



OREGON
REPUBLICAN PARTY

Precinct Committee Person Handbook



Dear Republican Precinct Committee Person,

PCPs play a critical role in growing and maintaining our party and spreading the message of freedom. Thank you for stepping up to fill this important position.

At the Oregon Republican Party, our goal is to support our Republican County organizations to strengthen our local efforts. County Central Committees are the backbone of the Oregon Republican Party and strong Central Committees mean greater opportunities to win races up and down the ballot.

This Precinct Committee Person (PCP) Handbook aims to provide you with guidance and assistance on topics ranging from county and state party organization, training, voter registration, and so much more.

As roles change and the ORP continues to grow, this handbook will be updated. When you see information that needs to be updated, please send an email to me at ncw@oregon.gop.

This handbook is for the exclusive use of Oregon Republican Party PCPs and will be made available to all Oregon PCPs through your County Party leadership and/or through our PCP Resource page. Please do not share this handbook—particularly on social media. Refer all requests for this handbook to your County Chair.

I look forward to our continued partnership that will transform the Oregon Republican Party into a strong state party organization. Together we will recruit, train, and activate volunteers to help us win elections in 2023 and beyond.

Thank you for all your work to get Republicans elected in Oregon.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracy Honl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tracy Honl
Republican National Committeewoman, Oregon Republican Party

Table of Contents

Your County	4
State Party Leadership	5
Organization	
County Organization	6
State Organization	8
The Party Structure	9
Meetings and Conventions	12
Core Values	13
Precinct Committee People (PCPs)	
What is a PCP?	14
Roles and Responsibilities	15
How to Become a PCP	17
PCP Toolkit	
Building Your Precinct	19
Canvassing Your Precinct	20
PCP Techniques	21
Get Out the Vote	22
Sample Precinct Letter	23
Campaign Sidekick	24
Voter Registration	25
Primary Elections	26
General Information and Links	27
Tips for Communicating with Your Legislator	28
Election Calendar	29
Volunteer Opportunities	30

(Your) County

Website:
Address:
Phone:

Officers

Chair:
Vice Chair:
Secretary:
Treasurer:

Number of Delegate Positions (Chair and Vice Chair are automatic Delegates):

Oregon Republican Party Delegates

(Chair)
(Vice Chair)
Name
Name

Oregon Republican Party Alternate Delegates
(Name)
(Name)

Standing Committee Chairs:

Ad Hoc Chairs:

House Captains:

Congressional District(s):
Oregon House Districts:
Oregon Senate Districts:
City Council Districts:
School Districts:

State Party Leadership

Position	Name	Email
Chair	Justin Hwang	Justin.Hwang@oregon.gop
Vice Chair	Angela Plowhead	Angela.Plowhead@oregon.gop
Secretary	Jo Rae Perkins	secretary@oregon.gop
Treasurer	Brian Bishop	treasurer@oregon.gop
National Committeeman	Solomon Yue	Solomon.Yue@oregon.gop
National Committeewoman	Tracy Honl	Tracy.Honl@oregon.gop

District	Chair	Vice Chair
CD1	Kevin Hoar	Christian Honl
CD2	Suzan Ellis Jones	Larry Moore
CD3	Kevin Moss	John Lee
CD4	Lucas Nelson	Kathey Linn
CD5	Brandon Merritt	Adam Waite
CD6	David Hill	James Goings

Position (All Volunteer)	Name	Email
Bylaws Chair	Joanna Harbour	Joanna.Harbour@oregon.gop
Candidate Assistance Chair	Nicole Kalk	Nicole.Kalk@oregon.gop
Communications Chair	Adam Waite	Adam.Waite@oregon.gop
Credentialing Chair	KM	
Election Integrity Chair	Janice Dysinger	Janice@dysinger.info
Elections Chair	Tim McCloud	Tim.McCloud@oregon.gop
Events Chair	Linda Neace	Linda.Neace@oregon.gop
Executive Director	Larry Morgan	Executive.Director@oregon.gop
Finance Chair	Dan Mason	Dan.Mason@oregon.gop
Grassroots	Tracy Honl	ncw@oregon.gop
Human Trafficking Chair	DP	
Natural Gas Chair	Kevin Hoar	Kevin.Hoar@oregon.gop
Precinct Organization Chair	Jessica Davidson	Jessica.Davidson@oregon.gop
Resolutions Chair	Blair Walter	BlairWalter@comcast.net
Rules Chair	Margie Hughes	Margie.Hughes1@gmail.com

County Organization

Every county has minimum of four officers: the County Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Chair and Vice Chair are automatically members of the Oregon Republican Party State Central Committee (ORP State Central Committee) and act as your county's **Delegates**.

Counties may also have **additional** Delegates. The number of additional Delegates each county has is equal to the number of Republican voters in the county who were registered to vote in the last General Election, divided by 15,000. If the remaining number exceeds 7,500, one additional Delegate shall represent the county. Some smaller counties have no additional Delegates while the largest counties currently have up to six additional Delegates.

For every Delegate (including the Chair and Vice Chair) each county has an Alternate Delegate who is eligible to vote at State Central Committee Meetings when the Delegate is unavailable. The Secretary and Treasurer are automatically considered to be additional Alternate Delegates if additional alternates are needed to fill in for an unavailable Delegate or Alternate Delegate.

The Officers, Delegates, and Alternate Delegates make up the largest part of the ORP State Central Committee. (see page 9)

All of the county Officers, Delegates, and Alternate Delegates are elected by PCPs at the County Organizational Meeting that takes place in November of even-numbered years, Appointed PCPs are not eligible to vote for leadership in the Organizational Meeting. The next Organizational Meetings will happen in November of 2024.

In most counties, the Officers, Delegates, and Alternate Delegates elected by PCPs make up the County Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may include Chairs of other committees if the county bylaws require it. If you have interest or experience, and time to devote to leading a committee, contact your county Chair. Most Chairs are eager to help volunteers find ways to serve.

In general, the party communication you receive will come from your county leadership. Newsletters, training opportunities, and events are sent to your State Central Committee Members and they decide what is useful information to pass along PCPs in their county. If you'd like to receive occasional updates and party news, send an email to ncw@oregon.gop.

