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## Criteria for democratic debates

Only six presidential candidates were invited to take the stage at the seventh Democratic primary debate this Tuesday, according to the Democratic National Committee. Those candidates are in alphabetical order, Vice President Joe Biden, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Sen. Bernie Sanders, billionaire Tom Steyer and Sen. Elizabeth Warren. Unlike the last debate, businessman Andrew Yang will not be invited to participate. RELATED: Democratic debates scheduled for 2020 Mers were selected according to qualification criteria agreed by the hosts under the DNC, but the exact criteria were not specified. Next week's debate, hosted by CNN and the Des Moines Register, will take place January 14 at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, and will be moderated by CNN's Wolf Blitzer and Abby Phillip, as well as the Des Moines Register's Brienne Pfannenstiel. Sanders has a lead over his fellow Democrats in this critical stretch less than a month from the Iowa caucus, according to the latest CNN/Des Moines Register/Mediacom poll. Twenty percent of likely Democratic club-goers would vote for the Vermont senator, according to the poll, followed by Warren at 17%, Buttigieg slipping to 16% and Biden coming in at 15%. It's still a tight race -- nearly half of Iowa voters said they haven't made a firm decision about who they plan to support. Report correction or typo On the heels of the final Democratic primary debate of the year, the Democratic National Committee announced the qualifying criteria for the next debate, and five candidates appear to have already qualified. According to an ABC News analysis, candidates who appear to have already met higher donor and electoral thresholds are: former Vice President Joe Biden, South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren. Those five candidates, and who else of the remaining 10 candidates in the race who are ultimately able to qualify, will face off in Des Moines, Iowa, on January 14, just three weeks before this voting cycle begins with the Iowa Caucuses on February 3. The debate, which will be co-hosted by CNN and the Des Moines Register, will be held at Drake University. Democratic presidential candidates Andrew Yang, South Bend, Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, former Vice President Joe Biden, Sen. Bernie Sanders, Sens. Amy Klobuchar and Tom Steyer wait for the start of the Democratic presidential primary debate at Loyola Marymount University on December 19, 2019 in Los Angeles, California. Despite nine candidates, led by New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, who last weekend sent a letter to the DNC calling for less string string stringuous qualification criteria for upcoming debates, candidates still need to meet both the electoral and basic fundraising thresholds to qualify, and again the DNC has thresholds according to the criteria of the previous debate. As in the last two debates, presidential hopefuls have two ways to meet the poll threshold. The first route is the threshold of four polls: candidates must win at least 5% support in four statewide or early states -- Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, and/or South Carolina -- in the polls. In order to be counted as qualifying polls, opinion polls must be sponsored by different organisations or, if sponsored by the same organisation, cover different geographical areas. The second way is the early threshold for polling: Candidates must gain at least 7% support in two early state polls. Unlike the first trip, these surveys can be sponsored by the same organisation and can be carried out in the same geographical area. Polls must be released between November 14 and 11:59 p.m. on January 10 in order to count. In addition, polls must be sponsored by one or two organizations from the following list designated by the DNC: Associated Press; ABC News/Washington Post; CBS News/YouGov; CNN; Des Moines Register; Fox News; Monmouth University; National Public Radio; NBC News/Wall Street Journal; NBC News/Marist; New York Times; Nevada Independent/Mellman Group; Quinnipiac University; University of New Hampshire; USA Today/Suffolk University; Winthrop University. The DNC said it could add more Nevada-specific organizations to that list. According to ABC News' count, there have already been 17 qualifying polls for this debate. Candidates must raise at least 225,000 individual donors to meet the local fundraising threshold, up from the 200,000 needed for the December debate. In addition, they must have at least 1,000 unique donors per state in at least 20 U.S. states, U.S. territories or the District of Columbia. Like the electoral threshold, candidates have until 11:59 p.m. on January 10 to reach that threshold. They then must submit a DNC certification by 11 a.m. on January 11 to the two candidates who debated alongside the five who have already qualified Thursday night are on their way to qualifying for the next debate. Democratic presidential candidate businessman Andrew Yang speaks during the Democratic presidential primary debate Thursday, December 19, 2019, in Los Angeles. Businessman Andrew Yang met the donor threshold, according to a number of donors his campaign previously announced. He has one qualifying poll toward the four-vote threshold, so he needs three more polls with at least 5% support to qualify, according to an ABC News analysis. While he has not yet met the donor threshold, businessman Tom Steyer has two qualifying polls to the four-vote threshold, meaning