

# The 2008 Washington State Democratic Caucus-Convention Cycle

*Washington State's Democratic Precinct Caucuses will be held on **Saturday, February 9th, 2008 beginning at 1:00 pm.***

*The caucuses are a grassroots process where Democrats come together across the state in order to voice their opinion about which candidate should represent the Democratic Party in the 2008 Presidential Election. The caucuses also provide an invaluable opportunity for building the party in preparation for our 2008 election efforts and will give attendees the chance to introduce resolutions on issues about which they are concerned.*

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## **Purpose of the Caucus-Convention Cycle**

The purpose of the 2007 Washington State Democrats Caucus-Convention Cycle is three fold.

- ✓ Determine the level of support for each candidate running to be the Democratic Nominee in the 2008 Presidential Election and apportion delegates accordingly.
- ✓ Build the Democratic Party across the state in preparation for 2008 election efforts which will involve extensive voter registration and get out the vote programs.
- ✓ Provide Democrats statewide with the opportunity to introduce resolutions on issue about which they are concerned. These resolutions will be considered by local party organizations and incorporated into both local and state party platforms.

## **Tiers of the Caucus- Convention Cycle – Precinct Caucuses**

**Precinct Caucuses** - The first tier in the Caucus-Convention Cycle consists of the Precinct Caucuses which will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008 at 1:00 pm at a location in or near your neighborhood. Delegates and alternates representing each presidential candidate will be elected at the Precinct Caucuses. The number of delegates and alternates elected at each Precinct Caucus is based on Democratic performance in the 2004 General Election and the number of registered voters in each precinct. Delegates and alternates elected at the Precinct Caucuses will attend the next level of the Caucus-Convention Cycle, the Legislative District Caucus and County Convention. Any Democrat registered to vote, and a resident in the precinct, may attend, participate in discussions, vote, and be elected as a delegate or alternate. In order to vote, a person must sign a registration sheet stating that they are a Democrat and agree to public display of their attendance. Resolutions are also introduced at the Precinct Caucuses and forwarded to the local County Convention.

# The 2008 Washington State Democratic Caucus-Convention Cycle Continued

## Tiers of the Caucus- Convention Cycle – After the Precinct Caucuses

**Legislative District Caucuses and County Conventions** - The second tier in the Caucus-Convention Cycle consists of Legislative District Caucuses and County Conventions. Legislative District Caucuses will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2008 beginning at 10:00 am. Delegates and alternates representing each presidential candidate are elected at the Legislative District Caucus. The number of delegates and alternates elected at each Legislative District Caucus is based on Democratic performance in the 2004 General Election and the number of registered voters in each legislative district. Delegates and alternates elected at the Legislative District Caucus will attend the next level of the Caucus-Convention Cycle, the Congressional District Caucus and the State Convention. The Legislative District Caucus may also address resolutions and develop a platform, although this is not always the case. County Conventions will be held on Saturday, April 19, 2008 beginning at 9:00 am. In addition to addressing resolutions forwarded from local Precinct Caucuses the County Convention will also adopt a County Platform.

**Congressional District Caucuses and the State Convention** - The third and final tier of the Caucus-Convention Cycle consists of Congressional District Caucuses and the State Convention. Congressional District Caucuses will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2008 beginning at 10:00 am. 51 delegates and 9 alternates representing presidential candidates are elected at Washington's 9 Congressional District Caucuses. The number of delegates and alternates elected at each Congressional District Caucus is based on Democratic performance in the 2004 General Election and the number of registered voters in each congressional district. Delegates and alternates elected at the Congressional District Caucuses will attend the National Democratic Convention which will be held in Denver, CO from August 25-28, 2008. The State Convention will be held in Spokane, WA on Saturday, June 14, 2008 beginning at 9:00 am. In attendance will be the 2,000 delegates and many of the 1,000 alternates elected at the Legislative District Caucuses. Additional delegates and alternates to the Democratic National Convention will be elected or appointed in order to fill out Washington's full delegation of 97 delegates and 13 alternates. The State Convention will also address resolutions forwarded from County Conventions and draft a platform based on the current State Party Platform and platforms of local party organizations from across the state.

## Additional Information

For additional information on the 2008 Caucus-Convention Cycle please read the 2008 Washington State Delegate Section and Affirmative Action Plan. This document is available on-line at

<http://www.wa-democrats.org/index.php?page=display&id=197>

If you have any additional questions please contact your local party organization or the Washington State Democratic Party at (206) 583-0664 or [jaxon@wa-democrats.org](mailto:jaxon@wa-democrats.org).

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## DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 25-28, 2008 – Denver, CO



**DELEGATES**  
**97 Delegates**  
**13 Alternates**

### CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CAUCUSES

Saturday, May 17, 2008 – 10:00 am

### STATE CONVENTION

Saturday, June 14, 2008 – 9:00 am  
Spokane, WA



**DELEGATES**  
**2,000 Delegates**  
**1,000 Alternates**



**RESOLUTIONS  
AND  
PLATFORMS**

### LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT CAUCUSES

Saturday, April 5, 2008 – 10:00 am

### COUNTY CONVENTIONS

Saturday, April 19, 2008 – 9:00 am



**DELEGATES**



**RESOLUTIONS**

### PRECINCT CAUCUSES

Saturday, February 9, 2008 – 1:00 pm

## Dates for the 2008 Caucus-Convention Cycle

| <b>Date</b>                | <b>Action</b><br><b>(Roman numerals provide a reference for the location where this action is explained in the 2008 Washington State Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan.)</b>                  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Saturday, February 9, 2008 | Precinct Caucuses<br>1:00 p.m. (III.A.2.a)   |
| Wednesday, March 5, 2008   | Congressional District Level Delegate and Alternate Statement of Candidacy forms available from the State Party office. (III.A.4.b)  |
| Saturday, April 5, 2008    | Legislative District Caucuses<br>10:00 a.m. (III.A.2.c)  |
| Saturday, April 19, 2008   | County Conventions<br>9:00 a.m. (III.A.2.b)  |
| Saturday, May 17, 2008     | Congressional District Caucuses<br>(The principal business of the Congressional District Caucuses shall be the election of delegates and alternates to the National Convention.)<br>10:00 a.m. (III.A.2.d) |
| Saturday, June 14, 2008    | State Convention in Spokane, Washington<br>9:00 a.m. (III.K.1)   |
| August 25 - 28, 2008       | National Convention in Denver, Colorado  |