Additional Note

From time to time, you may hear the term "Bonus Delegate." Bonus Delegates are PCPs who serve as county representatives to a specific event, most commonly, the Oregon Republican Party Platform Convention. The number of Bonus Delegates for a specific event will vary by voter registration numbers in your county. Bonus Delegates serve as voting delegates at this event only and hold no additional voting rights beyond this specific event. The Bonus Delegate position ends when that specific event ends.

County Organization - *continued*

Oregon has 36 counties that are listed below along with their Republican County Central Committee Chairs.

Baker	<i>Danny Johnson</i>	Lake	<i>Kelli Vance</i>
Benton	<i>Julia Wegner</i>	Lane	<i>John Large</i>
Clackamas	<i>Rick Riley</i>	Lincoln	<i>Joan Crall</i>
Clatsop	<i>Lisa Lamping</i>	Linn	<i>Ben Roche</i>
Columbia	<i>Traci Brumbles</i>	Malheur	<i>John Gaskill</i>
Coos	<i>Rod Schilling</i>	Marion	<i>Joel Pawloski</i>
Crook	<i>Mike Ervin</i>	Morrow	<i>Clint Carlson</i>
Curry	<i>Julie April</i>	Multnomah	<i>Joseph Whitcomb</i>
Deschutes	<i>Scott Stuart</i>	Polk	<i>Penne Ryan</i>
Douglas	<i>Larry Reeves</i>	Sherman	<i>Carol Von Borstel</i>
Gilliam	<i>[vacant]</i>	Tillamook	<i>Mike Sears</i>
Grant	<i>Frances Preston</i>	Umatilla	<i>Suni Danforth</i>
Harney	<i>Gretchen Bates</i>	Union	<i>Nathan Smutz</i>
Hood River	<i>Dani Correa</i>	Wallowa	<i>Annette Lathrop</i>
Jackson	<i>Randell Embertson</i>	Wasco	<i>John Grant</i>
Jefferson	<i>Corey Ryder</i>	Washington	<i>Gabriel Buehler</i>
Josephine	<i>Holli Morton</i>	Wheeler	<i>[vacant]</i>
Klamath	<i>Rejeana Jackson</i>	Yamhill	<i>Moe Yoder</i>

State Organization

ORP Officers

Every two years, the ORP State Central Committee elects its **Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer**. The election takes place between January 1st and February 28th in odd-numbered years.

Subject to the control of the ORP State Central Committee and the ORP Executive Committee, the Chair has general charge of the affairs of the Oregon Republican Party and shall promote the interests of both the ORP and the RNC.

The officers are voting members of the ORP Central Committee and ORP Executive Committee. The Chair is also a voting member of the Republican National Committee (RNC.)

To see who Oregon Republican Party's officers are go to www.oregon.gop/leadership.

National Committeeman & National Committeewoman

Every 4 years, the ORP State Central Committee elects a **National Committeeman** (NCM) and a **National Committeewoman** (NCW) to represent Oregon as members of the RNC. The election takes place at the first State Central Committee Meeting in the year of a U.S, Presidential election.

Along with the ORP Chair, the NCM and NCW attend RNC meetings across the country year-round. They elect RNC leadership, vote on rules and resolutions, and work to create and implement plans to help Republicans in all states win.

The NCM and NCW are voting members of the ORP Central Committee, the ORP Executive Committee, and the Republican National Committee.

To learn more about Oregon's National Committee Members go to www.gop.com/about-our-party/rnc-members.

Congressional District Officers

Every 4 years, PCPs from each district gather together to elect a Congressional District (CD) **Chair, Vice Chair, Alternate Chair, Alternate Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer**. The election for CD Officers takes place during the ORP Delegate Selection Convention in early spring of Presidential election years.

CD Officers represent each of Oregon's six Congressional Districts* and often serve as a resource for the counties in the district and assist candidates and counties in Congressional races.

All Congressional District Officers are ORP Central Committee Members, but only the Chair and Vice Chair have voting privileges. The Chair and Vice Chair are voting members of the ORP Executive Committee. On both committees, Alternates may vote when the Chair and/or Vice Chair is unavailable.

To see a full list of Congressional District Officers for each District, go to www.oregon.gop/leadership.

The Party Structure

Oregon Republican Party (ORP)

All registered Republicans in Oregon

County Central Committee

All of the PCPs in a county (pg. 6)

County Executive Committee

All of the County Officers, Delegates, and those designated in accordance with the bylaws of your County. (pg. 6)

Congressional District Officers

Officers and Alternates elected by PCPs in each Congressional District. (pg.8)

Congressional District Committee

Congressional District Officers and the Chair of each County Central Committee within the district

ORP State Central Committee

Voting Members	Elected by	Term	Term Ends
ORP Officers	State Central Committee Members	2 years	Jan - Feb, 2025
National Committeeman & National Committeewoman	State Central Committee Members	4 years	Early in 2024
Congressional District Chair & Vice Chair	PCPs in district	4 years	Spring/Early Summer 2024
County Delegation	PCPs in county	2 years	November 2024

Non Voting Members

Congressional District Alternates	PCPs in district	4 years	Spring/Early Summer 2024
County Delegation Alternates	PCPs in county	2 years	November 2024
Republican Elected Officials: Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Labor Commissioner	Voters	NA	varies
Republican Elected Officials: US Senator(s) and US Representative(s) from Oregon, Oregon State Senators, and Oregon State House Representatives	Voters	NA	varies

The Party Structure - *continued*

ORP Executive Committee

For a full list of non-voting positions, including various Chairs, see the ORP Bylaws at www.oregon.gop/about.

