



## *2016 ALGOP DELEGATE INFORMATION PROCESS*

### **Who can run for delegate?**

Any qualified, registered Alabama voter may run for delegate. The voter must choose a presidential candidate and pledge their vote to that candidate.

### **When can I qualify to be a delegate?**

Qualifying opens on **Monday, October 5, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. CDT** and closes on **Friday, November 6, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. CST**. No forms or fees will be accepted before the opening day and time.

### **What is the qualifying process?**

There are two steps needed to qualify to run as a delegate:

First, download a [Delegate Candidacy form](#) or request one from the ALGOP at 205.212.5900.

Second, after filling out the form in its entirety, return it to the ALGOP headquarters with a payment of \$150.00. Keep a copy for your records.

Here are the ways to return the form and qualifying fee:

**Mail:** Alabama Republican Party, 3505 Lorna Road, Birmingham, AL 35216  
(Note: we recommend a certified return signature, but it is not necessary.)  
Enclose your \$150 qualifying fee check made payable to the Alabama Republican Party. Please write the candidate and place number in the 'memo' column on your check.)

**Email:** Scan the form and email to [rphillips@algop.org](mailto:rphillips@algop.org) ; pay the \$150 qualifying fee [online](#).

**Hand delivery:** Return the form and qualifying fee to the headquarters (see address above).

**How many delegate slots is Alabama allotted and how do I decide the slot to run in?**

You have two choices: you may run at-large or you may run in your congressional district.

**If you run at-large:**

There are 26 slots, numbered At-Large #1, At-Large #2, etc. You must declare your place number on your form. Your name will be on every GOP primary ballot in the state of Alabama.

*NOTE: If you do not have any opposition for your slot on the ballot, your name will not appear and the delegate place will go to you automatically if your presidential candidate gathers up the votes needed to obtain delegates.*

**If you run in a congressional district:**

There are a total of 21 slots for the seven congressional districts, three per district.

For example: CD1 Place #1, CD1Place #2, CD1 Place #3

If you choose to run per your congressional district, your name will be on the GOP primary ballots in just your congressional district.

*NOTE: If you do not have any opposition for your slot on the ballot, your name will not appear and the delegate place will go to you automatically if your presidential candidate gathers up the votes needed to obtain delegates.*

**What if the slots are full with delegate candidates when I qualify?**

You can still run. You must pick a slot and the voters will choose on the GOP primary ballot.

**How many people can run for one slot?**

As many as apply. For example, "At-Large #5" may have one person running or four people running.

**Are there runoffs for a delegate slot?**

No. The delegate selection will be decided on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 on the GOP primary ballot. The delegate who gets the plurality vote wins the slot. Your candidate must then get enough GOP primary votes to receive you as a delegate. The more votes a presidential candidate gets, the more delegates he/she picks up.

**Can I campaign if I run for a delegate slot?**

Absolutely, but it's not required. The more of your friends and family that know you are on the ballot the better your chances are of winning. You can send out flyers, use your social media, your Christmas card list, have signs printed, etc.

### **How do I know if I won or not?**

As you can imagine, March 1, 2016 election night will be busy with lots of information coming in to us. The Secretary of State's office is planning to have live voting results that evening. The ALGOP will post the results on our website as soon as we receive them. If you run statewide, it's a good chance we will not know who won for the next day or two until all votes are counted.

### **I ran but came up short and didn't win a slot. What now?**

You may run for an 'alternate delegate' slot. If you paid your \$150, there will not be another fee. If you didn't run as a delegate but want to try for an alternate delegate, there is a \$150 fee and a completed qualifying form will be needed.

*The Alabama Republican Party members will select the alternates. That procedure will be announced later.*

### **What if I run for a delegate slot and my presidential candidate doesn't win the proportion numbers needed to amass delegates from Alabama?**

If this happens, then you will not be awarded a delegate slot. You may run for an alternate delegate slot and try again.

### **Can a presidential candidate receive all of our 47 Alabama delegates?**

Yes, but the candidate would have to receive 50% plus one vote of the statewide GOP primary votes. That is very rare, especially this year with so many GOP candidates running. It's possible, but not probable.

### **I ran as a delegate/I didn't run as a delegate. Can I still attend the RNC Convention?**

The delegates and alternate delegates are all guaranteed rooms, transportation and event invitations while at the convention, at their own cost. You can come to the convention as a guest, but you will be on your own for your transportation and hotel needs. Each delegate and alternate delegate receives a guest pass for each RNC session. They control their guest passes.

### **I ran and won, but I've changed my mind on who to cast my vote for at the RNC Convention. May I switch my vote at the convention?**

No. You must vote for the candidate that you pledged your oath to on your qualifying form. However, if the candidate releases his delegates/alternates then you may vote for a different person.

For example, on August 24, 2012 Senator Rick Santorum released his delegates to vote for Mitt Romney for a unified RNC Convention in Tampa the week before the event.

### **When and where is the 2016 RNC Convention?**

The 2016 RNC Convention will be in Cleveland, Ohio. The first session will be on Monday, July 18 and will end the evening of July 21, 2016. Most delegates/alternates arrive on the Sunday prior to the opening (July 17, 2016), but you can arrive earlier. Hotel reservations are for July 17-21 only. Any other nights you will have to secure yourself.

### **If I win, who pays the costs for my trip to the RNC Convention?**

You do. You pay all expenses including your travel plans, hotel accommodations and any delegate fees that may be assessed to offset convention costs. The RNC will assign the hotels. All delegates/alternate delegates will have one room available and transportation to and from official RNC events will be provided.

### **What is a Super Delegate?**

A Super Delegate is a member of the Republican National Committee. In Alabama, those three delegates are the Alabama State Chairman, the Alabama National Committeeman and the Alabama National Committeewoman. These three Super Delegates are not pledged to any candidate and may vote for the candidate of their choice. However, they historically vote for the winner of the state of Alabama's presidential primary.