



2026 State Convention Delegate Packet Norfolk, Nebraska

Welcome to Norfolk for the 2026 Nebraska Democratic Party's State Convention. Home of Johnny Carson, lots of corn, homegrown wind power, and the Elkhorn River. We gather this weekend to conduct our party's business and to build our infrastructure so we can keep electing strong Democrats who represent our values.

Since 2017, we have grown from 503 to 1,029 Democrats elected across our state. We have raised roughly \$1 million a year. Our county parties have grown from under 40 to 71 across the state. Our staff is professionalized and unionized. Candidate recruitment is strong and coordinated with allied groups.

Some write Nebraska off as a flyover state. We know better. We sit at the heart of this country — the middle of everywhere — and we are growing a movement rooted in community, powered by conversation, and driven by one unshakeable belief: every Nebraskan deserves a fair shot.

- **Keep this link handy, it has the agenda and other key docs all online: [Linktree](#)**

Thank you for your service to our party,

-Chair Kleeb, Vice Chair Kaminski, Vice Chair of County Parties Griffin, DNC Committeewoman Schwenninger, DNC Committeeman Flowerday, DNC Member LaMere, Treasurer Kessler, Secretary Matejka, Finance Chair Hansen, Executive Director McKesson, and the rest of our strong NDP staff and team



Key Highlights:

- **Convention and hotel information:**
 - Divots Conference Center, 4200 W Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701
 - [Map of Conference Center & Hotel](#)
 - [Norfolk Lodge & Suites](#), 4200 W Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701
 - *Only a limited number of rooms are left in our room block!*
 - Hotels within a 5-10 minute drive of the Divots Conference Center:
 - [Hampton Inn](#), 904 S 20th St, Norfolk, NE 68701
 - [Fairfield Inn](#), 1302 Cyhawk Loop, Norfolk, NE 68701
 - [Holiday Inn Express](#), 920 S 20th St, Norfolk, NE 68701
 - [River Point Inn](#), 200 W Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701
- **Purchase your [meal tickets](#) by Monday, April 20.**
 - **We will NOT have extra food on-site, and you will not have time to go off-site for meals, since the agenda is packed. The Divots Conference Center does NOT allow outside food or drinks.**
 - If you need assistance with the \$40 meal price, please email precious@nebraskademocrats.org.
 - Please include any dietary restrictions on the ActBlue form or email them directly to hannah@nebraskademocrats.org.
- **Convention and party rules:**
 - [NDP Constitution and Bylaws](#)
 - [2026 State Convention Rules](#)
- **Draft 2026-2028 Platform:**
 - [Draft Platform](#)
 - We've held various in-person and online hearings on the platform over the past several months. The final hearing is Saturday morning at the convention. Please review the Draft Platform ahead of the State Convention hearing and come prepared with any written suggested language changes.

- **Stay updated:**

- We keep all the information you need for the convention in one place on our website:

