What We’ll Cover

• Why be a delegate
• Overview of the Virginia Delegate Selection Process
  – The Primary
  – City and County Caucuses
  – CD Conventions
  – State Convention
  – National Convention
• Affirmative Action and Outreach
• Overview of the national process
• Questions
What is the Democratic National Convention?

- It is the official gathering where Democrats select the nominee for President and Vice President of the United States.
- In addition, Democrats get to showcase to the world the strength and unity of our party.
- Convention marks the official transition from primary to general election.
- The 2020 Democratic National Convention will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from July 13-16, 2020.
Why should you participate?

There are a lot of great reasons to take part in the Virginia Delegate Selection process!

• Meet fellow Democrats in the Commonwealth
• Help build a stronger party
• Travel around the state and to Wisconsin
• Hear speeches from your favorite politicians
• Demonstrate party unity
How can you be a part of it?

• There are lots of ways to be a part of the delegate selection process!
  – Volunteer with your favorite presidential candidate’s campaign
  – Run for state delegate, national delegate, or DNC member
  – Volunteer with DPVA for the State Convention, the DNC or Milwaukee Host Committee for National Convention ([https://www.milwaukee2020.com](https://www.milwaukee2020.com)), or a presidential candidate
  – Attend as a member of one of the Convention Committees
  – Attend as a guest! Congressional District Conventions and State Convention have guest credentials available, and the National Convention has a very limited number of guest credentials available

• This training will cover all of the different opportunities for you to get involved
Step 1 – Register to Vote

- Contact Local Registrar or Virginia Department of Elections:
  - 800 – 552 - 9745
- Must be 18 by Election Day, U.S. Citizen
- Register at courthouse, DMV, other sites
- You can register by mail
- Fill out form completely and double check
- No party registration
- Deadline for Presidential Primary is February 10, 2020
  - Deadline for 2019 General Election is October 15, 2019
Step 2 - Volunteer

- Young Democrats
- Favorite Presidential Candidate
- Local Democratic Party
- 2019 Democratic Candidates
How many Delegates are elected?

• Virginia will send 124 National Delegates and 8 Alternates to the Democratic National Convention.

• Approximately 25 Party Leaders and Elected Officials will automatically be Delegates due to their status in the party (e.g., Governor, Democratic National Committee member).

• The Delegate Selection plan provides for a four-step process for the selection of the remaining 99 delegates and 8 alternates based on the results of the presidential preference primary.

• Virginia will also select 2,000 State Delegates and 500 Alternates.

• Both Delegations will be equally divided by gender.
# Overview of the Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Virginia Presidential Primary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Takes place on March 3, 2020</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City and County Caucuses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take place Saturday, April 18, 2019 at 12:00 noon or Monday, April 20, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Congressional District Convention</th>
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<tr>
<td>The CD Conventions will be held on either Saturday, May 2, 9, or 16, 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<th>State Convention</th>
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<tr>
<td>Takes place on June 20, 2020 in Richmond, VA</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Democratic National Convention</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Convention will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on July 13-16, 2020.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
About the Presidential Primary

• Vote at your regular polling place, 6 am – 7 pm
• Absentee (excused) voting only
• Must choose Democratic or Republican Primary
• No Loyalty Oath for Democratic Primary
• DPVA hotline: 844-4VA-VOTE (844-482-8683)
How does the primary impact Delegate allocation?

- The Presidential Primary result totals are used to allocate the National Delegates.
  - If two candidates each get 50% of the statewide vote, for example, they will each get 50% of the statewide delegates.
  - 15% threshold statewide and per CD. Delegates will be allocated to any candidates over the 15% threshold based on the percentage of the votes they received.

- Delegate Selection: Separate caucuses for each candidates’ supporters to elect national convention delegates
What happens at city or county caucuses?

- Elect state delegates and alternates to represent your city or county at your Congressional District and State Convention
- Meet Democrats in your area!
About the City and County Caucuses

• Caucuses may be assembled or unassembled caucuses

• Take place on April 18, 2020 at 12:00 pm or April 20, 2020 at 7:30 pm
  – Absentee voting (optional) – April 16, 7:00 p.m.

