

2025 California Democratic Party
Assembly District Election
Meetings Procedures

February 22 and 23, 2025

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NOTE: These Procedures are based upon the Bylaws of the California Democratic Party and are intended to provide more details and clarity to the ADEMs process. Wherever there may be a conflict between the Bylaws and these Procedures, the Bylaws take precedence. Some dates in the Bylaws may need to be updated to match the 2025 ADEM procedures.

I. Upcoming ADEM Schedule

All times are Pacific Standard Time.

December 9, 2024	Candidate Registration Window Opens - 12:00pm
December 10, 2024	ADEM Candidate Orientation 6-7:30 p.m. - To RSVP CLICK: https://cadem-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0kceirrDMpGtaTe_MgeqUdyLt0OptOa10K
December 13-15, 2024	Post Election Virtual Executive Board
December 21, 2024	Office Closed
January 6, 2025	Office Opened Electronic Voting Registration Opens - 12:00pm In-Person Participant Registration Opens - 12:00pm
January 8, 2025	Candidate Registration Window Closes - 12:00pm Deadline to Withdraw Candidate Registration - 6:00pm
January 9, 2025	Final Candidate List Posted Candidate Statement Submission Form Opens - 12:00pm
January 16, 2025	Candidate Statement Submission Form Closes - 12:00pm
January 24, 2025	Electronic Voting Registration Closes - 12:00pm
January 31, 2025	Electronic Voting Credentials Mailed
	Electronic Voting Opens

February 22, 2025	Saturday ADEM Meetings
February 23, 2025	Sunday ADEM Meetings Electronic Voting Closes - 6:00pm In-Person Participant Registration Closes - 6:00pm
February 26, 2025	Deadline to verify Voter Registration - 12:00pm
March 3, 2025	ADEM Results
March 18, 2025	2025-27 DSCC Deadline

II. Introduction

The California Democratic Party (“CDP”) Bylaws (Article VI) provides that an Assembly District Elections Meeting (“ADEM”) shall be held in each of the California Democratic Party 22 Regions in each odd-numbered year (February 22 & 23 for 2025) in order to elect 14 representatives (referred to herein as “Assembly District delegates” or “ADDs”) to the California Democratic Party State Central Committee (referred to in the Bylaws as “This Committee”) and a representative to the CDP Executive Board (referred to herein as “E-Board representatives”).

Further, the By-laws standardize how the elections are to be conducted, and provide, in Article VI Section 1(i), as follows:

"The Rules Committee of This Committee shall promulgate procedures governing the conduct of the Election Meeting, including the election of 14 delegates to This Committee as set forth in Article II, Section 5, and one representative to the Executive Board, as set forth in Article VII, Section 2(c) "

These Procedures set out those rules and provide additional details on how the ADEMs are to be organized and conducted. Additionally, these procedures explain how both Electronic and In-Person voting will be conducted.

In these Procedures, *italics* are used to indicate rules that are specifically set out by the CDP By-laws. The current CDP By-Laws may be found online at www.cadem.org/our-party/by-laws.

These Procedures are, in general, mandatory. ADEMs, which are conducted in violation of these Procedures may be subject to challenge, which, especially where it can be shown that the rights of a participant or candidate was violated, could lead to the results being voided in whole or in part, and the convening of a new ADEM.

These Procedures may be supplemented by CDP Staff in consultation with the CDP Chair and the Lead-Co-chairs of the Rules Committee or their designee(s).

III. Eligibility

Candidate Eligibility

The qualifications for running for Assembly District Delegate (ADD) to the California Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) are the same as those for participating in the ADEM, with four important caveats:

- 1) the candidate must file their application to the CDP during a filing period that starts 60 days prior to the first ADEM and ends 30 days later, so that they can be checked for eligibility; and
- 2) the candidate must pay a \$40 filing fee to the CDP (which will be waived if the candidate declares a hardship); and
- 3) the candidate must be registered to vote as a Democrat in the Assembly District in which they are applying to run as of the preceding general election (**for 2025, November 5,**

2024), unless the candidate turned 18 or was naturalized after that deadline, and is registered to vote at the time of candidacy filing; and

4) a candidate does not need to be present to be eligible for election.