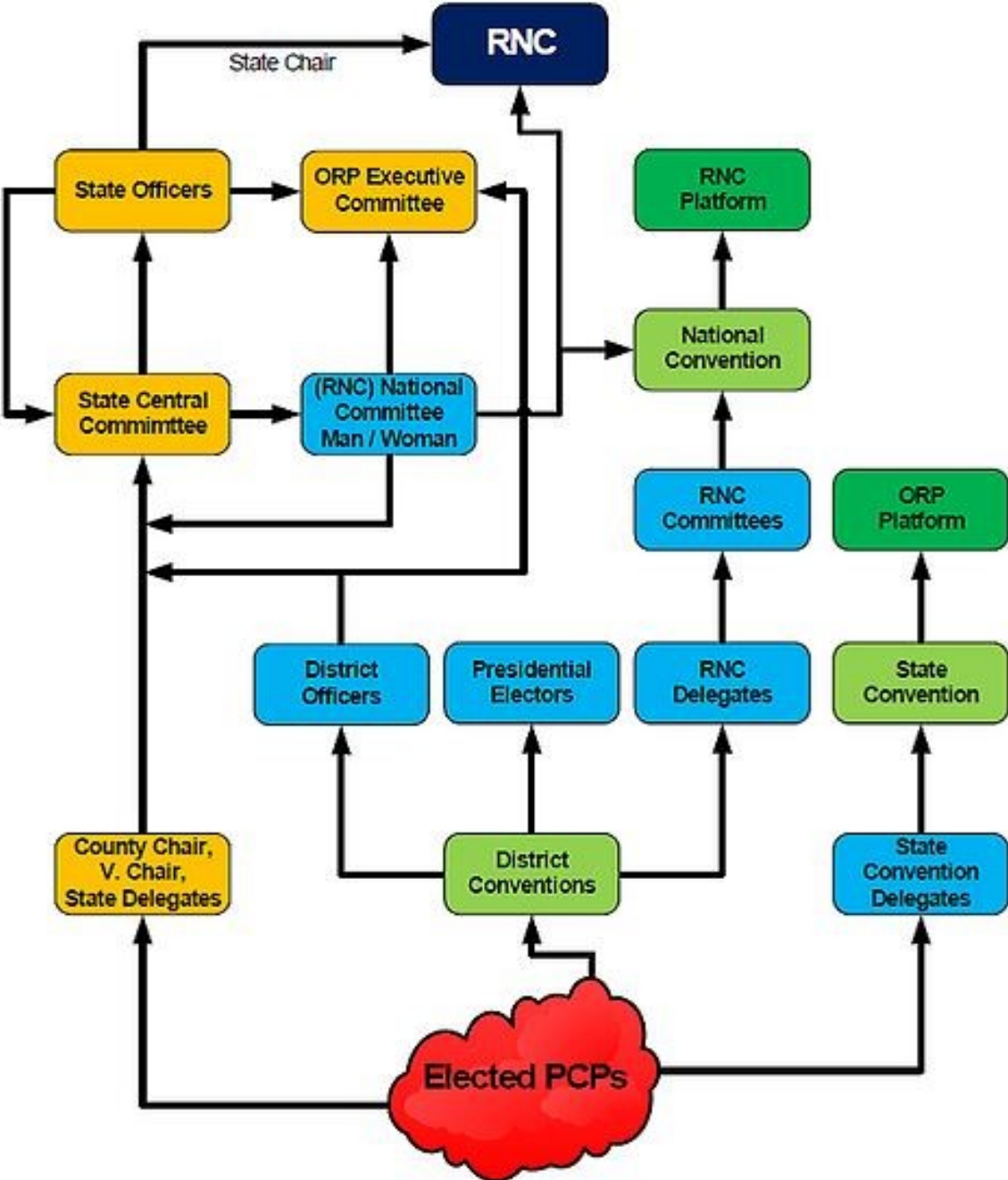
Voting Members	Elected by	Term	Term Ends
Officers	State Central Committee	2 years	February 2025
National Committeeman & National Committeewoman	State Central Committee Members	4 years	Early 2024
Congressional District Chair & Vice Chair	PCPs in district	4 years	Spring/Summer 2024
Finance Chair & Precinct Organization Chair	Nominated by Chair with consent from Executive Committee	NA	NA

RNC Members

Three members from each state and US territory are members of the Republican National Committee. There are 168 RNC members, including the ORP Chair, National Committeeman, and National Committeewoman. (pg. 8)

Voting Members	Elected by	Term	Term Ends
Chair	State Central Committee Members	2 years	February 2025
National Committeeman & National Committeewoman	State Central Committee Members	4 years	Early 2024

The Party Structure - continued



Meetings and Conventions

County Central Committee Meetings

Typically organized by the County Executive Committee. Dates vary—check your county website or reach out to one of your county leaders for details.

County Biannual Organization Meetings

This is where PCPs elect county leadership. This meeting is required by ORP bylaws to take place no earlier than the day after the General Election (November) nor later than November 25th of even numbered years.

ORP State Central Committee Meetings

Organized by the Oregon Republican Party. There are typically three meetings each year. ORP State Central Committee Members get reports from Officers, NCM and NCW, and various committee leaders. There are often motions to be voted on. There is a cost to these meetings that will vary dependent upon location and venue. Most meetings allow for PCPs to come as guests of a State Central Committee Member.

ORP Biannual Organizational Meeting

This is where State Central Committee members elect its four officers. This meeting is required by ORP bylaws to take place between January 1st and February 28th of odd-numbered years. There is a cost to this meeting that will vary dependent upon location and venue. Depending on the venue, most ORP Organizational meetings allow for PCPs to come as guests of a State Central Committee Member.

ORP Platform Convention

Organized by the Oregon Republican Party. This is where ORP State Central Committee Members, along with additional Bonus Delegates, candidates from the previous election, and elected officials come together to consider amendments to the ORP platform. The Platform Convention is required by ORP bylaws to take place between August and October of odd-numbered years. The convention typically takes place over two or three days. There is a cost to attend this convention that will vary depending upon location and venue. Depending on the venue, most Platform Conventions allow for PCPs to come as guests of a State Central Committee Member or Bonus Delegate.

ORP Delegate Selection Convention

This is the convention where PCPs elect Oregon's Delegates who will go to the Republican National Convention where they will nominate the Republican candidate for President and Vice President. At this convention, PCPs also elect President Electors, and immediately following these elections, they break up into Congressional Districts to elect their Congressional District Officers. This Convention takes place no later than forty days after the Primary election is held in a presentational election year. There is a cost to attend this meeting that will vary depending on location and venue.

