

2024 Arkansas Delegate Selection Process

Unanimously Approved by the RPA Executive Committee (06/10/23)

Unanimously Approved by the RPA State Committee (08/19/23)

PROCEDURE FOR FILING FOR DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE: Candidates seeking to represent the voters of Arkansas at the 2024 Republican National Convention must qualify by filing at the State GOP Headquarters during regular business hours from February 20, 2024 through March 4, 2024. If mailed, the filing must be received at the State GOP Headquarters by the close of business on March 4, 2024. Further, candidates must commit themselves to the support of a specific presidential candidate at the time of filing for a position as delegate/alternate. If any delegate bound by these rules to vote for a presidential candidate at the national convention demonstrates support (under RNC Rules 40 and 16a) for any person other than the candidate to whom he or she is bound, such support shall not be recognized. Properly filed candidates shall be eligible for election as delegates or alternates at the Special District Convention or the State Committee Meeting called for that purpose. The names of properly filed delegate/alternate candidates shall be listed on a ballot to be voted at the Special District Convention to be held on May 11, 2024. The names of properly filed candidates that remain following the allocation of delegates and alternates at the Special District Convention shall be listed on a ballot to be voted at the State Committee Meeting to be held on May 18, 2024. The qualifying filing fee is \$300 per person payable to the Republican Party of Arkansas. A candidate for delegate/alternate may file to represent other presidential candidates by submitting an additional filing application and by submitting a qualifying filing fee of \$300 for each additional filing application submitted. A candidate may be elected to represent only one presidential candidate. It is suggested that each presidential candidate submit a list of recommended candidates for the delegates and alternates allocated to Arkansas. Delegate/Alternate candidates recommended by each presidential candidate or his/her designee will be identified on ballots to be voted at the Special District Convention and at the State Committee Meeting if the listing of recommended Delegate/Alternate candidates is received at the State GOP Headquarters by the close of business on May 2, 2024.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNTY CONVENTION: During the period March 11, 2024 - April 5, 2024 all counties shall hold a Special Meeting of the County Convention for the purpose of electing delegates to a Special District Convention to be held on May 11, 2024. The purpose of the Special District Convention is to elect three (3) Delegates and three (3) Alternates to the 2024 Republican National Convention from each Congressional District. Delegates to the Special District Convention representing a county that is situated in more than one Congressional District shall caucus with the Congressional District in which the majority of the population in the county resides based on the most recent census and redistricting maps of Arkansas.

The Special Meeting of the County Convention shall be comprised of qualified voters in that county who have filed during the filing period (starting at noon on November 6, 2023 and ending at noon on November 14, 2023) to be a member of the County Committee and a delegate to the County Convention.

The membership of the Special District Convention shall consist of delegates elected from each county within the Congressional District based on the following formula:

1. Three (3) delegates from each county.
2. One (1) delegate for each two thousand (2000) votes, or major fraction thereof, cast for the Republican Candidate for Governor in the immediately preceding gubernatorial election.
3. One (1) delegate for each Republican elected to countywide office as of the last general election.
4. One (1) delegate for each Republican elected to the office of Justice of the Peace as of the last general election.
5. One (1) delegate for each College Republican club in the county in good standing with the AFCR.
6. One (1) delegate for each Republican Women's Club in the county in good standing with the AFRW and NFRW.
7. One (1) delegate for each Young Republican Club in the county in good standing with the AFYR.

Important Note: Voting members of the State Committee shall not vote in the Special District Convention.

The call for the Special Meeting of the County Convention shall be mailed/emailed/faxed 15 days in advance of the meeting date. At least 15 days prior to the date of the Special Meeting of the County Convention the County Chairman shall advertise or publish in a county newspaper of general circulation, the time, date and location of the Special Meeting of the County Convention. The Special Meeting of the County Convention may be held on the same date as the regular County Committee Meeting.

The Special Meeting of the County Convention held during the period **March 11, 2024 - April 5, 2024** shall be **adjourned** at the conclusion of the meeting. The regular County Convention shall be convened as directed by Act 649 of 2019.

Delegates elected to the Special District Convention, to be held on May 11, 2024, shall serve only for the Special District Convention. Members of the District Committee shall be elected at the first meeting of the new committee on the night of the County Convention to be held as directed by Act 649 of 2019.