If a prospective candidate who otherwise meets the above qualifications is unable to register to vote because of the citizenship status, they may still file as a candidate by:

- A. attesting that if eligible to register to vote they would do so and do so as Party Preference Democratic; and
- B. attesting that they reside at an address within the Assembly District of their candidacy and provide that address; and
- C. obtaining the name, voter registration address, and signature of a registered Democrat in the state of California, which person will be serving as a reference for the person submitting the form; and
- D. attesting that they agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

Participant Eligibility

In order to “participate” (that is, vote) in the ADEMs, a person is required to be a registered Democrat in the Assembly District in which they are voting. Verification of such registration is required in order for a ballot to be counted. A ballot that cannot be verified will not be counted. The process for verification is explained below.

IV. Candidate Registration

General Candidate Registration

The 2025 Candidate Registration Filing Period will open on Monday, December 9, 2024 at Noon and close on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at Noon. Candidate registration will be conducted using an online form, created by PDI, that will check a potential candidate's voter registration in PDI prior to approval. During the registration process, a candidate will be required to provide accurate registration information, contact information, and payment information to have their candidate registration accepted.

The following information is required, when registering, to check against the voter file:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Residence Address
- Date of Birth

If any of the information does not match the voter file, the system will not be able to verify the Candidate.

If a candidate is unable to register themselves, because they are not being found in PDI, they are encouraged to double check their registration information at the My Voter Status - California

Secretary of State webpage <<https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>>. If, after checking their voter registration with the Secretary of State, they cannot confirm their registration status, they may contact adem@cadem.org for assistance.

Candidate Registration by Non-Citizens

If a potential candidate is someone that is unable to register to vote due to their citizenship status, they must register using a paper registration form. This registration process will be subject to the same registration timeline and due date as described in the General Registration above.

On a form provided by the Chair of This Committee and posted alongside the General Candidate Registration Form, potential candidates will:

- 1) attest that if eligible to register to vote they would do so and do so as Party Preference Democratic; and
- 2) attest that they reside at an address within the Assembly District of their candidacy and provide that address; and
- 3) have obtained the name, voter registration address, and signature of a registered Democrat in the state of California, which person will be serving as a reference for the person submitting the form; and
- 4) Attest that they agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

Candidate Registration Verification

Candidate Registration forms will require participants to provide their First Name, Last Name, Residence Address, and Date of Birth as it appears in the voter file. Additionally, participants will be required to provide a working email address.

Candidate Registration for a candidate who is unable to register to vote due to citizenship status must meet the requirements provided in the previous section (“Registration by Non-Citizens”) and file the Non-Citizen registration form with the CDP by the candidate registration deadline.

Gender Selection

When registering, a candidate must select whether they consider themselves to be a Self Identifying Female or an Other than Self Identifying Female.

Executive Board Selection

Candidates may indicate whether or not they wish to be an eligible candidate for the executive board representative while registering. If the question is not answered, it will be assumed that the candidate does not wish to be an eligible candidate for the executive board representative.

Candidate Order on Ballot

Candidates will be listed on the ballot, in the order that they complete their Candidate Registration Form. Candidate Registration Forms will be time stamped to determine this order. For Non-citizen Candidates, the Non-Citizen Candidate form will also be time-stamped to determine ballot order.

Candidate Statements

Candidates will have the opportunity to submit a candidate statement. Candidate statements will be reviewed prior to being posted online. The Candidate Statement Submission Deadline is Thursday, January 16, 2025 at Noon.

If a Candidate Statement does not follow the instructions and rules on the submission form, then it may be rejected. If a statement is rejected prior to the submission deadline, the candidate will be permitted to submit a new statement. Once a statement is approved, no edits or future statements will be accepted.

