



## **GUIDELINES FOR CONGRESSES AND CONVENTION**

## **GUIDELINES FOR WARDS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS, STATES CONGRESSES AND NATIONAL CONVENTION (2026)**

Whereas:

- i. The Party held its last Convention on 29th October 2016, wherein it adopted its Name, Constitution, Manifesto and elected its National Executive Committee;
- ii. The tenure of all the Members of the NEC and the State Executive Committees expired on 28th October 2020, and they have all been appointed in acting capacity pending the election of new party leaders at the next State Congresses and National Convention
- iii. Section 50 (6) of the Constitution of the Section 52 (4) of the Youth Party Constitution empowers the National Executive Committee (NEC) to make guidelines for election to any office of the Party;
- iv. The NEC hereby makes these guidelines for the Ward, Local Government and State Congresses as well as the National Convention of the Party.

### **SCREENING FOR CANDIDATES**

This Section outlines the requirements for screening of candidates vying for elective offices in the Party for eligibility:

- a. Ward Congresses and Local Government Congresses – the authorized body for the screening of candidates vying for offices at these levels shall be the State Congress Committee.
- b. State Congresses & National Convention – the authorized body for the screening of candidates vying for offices at the State & National level shall be the National Screening sub-committee of the National Convention Committee.

## ELIGIBILITY

All duly registered and financial members will be deemed eligible to vote for their Ward Executive Officers and delegates at the Ward Congress.

1. Any Party member aspiring to any position at the Ward level or seeks to be elected as a Local Government Delegate for the Local Government Congress shall not be eligible to be screened or contest at the Ward Congress, if he/she:
  - a. Presents a false birth certificate or declaration of age; or
  - b. Has been indicted for any misconduct set out in Section 68 (1) of the Constitution of the Party and has been punished in accordance of Section 69 (1);
  - c. 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,
  - d. Is a member of a secret society; or,
  - e. Has been adjudged guilty of treason or treasonable felony by any court in Nigeria; or,
  - f. 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 within the Commonwealth or elsewhere; or,
  - g. 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,
  - h. Is an undischarged bankrupt, having been adjudged or otherwise declared bankrupt under any law in force in Nigeria or any other country; or,
  - i. Has been convicted for embezzlement or fraud by a court of competent jurisdiction.
  - j. Has not fulfilled the requirement in Section 11 of the Constitution of our Party.

2. The screening procedure for aspirants to Executive Offices at all levels shall be as follows:
  - a. an aspirant shall obtain the Expression of Interest Form, with a prescribed non-refundable fee of a certain amount from the National Secretariat of the Party or such other place or platform as may be designated by the National Executive Committee of the Party, and, on completion, return same to the relevant Congress Committee;
  - b. an aspirant shall obtain the Screening Form from the National Secretariat of the Party or such other place designated by the National Executive Committee of the Party
3. The screening procedure for aspirant to Executive Offices at the Ward level shall be as follows:
  - a. an aspirant shall obtain the Expression of Interest Form, with a prescribed non- refundable fee of a certain amount from the National Secretariat of the Party or such other place or platform as may be designated by the National Executive Committee of the Party, and, on completion, return same to the State Congress Committee;
  - b. an aspirant shall obtain the Screening Form from the National Secretariat of the Party or such other place designated by the National Executive Committee of the Party and evidenced upon payment of the prescribed non-refundable fee; save that female aspirants shall pay half of the prescribed screening fee;
  - c. a copy of the Voter's Registration Card of the aspirant shall be attached to the duly completed Screening Form;
  - d. a copy of the Party Membership Card of the aspirant shall be attached to the duly completed Screening Form;
  - e. The duly completed screening 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 Congress elections;

4. An aspirant shall ensure that all the information supplied by him/her in the relevant screening form are true and correct. Any aspirant who gives false information or makes false declaration in the screening form shall be disqualified and the Party shall reserve the right to report to law enforcement authorities.
5. The decision of the National Executive Committee of the Party on all Congresses shall be final and binding.
6. The Ward Congress shall adopt a closed direct primary system where all the registered eligible members of the Party are entitled to participate and vote at their ward of registration. Any exception to this must be approved by the National Executive Committee.