Core Values

I am a Republican Because...

I BELIEVE that the strength of our nation lies with the individual and that each person's dignity, freedom, ability, and responsibility must be honored.

I BELIEVE in equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed, sex, age, or ability.

I BELIEVE free enterprise and individual initiative have brought this nation opportunity, economic growth, and prosperity.

I BELIEVE government must practice fiscal responsibility and allow individuals to keep more of the money they earn.

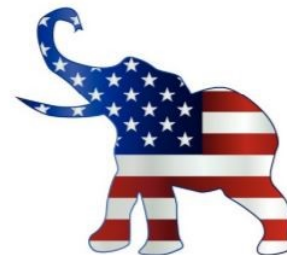
I BELIEVE the proper role of government is to provide for the people only those critical functions that cannot be performed by individuals or private organizations, and that the best government is that which governs least.

I BELIEVE the most effective, responsible, and responsive government is the government closest to the people.

I BELIEVE Americans must retain the principles that have made us strong, while developing new and innovative ideas to meet the challenges of changing times.

I BELIEVE American's value and should preserve our national strength and pride while working to extend peace, freedom, and human rights throughout the world.

FINALLY, I am a Republican because I believe that the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.



Proud to be an American.

Proud to be a Republican.

Your Vote Matters.

Make it Count!



**OREGON
REPUBLICAN PARTY**

What is a Precinct Committee Person (PCP)?

Your County Republican Party is looking for passionate, committed volunteers to become Precinct Committeepersons (PCPs) representing the Republican Party in your neighborhood at the Precinct level.

The keys to victory for Republicans haven't changed much in the last 180 years:

The whole state must be so well organized that every Whig can be brought to the polls. So divide the country into small districts and appoint in each a committee. Make a perfect list of the voters and ascertain with certainty for whom they will vote. Keep a constant watch on the doubtful voters and have them talked to by those in whom they have the most confidence. On Election Day, see that every Whig is brought to the polls.

Abraham Lincoln

Those “small districts” that then-Whig-Party-activist Lincoln wrote about in 1840 are now called “precincts,” the basic unit of our political system. It is at the precinct level that elections are won or lost – even statewide and national elections. Every vote matters. **And it's the Party's heroes, the PCPs working to turn out those voters, who determine the outcomes.**

PCPs form the core of the Oregon Republican Party, fulfilling a crucial role in connecting the Republican Party to the voters in your precinct, and in connecting the voters in your precinct to the Republican Party.

As a PCP, you are a member of your County Central Committee. Your County Central Committee selects members to represent the county at the state level—the Oregon Republican Party State Central Committee, who then select members to represent Oregon at the National Level—the Republican National Committee (RNC.)

PCP Roles and Responsibilities

You are the only party official elected directly by Republican voters. Within your precinct, you and your fellow PCPs represent the Republican Party to the people. You are the bridge between the voters and the candidates and elected officials. It's your job to make sure that the Republicans in your precinct are informed, prepared, and encouraged to vote.

You will be asked to help circulate materials for Republican candidates or walk your precinct for or with an elected official or candidate for elected office. Even in just an hour a week, the work you do in your precinct with your neighbors can make the deciding difference in an election.

The Powers of a Precinct Committee Person

Friendly access to neighbors

Most people are eager to know more about their government and the people who run it. When you introduce yourself as their "Republican Precinct Committeeperson," they assume you have something to say. You can provide them with information on candidates and issues.

Respect from elected officials

Since a Precinct Committeeperson represents, on average, 250 voters, and has the power to vote for other Party officials and to make endorsements of Republican Party candidates, any call or letter from a Precinct Committeeperson gets the attention of elected officials

A launching pad for other offices

You would be amazed at how many of our Presidents, Senators, Congressmen, and state and local officials started as a Precinct Committeeperson, and still serve as Precinct Committeeperson even though they hold a higher elected office. That is because they know the power of a Precinct Committeeperson.

Party Platform and policies

At the state, district, and county levels and at conventions, the Precinct Committeeperson is an active player. PCPs participate in supporting or opposing policies and issues in the adoption of the Party Platform.

Essential Duties of PCP

Make a plan for success

- How many doors will you knock on each day?
- How many phone calls will you make each day?
- Will you leave a personal note on each door where no one is home?
- When will you use social media to share posts from your county party, the ORP, and Republican candidates?
- When will you send a letter to the editor in support of a candidate?
- When will you sign up for Campaign Sidekick training and other trainings so that you have all the tools you need?

PCP Roles and Responsibilities - *continued*

Essential Duties of PCP - *continued*

Build a precinct team of Republicans in your neighborhood

- Get to know and recruit your Republican neighbors to help reach other neighbors.
- Invite your neighbors to become PCPs and/or attend events for candidates.

Identify and help to register Republican voters

- Learn what your neighbors care about. Is it schools? Is it their jobs? Is it healthcare? Find a common concern and encourage them to join like-minded friends in the Republican Party.
- Sign up for Voter Registration Training when it's offered.
- Always have quick access to Voter Registration cards or a device on which you can help voters register online. Newly registered voters are the most likely to vote in upcoming elections.

Inform and persuade voters

- Knock on doors, make calls, and tell people why Republican candidates are a better choice.
- Use social media to share posts from candidates, your county Republican Party page, ORP's page, and the RNC's page to get the word out far and wide.
- Ask questions, listen, inform, persuade.

Support candidates

- Candidates need your help more than ever. The work you do to help them can change an election and in turn, change Oregon.
- Contact candidates. Don't ask what they need you to do; rather, offer your skills. ("I can pick up and deliver signs on Thursday" or "I can write letters" or "I'll host an event for you" or "I'll donate to your campaign" or "I'll knock on doors for you next Saturday.")

Attend Meetings

- Your county needs you to be involved. Attend your Central Committee Meetings, offer to help set up or take down, offer to bring or set up coffee or snacks, offer to lead a team.
- Bring your Republican friends and family.
- The best volunteers are informed volunteers!

