

Colorado Republican Caucus

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the caucus?

Caucuses are precinct-level gatherings of voters that take place across Colorado. In 2018, the Republican caucuses will take place on Tuesday, March 6, at 7 pm.

What happens at the caucus?

Caucus-goers elect delegates and alternates to various assemblies. These can include county, state house, state senate, county commission, state, congressional, and judicial assemblies. In some counties, caucus-goers elect delegates and alternates only to the county assembly, and those delegates, in turn, elect delegates to the higher assemblies; in other counties, delegates to the higher assemblies are elected provisionally at the caucus and ratified at the county assembly.

Who can participate in the caucus?

To participate in the caucus, voters must have been registered for at least 60 days before the caucus date, or since January 8, 2018. Additionally, voters must have been residents of their current precinct for at least 30 days on the day of the caucus and registered to vote there for at least 29 days, or since February 5, 2018.

Where is my caucus meeting?

Each county party sets locations for its precinct caucuses in accordance with certain restrictions found in state statute. For your convenience, the Colorado Republican Committee has compiled all of those locations in one database. To find your caucus' location, pre-register for the caucus on our website here: <http://caucus.cologop.org/>.

What time should I arrive at my caucus?

We recommend that you arrive at your caucus meeting by 6:30 pm. Any eligible Republican in line at 7 pm will be allowed to participate.

When and where are the various assemblies?

The date and location of each county assembly is set by the relevant county. The state assembly is Saturday, April 14, at the CU Boulder Coors Event Center. The date and location of other assemblies will be publicized as they become available.

What do delegates vote on at the assemblies?

At each assembly, delegates vote for candidates competing to be the nominee for various offices. At the state house assembly, delegates vote on candidates for state house, and at the state senate assembly, on candidates for state senate. At the county assembly, delegates vote on candidates for countywide office (such as Sheriff). At the county commission assembly, they vote on candidates for county commission. At the congressional assembly, delegates vote for candidates in congressional district races, including U.S. Representative and, some years, CU Regent and State Board of Education Member. At the state assembly, they vote for candidates in statewide races, such as Colorado Treasurer, Colorado Attorney General, Colorado Secretary of State, and Colorado Governor. At the judicial assembly, they vote for candidates for District Attorney.

What percentage of the vote do assembly candidates need to appear on the primary ballot?

Any candidate who receives 30% of the vote at his or her relevant assembly will automatically appear on the primary ballot. Any candidate who receives between 10% and 30% of the assembly vote may appear on the primary ballot provided that candidate submitted the requisite number of petition signatures by their due date, as determined by state law. Any candidate who receives less than 10% of the assembly vote may not appear on the primary ballot.

Is the caucus-assembly process the only way for candidates to reach the primary ballot?

No. In Colorado, state statute provides two routes for candidates to reach the primary ballot. One is the caucus-assembly process; the other is by gathering a certain number of petition signatures, which is determined by state law and varies depending on the race in question.

Is there a fee to be an assembly delegate or alternate?

Some assemblies charge delegates and alternates badge fees to offset the cost of hosting the assemblies. The state assembly delegate badge fee is \$70 and the state assembly alternate badge fee is \$60. Local assemblies' badge fees vary and are set by the local district.

Will there be a straw poll at the caucus?

Individual precincts and counties are permitted to hold straw polls for Governor or any other race, but the state party will not be conducting a statewide straw poll. The state party does not conduct straw polls in non-presidential election years.

What is the effect of Propositions 107 and 108, which Colorado voters passed in 2016, on the caucus-assembly process?

This year, none. Proposition 107 created a presidential primary, but that won't be relevant until 2020. Proposition 108 allows unaffiliated voters to participate in primaries, but that doesn't affect the caucus-assembly process, because unaffiliated voters remain prohibited, per state law, from participating in the caucus or becoming a delegate to any of a party's assemblies.