

RBC Proposal Explained

How Automatic Delegates Vote on Presidential Roll Call

The RBC's proposed change to implement the recommendations on unpledged delegates (actual language is included in Article IX.C.7 of the proposed Call for the 2020 Convention) provides that on the first presidential roll call vote, automatic delegates will vote only if a presidential candidate has secured enough pledged delegates to receive the nomination. Otherwise, only pledged delegates will vote on the first presidential roll call. If there is a second presidential roll call, all delegates, including automatic delegates, will vote.

Automatic delegates will continue to be able to vote on all other convention matters including the standing committee reports (Credentials, Rules and Platform) and the vice-presidential nomination. They will also continue to have access to all convention assets as they did in 2016 and will see no change to their access on the floor or to housing.

Example

Pledged Delegates	1,000*
Automatic Delegates	200*
Total Delegates (All)	1,200*

* Because the number of delegates changes from year to year, the following examples use simplified numbers to illustrate what will change. These numbers do not reflect the actual number of delegates who will participate.

When Can Automatic Delegates Vote on the First Ballot?

Under the new system, automatic delegates will only cast votes on the first presidential nominating ballot if a presidential candidate has secured more than enough pledged delegate certifications to secure the nomination. The determination that automatic delegates are eligible to participate on the first ballot will be made by the DNC Secretary based on the pledged delegate certifications submitted prior to the Convention.

Total Delegates (Pledged + Automatic) ("Trigger" = 50% + 1)	1,200
Number of pledged delegates certified to a presidential candidate required for automatic delegates to also vote on the first ballot	601

How Many Delegate Votes Does a Candidate Need to Secure the Nomination?

The number of votes needed to secure the nomination remains unchanged -- a majority of those eligible to vote on that ballot.

Automatic Delegates NOT Voting

Only Pledged Delegates Vote on First Ballot	
Total Eligible Delegates (Pledged ONLY)	1,000
<u>Number needed for Nomination</u> (50% + 1 of Pledged Delegates ONLY)	501

Automatic Delegates Voting

Pledged and Automatic Delegates Vote on First Ballot	
Total Eligible Delegates (Pledged + Automatic)	1,200
<u>Number needed for Nomination</u> (50% + 1 of Pledged & Automatic Delegates)	601