<https://nebraskademocrats.org/2026-state-and-county-conventions/>

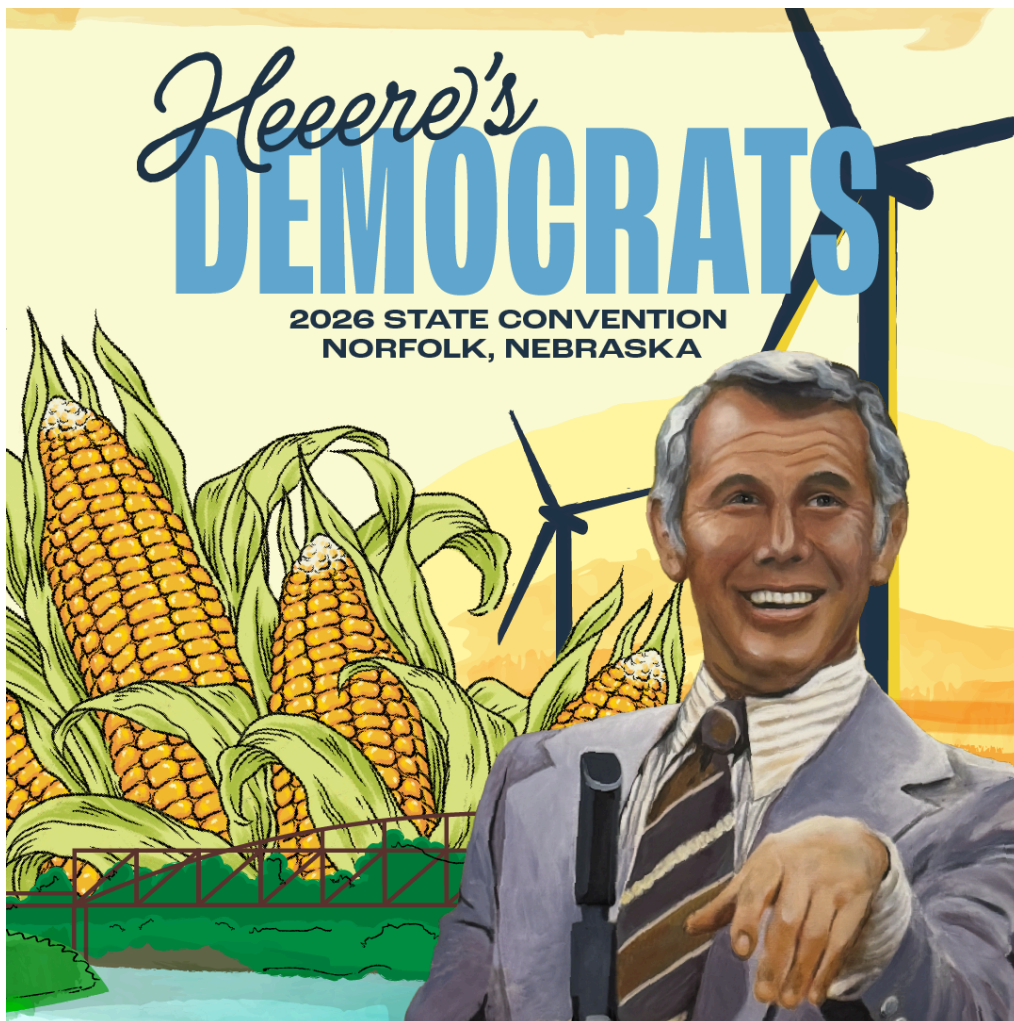
- Keep this link handy, it has the agenda and other key docs all online:

[Linktree](#)

- **Dems Care:**

- Bring items to donate to Bright Horizons, a local organization that provides resources to Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

- [Bright Horizons Needed Items](#)



Convention FAQ:

We know it can be confusing for those attending your first State Convention to know exactly what takes place!

We conduct the business of the Nebraska Democratic Party and our Affiliated Caucuses and Councils at the State Convention, which takes place every two years. Between the State Conventions, we hold at least four State Central Committee meetings each year, during which training and business are conducted.

You can always contact Party Affairs Director Hannah Wroblewski on the NDP team to ask any questions you have on the convention: hannah@nebraskademocrats.org

- **Submit a nomination for statewide officer positions (only the Chair, Vice Chair, and Chair of County Parties positions are up this year):**
 - Send an email about your intention to run to the chair of the Nominations Committee, Roger Morgan, at nominations@nebraskademocrats.org. The Nominations Committee will meet at 6:00 PM on Friday, April 24th, in the Veranda Room.

- **Run for a Caucus or Council leadership position:**
 - Contact the current Caucus or Council leadership to see what positions are open. You can find that information at: <https://nebraskademocrats.org/caucuses-councils/>

- **Submit a platform plank:**
 - Email platform@nebraskademocrats.org. You can view the [DRAFT 2024-2026 Platform](#) on the NDP website.

- **If I am not a Delegate or Alternate to the State Convention, can I still attend the State Convention and Caucus meetings?**
 - Yes, you may attend the State Convention. Only Delegates (or an Alternate filling in for a delegate) may vote during the State Convention proceedings (general sessions, Congressional District Caucuses, and Legislative District Caucuses). But you can observe the State Convention as a guest as long as you are a Democrat or an Independent. However, each Caucus and Council has their own requirements on who can be voting members. You **MUST** be a Democrat to vote in Caucus and Council meetings and abide by any other rules.

- See Caucus rules here:
<https://nebraskademocrats.org/caucuses-councils/>
- **How much does it cost to attend the State Convention?**
 - There is no cost to attend for elected delegates and alternates.
 - [There is a \\$40 dollar meal ticket you can purchase](#) if you are eating meals with us. Anyone planning to eat meals on site, including guests, must purchase a meal ticket.
 - Guests who are Democrats and Independents are welcome to attend for free, but seating is limited. Everyone must register on-site, and party registration will be checked.



