

How Delegates are Awarded on Caucus Night

Nebraska Democrats will gather On March 5, 2016 to make their preferences for the Democratic nomination for President. These preferences are represented by the awarding of delegates to the county convention to the Presidential candidates at each of the precinct locations. Below is a brief description of how delegates are awarded on caucus night:

Step 1: Caucus/Precinct chairs count the number of eligible caucus goers.

Step 2: Determine viability. In order to be eligible to elect delegates, candidates must have a minimum number of caucus attendees in his or her group. Caucus chairs will determine the viability threshold using the following formulas:

- Total eligible caucus attendees x 0.15 = viability

**Note: For viability, always round up to the nearest whole number.*

Step 3: Caucus goers will form preference groups. Precinct chairs ensure all preference groups are viable.

**Note: If preference group(s) are not viable, realignment occurs.*

Step 4: Realignment process occurs. Caucus goers in groups deemed non-viable can join with a viable group, or pull people from other groups to become viable themselves or abstain.

Step 5: Award Delegates. After realignment occurs, precinct chairs award each viable preference group with the appropriate number of delegates using the following formula (round up at 0.5, round down below 0.5):

Delegate Allocation Formula:

$$\frac{(\# \text{ of Attendees in preference group} \times \text{Total \# delegates the caucus elects})}{\text{Total \# number of eligible attendees}} = \# \text{ of Delegates to elect}$$

Note: The result is rounded up at 0.5 and above and rounded down at less than 0.5.

Step 6: After rounding, total up the delegates awarded to each preference group and compare that number to the total number of delegates assigned to be elected at the Precinct/LD or County.

- If the numbers match, move on to election of delegates.
- If the total number of delegates is **FEWER** than the number to be elected, an additional delegate will be awarded to the group(s) with the highest decimal below 0.5.

- In case of a tie for a delegate by rounding up or down, the preference group with the highest number of supporters after realignment will be awarded the delegate.
- In the case of two equal-sized preference groups competing over an odd number of delegates, a coin flip determines the final delegate count.
- **Example:** Precinct South/LD Alpha or County Beta is to elect a total of 50 delegates. There are 100 eligible caucus attendees at the precinct/LD or county caucus. Four viable preference groups form. After realignment Group A has 40 members; Group B has 25 members; Group C has 15 members; and Group Uncommitted has 20 members. Here is how the delegates would be awarded after realignment:

Group	# Attendees in Group	Math	# of Delegates Group will Elect	After Rounding	Final
A	40(40%)	$40 \times 50 \div 100$	20	20	20
B	25(25%)	$25 \times 50 \div 100$	12.5	13	13*
C	15(15%)	$15 \times 50 \div 100$	7.5	8	7
Uncommitted	20(20%)	$20 \times 50 \div 100$	10	10	10
	100(100%)			51	50

**Note: In case of a tie for a delegate by rounding up or down, the preference group with the highest number of supporters after realignment will be awarded the delegate.*

Reporting the Results

At this point, the caucus chair is required to immediately report the delegate results to the Nebraska Democratic Party.

- A representative from each preference group may be present when the results are reported.