

**United Way of Salt Lake**

*serving Davis, Salt Lake, Summit, and Tooele Counties*

**What is a delegate and why should I become one?**

In Utah, delegates decide who will be their party’s nominee in that year’s election. Delegates narrow the ballot in every race in Utah and have significant influence on the outcome of the election. Because of this, candidates for office may focus more on getting delegate votes and less on individual public votes. As a delegate, you have the candidate’s attention because your vote at caucus or convention has a greater impact than on election night!

**What is the difference between a state and a county delegate?**

County delegates select nominees for county offices and legislative offices. State delegates select nominees for federal and statewide offices and legislative seats with districts in multiple counties. You can serve as both a state delegate and a county delegate.

**How do I become a delegate?**

1. Register to vote in your precinct with the party you wish to represent.
2. Attend a caucus meeting in your precinct with neighbors and friends who will vote for you – the more the better (make sure they bring photo ID)!
3. Ask someone to nominate you or plan to nominate yourself. The caucus host will ask for nominations.
4. Respond to questions and briefly describe why you want to be a delegate. Make sure the attendees know you will take the time to carefully evaluate and choose the candidate who will best represent the needs of your community.
5. Attendees of the caucus meeting will cast their votes for delegates.

**What are my responsibilities as a delegate?**

As a county delegate you will attend your party’s county convention, and as a state delegate you will attend your party’s state convention. Delegates serve a two-year term, during which you will attend one convention each year.

1. The first year, you will be responsible for meeting with all the candidates in your party to decide who will best represent your precinct. Then you will attend the nominating convention to select party nominees for the primary or general election.
2. In the second year, you will attend the organizing convention to elect party officials and discuss the party platform.

**When do caucus meetings take place?**

Democratic Party	Republican Party
<p><b>Caucus Meetings:</b> Tuesday, March 18  <b>County Conventions:</b> Throughout March &amp; April  <b>State Party Convention:</b> Saturday, April 26  <b>State Party Contact:</b> <a href="http://www.utahdemocrats.org/">www.utahdemocrats.org/</a> or (801) 328-1212</p>	<p><b>Caucus Meetings:</b> Thursday, March 20  <b>County Conventions:</b> Throughout March &amp; April  <b>State Party Convention:</b> Saturday, April 26  <b>State Party Contact:</b> <a href="http://www.utgop.org/">www.utgop.org/</a> or (801) 533-9777</p>

**For additional information, visit the following websites:**

- <http://sutherlandinstitute.org/delegate/>
- <http://utahcitizenetwork.org/be-influential/why-delegates/>
- [ulink.utah.edu/s/1077/.../become-a-delegate.pptx](http://ulink.utah.edu/s/1077/.../become-a-delegate.pptx)