



To: Potential Candidates and Interested Parties
From: Kasey Walukones and Chris Masami Myers
Date: August 2019
RE: 2019 Congressional/Legislative Pre-Primary Endorsement Information

Key Points on 2019 Pre-Primary Endorsement Process

- **Pre-Endorsement Conferences:** Pre-Endorsement Conferences for Congressional, Assembly, and odd-numbered Senate districts will take place October 5/6, 2019. Each of the 21 CDP regions will hold a Pre-Endorsement Conference with assigned Assembly, odd-numbered Senate, and Congressional districts. A list of the regions, their assigned districts, conference dates and times, and other information will be available in August.
- **Democratic Club Participation and Timeline:** To participate in the Pre-Endorsement Conferences, Chartered Clubs and Organizations (CCOs) must submit a roster to the CCO's Chartering Authority and appropriate Regional Director(s) no later than May 15, 2019. Their roster must include only members considered "in good standing" as of May 1, 2019 as defined in the CCO's rules and by-laws. The CCO's President, Secretary, or Treasurer must certify the status of the members "in good standing". The CCO must have a process in their rules/by-laws that governs the selection of potential representatives or must select them at a duly noticed meeting affirmed by a vote of those members who are "in good standing" in attendance and voting.
- **Only one office:** Each candidate may only seek endorsement consideration for one office.
- **Endorsing Caucuses (If Necessary):** Endorsing Caucuses will be held at the Endorsing Convention in November 2019, for those races in which:
 - No candidate received at least 70% of the Pre-Endorsement conference vote, but a candidate did receive over 50%,
 - There was no quorum for the Pre-Endorsement Conference, or
 - A proper objection was filed after the Pre-Endorsement Conference.
- **Consent Calendar:** Those candidates who have been recommended for endorsement at the Pre-Endorsement Conferences will be added to the Consent Calendar to be ratified by the Endorsing Convention body on Sunday, November 17, 2019.

Pre-Endorsement Conference Eligible Candidates

Candidates eligible to seek Pre-Primary Endorsement consideration are those who have submitted a signed 2019 CDP Candidate Registration Form and paid the appropriate filing fee (Assembly \$250, Congress \$350, State Senate \$500) in a timely manner and who agree to file as Party Preference Democratic. Only candidates who request endorsement consideration are eligible to be voted on at the Pre-Endorsement Conferences.

Incumbents who seek endorsement are automatically placed on the endorsement Consent Calendar (to be ratified during the November Endorsing Convention) unless a successful objection has been filed 10-days prior to the Pre-Endorsement Conferences; if this occurs, the incumbent will go through the Pre-Endorsement Conference process.



A candidate can obtain a list of eligible voters once the candidate has submitted a signed registration form and paid the appropriate filing fee.

Pre-Endorsement Eligible Voters

Eligible voters include:

- Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) Members with full voting rights,
- Regular County Central Committee Members, and
- Designated representatives of CCOs (1 per 20 Democrats in each Assembly District).

All eligible voters will vote in the districts based on where they are registered.

Pre-Endorsement Conference Voting

- All endorsement votes are public per CDP By-Laws.
- If a Pre-Endorsement Conference voter cannot attend the Conference, voting-by-mail (VBM) is allowed, but proxy voting is not. VBM voting is allowed in part because a voter's Pre-Endorsement Conference for two or even three districts may be happening at different locations on the same day and time.
- A single vote is taken, with each voter choosing one of the eligible candidates or "no endorsement". A candidate will be recommended for placement on the consent calendar with a vote of (at least) 70% of the valid votes cast for that specific race at the conference.
- If no candidate receives the required 70%, but one candidate receives more than 50%, the race will be considered by an Endorsing Caucus of credentialed DSCC members in the district held during the November Endorsing Convention.
- If no candidate receives more than 50% of the valid votes cast at the Pre-Endorsement Conference, the CDP will take a position of "no consensus" for the endorsement in the relevant district.

A Pre- Endorsement Conference recommendation can be pulled by filing a formal objection at least 10 days prior to the November Endorsing Convention signed by at least 20% of the DSCC members within the district or 20% of the DSCC members statewide.

For candidates, the current CDP Platform is available online at: www.cadem.org/our-california/standing-committees/platform-committee.

The CDP Bylaws supersede any information provided by staff regarding the endorsement process. A current copy can be found on our website at www.cadem.org.



CDP Endorsement Key Dates

2019

- May 1 (Wed)** **Deadline by which members of a Chartered Club/Organization (CCO) must be “in good standing” in order for them to be included on the roster submitted to the Chartering Authority and appropriate Regional Director**
- May 15 (Wed)** **Deadline for Chartered Clubs/Organizations to submit roster of “members in good standing” to Chartering Authority and appropriate Regional Director**
- July 9 (Tue)** **Deadline for CCO potential representatives to be submitted to the both the Chartering Authority and the appropriate Regional Director**
- August 19 (Mon)** **DSCC Delegate Deadline: Close of all additions or changes to delegate /endorsement voter lists. The roster of eligible voters will be available approximately two weeks later**
- August 23-25 (Fri-Sun)** **CDP Summer Executive Board Meeting – San Jose, CA**
- September 25/26. (Wed/Thur)** **5:00pm deadline (10 days prior to Pre-Endorsing Conferences) to file a challenge with CDP to object to the automatic placement of an incumbent officeholder seeking re- election on the consent calendar of the State Convention**
- October 2 (Wed)** **5:00pm deadline for receipt by mail of candidate filing fees & signed 2019 Registration Form to CDP. Checks and registration forms may be hand delivered to the Pre-Endorsing Conference.**
- October 5/6 (Sat-Sun)** **Pre-Endorsing Conferences: Participating candidates’ filing fee & 2020 registration forms due to the Regional Convener at the conference before voting begins for that particular office**
- November 5 (Tue)** **Deadline (10 days prior to State Convention) to file a challenge with CDP to remove an endorsement recommendation from consent calendar**
- November 15-17 (Fri-Sun)** **State Convention: Endorsing Caucuses as necessary, ratification of endorsements**
- December 11 (Wed)** **Political Party Endorsements: Deadline to include party endorsements in the official sample ballot**

2020

- March 3 (Tues)** **California Primary**

Note: The CDP Bylaws supersede any distributed information regarding the CDP Endorsement Process. A current copy can be found at cadem.org/our-party/by-laws.