Being a PCP is an important, sometimes hard, job, but it offers some great benefits!

- **YOU** get the inside scoop straight from party leaders, candidates, and elected officials!
- **YOU** will have the opportunity to attend dinners and events and sometimes meet people at the highest levels of government!
- **YOU** get to have a say in the Oregon Republican Party Platform!
- **YOU** will have the opportunity to get involved with other groups — women's groups, Young Republicans, and several others!
- **YOU** get to decide who will attend the Republican National Convention—maybe even you!
- **YOU** get to choose who will replace Oregon Republican House and Senate members when a vacancy becomes open!
- **YOU** will know that you made a difference!
- **YOU** will make a lot of like-minded friends from across the whole state!

How to Become a PCP

It's easy to become a Precinct Committeeperson (PCP!)

- PCPs are elected/re-elected every two years during the even-year primary elections. The next PCP election is May 21, 2024.
- There is one PCP for every 250 voters, with a minimum of 2 PCPs per precinct.
- The date to calculate the number of PCPs slots is 251 days before the primary election.
- All of the forms mentioned below can be found at <https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/pages/electionforms.aspx>.
- A person can file in any precinct within their resident house district in their county.
- A PCPs term begins on the 24th day after the primary election and ends the 24th day following the primary election two years later.

Requirements

- You must have been a Republican for 180 days or more before the primary election. For 2024 that means you must be a registered Republican by 9/14/2023.
- You must be at least 18 years old.
- You must live in the House District of the precinct in which you file.

Elected (Your name on the ballot)

In order for your name to show up on the ballot to get elected, you will need to file an **SEL105**. The first day to file is 250 days before the primary election which is September 14, 2023. The deadline to file is March 12, 2024.

Write-in Candidates

If you miss the deadline to file your SEL105 (March 12, 2024) you can be a write-in candidate. You must file an **SEL105D** and turn it in to your county election office by May 21, 2024 @ 8pm (Election Day). You will need at least 3 votes to be considered.

Write-in Candidate Nomination

This is an opportunity for you to nominate someone else to be a PCP. In order to do this, you'll need to fill out a **SEL 105N**. It must be received by your county election's office no later than 8pm on Election Day, May 21, 2024. Make sure you spell your nominee's name correctly. The candidate you nominate will need at least 3 votes to be considered. If elected, the candidate you've nominated will then receive a letter with an acceptance form and must sign and return the form to the election office by the deadline on the letter.

How to Become a PCP - *continued*

Appointed PCPs

Most counties will have precincts without any PCPs because no one filed to run. Check with your County Chair to determine those openings

Your County Central Committee may appoint qualified registered Republicans to fill vacant PCP seats. Check with your Chair or Secretary to learn the process in your county to get appointed as a PCP. Some counties will require a form to be filled out by the person desiring appointment; others have an approval process that goes through the executive committee. In most counties, the final approval is given by a vote of PCPs in the county.

Once appointed, your County Chair or Secretary will notify your county Elections Office and give them your name, your address, and contact information. If you meet the requirements (see page 9) you will be added to the official PCP roster. You may or may not receive a notice from the Elections Office—this varies by county.

Appointed PCPs are not eligible to vote for leadership in the county Biannual Reorganization Meetings that take place in November of even-numbered years. Whether appointed PCPs can vote in other county elections (replacing positions that have become vacant, electing Bonus Delegates, voting on bylaws, etc.) are determined by county bylaws.

Building Your Precinct

Goal

Your overall goal as PCP is to ensure that every voter in your precinct who supports Republican candidates and conservative policies votes on Election Day. To successfully meet this goal, a PCP must accomplish the responsibilities and duties already identified.



To do this you will need to know your precinct well.

- Know your neighborhoods
- Know your businesses
- Know your public entities (schools, churches etc.)
- Know your voter profiles in your precinct
- Get to know and understand your Republican and conservative voters as much as possible
- Become the political “expert” for your voters in your precinct
- Become the “go-to person” for advice on party affairs and political questions

Develop a Calendar and a Timetable

Accomplishing the tasks of a PCP will be more manageable if you identify goals and develop a calendar and timetable to meet your goals.

The Calendar should include:

- Dates fixed by state law such as Primary Election Day and General Election Day
- Party activity dates such as your central committee meetings, county fair, and fundraising events
- Precinct tasks like voter contact, party literature drops, candidate assistance activities

The Timetable should include:

- Target dates for accomplishing each of your precinct tasks (voter registration drive, precinct canvass, volunteer recruitment, PCP recruitment, etc.)

In developing the timetable, start with the date by which the activity must be accomplished. Next, determine the tasks that must be accomplished to make the activity a success. Work backward from the accomplishment date to determine what needs to be done, the time it takes to do it, and how many people are needed to get it done. Once you've developed the steps necessary to accomplish your task, mark the day you need to begin and end, setting interim goals to help you stay on track.

Canvassing Your Precinct

Canvassing is a systematic process of direct contact with a target group of voters. Canvassers knock on residential doors within the precinct and interact face-to-face with voters. Canvassing may also be done by telephone/cell phone. Canvassing your precinct helps you know who the Republicans are in your precinct, and it helps you get out the vote for Republican candidates during the election. Many times, elections depend not on how many registered party voters there are, but on who does a better job of getting their supporters to the polls.

Purpose:

- Identify how people intend to vote
- Identify voters in your precinct by party affiliation
- Find and register unregistered voters in your precinct
- Distribute party materials and candidate printed materials
- Provide Republican Party and candidate visibility. Be the face of the party in your precinct.
- Recruit Republican volunteers from registered Republicans
- Raise funds for the Republican Party and Republican candidates

Canvassing To-Dos:

- Be brief
- Listen
- Be friendly
- Answer as many questions as possible
- Confine yourself to general party principles and not specific issues
- Indicate, if asked, that the Republican precinct organization is at the service of each voter
- Leave your name and contact information for their use
- Add useful notes after each stop to our voter data platform, Campaign Sidekick

Canvassing Don'ts:

- **Never** begin the conversation with “are you a Republican or Democrat?”
- **Never** argue
- Never make derogatory remarks about:
 - other party organizations
 - any candidates regardless of party
 - a Republican officer

Finally, be prepared to answer the questions most frequently asked by voters and be ready to leave them material, especially your contact information, as mentioned above. Provide additional contact information such as your Precinct or House District Captain if you are unable to answer a question.