Voting members of the State Committee shall **not** be delegates to the Special District Convention. State Committee Members will vote on at-large Delegates/Alternates at the State Committee Meeting on May 18, 2024.

In selecting your delegates, we encourage you to comply with the RNC Rule No. 14 on participation: *"The Republican National Committee and the Republican State Committee or governing committee of each state shall take positive action to achieve the broadest possible participation by men and women, young people, minority and heritage groups, senior citizens, and all other citizens in the delegate selection process.*

"The provisions of these rules are not intended to be the basis of any kind of quota system".

Special District Convention for the purpose of electing District Delegates and Alternates to the 2024 Republican National Convention shall be held on May 11, 2024.

ELECTION OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT DELEGATES/ALTERNATES: Three (3) Congressional District (CD) delegates and three (3) CD alternates shall be elected from each of the four (4) CDs at Special District Conventions to be held on May 18, 2024. Voting delegates at the Special District Conventions shall be selected at Special Conventions held by each County during the period March 11, 2024 - April 5, 2024. The number of delegates to be elected to serve at the Special

District Conventions shall be equal to the number of persons each county has on the District Committee. The allocation of delegates at the district level shall be allocated according to votes received by the presidential candidates in the presidential primary within the district. Any adjustment to the allocation will be made at the state level (at-large). The Rules Committee shall determine any questions on allocations based on the presidential primary votes.

ELECTION OF AT-LARGE DELEGATES/ALTERNATES: Twenty Five (25) at-large delegates and Twenty Five (25) at-large alternates shall be elected by the Republican State Committee after the 2024 Republican presidential primary. Only those presidential candidates receiving a minimum of 15% of the total statewide votes cast in the GOP primary are entitled to receive delegates or alternates to the Republican National Convention.

A State Committee Meeting will be held on May 18, 2024 for the purpose of electing at-large Delegates and Alternates to the 2024 Republican National Convention.

PROCEDURE FOR ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES:

1. Each Congressional District shall elect three delegates and three alternates which shall be assigned to the candidates by the following method:
 - A. Any candidate in the presidential primary who receives a majority of the votes in any congressional district shall be allocated all three delegate and alternate positions from that district.
 - B. If no candidate receives a majority of the vote in any district, the candidate who receives a plurality of the vote in that district shall be allocated two delegate and alternate positions from that district and the runner-up candidate shall receive one delegate and alternate position from that district.
2. At-Large delegates and alternates shall be assigned to the candidates by the following method:
 - A. Each presidential candidate receiving fifteen (15) percent of the vote statewide, before rounding, shall be allocated one delegate and alternate.
 - B. Any presidential candidate who receives a majority of the presidential primary vote statewide shall be allocated the remaining at-large delegates and alternates.
 - C. If no presidential candidate receives a majority of the vote statewide, the remaining at-large delegates and alternates shall be allocated proportionally. The votes received by each candidate who receives fifteen (15) percent of the statewide vote shall be divided by the total number of votes cast for all candidates receiving fifteen (15) percent of the statewide vote total. Fractional delegates shall be rounded to the nearest whole delegate. In the event that a delegate is unallocated due to mathematical rounding, the unallocated delegate vote shall be cast in favor of the candidate closest to the rounding threshold. In the event that delegates are over-allocated due to mathematical rounding, the over-allocated delegate shall be removed from the candidate furthest from the rounding threshold.

VOTING PROCEDURE - CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

DELEGATES/ALTERNATES TO THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION - 2024