## **NATIONAL CONVENTION**

Any Party member aspiring to any position at the National Executive Committee shall / must have been:

- a. elected as a delegate from the Local Government Congress or a Statutory Delegate by the provision of Section 25(1) of the Party's Constitution
- b. Be a citizen of Nigeria who has attained the age of 18 years.
- c. Be a registered voter and must attach a copy of his/her voters registration card to the duly completed Screening Form
- d. Complete and submit the Expression of Interest Form
- e. Be a duly registered financial member of the Party with Party Dues paid up to date
- f. Possess educational qualification not below the level of Senior Secondary Certificate or its equivalent.

## VOTING

The voting process shall be conducted physically and manually.

All elections at the Ward, Local Government, and State Congresses, as well as the National Convention, shall be conducted through physical direct voting, and eligible voters shall cast their votes in person in accordance with the guidelines stipulated by the National Executive Committee (NEC).

### Pre-Voting Process

1. Only verified and financially up-to-date members shall be eligible to vote.
2. The process shall commence with the verification of Party membership, which shall include:
  - i. A harmonized register of members at the National, State, Local Government, and Ward levels;
  - ii. A harmonized list of financially up-to-date members.
3. The NEC shall publish the verified and harmonized voters' register across all chapters.
4. Members shall physically verify their names on the voters' register at their respective Ward Secretariats to confirm correct spelling and other personal details.
5. Any member with discrepancies in their details shall report to their Ward or Local Government Secretariat to complete an amendment form and append their signature confirming the requested correction.
6. The amendment of details shall be open for a period of one (1) week, or for a shorter period as may be approved by the National Executive Committee (NEC), after which the State Chapter Chair shall forward a signed and collated verification list of

members to the Electoral Committee for final update and publication of the voters' register.

7. The final voter register shall be published before the date fixed for the Congress or Convention.

8. The final stage of the pre-voting process shall be the display and profiling of cleared candidates and the offices for which they are contesting.

### **Outline of Accreditation Process**

a. On the day of voting, members shall present themselves physically at their designated voting centres within their Ward, Local Government, State, or National Convention venue.

b. Voters shall present valid means of identification as prescribed by the Party, including Party Membership Card and any other document approved by the NEC.

c. Voters' names shall be checked against the certified voter register.

d. Eligible voters shall be accredited and issued with a ballot paper or voting material as approved by the Electoral Committee.

e. Accredited voters shall proceed to cast their votes at the designated voting area.

### **Outline of Voting Process**

a. Voting shall commence at the time fixed by the Electoral Committee and shall be conducted under strict supervision.

b. Once accredited, voters shall:

i. Receive the official ballot paper;

ii. Proceed to the voting cubicle, and

- iii. Thumbprint or mark the ballot paper as prescribed by the Party guidelines.
- c. After voting, the voter shall drop the ballot paper into the designated ballot box in the presence of election officials.
- d. Voting shall be open, transparent, and conducted in an orderly manner until the close of polls.
- e. At the close of voting, counting of votes shall be conducted openly at the venue, and results shall be announced in accordance with Party guidelines.

**DATES:**

Ward Congresses – 6th June 2026

Appeals arising from Ward Congresses – 7th – 9th June 2026

Local Government Area (LGA) Congresses – 13th June 2026

Appeals arising from LGA Congresses – 14th – 16th June 2026

State Congresses – 20th June 2026

Appeals arising from State Congresses – 21st – 21st June 2026

National Convention – 27th June 2026

Appeals arising from National Convention – 29th – 30th June 2026

**NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE (NCC)**

There shall be a National Convention Committee (the Committee) appointed by the National Organizing Secretary. The Committee shall be responsible for the overall conduct of the National Convention and supervision of the State Congress Committees and will comprise a Chair, a Secretary, the National Organizing

Secretary, Deputy National Organizing Secretary, National Policy and Strategy Secretary, and 3 (Three) other persons.