PCP Techniques

Face-to-face contact with voters is the best way to influence their vote and to remind voters of the importance of upcoming elections.

Phone calls are the next best alternative, and will still increase Republican participation in elections. Most often, you will be asked to make calls through an automatic dialer such as Campaign Sidekick and will be reading from a script. When you're making calls to people in your own precinct without an automatic dialer or script, here are some helpful things to keep in mind:

- Introduce yourself as the person's elected or appointed PCP
- Be ready to explain what a PCP is and does
- Have a crystal-clear vision of the goals you want to achieve during the call
- Identify the talking points you want to cover
- Be time-sensitive; keep the call as short as possible unless the receiver wants to talk. Be prepared for the time you are willing to spend and have your "call exiting speech" perfected.
- Be ready to leave "voice mail."
- Engage in positive self-talk prior to each call.
- Think success and think BIG.
- This can help give you a confidence boost right before making the call.
- For most individuals, calls get easier each phone call you make

E-mail is less effective but much better than no contact at all.

Social Media: Today, the hottest medium in all of politics is the social web; tools like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Next Door are becoming an increasing focus of campaigns at all levels, from local boards to the State or National Senate. Wise candidates and campaigns consider integrating social media campaigning into the rest of their campaign plan. As a PCP you may become a part of driving the campaign message using social web tools.

Other ideas: Send a postcard to voters in your Precinct and include your website and social media information. Send a letter to 25 close relatives, friends and business contacts in support of local, state, and/or national candidates. Ask your friends to do the same—a political chain letter. This can effectively increase a candidate's visibility because people know and trust you. Be brief, let them know why you are voting for the candidate, and enclose candidate material.

CAUTION: During Primary (May) elections, County Parties are required to stay neutral when there is more than one Republican running against each other. During this time, any public support for a candidate must be done apart from your role as a PCP.

All PCPs should make some type of contact with Republicans in their precinct before an election. This can be easier if you recruit neighborhood volunteers and/or combine contact methods.

- Before the Primary or Special District Elections
- Before the General Election

Get Out the Vote (GOTV)

Without votes, even the best Republican candidate cannot win. Therefore, the Get Out The Vote (GOTV) drive on the days leading up to the election is one of the most important jobs you have as a PCP. The best GOTV drives involve checking the lists of people who have voted and making phone calls to make sure voters have returned their ballots. GOTV drives are conducted statewide. While technology has made it more common for volunteers to make phone calls from home using an auto-dialer and script, sometimes a group of volunteer callers (often called a phone bank) will gather in a room with phones to contact voters. For the most part, GOTV volunteers are making calls to friendly Republican or Non-Affiliated (NAV) voters who've been identified as sharing our Republican values.

Pre-Election

Personal phone calls from local citizens starting several weeks or so before the election are the most effective incentive for increasing voter turnout. Volunteer callers simply contact voters who have been identified as Republicans or right-leaning voters. Callers identify themselves, remind voters of the election, and urge them to vote. As the ballots are returned to the County Clerk's office, only those who have not voted remain on the list and are called. This continues until Election Day.

Don't forget these voter populations that may help our candidates win:

- Weak Republicans
- Swing voters
- Weak Democrats
- Independent voters
- Non-affiliated voters

We win on measures that affect households statewide and cross-party lines.

Local political issues will get voters to return their ballots.

Know your local issues and local elected officials.

After the election

You have had many people in your precinct helping you, and whether we win or lose you will want to contact each one individually or in small groups to thank them for their hard work. Encourage them to remain active in the Republican Party, to build for the future of the community and our country. You should conduct an after-election assessment, critiquing the organization and plans, as well as the conduct of the various election activities.

- What went well resulting in meeting goals set?
- What did not work and needs to be tossed or replaced?
- Where can improvements be made before the next election?

All volunteers should be asked for their input.

As you move into the non-election year, remember you are still a PCP. Continue to participate in the County Central Committee and other Republican Party activities. Increase your knowledge. Keep in touch with your volunteers—you and the Republican Party will need them in the next election year.

Sample Precinct Letter

Date:

Dear neighbor and registered Republican of precinct (____) in (____) County,

I am sending this letter to you for three reasons:

- The first is to introduce myself as your recently elected Republican Precinct Committee Representative
- Second, I want you to know why I have become actively involved in the Republican Party.
- Third, I want to share important election news and answer any questions you may have about the upcoming election.

I was elected during the (____) primary election (or appointed to fill the position) [use whichever applies] of Precinct Committeeperson for our precinct. This is a volunteer position with the task of being your local party contact for all GOP election news. You may contact me at (phone) or (email), and I will be happy to help you.

I decided to become a PCP and be active in the party because our county and state need informed citizen voters. We can “turn things around” for the good of our county, the good of our community, and the good of our children and grandchildren. If, as conservatives, we do not make our voices heard, especially by voting, we will suffer even graver consequences than we do today.

Please vote this election. Your vote counts. Of the (____) registered Republicans in (____) County, some (____) did not vote in the (year) (____) election. Statewide, (____%) of registered Republicans did not vote.

We’re faced with (increasing taxes, increased government intrusion in our lives, increased healthcare costs, and a humiliating global influence putting our national security at risk.) [use current topics in the news]

In (month) your vote will be more critically needed than ever. I welcome your concerns and comments. Please consider becoming involved in the party. Our website is (____) (URL). You can also find us on Facebook at ____ (URL) or ____ (other social media sites) at ____ (URL).

Sincerely,

(Name)

Your Precinct Committee Person

Campaign Sidekick

Local Leaders are PCPs who have signed up—likely through their county party—to be actively involved in canvassing for both the county and state party and often for candidates. Local Leaders make a difference right where they live, where they have the most influence and time to nurture relationships that could last a lifetime.

