

Guidelines for Boone County Democratic Party (BCDP) Candidate Endorsements and Financial Contributions

General Statement

BCDP may make public endorsements of candidates for elections who have demonstrated awareness of and consideration for the legislative and public policy concerns of members of the Central Committee.

Endorsement Guidelines

The BCDP Executive Central Committee has established the following guidelines for making public endorsements of candidates for office:

Candidates seeking endorsement from the Boone County Democratic Party (BCDP) shall:

1. Be running in a non partisan municipal election, running as an unopposed Democratic incumbent for a local or state legislative office, or be running as a Democrat in a general local or state election. We do not typically endorse in Democratic primary elections*).
2. Demonstrate an awareness of and consideration for the legislative and public policy concerns of the Central Committee by submitting written responses to a questionnaire developed by the Boone County Democratic Party in advance. This will be reviewed by the Central Committee who will determine whether the candidate's stated values, campaign funding, vision and platform align with the values of the BCDP.
3. Attend a meeting of the Boone County Democratic Party Central Central Committee where Central Committee members and guests will have the opportunity to ask the candidate questions on various topics.
4. Attend a meeting of Boone County Muleskinners and/or host a candidate town hall where Muleskinners members and the general public can discuss local issues with the candidate.
5. Be a dues paying member of the Boone County Democratic Party, a registered Democrat with the Secretary of State, or registered Independent with the Secretary of State and Democratic-aligned voter in good standing at the time of the request.

No more than one active candidate will be publicly endorsed in any one race at one time, unless there is more than one seat available (ie school board elections) and multiple candidates have met the above qualifications.

The Boone County Democratic Party shall consider giving *recommendations* for or against candidates as opposed to *endorsements* when one or more declared Democratic candidates do not align with BCDP values, as evidenced by having donors, endorsements or campaign surrogates who are known to be out of alignment with said values.

* The Boone County Democratic Party may consider endorsing in primary races where there are multiple candidates on the ballot whose values align with the Boone County Democratic Party, if a 2/3 majority members of the Central Committee present vote to consider an endorsement. If the 2/3 majority is not met, the Boone County Democratic Party shall decline to officially endorse any candidate in the primary race.

If a candidate endorsed by BCDP loses in a primary race, a different candidate may be considered for public endorsement in the general election.

In order for the Boone County Democratic Party to contribute to a non-partisan municipal campaign:

1. The Executive Team will formally meet and with the Treasurer shall determine whether the Party is financially able to contribute to municipal campaigns in a given election cycle.
2. The candidate must be in a contested race with a candidate whose stated values, vision and platform do not align with Democratic values, as evidenced by having donors, endorsements or campaigns surrogates who are known to be out of alignment with said values.
3. Present the Central Committee with their win number, campaign plan and strategy based upon various socioeconomic and political factors.
4. Have a campaign that is actively fundraising (in-person, on call time, and/or online via ActBlue or another online payment processing application) and canvassing in compliance with all applicable MEC regulations and state election laws.
5. Be a member of the Boone County Democratic Party, a registered Democrat, or registered Independent and Democratic-aligned voter in good standing.