## **STATE CONGRESS COMMITTEE (SCC)**

There shall be for each State and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), a State Congress Committee comprised of 5 persons (who shall be from a State other than that particular State) appointed by the National Organizing Secretary, who must be persons of proven integrity. The State Congress Committee shall comprise a Chair, Secretary and 3 other members. They shall be responsible for the overall conduct of the Ward, Local Government and State Congresses in the State.

## **APPEALS COMMITTEE**

Each State shall have a 3-person Appeals Committee appointed by the National Organizing Secretary who will be from outside their State of assignment. They shall be responsible for the hearing of appeals arising from the Ward, Local Government and State Congresses.

## **TIMING:**

All Congresses & Convention will commence at 10:00 AM or any other time that may be decided by the relevant Congress or Convention Committee.

## **VENUE:**

**Ward Congresses** -The election shall be conducted:  
Physically through direct voting at a venue approved by the State Congress Committee.

### **NOTE:**

Any venue so approved for the Ward Congress shall be announced not less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the time fixed for the Congress.

**Local Government Area Congresses** - The election shall be conducted:  
Physically through direct voting at a venue approved by the State Congress Committee.

**NOTE:**

Any venue so approved for the Local Government Area Congress shall be announced not less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the time fixed for the Congress.

**State Congresses** - The election shall be conducted:

Physically through direct voting at a venue approved by the National Convention Committee.

**NOTE:**

Any suitable venue so identified for the State Congress shall be announced not less than ninety-six (96) hours prior to the time fixed for the Congress.

**National Convention**

The National Convention of the Youth Party shall take place at a venue designated and approved by the National Convention Committee (NCC), where all proceedings, including elections, shall be conducted physically through direct voting in accordance with the Constitution and guidelines of the Party.

**COMPOSITION OF CONGRESSES AND CONVENTION**

**Ward Congress**

There shall be a Ward Congress, which shall consist of all registered members of the Party in the Ward.

**Functions**

The Functions of the Ward Congress shall be to -

- a. Receive reports of officers of the Ward;
- b. Receive Auditors reports;
- c. Approve the budget of the Ward;

- d. Elect members of the Ward Executive Committee in conformity with democratic principles;
- e. Elect Ward delegates to the Local Government & State Party Congresses in conformity with democratic principles;
- f. Conduct primaries for elections into public offices in conformity with democratic principle of one-member-one vote; and
- g. Carry out such other functions as may be in the interest of the Party as authorized by higher organs of the party.

### **Local Government Area Congress**

There shall be a Local Government Area Congress, which shall consist of-

- a. The Local Government Chair of the Party and other members of the Local Government Area Executive Committee;
- b. The elected Local Government Council Chair, Vice Chair and Councillors, who are members of the Party;
- c. All Chairs and Secretaries of the Ward Executive Committees from the Local Government Area;
- d. Three delegates from each Ward of the Local Government Area elected at the Ward Congress, at least one of whom shall be a woman, at least one of whom shall be a person with disability (PWD), where practicable and all of whom shall cease to function at the conclusion of congress for which they were elected; and

### **Functions**

The functions of the Local Government Area Congress shall be to-

- a. Elect members to the Local Government Executive Committee of the Party in conformity with democratic principles;
- b. Elect Local Government Party delegates to the National Convention in conformity with democratic principles

- c. Approve the budget of the Party at the Local Government level; and
- d. Receive the Local Government Auditor's Report.

## **State Party Congress**

There shall be a State Party Congress, which shall consist of:

- a. The State Chair, who shall be the Chair;
- b. Members of the State Executive Committee;
- c. the Governor and Deputy Governor of the State if members of the Party;
- d. The Gubernatorial Candidate of the Party;
- e. Members of the State Elders' Council;
- f. Members of the State House of Assembly, who are members of the Party;
- g. All elected Local Government Council Chairs and Vice Chairs who are members of the Party;
- h. All Local Government Party Secretaries and Treasurers;
- i. All Local Government Women Leaders, Market Leaders;
- j. 3 (Three) delegates per Ward elected at Ward Congresses at least one of whom shall be a woman, at least one of whom shall be a person with disability (PWD) where practicable, and all of whom shall cease to function after the conclusion of the Congresses for which they were elected;
- k. Former members of State Executive Committee who are still members of the Party;
- l. Former Governors and Deputy Governors produced by the Party who are still members of the Party;
- m. Former Speakers and Deputy Speakers of the State House of Assembly produced by the Party who are still members of the Party; and

- n. Former members of the State House of Assembly who are still members of the Party.