• Delegate filing deadlines – 7 days in advance

• Caucuses must be publicized and locations must be ADA accessible
• Each city/county is apportioned a certain number of delegates & alternates (State DSP & Convention Call)

• Delegates & alternates are allocated to Presidential Candidates based on Primary % in that city/county

• If the maximum number or fewer delegates & alternates pre-file for each candidate, they are elected (caucus canceled)

• Voters committed to a candidate elect delegates & alternates committed to that candidate

• Slate voting is permitted
To participate in a city or county caucus:
- Be a registered voter
- Reside in the jurisdiction
- Sign a Democratic pledge form

To be a State Convention delegate:
- Pre-file in advance
  - Indicating candidate preference
  - Voluntary Administrative Fee of $25 max to cover expenses (may be waived)
What happens at Congressional District Conventions?

• Elect National Delegates and Alternates to represent your Congressional District at the Democratic National Convention
• Elect a Democratic Elector to represent your Congressional District
• Adopt the Rules, Credentials, and possible Resolution Committee Reports for your District
• If your Congressional District does not choose its Congressional Candidate by primary, you may also vote on the Democratic nominee for Congress
About Congressional District Conventions

• The Congressional District Conventions will be held on either Saturday May 2, 9, or 16, 2020.

• Each Congressional District Democratic Committee will determine the date and location and publicize that information.

• The filing deadline to run for national delegate or alternate is 14 days before convention.
What happens at State Convention?

- Elect National Delegates and Alternates to represent the Commonwealth at the Democratic National Convention
- Elect two Democratic Electors
- Elect the Virginia DNC members
- Adoption of Rules, Credentials, and Resolutions Committee Reports
About State Convention

• State Convention takes place on June 20, 2020 in Richmond Virginia, at the Convention Center
• The delegate filing deadline is May 21, 2020 at 5:00 pm
• After the Convention, there will be a delegation meeting where Platform, Rules, and Credentials Committee members, and the Delegation Chair, will be selected and pages will be announced
What happens at the Democratic National Convention?

• Nominate the Democratic Nominees for President and Vice President
• Listen to great speeches from prominent Democrats
• Meet Democrats from all around the country
• At Convention, there will be approximately 4,532 Delegates (3,768 pledged, 764 automatic) and 327 Alternates from around the country
Types of National Delegates

- Each of Virginia’s 11 Congressional Districts will elect between four and seven National Delegates and six will elect an Alternate.
- The State Convention will elect 21 at-large Delegates and two Alternates.
- The State Convention will also elect 13 pledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials (“PLEOs”), who are state, county, and local elected officials and party leaders.
## Congressional District Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Delegates</th>
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<th>Alternates</th>
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<td>Females*</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
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*(Assuming no gender non-binary delegates are elected.)*
What do state delegates do?

State Delegates

Elected at their City or County Caucus

Vote at their Congressional District Convention

Vote at State Convention
What do national delegates do?

- Elected at either their Congressional District Convention or state convention
- Vote at National Convention
How do you know which role to run for?

You can run as both a state and national delegate, so you don’t have to pick!
The Affirmative Action and Outreach Plan
Affirmative Action Plan

- All meetings are open
- Discrimination is prohibited
- Affirmative Action Committee
- Publicize primary and delegate selection process to all media
  - Contact/inform constituency organizations
  - Work with City, County, District Affirmative Action/Outreach Committees
The DNC requires States to set numeric goals for representation in the convention delegation based on the demographic composition of the state. Virginia’s are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>African Americans</th>
<th>Hispanics</th>
<th>Native Americans</th>
<th>Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders</th>
<th>LGBTQ+ Americans</th>
<th>People with Disabilities</th>
<th>Youth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent in Democratic Electorate</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeric Goals for Delegation</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Delegates to the Congressional District and State Conventions should keep these goals in mind when voting for National Delegates and Alternates.
The Big Picture
Delegate Selection Process: Rules Changes for 2020

• Automatic (super) delegates –
  – No vote on Presidential 1st ballot if it could affect result

• Presidential Candidates must certify that they are Democrats and will run and serve as Democrats

• Voter protection incorporated into State Plans

• Non-binary gender recognized

• Presidential elector qualification requirements to ensure faithful electors
2020 Primary Calendar

- IA, NH, SC, NV – February 4, 11, 22, 29
- Everyone else – March 3 to June 15

Presidential Primaries and Caucuses by Month (2020)

- Convention is slightly earlier (July 13 vs. July 25)
2020 Democratic Nomination Pledged Delegate Allocation By State/Territory and Delegate Type

Month of Allocation

- February
- Super Tuesday (March 3rd)
- Rest of March
- April
- May
- June
Additional Information

• DPVA
  – https://vademocrats.org/delegateselection/

• DNC
  – https://democrats.org/2020-2/

• Milwaukee Host Convention
Questions?