



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIMARY ELECTION GUIDELINE
FOR BENUE STATE**



TABLE OF

CONTENTS

1. PREAMBLE ----- 2

2. GENERAL PROVISIONS ----- 3

3. QUALIFICATION ----- 3

4. GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION----- 4

5. SCREENING PROCEDURE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL
ASPIRANTS ----- 5

6. LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL SCREENING COMMITTEE ----- 6

7. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIMARY ELECTION ----- 7

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

This guideline shall operate as an addendum to and in conjunction with the general Guideline for Primaries of Youth Party. Hence, any lacunae shall be filled with reference to the general Guideline for Primaries of Youth Party.

2. QUALIFICATION

An aspirant for primary election to the Local Government Council shall:

- a) Be a citizen of Nigeria;
- b) An indigene of the ward or constituency or resident in the ward or constituency in which he/she is contesting an election;
- c) Fulfill all the conditions set out in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999, the Constitution of the Party and the provisions of any other relevant law and these Guidelines;
- d) Be a registered voter and attached a copy of his/her voters registration card to the duly completed Nomination form;
- e) Complete and submit the Expression of Interest Form;
- f) In case of councillorship election, he/she must attain the age of 25 years;
- g) In the case of chairmanship election, he/she must attain the age of 30 years;
- h) Provide evidence of tax payment as and when due for a period of three consecutive years immediately preceding the year of the election;
- i) In case of councillorship election, he/she is nominated in writing by ten (10) persons whose names appear on the register of voters for the ward in which he/she intends to contest the election;
- j) In case of chairmanship election, he/she is nominated in writing by ten persons whose names appear on the register of voters in their respective wards and from at least two third of all the wards in the local government area in which he/she intends to contest the election;

- k) Resign/retire from office if a political appointee, civil servant, public servant or party official not later than 7 (seven) days before the date of the collection forms for the Primary Elections;
- l) Possess educational qualification not below the level of Senior Secondary Certificate or its equivalent according to Section 65 (2) (a); and
- m) Is a duly registered member of the Party whose name is contained in the membership register of the Party.

3. GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION

An aspirant shall not be qualified to contest in the primary election to the Local Government Council, if he/ she:

- a) Fails to produce his/her personal income tax certificate, or any evidence that he/she has paid his/her income tax for the last preceding three years or evidence of exemption from payment of personal income tax; or
- b) Presents a false birth certificate or declaration of age for the purpose of the primary election or for any purpose whatsoever; or
- c) Has been indicted for any misconduct set out in Section 61 (1) of the Constitution of the Party and has been punished in accordance of Section 62 (1); or
- d) Has been dismissed from the public service of the Federation or of a State or Local Government Area Council or from any other employment in the public or private sector, or
- e) Is a member of a secret society; or
- f) Has been adjudged guilty of treason or treasonable felony by any court in Nigeria; or
- g) Has been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of any criminal offence including homicide, fraud or dishonesty or the sale or use of narcotic drugs or any other psychotropic substances by any court of competent jurisdiction in Nigeria or
- h) within the Commonwealth or elsewhere; or

- i) Under the law in any part of Nigeria, he/she is adjudged to be a lunatic or otherwise declared to be of unsound mind; or
- j) Is an undischarged bankrupt, having been adjudged or otherwise declared bankrupt under any law in force in Nigeria or any other country; or
- k) Has been convicted for embezzlement or fraud by a court of competent jurisdiction.

The conditions relating to disqualification of a chairman shall apply in relation to a councillor as if reference to chairman were reference to councillor.

4. SCREENING PROCEDURE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL ASPIRANTS

The screening procedure for an aspirant in the primary election of the Party into the Local Government Council shall be as follows:

- (a.) an aspirant shall obtain the Expression of Interest Form from the National Secretariat of the Party or such other place as may be designated by the National Working Committee of the Party, and, on completion, return same to the National Secretariat or such other place as may be designated by the National Working Committee;
- (b.) an aspirant shall obtain the Nomination form –from the National Secretariat of the Party or such other place designated by the National Working Committee of the Party and evidenced upon payment of the prescribed non-refundable fee of N150,000.00 (One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira) for Chairmanship and N75,000.00 (Seventy Thousand Naira) for Councillorship; save that female aspirants and persons with disabilities (PWD) shall pay 50% (half) of the prescribed nomination fee;
- (c.) The Nomination form shall contain signatures of not less than 20 (Twenty) persons from at least two-thirds of all the wards within the Local Government Areas of Constituency, who shall be registered voters in their respective Local Government Areas, wards and also registered members of the Party.
- (d.) a duplicate copy of Voter’s Registration Card of the aspirant shall be attached to the duly completed Nomination form;

- (e.) a copy of the Party Membership Card of the aspirant shall be attached to the duly completed Screening;
- (f.) An aspirant shall provide a reference from his/her bank stating that he/she has been a customer for at least (five) years preceding the date of the primary election or from his/her last employer;
- (g.) the duly completed Nomination forms shall be accompanied by a sworn declaration made before a Commissioner of Oaths or Notary Public undertaking to abide by the guidelines, all laws and any rules or regulations made by the Party relating to the conduct of primary elections and code of conduct on behavior and directives of the Party for its members or Local Government Council primaries.
- (h.) An aspirant shall ensure that all the information supplied by him/her in the relevant Nomination form is true and correct. Any aspirant who gives false information or makes false declaration in the Nomination form shall be disqualified and the Party shall reserve the right to report to the law enforcement authorities.
- (i.) The decision of the National Working Committee of the Party on all primary election matters shall be final, subject only to the right appeal by an aggrieved aspirant.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL SCREENING COMMITTEE

(1) Primary election for the candidate of the Party into a Local Government Council shall be held on the date appointed by the National Working Committee of the Party.

(a.) For the purpose of the primary election, the aspirants who have submitted their completed forms shall be screened by the State Screening Panel constituted in line with the general Guideline for Primaries of Youth Party.

(d.) Any aggrieved aspirant shall have the right to appeal in accordance with the State Appeal Procedures in the general Guideline for Primaries of Youth Party.

Only aspirants cleared by the Screening Committee shall be allowed to participate in the primary elections.

6. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIMARY ELECTION

The local government primaries shall be conducted in the same manner as provided for in the general Guideline for Primaries of Youth Party for conduct of State Houses of Assembly Primaries.

TIMETABLE FOR PRIMARIES FOR BENUE STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

S/No.	Activities	Date
1	Sale of Expression of Interest and Nomination forms	9 th April - 20 th May, 2024
2	Screening	21 st May, 2024
3	Screening Appeal	22 nd May, 2024
4	Primaries	23 rd - 26 th May, 2024
5	Appeal from Primaries	27 th May, 2024