he needs two more to hit the electoral threshold, according to an ABC News analysis. Despite its late in the Democratic primary, former New York City Mayor Mike Bloomberg has already reached the threshold of four elections, elections, abc news analysis. However, he said he is not making donations, so is unlikely to reach the basic fundraising threshold. Bloomberg, the billionaire, has already put millions of his equity into his campaign, including spending more than \$100 million on television advertising buys so far, according to data from CMAG. The DNC previously announced additional seats and dates for the three debates to be held in February after the January 14 debate. Before the New Hampshire primary, ABC News, along with a local affiliate of WMUR-TV, will host a debate at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire on February 7. Before the Nevada caucuses, NBC News and MSNBC, in partnership with the Nevada Independent, will host a debate in Las Vegas on February 19. And ahead of the South Carolina primary, CBS News and the Congressional Black Caucus Institute will co-host a debate on February 25 at the Gaillard Center in Charleston, South Carolina. The qualifying criteria for these three debates have yet to be announced. The Democratic National Committee on Saturday unveiled the qualifying criteria for the last Democratic primary debate in February, which will be held in the early nominating state of South Carolina - just days before the Palmetto State primary. Like the first three debates in 2020, the candidates have two ways to secure a spot on the debate stage on April 25. To qualify with delegates, candidates must receive at least one promised delegate to the Democratic National Convention from any of the first three nominating contests in Iowa, New Hampshire or Nevada. Candidates can also get the podium either receive at least 10% in four national or single-state South Carolina polls, or get at least 12% in two one-state polls in South Carolina between February 4 and February 24 at 11:59 p.m. ET, the day before the game up. The only changes from the Nevada debate -- scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 2016 -- are that the Nevada debate will be announced. Pete Buttigieg shakes hands with Sen. Amy Klobuchar as Senator Bernie Sanders, former Vice President Joe Biden and Sen. Elizabeth Warren look on at the Democratic 2020 presidential debate at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, N.C., February 7, 2020. Among the candidates currently set to face off in the debate, co-hosted by CBS News and the Congressional Black Caucus Institute, along with Twitter, at the Gaillard Center in Charleston are: former Vice President Joe Biden, former South Bend, Ind., Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, according to an ABC News analysis. On the doorstep of the snagging site is billionaire and former New York City Mayor Michael which currently has two qualifying surveys on its way to four. For voting to count towards the qualifying threshold, it must also be sponsored by the following entities: Associated Press; ABC News/Washington Post; CBS News/YouGov; CNN; Fox News; Monmouth University; National Public Radio; NBC News/Wall Street Journal; NBC News/Marist; New York Times; Quinnipiac University; USA Today/Suffolk University; Winthrop University. But the DNC also reserves the right to add any South Carolina-specific poll sponsor to that list in the near future. For a four-survey trip, each survey must be sponsored by different organizations or if it is sponsored by the same organization that cover different geographic areas. But polls can be conducted by the same organization and/or covering the same areas count towards the early state electoral threshold threshold. The debate will also be the last before Super Tuesday, when candidates will compete in 15 contests on March 3, by far the widest map of the presidential primary cycle in one night. From left, Democratic presidential candidates Pete Buttigieg, Sen. Bernie Sanders, Sen. Elizabeth Warren and former Vice President Joe Biden arrive on stage for the start of the Democratic presidential primary debate on St. Anselm College, February 7, 2020 in Manchester, N.C. The DNC announced on Friday that the next debate after South Carolina will be held on March 15 in Phoenix, Arizona, a state considered a battleground in 2020. But in the meantime, only five presidential hopefuls have so far met the threshold needed to square off on Wednesday in a Las Vegas debate, days before Saturday's highly-anticipated caucuses, according to an ABC News analysis. Those who have qualified so far are: they include Biden, Buttigieg, Klobuchar, Sanders and Warren. The remaining candidates have until Tuesday at 11:59 p.m. ET to qualify, leaving the door open for others to take to the stage. Like Nevada, South Carolina presents an early opportunity for Democratic candidates to test their strength among more diverse voters, with a larger Latino population in Nevada and a significant black voting bloc in South Carolina. Some of the candidates, like Biden, are banking on strong support from minority communities in recent early states to rebuild the primary race and regain the top-level position. The reason we're here is because, you know, 99% of The African-American vote hasn't spoken yet and 99% of the Latino vote hasn't spoken yet, Biden said in Las Vegas in an effort to remind supporters that communities of color haven't weighed in on the Democratic primary field yet, after Iowa and New Hampshire, two states with predominantly white populations. Population.