

CAUCUS VOTERS **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

(as of January 13, 2012)

Condensed Version

- To vote in the caucus, you must be a registered Republican by February 17, 2012.
- You can attend any caucus in your Congressional District. List on www.ksgop.org
- Caucus proceedings will get underway at 10:00 AM, CST on Saturday, March 10, 2012. Doors will open early to get voters credentialed. Doors will close at 1:00 PM.
- Make sure you bring a state-issued photo ID (i.e. drivers license) to the caucus. Voter registration cards are not required.
- Electioneering at caucus locations is encouraged: candidate T-shirts, stickers, signs, and literature.
- There are no advanced or absentee ballots.
- National convention delegates are not elected at the caucus. The only ballot you will cast is for the Republican Presidential candidate of your choice.

Longer Version

What is the Purpose of the Caucus? Registered republicans in Kansas cast ballots indicating their preference for the republican presidential candidate. The number of votes cast for each candidate determine how many of Kansas' 40 delegates to the National Republican Convention are assigned to each presidential candidate.

What is the Difference Between a Primary, a Caucus, and a Convention? All three allocate national convention delegates to presidential candidates.

- A *Primary* is run by the state using state assets & taxpayer dollars and allows voters to cast individual preference ballots.
- A *Caucus* is run by a political party using volunteers & donations and allows voters to cast individual preference ballots.
- A *Convention* is a meeting of state party central committee members who decide presidential delegate allocation.

Which System Does Kansas Use? Kansas has used all three:

1988	Caucus
1992	Presidential Primary
1996	State Committee resolution for all delegates to support Bob Dole.
2000	State Committee decided delegates would attend the national convention uncommitted to any candidate.
2004	State Committee resolution for all delegates to support George W. Bush
2008	Caucus
2012	Caucus

Who Decides whether a primary, caucus, or convention is used? The state legislature can mandate a primary. If it decides not to, as it has every year since 1992, the state Republican party decides on a caucus (1988, 2008, 2012) or convention (1996, 2000, 2004).

Where will the Caucus be Held? The 2012 Caucus will be held in 99 locations across Kansas. 93 different counties will have caucus locations. The list is at www.ksgop.org

What time will the caucus start? The caucus will be called to order at 10:00 AM on Saturday, March 10. Each Caucus location will determine when it will open doors to start credentialing voters. Sites anticipating small attendance may open around 9:30, while larger attendance sites may open as early as 8:30. Opening times will be posted on the party website in mid-February.

Who Can Vote in the Caucus? Any Kansas resident registered as a republican as of February 17, 2012.

Why February 17 as the Cut-off date? The state party must purchase the statewide voter registration list from the Secretary of State and then needs time to break the list into 93 sub lists and distribute them to the various caucus chairs.

How do I participate? On Saturday, March 10, bring your state issued photo ID (like a driver's license) to the caucus location. Be prepared for lines during the check-in process. Each voter will have to have their registration verified.

What can I expect when I show up? Caucus chairs are given broad latitude in running their event. Once you are checked-in, you will proceed to the main seating area. The chair of the caucus will call the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Following the introduction, there will be the opportunity for representatives from various campaigns to present information about their candidate. Once all the representatives have had an opportunity to discuss their candidate, ballots will be distributed and you can vote. Voting will be by secret ballot. You will only vote for one candidate from a list of eight.

Is special registration needed for the caucus? No. As long as you are a registered Republican on February 17 you can vote. Bring a state issued photo ID with you to verify your voter registration.

What time will the results be announced? The caucus chair will announce the results of their caucus after all of the ballots have been cast and counted. The state party will post statewide results on the party website as they are received and verified.

How do I find out if I'm a registered Republican? Contact your local county election office. For a complete listing of election offices, visit:
http://www.kssos.org/elections/elections_registration_ceo.asp

How do I register to vote in Kansas? Fill out this form and submit it to the local county election office. <http://www.kssos.org/forms/elections/voterregistration.pdf>

Will the actual person who attends the National Convention be selected at the caucus? No. Delegates to the Republican National Convention are selected through a separate process later this spring.

How many National Convention delegates does Kansas have? 40

How does that compare to other states? Iowa 28; New Hampshire 12; S Carolina 25; Colorado 36; Nebraska 35; Missouri 52; Oklahoma 43; Arkansas 36; Texas; 155; California 172.

How many total delegates are at the National Convention? 2,249 total delegates. It takes 1,144 to win the presidential nomination.

How are the Kansas Delegates allocated to candidates?

- 3 delegates (the state party chair and national committee man and woman) are allocated to the candidate with the most statewide votes
- 25 delegates are awarded proportionally based on the statewide vote totals.
- 3 delegates (12 total) are awarded winner take all in each congressional district.

How can I apply to be a National Convention delegate? Submit a completed application form found on the party website. www.ksgop.org

How are delegates selected? In March and April the state party committees will select the individuals who will serve as delegates. The delegates must vote for their assigned presidential candidate unless released by the candidate.

How can I show support for my candidate during the caucus? Electioneering at caucus locations is encouraged. T-shirts, stickers, signs, and literature from candidates is allowed. If you chose to pass out information about a specific candidate, please be respectful of other people's opinions.

Can I vote by advance ballot? No. There are no advanced or absentee ballots. In order to cast a vote you must be physically present at the caucus location.