Participant Registration

Anyone wishing to participate in an ADEM election must be a Democrat registered to vote in that Assembly District. Participants must register with CADEM to receive a ballot and to enable CADEM to collect all participants' information and check it against the voter file.

There are three types of registered participants:

- 1) Registration for Online Voting,
- 2) In-Person registration that has been verified, and
- 3) In-Person registration that has not been verified.

Once a participant has filled out a registration form, it is not possible to resubmit their information into a new form.

The Registration Form for Online Voting will open January 6, 2025 at 12:00 PM and close January 24, 2025. The In-Person Voter Registration Form will open January 6, 2025 at 12:00 PM and close February 23, 2025 at 6 PM.

Participant Identification Number (PIN)

Every participant (including candidates) will be issued a Participant Identification Number (PIN) after registering for the ADEM that must be entered on their ballot for the ballot to be counted. PINs are 10 digits long, separated into three parts. Every PIN is specific to each registrant.

The form of the PIN is: ## - # - #####
For example: 34-1-1234567

The first two digits, to the left of the first hyphen, of the PIN will be the Assembly District number for that candidate or participant. E.g. 01, 03, 09, 23, 39, 80, etc.

The third digit, between the two hyphens, of the identification number will identify the type of registrant.

- 0 - Candidate
- 1 - Electronic Voting registration
- 2 - In-Person registration that has been verified
- 3 - In-Person registration that has not been verified

The final seven numbers of the identification number, to the right of the second hyphen, will be assigned in the order that individuals register, regardless of district or registrant type. Each identification number will have an individual set of 7 digits.

Online Registration Forms

There will be two participant registration forms available on the ADEM website. Electronic Voting Registration and In-Person Registration. A participant must fill out the form during the posted window to be eligible and receive a participant identification number.

For the upcoming ADEM elections, the Electronic Voter Registration Form will open January 6, 2025 at 12:00 PM and close January 24, 2025. The In-Person Voter Registration Form will open January 6, 2025 at 12:00 PM at 12:00 PM and close February 23, 2025 at 6 PM. Electronic Voting registration will NOT be available after January 24, 2025.

Electronic Voting Registration Form

In order to vote electronically, a participant must complete the Electronic Voting Registration form. Participants who complete the Electronic Voting registration form (and whose registration status is verified by the system) will have an Electronic Voting credentials mailed to their mailing address. The mailing address will be obtained from the voter file, through PDI. No changes will be made to mailing addresses.

The Electronic Voting registration process will work as follows:

The Electronic Voting Registration form will require participants to provide their First Name, Last Name, Address, and Date of Birth as it appears in the voter file. Additionally, participants will be required to provide a working email address.

After providing the required information, the registration form system will check the information against the voter file. For participants who have been verified, they will proceed to the next

page. For participants who could not be verified, they will be told they need to try again. The Electronic Voting registration form will only accept information as it appears in the Vote File from PDI.

After a participant has been verified, there will be a two-step verification process that must be completed prior to receiving a participant identification number (PIN). When the two-step verification process is completed, participants will receive their PIN on their screen and in a confirmation email. Each participant is responsible for recording their PIN.

Instructions for Electronic Voting will be provided below.

In-Person Registration Form

Participants who would like to register to vote at an in-person location or do not fill out the Electronic Voting form by January 24, 2025 at 12:00pm, must use the In-Person Registration form.

The In-Person Registration Form will require participants to provide their First Name, Last Name, Address, and Date of Birth as it appears in the voter file.

After providing the required information, the registration form will check the information against the voter file. For participants who have been verified, they will proceed to the next page. For participants who could not be verified, a popup window will appear with the following information and buttons:

We could not verify the information you entered. If you would like to try submitting your information again, please click **Try Again**. If you would like to receive an ID Number now and verify your information later, please select **Verify Later**.

Participants who select **Try Again**, will go back to the main screen and have the opportunity to submit their information again. Participants who select **Verify Later** will proceed with the In-Person Registration Form and be given a participant identification number (PIN).