Our Local Leader Program, now using Campaign Sidekick as our data platform, provides tools for PCPs to begin reaching out to a manageable group of Republicans and other conservative voters in their immediate neighborhood. PCPs using this tool will be able to update contact information and to make notes about voter contact, and this data is retained election after election and year after year.

On a computer or through a mobile app on your phone, PCPs will have access to their neighborhood list and a map of the households that can be accessed.

This tool will help PCPs:

- Get Out the Vote on Elections – Ballot Chase. During the last two weeks of an election, you will be given real-time voter information to remind people to turn in their ballot.
- Recruit Volunteers and new PCPs
- Register people to vote.
- Invite neighbors to Republican events, forums, and candidate meet-and-greets.
- Get petitions signed.
- Identify newly-registered Republicans.

Authorization to access Campaign Sidekick is approved by the County Chair and is limited to the PCPs in the district or county. All users who have been authorized by their County Chair to have access to Campaign Sidekick are required to sign and return to the ORP a confidentiality and use agreement.

Training and Links

Campaign Sidekick trainings will be available several times throughout the year. Keep an eye out on the ORP website (www.oregon.gop) to see when they are scheduled.

Campaign Sidekick links you'll want to have:

- Support Hub:
<https://campaignsidekick.zendesk.com>
- Calendly link to request additional trainings, etc.:
<https://calendly.com/csidekick>

Since Campaign Sidekick is used primarily with your phone or tablet, it will be helpful to take some time to test the speed in your neighborhood before creating lists. The minimum speeds are five megabytes per second download and 1 megabyte per second upload speed. You can test your speed using the Ookla Speedtest app at <https://www.speedtest.net/>.

Voter Registration

One of the most important jobs of a PCP is to assist in Republican Voter Registration efforts. Studies have shown that people who are newly registered to vote in a party are far more likely to turn their ballot in. It's important that you have the information you need to help people register.

The ORP will be holding several Voter Registration training workshops throughout the year. Keep an eye out for training opportunities on our website www.oregon.gop.

Registration Deadlines

If this is someone's first time registering in Oregon, their registration card (paper or online) must be submitted or post-marked no later than the 25th day before the election in which they intend to vote.

Updating Your Registration

You need to update your registration information by filling out and submitting a new registration card (paper or online) if:

- Your residence address has changed
- Your mailing address has changed
- Your name has changed
- Your signature has changed
- You wish to change your political party affiliation

Registration Requirements

You must meet the following requirements to register:

- You are a permanent resident of Oregon
- You are a citizen of the United States
- You are 16 years old *(If you are 16 years of age, you will not receive a ballot until an election occurs on or after your 18th birthday.)*

Helpful links

- Register to vote online: <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/registration.aspx>
- Use My Vote (<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/myvote.aspx>) to:
 - Check if you are registered to vote
 - View your voter registration information
 - Update your voter registration
 - Check the status of your ballot
 - Find contact information for your county elections office
 - Find contact information for your elected officials
 - Find a ballot drop site

Primary Elections

Primary Elections (in May) are too **often ignored by voters** who are overtaxed with daily work, family, and outside activities. In primary elections, each party votes on candidates who want to run in the General Election. Often several individuals within the party will compete for their party's nomination. When there are multiple Republican candidates in a primary election race, it is extremely important that Republican voters research each candidate's beliefs and what each candidate stands for. Candidate forums are valuable as they are an excellent opportunity to see, listen to, and ask questions of each candidate. Registered Republicans are the only people who can vote for Republican candidates in the primary, and they cannot vote for candidates of another party in a primary election.

Primary Elections are very important as they determine who will represent Republicans in the General Election.

Methods of Candidate Selections:

In Oregon, we use the **primary election** process. Other states do not have primary elections but select candidates through caucuses, conventions, or nomination meetings.

Types of Primaries:

- **Closed Primary: Registered voters from each party select their candidates (Oregon).**
- Open Primary: Registered voters from all recognized parties select the candidates.
- Semi-closed Primary: Registered voters are required to request a specific party's ballot.
- A run-off Primary: All parties participate. The top two candidates are selected to run, regardless of party.

The more open the system, the greater the chance of **raiding**, when voters vote in the other party's primary in an attempt to select the weakest candidate to run against their preferred candidate in the general election. Raiding elections have proven stressful to the relationships between political parties, who feel cheated by this manipulation of the system, and election officials, who try to make the system run as smoothly as possible.

Some political thinkers believe that a state's chosen primary system has a greater impact on the candidate than the voter. They believe that the method utilized, be it open or closed, dictates the methodology incorporated to run a campaign. These thinkers believe that in a closed system a candidate must cater to their party's strong partisans during the primary (those who tend to lean to the most conservative or liberal ends of the ideological spectrum) and then move to the center in the general election to capture votes across party lines. Now that more people across the country have rejected political parties and registered as non-affiliated voters, this approach to campaigns may no longer be effective.

General Information and Links

Ballots

Oregon Ballots are distributed (mailed) according to the State Statute

- Local ballots are always mailed 21 days before an election
- Out of state ballots are always mailed 45 days before the upcoming election
- Long-term absentee ballots (including out-of-the-country voters and all military personnel) are always mailed 45 days before the upcoming election. If the 45th day falls on a weekend, ballots are mailed the previous Friday.

General Information

Go to <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting-elections/Pages/default.aspx> and click on the links to get the following information:

- Register to Vote
- My Vote
- Election Modernization Project
- Election Integrity
- Military and Overseas Voting
- Current Election
- For Voters with Disabilities
- Student Voters
- Voting in Oregon
- Who's running for Office?
- Initiatives, Referendums, and Referrals
- Get Involved: I want to...
- County Elections Officials
- Campaign Finance
- Oregon Election Historical Results and Data
- Manuals, Forms, Tutorials, and Election Laws

Oregon State Legislature

Go to <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/> and click the links to get the following information:

- Find Your Legislator
- Watch Meetings
- Senate and House Bills
- Session Committees
- Redistricting Information
- OLIS
- Find Bills
- Legislative Dates
- Video
- News
- Your State Capitol

Tips for Communicating With Your Legislator

State Representatives

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/house/Lists/RepresentativeList/ListOfRepresentatives.aspx>

State Senators

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/senate/Lists/SenatorList/ListOfSenators.aspx>

When contacting your Congressman, Senator or Representative please consider following these guidelines:

- Prepare in advance with a pre-written draft before you call, email, or write.
- Focus on one topic.
- Site the bill number and title.
- Be brief, be informed, and be to the point.
- Be clear on your expectations.
- Be polite and respectful.