Places to Eat:

Downtown Food + Drinks

- [Map of Downtown Norfolk](#)

NoFo Pizza & Cafe, 501 Norfolk Ave

- Pizza, Craft Cocktails, and NE Brews

411 Restaurant and Lounge, 411 W. Norfolk Ave

- American Cuisine, Steaks, Sandwiches, Drinks

Divots Downtown, 206 W. Norfolk Ave

- American Cuisine, Drinks

Black Cow Fat Pig, 702 W. Norfolk Ave

- Steaks and Sandwiches, Drinks

Aroma Circuit, 415 W. Norfolk Ave

- Indian Cuisine and Drinks

Fenders Coffee Bar, 426 W. Norfolk Ave

- Coffee, Teas, Drinks, Sandwiches

4th Street Sweets, 103 N. 4th St.

- Pastries, Sweets, and Treats

Poppin' Delights Gourmet Popcorn, 311 W. Norfolk Ave

- Popcorn

Things to Do:

Art Sculptures Walk - Downtown Norfolk - [on map provided](#)

Alleyway Art Murals - Downtown and Greater Norfolk

Johnny Carson Boyhood Home - 306 S. 13th Street

State Convention Schedule and Agenda

April 24-26, 2026

*Tentative agenda, final agenda given at convention

Friday, April 24 Agenda

- **Divots Conference Center**, 4200 W Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701

4:00 – 7:00 p.m. / Divots Conference Center Lobby

- Registration: Get your Delegate badge, tote bag, and agenda packet

5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

- CD1 Informational Session and Credentials Committee Elections, **Carson Room**
- CD2 Informational Session and Credentials Committee Elections, **Divots Ballroom**
- CD3 Informational Session and Credentials Committee Elections, **Madison Room**

Agenda of CD Information Sessions:

- CD Caucuses will fill vacancies on convention committees as needed (2 members per CD, gender balance not required).
- Note: All other business, including electing CD Chairs and Vice Chairs and SCC members, will take place during the CD Caucus meetings on Saturday.

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

- Nebraska Young Democrats, **Divots Ballroom**
- Environment & Climate Council, **Madison Room**
- Nominations Committee, **Veranda Room**

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

- Rules Committee, **Carson Room**
- Platform Committee, **Dakota Room**

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

- Credentials Committee, **Veranda Room**

Saturday, April 25 Agenda

8:00 am – 1:00 pm / Divots Conference Center Lobby

- Registration: Get your Delegate badge, tote bag, and agenda packet.

8:00 am - 9:00 am / The Link

- Breakfast is available.

9:00 am - 9:50 am

- Women's Caucus, **Divots Ballroom**
- Nebraskans Experiencing Disabilities Caucus, **Veranda Room**
- Working Families Council, **Dakota Room**
- Secular Council, **Carson Room**

10:00 am - 10:50 am

- Training: Fundraising For Your Local Party's Future, **Divots Ballroom**
- Black Caucus, **Dakota Room**
- Native Caucus, **Veranda Room**
- Latino Caucus, **Carson Room**

11:00 am - 11:50 am

- Training: Building a Candidate Support Plan, **Divots Ballroom**
- Veterans & Military Affairs Council, **Veranda Room**
- Rural & Agriculture Council, **Dakota Room**
- Stonewall Democrats, **Carson Room**

12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

- Training: How Local Parties Prepare for GOTV, **Divots Ballroom**
- Meeting with Caucus/Council Chairs, **Veranda Room**

12:40 pm / The Link

- Lunch served in the Link, delegates grab their lunch to take into the Divots Ballroom