In their confirmation email, containing their participant identification number, instructions will be included to verify their registration. Failure to verify voter registration before the deadline will result in their ballot not being counted.

Security Measures

Due to past abuse of the participant registration system and thousands of participants being signed up without their knowledge, new measures will be implemented to make it more difficult for participants to be signed up without their knowledge.

An email may only be used one time when registering on either of the registration forms. Attempting to use an email that has been used more than 1 time will result in the registration being rejected.

When using the Electronic Voting registration form, the registration form will only allow an IP to be used 5 times. If a registration form is used from an IP address that has been used 5 times already, then the registration will be rejected.

Registration Verification

The Electronic Voting Registration form will require participants to provide their First Name, Last Name, Address, and Date of Birth as it appears in the voter file. Additionally, participants will be required to provide a working email address.

The In-Person Registration Form will require participants to provide their First Name, Last Name, Address, and Date of Birth as it appears in the voter file.

CADEM uses Political Data Inc. for its voter file. All information is verified using their programs and voter file. In the case that voter information can not be verified, records from the Secretary of State will be accepted. Registration records and voter affidavits from County Registrars might not be accepted.

Post Registration Verification

For participants who are unable to complete the verification process and choose to verify their voter registration later, they will be required to provide proof of their voter registration from the Secretary of State in order for their ballot to be counted.

For all "Verify Later" participants, CADEM will have PDI do a secondary check of the information submitted, to see if any additional participants' information is verified.

For those participants for whom verification could not be completed, CADEM will send an email instructing them to go to the My Voter Status - California Secretary of State Website <<https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>> to provide proof of their registration. Participants will need to upload a photo, print out, pdf, etc. of their voter registration information. An upload link will be emailed to participants who need to submit verification. The information they submitted when registering must match the information on the SOS form.

Records from the Secretary of State will be accepted. Registration records and voter affidavits from County Registrars might not be accepted. If a participant is not able to complete the verification process (either through the system or by submitting proof of registration to CADEM) by February 26, 2025 at 12:00pm, their ballot will NOT be counted.

Information Sharing

Each registration form will provide an option for a participant to make their contact information available to registered candidates. This will be done using an Opt-In checkbox on the registration form. The only information that will be shared will be First Name, Last Name, Address, Email, and Phone Number. Only participants that check the Opt-In box, will have their information shared. Participant information will be shared via a Google Sheet that will be regularly updated.

V. Ballots

Electronic Ballots

Electronic Ballots will be managed through Election Buddy. It is up to each participant to:

- 1) Enter their PIN into Election Buddy.
- 2) Enter their Password into Election Buddy.
- 3) Select up to 14 candidates
- 4) Click Submit Ballot on the review page

For a ballot to be counted, a voter must ensure that their ballot was submitted.

Paper Ballots (In-person only)

All paper ballots will be printed by the Scantron company. It is up to each participant to:

- 1) Enter their PIN on the appropriate place on the ballot
- 2) Look up the list of candidates for their ADEM
- 3) Vote for no more than 14 candidates by filling in the appropriate bubbles on the ballot form.
- 4) Not vote more than one ballot

For a ballot to be counted, a valid PIN must be entered on the front side of the ballot.

Participants will need to clearly write their PIN and fill in the corresponding bubbles for that number. If the written PIN is not legible or the written PIN and the bubbled PIN do not match, the ballot may not be counted as valid.

On the backside of the ballot, up to 14 bubbles may be selected. There are no requirement to gender-balance votes on a ballot.

VI. Online Voting

CADEM is implementing an Online Voting option. This option is meant to address, the problems encountered with the Post Office during the 2021 and 2023 ADEM Elections and the high costs

associated with such an effort. The Online Voting option will still require a physical component, in that credentials will be mailed to verified participants' registered mailing address to ensure there is no abuse of the system.

