

GUIDELINES FOR CAUCUS REORGANIZATIONS

Interest group caucuses of the SC Democratic Party operate under the authority of the State Executive Committee, and are subject to the Rules of the Democratic National Committee and the SC Democratic Party. The State Executive Committee ordered on March 13 that every caucus reorganize in conjunction with the 2021 State Convention. Caucus meetings will be online, on the dates listed [here](#).

- Register for caucus meetings [here](#).
- Caucus membership is open to any Democrat in South Carolina who wishes to participate in the activities of a particular caucus. Individual Democrats may join more than one caucus.
- To be recognized by the SCDP, a caucus must adopt bylaws, which must be approved by the State Executive Committee. Several caucuses have not done this; they will be considered inactive until such bylaws have been approved. New caucus chairs should check with the SCDP 2nd Vice Chair or designated Officer as soon as they are elected to be certain their bylaws are approved and on file.
- At the 2021 reorganization meetings, voting is open to all Democrats who register as members of a particular caucus. There can be no dues or fee required in order to vote. Membership roles must be maintained by every caucus and filed with the 2nd Vice Chair, and there must be ongoing opportunities for new members to join.
- If a caucus has never submitted bylaws to the State Executive Committee, the 2021 reorganization meeting may be held in a provisional status. Officers should be elected, and a plan should be passed for the immediate development and submission of bylaws.
- Every Caucus should elect, at a minimum, a Chair or Co-Chairs. Other Officer positions parallel to the Party's structure such as vice chairs, secretary, and treasurer should be considered on a Caucus by Caucus and needed basis. A caucus's bylaws may require other officers. Every caucus must, in its bylaws and its elections, follow the Democratic Party's commitment to diversity.
- When its bylaws have been approved by the State Executive Committee, a caucus will be recognized as official and its chair will become an ex officio non-voting member of the State Committee.
- If a caucus has a social media presence, the SCDP Communications Director serving as the State Chair's designee must be one of the administrators on every account. In particular, caucuses must adhere to the **Six Basic Elements of the Democratic Party**.

Six Basic Elements of the Democratic Party

- (1) All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in each State should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, age, gender, or sexual orientation.
- (2) No test for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to, the Democratic Party in any State should be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone, or support discrimination on the grounds of race, color, creed, national origin, age, gender, or sexual orientation.
- (3) The time and place for all public meetings of the Democratic Party on all levels should be publicized fully and in such a manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons.
- (4) The Democratic Party on all levels should support the broadest possible registration without discrimination on grounds of race, color, creed, national origin, age, gender, or sexual orientation.
- (5) The Democratic Party in each State should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of Democratic Party Officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures should be done in such a fashion that all prospective and current members of each State Democratic Party will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Democratic Party Organization.
- (6) The Democratic Party in each State should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications for all officers and representatives of the State Democratic Party. Such publications should be done in a timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within the State Democratic Party and each county will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office.