endorsing Convention March 3-6, 2022 (Specific times will be made available on the State Convention Agenda.).
- **Voting Body:** Only current DSCC Members with full voting rights are eligible to vote during Endorsing Caucuses. Fifty percent plus one of the credentialed DSCC members of an Endorsing Caucus constitute a quorum.
- **Voting Process:** Endorsing Caucuses will be merged with the Statewide Endorsing Caucus Ballot. Proxy voting is allowed, vote-by-mail is not.

Step 3: CDP Convention Floor (CDP Bylaws Art. VIII, Sec. 3 d; Art. VIII, Sec. 3 g (13))

- **Purpose:** Ratification of the entire endorsement consent calendar (containing the recommendations from both the Pre-Endorsing Conferences *and* Endorsing Caucuses) will take place by a floor vote.
- **Date/Time:** The CDP Convention General Session Floor on Sunday, March 6, 2022.
- **Voting Body:** All DSCC members or their qualified proxies can vote to ratify the endorsement consent calendar.
- **Voting Process:** Proxy voting is allowed, vote-by-mail is not.
- **Rules Generally:** All unchallenged endorsement recommendations are placed on the endorsement consent calendar.
 - Challenged endorsement recommendations are adjudicated prior to the consent calendar ratification.