Online Voting Registration

As explained above, participants who would like to vote online must complete the Online Voting Registration process. Participants who complete the form will have electronic voting login credentials mailed to their mailing address. The mailing address will be obtained from the voter file, through PDI. No changes may be made to the mailing address.

Online Voting Registration will open January 6, 2025 at 12:00 PM (noon) and closes January 24, 2025 at 12:00 PM (noon) . Online Voting registration will NOT be available after January 24, 2025 at 12:00 PM (noon). (The deadline to actually vote will be February 23, 2025.)

Online Voting Credentials

Online Voting Credentials will include a participant's PIN and Password. The PIN and Password will be unique to each participant.

Voters' online voting credentials, which they must have to cast a vote on Election Buddy, will ONLY be mailed. Voting Credentials WILL NOT be distributed via email, phone, or any other means. This is to ensure that the information will be shared only with the participant through their registered address.

Online Voting Ballot Distribution

After January 24, 2025, CADEM will send the list of those registered to vote online to our Mail Vendor. The goal is for all online voting credentials to have been sent out via USPS on or before January 31, 2025. Credentials will be mailed to each participant's registered mailing address. No changes may be made.

Online Voting Administration

Online Voting will be conducted using Election Buddy. Only participants who registered for electronic voting by the posted deadline will be eligible to vote online.

After January 24, 2025, CADEM will upload all of the PINs and Passwords for participants that successfully completed the Online Voter Registration Form into Election Buddy. The Online Voting Credentials will be mailed out on or before January 31, 2025. Voting on Election Buddy will open on the day that credentials are mailed out and will close on February 23, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

VII. In Person Voting Locations

In addition to the online voting system, there will still be the opportunity to vote at in-person locations. As in 2023, any Democrat may vote at any location in the state. However, as explained below, every in-person participant must have a participant code to cast a ballot. If the voter is verified in advance and properly fills out their ballot, it will be counted. If the voter is NOT verified in advance, then the voter must provide proof of verification by a deadline in order for that ballot to be counted.

In all cases of in person voting, the voter must pick from among the list of candidates for their particular Assembly District (based on their residence). Voting for more than 14 candidates will void the ballot, as will leaving off the participant code or filling it in incorrectly.

Location Requirements

Per the CADEM Bylaws, each location site must be ADA-compliant, including the path of travel from parking to registration and voting tables. There must be easy access to spaces for all Democrats who wish to participate in the ADEM activities. Regardless of elevator availability, locations with stairs are required to allow all participants to reach the balloting area easily. Elevators may fail, so there must always be an alternative access route.

There should be sufficient room for voters to line up and cast ballots inside the building. If it is necessary to include outdoor areas, they should be protected from the elements.

There should be sufficient parking, including sufficient ADA-compliant parking, sufficient room for election balloting and problem tables, which may be dramatically increased in number depending on the district's population.

Each participant who has registered to vote in the ADEM should be provided a ballot.

Each Regional Director will set up at least 2 Voting Locations in their region. Not every Assembly district will have a meeting

Each ADEM location will accept ballots for ALL Assembly Districts. And each should have at least one large ballot box.

There must be robust cell service and strong Wi-Fi service is strongly encouraged.

Location Selection

Per the CADEM Bylaws, there must be at least two ADEM locations in each CDP Region. The CDP shall publicize a list of ALL locations.

All locations should be open for 4 hours, opening to the public no earlier than 10am but no later than 2pm.

The cost of a location should not exceed \$650 and be free of cost whenever possible.

Regional Directors must help find a location and attend every ADEM in their Region. The ADEM location to which the Regional Director is assigned may change if there is concern about equitable work distribution. All locations should be submitted by Friday, November 15, 2024.

Additional Locations

There may be more than two locations in each Region, especially if there is a good cause. “Good cause” may include the necessity for traveling very long distances, traveling in heavy traffic through dense population centers, or traveling in hazardous weather conditions.

Challenges to Locations Selected

Any DSCC delegate member may challenge location decisions affecting the Assembly District in which they are registered to vote to the Compliance Review Commission by November 22, 2024.

