

Questionnaire for Candidates Seeking Alameda County Democratic Central Committee

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot: Edie Irons
2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number): Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, 14th AD
3. What is your current occupation or elected office? Communications Director, the Institute for College Access & Success
4. Are you the incumbent? Yes
5. How long have you resided in this district and city? 6.5 years

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:	Friends of Edie Irons
Address:	330 49 th St.
City, State, Zip:	Oakland, CA 94609
Name of staff contact:	
Campaign Phone:	510-334-1344
Campaign Fax:	
Campaign E-mail:	edieirons@inthefire.com
FPPC#	

STATEMENT

Please provide a statement describing why you are running, what you hope to do, and any significant accomplishments you have achieved. Please limit your statement to 250 words or less.

I am running for reelection to the ACDCC because I see the incredible potential of the Democratic Party in Alameda County, and I want to continue working to help the committee – and Democrats in our county – reach that potential. With the densest Democratic registration in the state, Alameda County can be the margin of victory on statewide races, and we will need to be in order to reelect Barbara Boxer, take back the Governor's mansion, and win on the many initiatives that will be on this year's ballot.

I want to strengthen our central committee by improving communication with Democratic clubs and activists, raising more money to benefit strong local candidates and campaigns, and making our meetings and operations more inclusive, transparent, and engaging.

I became chair of the communications subcommittee at the beginning of this year, and have been updating the committee's web site and calendar. The subcommittee has had and will continue to have regular meetings outside of the full monthly meeting, and report back to the full committee. I plan to compile an email list and send an e-newsletter to Democrats county-wide for the first time. I am working with the communications subcommittee to develop a Bay Area-wide press list and hope to begin doing media outreach soon. I have been supporting efforts to improve the committee's endorsement process, and will continue to do that.

I am also a delegate to the state Democratic Party by virtue of my role on the central committee, where I am a member of the Women's Caucus and the Progressive Caucus, and will work towards similar goals of strengthening the party from the grassroots, transparency, and inclusiveness.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR YOUTH

Please describe in detail at least three of your accomplishments that have improved the lives of young people. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities that apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

I work at the Institute for College Access & Success, a nonprofit research and advocacy organization focused on financial aid and college affordability policy issues. Every day I work to help increase grant aid for college, reduce the burdens of student debt, and improve financial aid processes for students and student loan borrowers.

As past-president of EBYD, former VP of Membership for CYD, and a volunteer for the League of Young Voters, I have been working to build political power for young people for as long as I have been politically active.

I'm a co-founder of Mix It Up, the local happy hour for young progressives, which has been bringing our community together and helping young people network, find jobs, and get involved in political and community issues for two and a half years.

EXPERIENCE

Please list or describe your current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

I'm just going to list my local and statewide political experience here, including relevant past work experience.

Member, Alameda County Democratic Central Committee (2009-present)
Alternate, Alameda County Democratic Central Committee (2007-08)
Past president of the East Bay Young Democrats (2006-07)
Board member of the East Bay Young Democrats (2008-present)
Member, California State Democratic Central Committee (2009-present)
Board member of the National Women's Political Caucus, Alameda North (2007-09)
Past Vice President of Membership for the California Young Democrats (2007)
Fundraiser and event planner for the League of Young Voters (2004-08)
Fundraiser for the Democratic National Committee (2004)
Former intern for the Alameda Central Labor Council (2005)