An example when calling or emailing might be:

Hello, My Name is (___)

I am from (___) County. I am calling Representative / Senator (___) today regarding House Bill (___)

I am Calling Representative / Senator (___) today to say that as a voter of (___) County, I oppose the passing of this house bill. Neither Oregon nor the federal government has the funds for this project. I am asking Representative / Senator (___) to be fiscally responsible and to vote no on this bill.

We encourage you to send a thank you note to your legislator when they appropriately vote for a House or Senate bill. This reinforces that you are keeping an eye on their voting record and that, for example, you appreciate their fiscal responsibility.

We also encourage you to send a note to your legislator when they vote irresponsibly. When writing about a poor vote on a revenue measure, explain to your representative that our country needs fiscally responsible legislators who know the importance of a balanced budget and of voting for House and Senate bills that have the voters' best interests in view.

To follow your bill, go to the Oregon State Legislative Information System (OLIS)

- <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1>

Election Calendar

March 16, 2023	Last day for district candidate to file declaration of candidacy, nominating petition or to withdraw.
April 25, 2023	Last day to register to vote. Registration cards postmarked by this date or submitted online no later than 11:59 pm are valid.
April 26, 2023	First day to mail ballots to voters.
May 16, 2023	Election Day
September 14, 2023	Last day for partisan candidates to register as members of a political party to satisfy 180 day membership requirement (Primary Election) INCLUDES PCPs. First day to file to be a PCP for the May Primary First day for candidates to file to run in the May Primary
November 7, 2023	Election Day
March 12, 2024	Last day to file to be elected as a PCP
	Last day to register to vote for May 2024 Primary
	First day to mail ballots to voters.
	Last day for voters to mail in ballots, ballots must be dropped off at county ballot drop boxes
May 21, 2024	Primary Election Day
November 5, 2024	Election Day

Volunteer Opportunities

All of the officers—from the state party to your county party are volunteers. Volunteers make our party run! To be successful, your county party needs your help. Consider giving at least one hour a week doing one or more of the following jobs in your county. Once you've volunteered in your county, consider giving additional time to help the ORP and our candidates.

Help Candidates

- Knock on doors
- Make phone calls
- Signs: Identify sign locations, deliver, put up, take down
- Host Meet and Greets, and invite your neighbors

Election Integrity

- Join your county Election Integrity committee
- Recruit volunteers
- Attend County Election Office training
- Coordinate election observers
- Report abnormalities to Executive Committee and State Election Integrity Chair

Events

- Work at booths at fairs, events, rallies, etc.
- Contact people to purchase tickets
- Contact businesses for in-kind contributions

Event Planning

- Organize fundraising events
- Help plan events such as fundraising and voter registration events
- Help implement events
- Work on decorations
- Work on securing locations
- Work on getting sponsors
- Work on in-kind donations

Publicity

- Publicize activities of the Central Committee
- Write letters to the editor
- Work on website
- Like and share county, ORP, RNC, and candidate social media posts
- Work on press releases
- Make signs
- Have a presence at rallies

Volunteer Opportunities - *continued*

Office Help

- Receptionist
- Office Manager
- Calendar for office use
- Set up and takedown
- Cleaning
- Refreshments
- Literature and supplies
- Calling for meetings – specific lists
- Data entry

Voter Registration, Your Outreach

- Go to high schools and speak to classes or sponsor clubs
- Go to college groups
- Go to church groups
- Go to new citizen ceremonies
- Organize outreaches
- Contact new move-ins
- Man booths at events

Research

- Research national events
- Research statewide events
- Research county or local events
- Prepare reports for Central Committee meetings
- Prepare reports for House District meetings

Database

- Join the Data team
- Help others use Campaign Sidekick
- Maintain up-to-date lists of volunteers
- Maintain up-to-date lists of signs locations
- Maintain up-to-date lists of donors
- Maintain up-to-date lists of PCPs
- Maintain attendance and records and coordinate with secretary

Education

- Update manual on the principles of the Constitution
- Hold meetings for new PCPs to go over the principles
- Educate PCPs on major issues
- Educate PCPs about how to communicate with elected officials and the government effectively
- Educate on the use of petitions
- Educate how to communicate effectively on Facebook
- Educate on how to contact representatives
- Educate how to hardwire a precinct

Volunteer Opportunities - *continued*

Education - *continued*

- Educate how to phone, walk, and hold meetings to reach out to neighborhood
- Educate how to get on committees, volunteer, and associations
- Educate about associations that can help our causes

Issues

- Define issues of the day
- Propose policy positions for county party and candidates
- Work with Publicity Committee to disseminate the issues
- Communicate with Republican candidates about issues of importance to your county Central Committee

Precinct Organization

- Locate persons willing to be appointed as PCPs
- Conduct ongoing voter registration by canvassing, working at booths, etc.
- Work with candidates on getting out the vote
- Implement phone canvasses
- Make walking lists
- Work at rallies
- Work on ballot chase procedures
- Assist PCP/Precinct Chair
- Schedule events for your House District
- Coordinate and develop precinct activities
- Follow-up on PCP activities
- Review and update PCP manual

Candidate Recruit

- Help locate qualified and willing candidates
- Equip candidates to run for office
- Equip campaign managers for candidates
- Equip finance managers for candidates
- Formulate plans to provide material support, such as volunteer coordination
- Formulate data management
- Formulate campaign strategy

Rules

- Update statute-compliant changes
- Work with committee to add or change bylaw proposals by the Executive Committee