Such filings may challenge decisions regarding specific locations or the number of locations for a particular Assembly District.

Challenges concerning specific locations must include an immediate and available alternative to the selected location that meets the location criteria in these ADEM Procedures at a similar cost. In its sole discretion, the Compliance Review Commission may dismiss such a challenge if it does not contain the required information on an alternative location as to its availability and suitability.

Location Scheduling

Regional Directors, their selected Conveners, CDP Staff, and the CDP Chair shall work together to identify and secure a location(s) for the Election meetings and must begin posting final ADEM in-person locations by Monday, December 2, 2024.

Notice

The Regional Directors, Conveners, CDP Staff and the CDP Chair must make a reasonable effort to notice to all registered Democrats of the date, time, place and purpose of the Election meetings, the rules for participation in the Election meeting, filing deadlines and rules to run as a candidate and how to vote in the ADEM.

At the very least the following persons should be noticed:

1. All Members of the current DSCC Delegation - (to be notified by the CDP Chair and staff).
2. All Democratic County Central Committees
3. All participants of the previous Assembly District Election Meeting - (to be notified by the CDP Chair and Staff)
4. Chartered organizations and clubs
5. Caucus Chairs, who are encouraged to notify their membership

VIII. In Person Voting Procedures

Who Runs the ADEM Location

The Regional Director, Convener and/or the Convener's designee shall preside at the Election Meeting as chair and shall be responsible for conducting the Election Meeting in compliance with these ADEM Procedures. It is encouraged that the Regional Directors attend all of their ADEM(s) as an advisor and observers of the Election meeting(s).

The selected Convener must be (1) a registered Democrat and (2) pledge not to seek a DSCC seat from that CDP Region.”

The Convener has six basic responsibilities:

1. Assist the CADEM Chair, Regional Director, and CDP Staff in finding and securing a **location** for the Election Meeting
2. Assist the CADEM Chair, Regional Director, and CDP Staff in sending **notices** regarding the Election Meeting. In addition, Conveners are encouraged to provide support for languages other than English that are commonly spoken in their CDP Region.
3. **Act as the person in charge** at the Election Meeting, or, if the Convener so chooses, **designate** any registered Democrat who is not standing as a candidate for ADD representative to assume these responsibilities for the Election Meeting. This includes overseeing check-in and balloting and enforcing these Procedures.
4. **Transmit** various information to the CDP after the Election Meeting is over.
5. The Convener shall also take reasonable steps to enforce the electioneering rules, which prohibit campaign activity inside the building where the ADEM meeting is happening, or within 100 feet of an entrance to the meeting room.
6. The Convener shall work with the Regional Director to ensure a sufficient number of copies of the candidate list for that District, and other surrounding districts are printed and available on site for voters.

Health and Safety Protocols

All ADEM participants must adhere to the California Democratic Party Code of Conduct. Regional Directors, Conveners and CDP Staff must be sure behavior contributes to making

these elections a welcoming, respectful, friendly, safe, supportive, and harassment-free environment.

Finding a location can be difficult, and CADEM Regional Directors should consider the following when solidifying an ADEM location.

1. There MUST be at least two ADEM locations per the CADEM Regions
2. ADEM Election locations outdoors can be set up in parking lots, parks, large indoor union halls, or locations that are easy to find and accessible from the main freeway or public transportation whenever possible.
3. All Election locations must allow participants to register to vote for the ADEM on-site.
4. All ADEM locations should have easy access to parking lots near the ADEM venue to be fully prepared.
5. All Election locations must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards.
6. All indoor elections may still consider providing PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) supplies to protect our most vulnerable populations. If a person requests PPE items such as face masks, gloves, sanitizers, and wipes, they should be on site.
7. The CDP will reimburse regional directors and/or conveners for purchases of necessary items to facilitate their ADEM location.