1:10 pm / Divots Ballroom

- State Convention Call to Order
 - State Chair Jane Kleeb

- Land Acknowledgement
 - Led by DNC Member Cynthia LaMere
- Pledge of Allegiance
 - Led by Veterans and Military Family Council Chair Jerry Johnson
- Opening Remarks
 - Madison County Democrats Chair Megan Bowles
- Report of the Committee on Credentials
 - Credentials Committee Co-Chairs Richard Register & Sharlette Schwenninger
 - **VOTE**
- Adoption of Convention Rules and Convention Agenda
 - Rules Committee Chair Ben Cass
 - **VOTE**
 - [2026 State Convention Rules](#)
- Report of Convention Committee and Election of State Convention Officers
 - Convention Committee Chair Anna Hernandez
 - **VOTE**
 - Chair, Senator George Dungan
 - Vice Chair, Senator Margo Juarez
 - Secretary, Stephanie Matejka
 - Sergeant of Arms, Jo-El Chiles
- Address of State Convention Chair Senator George Dungan
- Report of the Nominations Committee
 - Nominations Committee Chair Roger Morgan
 - Election of State Chair and Vice Chair
 - Candidate Speeches
- Move to recess for County Chairs meeting, followed by CD and LD Caucus Meetings, reconvene at 4:15 p.m.

2:00 pm - 2:50 p.m.

- County Chairs Meeting, **Divots Ballroom**
 - Election of Vice Chair of County Parties

3:00 pm

- CD1 Caucus, **Carson Room**
- CD2 Caucus, **Divots Ballroom**

- CD3 Caucus, **Dakota Room**

Agenda for CD Caucus Meetings includes:

- Elections of CD Chair and Vice Chair
- Upon conclusion of your CD Caucus, move to the Legislative District Caucuses

3:30 pm

- CD3 LDs, **Dakota Room**
- CD2 LDs, **Divots Ballroom**
- CD1 LDs, **Carson Room**
- LDs Split between Multiple CDs, **Veranda Room**

Agenda for LD Caucuses includes:

- Elections of State Central Committee Members (SCC) by LD
 - The LD Delegate and Alternate positions must be gender-balanced, with those identifying as non-binary (NB) counting as neither male nor female.
 - Each LD Caucus shall elect:
 - One (1) Female/NB Delegate
 - One (1) Male/NB Delegate
 - One (1) Female/NB Alternate
 - One (1) Male/NB Alternate
 - The term begins directly after the State Convention and lasts for two years.
 - The first SCC meeting will be held on Sunday morning.

4:15 p.m. / Divots Ballroom

- Reconvene the entire Convention Body
- Monthly Donor Pitch
- Report of the CD Caucus Elections
 - Congressional District Chairs
 - Congressional District Vice Chairs
- Report of the Rules Committee
 - Chair Ben Cass
 - **VOTE:** Rules Report
 - [2025-05-31 Bylaw 3.10 - County Party Responsibilities](#)
 - [2025-09-24 Bylaw 1.2.1 - Include Automatic Delegates in Quorum](#)
 - [2025-10-17 Article V.2 - Flexible Vice Chair Elections](#)
 - [2025-10-19 V.2.C + 1.1.11 - Reorganizing SCC Structural Details to Bylaw 5](#)

- [2025-10-30 Bylaw 5.10.1.3.2 - State Convention Committee Deadline](#)
- [2026-01-15 Article V.2.H Reduce Vacancy Notice Requirement for Standing Committees](#)
- [2026-01-15 Bylaw 5.7.3 - Permit ACOs and APCs to Endorse Non-Dems](#)
- [2026-03-26 Various Rules - Clarify Elected Office as Governmental Elected Office](#)
- Report of the Platform and Resolutions Committee
 - Co-Chairs Quinton Corwin and Shannon Graves
 - **VOTE:** 2026-2028 NDP Platform
- Block Captain Training
 - Led by NDP Outreach Director Gina Frank

Reception / The Link

- Join us in The Link to mingle with State Convention Delegates. Food will be provided. More details to follow.



Sunday, April 26 Agenda

9:00 am - 10:00 am / Breakfast served in the Link

10:00 am - 10:40 am / CD Caucus Meetings

- CD1 Caucus, **RDH Room**
- CD2 Caucus, **Divots Ballroom**
- CD3 Caucus, **Dakota Room**

Agenda for CD Caucus Meetings includes:

- **Election of NDP Committee Members for 2026-2028 term:** Platform & Resolutions, Rules, State Convention, Technology, Audit & Review, and Nominations

