Jennifer M Wilson* (wilsonj@newschool.edu), 65 W. 11th St., New York, NY 10011, and Michael A Jones (maj@ams.org). Minimal Requirements for Representation in the Democratic Primary.

The Democratic Party uses Hamilton's method of apportionment to assign delegates to presidential candidates based on the candidates' level of support in the primary. However party rules state that candidates receiving less than 15% of the vote are not awarded any delegates. In this talk, we look at the consequences of such a cut-off for Hamilton's method and several other apportionment methods. For each method, we find the threshold of inclusion (the level of support necessary to possibly receive a delegate), and the threshold of exclusion (the level of support necessary to assuredly receive a delegate). We compare these values and determine the relationship between the thresholds and the Democratic Party cutoff of 15%. (Received September 16, 2009)