- 1) Ballots will be prepared for each Congressional District based on the results of the March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election within each Congressional District.
- 2) A random drawing will be held at the RPA Headquarters on **May 6, 2024** to determine the order of names of delegate candidates to be listed on the ballot. The District Chairman will be notified of the date and time of the drawing no later than 10 days prior to the drawing. The District Chairman, or his or her designee, are encouraged to attend the drawing.
- 3) Delegate Candidates recommended by the Presidential Candidate Campaign Committee shall be noted with a double asterisk (**).
- 4) Election of three (3) delegates for the winning candidate(s) (for each CD) shall be held.
- 5) The number of votes permitted by each delegate to the Special District Convention shall be one vote in the election of each delegate/alternate. Cumulative voting is not permitted, i.e., only one vote per delegate candidate is permitted.
- 6) Delegates/alternates shall be elected by one of two procedures:
 - a. Each delegate/alternate shall be elected in separate elections; or
 - b. The electing body may choose to elect all delegates earned by a presidential candidate on a single ballot and all alternates earned by a presidential candidate on a single ballot.
- 7) The Delegate Candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes will be elected Delegate(s) to the Republican National Convention representing the winning candidate(s).
- 8) Nomination of Delegate Candidates will not be required. Each Delegate Candidate, or designated representative, will be permitted to address the delegates to the Special District Convention. The District Chairman will determine the time allotted based on the total number of Delegate Candidates that wish to speak.
- 9) In case of a tie that affects the outcome of the election, a runoff election will be held to determine the winner between the tied candidates.
- 10) After the names of elected delegate(s) have been struck from the ballot the alternate delegate(s) shall be elected by the above procedure. Prior to the election of alternate delegate(s) any candidate who does not wish to serve as an alternate delegate must request that their name be removed from the ballot. This action will not remove their name from the ballot to be voted at the State Committee Meeting on May 18, 2024.
- 11) A record of the order of results (not the actual vote count) for each alternate delegate election shall be furnished to the State Party Secretary. This information will be utilized in the filling of vacancies in the delegation following the State Committee Meeting.

VOTING PROCEDURE - STATE COMMITTEE MEETING

DELEGATES/ALTERNATES TO THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION - 2024

1. Ballots will be prepared for the State Committee Meeting (May 18, 2024) based on the statewide results of the March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election and the results of the election of Delegates/Alternates at the Special District Conventions.
2. A random drawing will be held at the RPA Headquarters on May 13, 2024 to determine the order of names of delegate candidates to be listed on the ballot.
3. Delegate Candidates recommended by the Presidential Candidate Campaign Committee shall be noted with a double asterisk (**)
4. Election of delegates for the leading statewide Presidential Candidate shall be voted first.
5. The number of votes permitted by each State Committee Member shall be equal to the number of delegates earned by the Presidential Candidate. Cumulative voting is not permitted, i.e., only one vote per delegate candidate is permitted. The number of votes cast by State Committee Members must be equal to or less than the number of delegates earned by the Presidential Candidate. Ballots with "over votes" will not be counted.
6. Alternate Delegates elected at the Special District Convention may elect to be a candidate for Delegate "at-large" at the State Committee Meeting. If an Alternate Delegate elected at a Special District Convention is elected a Delegate "at-large" the Arkansas Delegates, following the State Committee Meeting, will appoint a replacement alternate delegate. The Arkansas Delegates shall award the Congressional District "alternate" vacancy to the unsuccessful District Alternate Candidate that receives the highest number of votes. If there is no unsuccessful District Alternate Candidate the Arkansas Delegates shall award the Congressional District "alternate" vacancy to the unsuccessful "at large" Alternate Candidate from the same Congressional District that receives the highest number of votes.
7. The Delegate Candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes will be elected Delegate(s) to the Republican National Convention representing the named Presidential Candidate.
8. The above procedure will be repeated for other Presidential Candidates who have earned delegates to the Republican National Convention.
9. Nomination of Delegate Candidates will not be required. Each delegate candidate, or designated representative, will be permitted 30 seconds to address the members of the State Committee.
10. In case of a tie that affects the outcome of the election, a runoff election will be held to determine the winner between the tied candidates.
11. After the names of elected delegate(s) have been struck from the ballot the alternate delegate(s) shall be elected by the above procedure. Prior to the election of alternate delegate(s) any candidate who does not wish to serve as an alternate delegate must request that their name be removed from the ballot.

VACANCIES: Following the election of district delegates/alternates and at-large delegates/alternates any vacancies in the delegates or alternates to the Republican National Convention shall be filled by a majority vote of the elected CD and at-large delegates per the voting procedures for the Special District Convention and for the State Committee Meeting.

COMMITMENT OF DELEGATES/ ALTERNATES: Delegates and Alternates shall remain committed to the Presidential Candidate designated on their filing form through the first ballot unless they are released by their designated Presidential Candidate prior to the first ballot or their Candidate withdraws.

Attachment 1: Flow Chart