Operating Procedures

The primary purposes of an ADEM site is the distribution of ballots and collection of ballots. All locations will be open for 4 hours, opening to the public no earlier than 10am but no later than 2pm. As soon as a location opens, ballots should begin to be distributed. No speeches will be allowed in the voting room.

Electioneering is strictly prohibited inside the building where the ADEM is happening, or within 100 feet of an entrance to the meeting room. Additionally, any attempts to delay, disturb, or stop the administration of the voting site or ability of a participant to vote may result in disciplinary action.

At each ADEM location the Convener or a volunteer will be tasked with distributing ballots to eligible participants. To receive a ballot an eligible participant will need to show the person(s) distributing ballots their Participant Identification Number (PIN). After seeing a ten-digit number, the Convener or volunteer will hand the participant a ballot. Only one ballot per participant may be distributed. The person(s) distributing the ballots should be focused on handing out ballots as quickly and efficiently as possible. The person distributing ballots is not to question the validity of a PIN.

If anyone in line does not have a PIN, they will be asked to step aside and fill out the In-Person Registration form to receive a PIN. The Convener should have a process in place for those without access to a mobile device to help register as an ADEM voter online.

When the 4 hour window has expired, anyone that is still in line to receive a ballot will have the opportunity to receive a ballot. Once the last person in line has received their ballot, no more ballots shall be distributed. At this point the Convener shall announce that in 15 minutes, all ballots must be cast, stating the time that ballots must be placed in the ballot box. After that time has expired, no more ballots will be accepted.

When the time for balloting has ended, the Convener shall proceed to count the number of ballots (but not the votes). While counting, participants may still submit ballots, but no more ballots may be distributed. Ballots should be counted while packing them in the shipping boxes. Once all ballots have been counted and the shipping box has been sealed, no more ballots may be accepted.

The Convener shall transmit the number of ballots to the CDP staff. The ballot box shall be sealed with the voted ballots and delivered to one or more addresses designated by the CADEM Staff.

All remaining materials and blank ballots will be returned to CADEM Staff or the Regional Director.

Accessibility Requirements

All Election meetings must consider Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards. Each ADEM location should provide a reasonable balance between population and geographic centrality; should, if possible, provide access to transit; and must fulfill the following characteristics:

1. ADA compliance, including the path of travel all the way from parking to registration and voting tables. Locations where stairs, regardless of elevator availability, are required to reach the registration and balloting area, should be avoided since elevators can fail.
2. Sufficient room for queuing, preferably inside the building, but if necessary to include outside portions, such outdoor areas must be protected from the elements.
3. Sufficient parking, including sufficient ADA-compliant parking. Sufficient room for registration tables, which may be dramatically increased in number.

IX. Returning Ballots

Ballots must be returned at an ADEM Meeting location or when permissible submitted electronically. Ballots will ultimately be shipped to the Scantron Counting Facility in Minnesota. All ballots will be shipped via UPS.

Online Ballots

Online Ballots must be submitted on Election Buddy by the posted deadline. Ballots not submitted by the deadline will not be counted.

In Person Ballots

At each ADEM Location, there will be a secured ballot box where people will cast their ballots. The ballot box shall remain in possession of the Convener, Regional Director, or CADEM Staff at all times. Once a ballot has been submitted, it may not be removed from the ballot box.

At the conclusion of the ADEM Meeting, the Convener, Regional Director, and/or CADEM Staff will remove the ballots from the ballot box and place them in a shipping box, to be sent to the Scantron Counting Facility in Minnesota.

UPS will send shipping boxes to the Scantron Counting Facility in Minnesota.

X. Ballot Counting

Ballot Processing

Ballots submitted over Election Buddy will be automatically tallied by Election Buddy.

Ballots submitted in person will be counted by the Scantron Company, which also produced the ballots. All ballots will be shipped to the Scantron Counting Facility in Minnesota.

CADEM provides Scantron with expected delivery information in a shared document that displays tracking numbers, drop off date and origin location. Scantron updates the document when each package is received.

