Delegate Process FAQ

Q: How do I become a delegate to the State Convention?

It’s simple. Without having to pre-register, you can show up the day-of to participate at your local precinct caucus and have your name put up for nomination and selection as a delegate to the County Convention. Some of our county parties will make pre-registration forms available to ease the check-in process. If you are elected as a delegate to the County Convention, you will then follow a similar process of nomination and selection at the County Convention to be elected as a state delegate to the State Convention. The convention rules allow for roughly 2,500 state delegates to be elected from the county conventions. If you are elected to be a state delegate, you can also choose to run for national delegate during the State Convention and be elected as one of 43 delegates to represent Washington State at the Republican National Convention in July 2024 in Milwaukee.

*All PCOs (precinct committee officers) are automatic delegates to the county convention.

Q: When do Precinct Caucuses take place?

January 13, 2024 starting at 10:00 AM

Q: How do I find out where my Precinct Caucus location is?

You will need to reach out to your County Republican Party to find the location they have listed for your precinct. There is a link on the Convention website (wsrp.org/convention) that lists all of the county party contact information. Each county party must have their locations confirmed and advertised no later than December 12, 2023.

Q: Do I have to attend my precinct caucus to be elected as a delegate to county convention?

No; but you will need an attendee to nominate you.
Delegate Process FAQ

Q: When and where do County Conventions happen?

January 20 – March 16, 2024. The specific dates of county conventions depend on each county scheduling them. Some larger counties like King County will hold caucuses in your Legislative District rather than doing one countywide convention. This information will also be relayed to you during your precinct caucus.

Q: I am interested in becoming a Presidential Elector. Explain the method used to determine who the electors are?

Each state is allocated the number of electors equal to the number of congressman and senators elected. Washington has 10 Congressional Districts and 2 US Senators, therefore we have 12 electors. Washington presidential electors are selected at the state convention by the state delegates. One elector will be chosen from each congressional district caucus. The remaining two electors will be chosen by all of the convention delegates (RCW 29.71.040). Members of Congress and federal employees may not serve as electors. If you want to be an elector, you must be a state delegate.

Q: I plan to run for the position of delegate to State Convention, but my job takes me out of town on the day of my County Convention. What do I do to still get my name on the ballot?

Call your county chairman. There will be a form available to fill out that will guarantee that your name will appear on the ballot in alphabetical order. However, this form must be returned no later than the deadline established (72-hours in 2020) before the opening gavel of the meeting. You can also have a friend nominate you from the floor as a write-in after the alphabetized names. It is much better to be on the alphabetized list.
Delegate Process FAQ

Q: The last time I ran for delegate to State Convention, I was asked what Presidential candidate I was supporting. I refused to answer and was not elected. Do I have to divulge this information?

No; but some people may want to know who you prefer at the time when electing delegates and will use that information when electing delegates. Remember, the delegates at State Convention will be electing delegates to the National Convention, where the votes on the first round will be bound and determined by the results of the March Presidential Primary.

Q: I have always wanted to be elected as a delegate or alternate to the Republican National Convention, but I was told we only elect three delegates and three alternates from each Congressional District and a small number of at-large delegates and alternates. Why is this?

Republican National Committee rules determine how many delegates and alternates are elected from the Congressional districts. According to RNC rules, Washington receives these allotted delegates along with three automatic delegates (State Party Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman).

Q: Is it true that if I am elected as an alternate to the Republican National Convention that I must attend even if all of the delegates go?

Yes. Each delegate is assigned an alternate. If the delegate leaves the floor for any reason for any amount of time, the alternate replaces them on the floor until they return. It is desirable to have a full delegation on the floor at all times.

Keep reading for more FAQ’s on Delegate Cost
Q: How is the location of the State Convention determined?

The State Chairman picks a site selection committee to find locations that can accommodate the needs of the convention. We operate on a four-year cycle with a policy that the State Convention must alternate between Eastern Washington and Western Washington.

Q: Why is it costly to be a delegate or alternate to the State Convention?

Our Washington State Republican Party policy says that the delegate and alternate fees shall be used to pay for the cost of hosting the State Convention.

Q: Are there fees and costs for participating in Precinct Caucuses or being a delegate to the County Convention?

There are no costs to participating in your Precinct Caucuses. Some counties may charge a small fee to participate in the County Convention to help offset some of the operating costs for hosting the convention space.

Q: I was elected to be a delegate at the State Convention. When must my registration form and payment be submitted?

Registration form and payment must be submitted to the State Headquarters within the established deadline in the rules (in 2020 it was within 10 business days of being elected a delegate to the State Convention). If you fail to submit the form and payment, you will have an additional opportunity to submit with an increased fee based on the 2024 rules (In 2020 it was 5 additional business days with a 50% additional registration cost). If you fail to fully register within the time specified, you become the last alternate in the delegation, and the first alternate becomes the delegate, and the process is repeated for the new delegate.
State and National Delegate Costs FAQ

Q: Do I need to have lodging on-site and with the rest of the delegates or can I stay with family/friends or in RV park?

You can stay in a separate location, but may miss out on some of the same services provided to other delegates through the hotel/lodging venues.

Q: I was told that if I am elected to be a delegate or alternate to the National Convention that I must pay my fee at the closing of the State Party Convention. Is that true?

Yes. Delegates and alternates will meet immediately after the closing of the State Convention. Among them, they will elect people to represent our state on the Platform and Rules and Credentials committee of the national convention and also elect a delegation chairman. The fee will also be paid at this time.

Q: Besides the fee, what other expenses do I expect to incur if I am elected to the National Convention?

All expenses; which include transportation to and from the convention site, room, meals, sightseeing, and all other miscellaneous expenses.

Q: If I become a delegate or alternate to the National Convention will I get a list of hotels so that I can chose my accommodations?

NO. The Republican National Committee assigns a hotel to each state delegation. All guests, Washington State press, and any staff we send are expected to stay at the assigned hotel. If you have relatives or friends in the vicinity you can stay with them but shuttle service to and from the convention center will not be available to you and all fees and expenses must still be paid in advance.
Q: Will I be able to take my spouse and/or children as guests to National Convention?

Each state will be given some guest passes. It will be determined at a later date when we find out how many guests passes are assigned to us and who will be able to attend as guests. Guests pay the same fee as the delegates and alternates.