11:00 am / State Central Committee Meeting, Divots Ballroom

- **Meeting called to order at 11:00 am**
 - Land Acknowledgement
 - Pledge of Allegiance
- **Actions of the NDP Secretary**
 - Quorum
 - Seating of Delegates
 - CD Chairs report any actions from their caucus on the seating of delegates
- **State Chair Report**
 - Secretary and Treasurer Appointments
 - Committee Chair Appointments
 - SEC At-Large Appointments
- **State Party Officer Reports**
- **CD Caucus Reports**
 - Reports and updates
- **Staff Reports**
- **Caucus & Council Reports**
- **SCC Training**
 - Led by Party Affairs Director Hannah Wroblewski
- **Announcements and Adjournment**

Additional Information

SCC Governing Documents: All of our SCC meeting documents, agendas, bylaws, and the training manual for SCC Delegates are on the NDP website:

Statewide Officers, Standing and Special Committee Chairs: Party operations happen in our committees, caucuses, councils, and county parties. Thank you to the Chairs, SCC Members, County Officers, and Committee Members for serving.

SCC Agenda Packets

- Archived Agenda Packets are under “2017-2025 Archive Meetings.”

SCC Resolutions

SCC Governing Documents:

- Governing Documents can be found under “Key Party Documents.”

SCC Meeting Facebook Event:

- We stream our SCC meetings on Facebook, except for the closed session portion.

SCC Delegate Training Manual

County Chair Manual

Block Captain Program

NDP Candidate Manual + Trainings: We now have a Candidate Manual (thank you, Sen. Blood and staff!) and a monthly candidate training series. We do not publish these on the website. Candidates must first complete the MOU—please email ronr@nebraskademocrats.org.

- Please share this link if you or someone you know is interested in running for office. Once a person completes this form, staff hold a meeting with the candidate, and then they get added to a listserv and trainings:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6kCBwlpu5YNR7e4yIUrA_776V5saFxCGMyIV9I_sblcCthw/viewform

Events: A reminder that we post our events and volunteer opportunities here:

<https://www.mobilize.us/nebdems/>

- Gina leads the outreach plan. Please email her if you need a mobile office (e.g., materials for use at county fairs, parades, etc.) or if you require materials to be sent to you for meetings and events.

Listserves: We send emails to the lists on key information, messaging memos, and updates. If you are not on one of the following listservs and need to be, please email hannah@nebraskademocrats.org

- SCC Members
- SEC Members
- County Chairs
- County Officers
- Block Captains
- Elected Officials
- State Senators
- 2026 Candidates

#NebDems Store: You can purchase t-shirts and sweatshirts to show your #NebDems pride!

Monthly Donor Program:

At least \$10 a month:

- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker

\$25 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Salute to State Senators
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin & Coin

\$50 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Ben Nelson Gala
- Invitation to Donor Briefings with Party Leaders and Elected Officials
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin & Coin

\$100 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Salute to State Senators and Ben Nelson Gala with VIP Receptions
- Invitation to Donor Briefings with Party Leaders and Elected Officials
- First access and reserved seats to NDP special events and national events for which we receive tickets (e.g., special guest speakers).
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin & Coin

Trainings: The NDP offers SCC, Block Captain, Blue Bench, and Candidate trainings, as well as access to other national training resources. We can also visit your county or caucus meetings to tailor training to your needs.

Blue Bench Training: We have a new training page that focuses on what we, officer candidates and staff, can do.

Block Captains: Gina Frank is our Block Captain Director. We currently have 700 Block Captains—email gina@nebraskademocrats.org for more information on the Block Captain program.

NDP and National Democratic Training Committee: The NDP partners with the DNC and the National Democratic Training Committee to provide training to all candidates and party leaders, helping to elect Democrats. You can access a free training account to support your local work.

DNC Trainings and Resources: The DNC offers an in-depth online training program for volunteers, party leaders, and elected officials!

DNC Security Checklist: The DNC Security Checklist's goal is to reduce your cyber risk. This includes the vulnerabilities that bad actors look to exploit on your computers, smartphones, and smart devices.

NDP Contact Info:

Phone:

LNK: 402-434-2180

OMA: 531-867-4343

Email: info@nebraskademocrats.org

NDP Offices:

LNK: 3701 O Street, Suite 200,
Lincoln, NE 68510

OMA: 1102 S 76th Ave,
Omaha NE 68124

Socials

Facebook

Twitter: @NebDems

Instagram: @nebraskadems

TikTok: @NebDems

Hashtags: #NebDems, #NELeg

Party Members

Staff

Party Leaders

Elected Democrats