

People's Democracy Network:  
building power from the outside in the Calif. Democratic Party

**ADEMs are around the corner:  
time to start organizing in every Assembly District**

(Share this document: <https://tinyurl.com/PDN-ADEM-guide>)

PDN's primary strategy is to win a majority of delegates on the state Central Committee. The next opportunity will be the biannual Assembly Delegate Election Meetings (ADEMs), presumably in early 2027, when 14 delegates will be elected in each of the state's 80 Assembly Districts.

Organizing should really begin now to avoid the kind of last-minute scramble we've faced in the past.

While PDN central will do all we can to help and support, the main effort falls on local leaders, and now is the time to get started forming slates. Here's what we suggest:

- If you're a dedicated progressive Democrat, you surely know at least a few others in your district, and maybe in neighboring ones if you're in a densely populated area. Start by making a list and create a communications group, preferably on Signal – but you choose.
- If there was an effective PDN-affiliated or other fully progressive slate in your AD last year, be sure to include its members.
- Contact all these folks and invite them to invite others, on the basis of the PDN purpose and goals – see Article II.1 and II.2 of the bylaws  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bK5pGrhLvWUDyR3v10x9xy9527iH2WFX1WFBY-FA-v4/edit?usp=sharing> – and we recommend at least skimming the rest.
- Include leadership of progressive union/labor council leaders and staff. Divisions in some ADs last time hurt all of us.
- Call a meeting, in person and/or online, to get acquainted and start your planning. Designate a couple of volunteers to lead and coordinate the effort.
- People involved may or may not be interested in becoming candidates. In fact, it might be best for non-candidates to be the coordinators.
- Let us know how it's going; send an email message to [pdn.vote.win@gmail.com](mailto:pdn.vote.win@gmail.com). In particular, connect with your PDN regional organizer. (Some of the six defined in the bylaws are still to be named – perhaps that could be you.)

The goal is to assemble powerful slates of 14, seven of each gender, in plenty of time to avoid the last-minute rush we've often experienced. Slate members should:

- Be registered Democrats (they can change to that) living in the district.

- Be diverse demographically, geographically (especially in rural districts) and in political/social connections.
- Have been active in progressive politics for a while – so they have lots of colleagues they can round up when it's time to vote.
- Be willing to pledge slate loyalty – to support the entire slate and not to seek individual success by appearing also on rival slates. This is how we win.
- Promise to do the work to GOTV, to their personal lists to start, then in whatever joint efforts the group undertakes.
- Understand that close collaboration must continue after election: in other local organizing, together with progressives on the county committee and beyond, and at conventions.

Thanks in advance. Let's do this!

Got thoughts or questions? Feel free to contact me.

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