Scantron also creates an internal log that lists the date received and tracking numbers of each package.

All packages are opened, prepped for scanning, weighed for an estimated count and turned into the scanning department. All miscellaneous mail received is set aside and stored to be returned to CADEM at the end of the project. A traveling document follows the ballots throughout the rest of the process.

Ballots are moved into our secure scanning room and scanned on Scantron's Insight 150 scanners. Scantron designed a unique scan application to recognize the ballots and markings on each form while creating images of each form. Ballots not successfully scanned due to their physical condition are pulled and labeled as damaged. All scanned forms are then boxed, labeled and stored until the end of the project.

After the physical forms are scanned, the data is created by running it through the scanning application and data verification program. The program recognizes marks that it can identify and brings up questionable marks for human verification. "Keyers" can review questionable marks from the images that the scanner created.

After Key Entry Verification, batches are exported into an access table where the invalids are reviewed. Invalids include duplicate id's, invalid id's, missing all or part of the id's, and ballots with more than 14 selections. At this time, CADEM will also provide Scantron with the PINs of ballots that were submitted using Election Buddy. Scantron will flag ballots that are duplicates of the Election Buddy Ballots. Once the invalids are reviewed the data is exported to an excel data file. An internal program then updates the website counts and sorts images into each districts' assigned valid and invalid folders.

Valid Ballots

For a ballot to be counted, a valid Personal Identification Number (PIN) must be entered on the ballot.

Invalid Ballots

There are 3 ways that a ballot may be considered invalid.

Duplicate PIN - If two or more ballots have the same PIN number, then both ballots will be rejected. This includes if a ballot is submitted Electronically and in person.

Invalid PIN - If the PIN is not a valid number, then the ballot will be rejected. This may include that the PIN entered is missing numbers or is not a valid number.

Too Many Selections - If a ballot has 15 or more bubbles filled in, then the ballot will be rejected.

Final determination of whether a ballot is considered Valid or Invalid is determined by the Scantron Company. CADEM Staff will not overturn a decision made by the Scantron Company.

Merging ElectionBuddy and Scantron Ballots

After all valid ballots have been counted by ElectionBuddy and Scantron, including the deduping of ballots submitted online and in-person, the results of each count will be merged to get totals in the race.

XI.Results

ADEM Results

For each Assembly District, there will be a total of 14 winning candidates. The 7 Self Identifying Females and 7 Other than Self Identifying Females receiving the most votes shall be the Assembly District Representatives to the California Democratic State Central Committee.

Executive Board Results

For each Assembly District, the candidate who receives the most votes among those indicating they would serve as Executive Board representative and also is one of the 14 winning candidates, shall be the new Executive Board representative for that Assembly District. In the event that no candidate, who indicated interest in being the executive board member, is elected as one of the 14 Delegates, then the Executive Board position will be offered to the highest vote getting delegate elected in that contest. If that delegate declines the position, then the next highest delegate will be offered the position. This will continue until a delegate accepts the position or all delegates have been asked. If none of the 14 delegates elected accept the Executive Board position, then the Statewide Officers of this Committee and appropriate Regional Director will select an Executive Board Representative amongst the current delegates residing in that district, prior to the next Executive Board Meeting.

Tie Breaker Procedures

Note that ties only matter if it creates a situation where more persons are tied for last place than there are slots available. In the case of such a tie, the tie breaker shall be by lots and conducted at a mutually convenient time and place after the tie is determined.

Statement of Vote

The results of the ADEM elections will first be released in a PDF document, as a Statement of the Vote. The Statement of the Vote will include election statistics and District results. The results will also include the totals of votes submitted in person and electronically.

The Statement of Vote will be distributed by email to all candidates and participants.

Posting on Website

Within 48 hours of the Statement of Vote being posted, the candidate pages on the website will be replaced with the results.

Publishing of ADEM Scans

Scantron will send CADEM digital copies of all ballots submitted. CADEM will upload those ballots onto Google Drive and will make the files available.