## **Functions**

The functions of the State Congress shall be to:

- a. Approve the budget of the State Branch of the Party.
- b. Elect officers of the State Executive Committee in conformity with democratic principles.
- c. Receive reports from officers of the Party; and
- d. Receive the Auditor's report.

## **National Convention**

There shall be a National Convention of the Party, which shall consist of:

- a. The National Chair of the Party, who shall be the Chair of the Convention
- b. Other members of the National Executive Committee;
- c. The members of the Board of Trustees
- d. State Party Chairs and Secretaries, including those of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja;
- e. Party Chairs of the Local Government Areas and Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory;
- f. One National delegate from each Local Government Area and Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory to be elected at the Local Government Area Congress and the Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory for the purpose;
- g. All elected Local Government Council Chairs and Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory Chairs, who are members of the Party;

- h. Former members of the National Executive Committee who are still members of the Party;
- i. Former Senate Presidents and Deputy Presidents, former Speakers and

Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives and other Principal Officers of the National Assembly who are still members of the Party;

### **Functions**

1. Pursuant to Section 25(2) of the Party Constitution, The National Convention shall be the supreme and controlling authority of the Party within the limits prescribed in this Constitution and it shall be the principal representative, policy making and administering body of the Party.
2. Except in the exercise of the functions granted only to other bodies as specified in the Constitution or in the regulations made pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution, the National Convention shall have supremacy in all matters pertaining to the Party and all officers and organs of the Party shall be bound in the exercise of their functions by the decisions of the National Convention.
3. Pursuant to Section 25(4) of the Party Constitution, The National Convention shall have and exercise authority to, amongst others:
  - a) Elect or remove the National Officers of the Party through a democratic process;
  - b) Demand and receive reports from the National Executive Committee and from any other committees or organs of the Party and take appropriate action on such reports;
  - c) Appoint such committees, as it may deem necessary, desirable or expedient and assign to them such powers and functions as it may deem fit;
  - d) Determine the type and membership of standing committees to be set up by the National Executive Committee;

- e) Review and amend the constitution of the Party, from time to time, as the need arises and the power of the National Convention to propose amendments to the Constitution shall not be delegated;
- f) Delegate any of its powers, except the power to amend the Constitution, to the National Executive Committee or to any other organ of the party;
- g) Take such other actions as may aid or facilitate the realization of the objectives of the Party;
- h) Appoint external Auditors to audit the Party's accounts;
- i) Determine the minimum rate of annual membership due to be paid by members and the proportion of income from such subscription to be remitted to the State Chapters of the Party;
- j) Review, ratify, alter or rescind any decision taken by any of the constituent bodies, units or officials of the Party; and
- k) Exercise such other powers and authority not inconsistent with the provisions of the Party's constitution as shall aid or facilitate the realization of the objectives of the Party.

## **NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR PARTY POSITIONS**

Aspirants to party positions in the wards, local governments and States will be elected at the various congresses and will be required to pay a specified fee for the party nomination form.

The fees are as follows:

### **Wards:**

Ward Chairs – ₦5,000

Other Offices – ₦2,500

### **Persons nominating candidates from the Ward**

Candidates for Chair shall require 1 sponsor per unit within the Ward, while other positions shall require 1 sponsor from 50% of the units within the Ward.

#### **Local Government Areas:**

Local Government Chair – ₦10,000

Other Offices – ₦5,000

### **Persons nominating candidates from the LGA**

Candidates for Chair will require 1 sponsor per ward within the LGA, while other positions will require 1 sponsor from 50% of the wards within the LGA.

#### **States:**

State Chair – ₦100,000

Other Offices – ₦30,000

### **Persons nominating from the State**

Candidates for Chair shall require 1 sponsor per LGA within the State, while other positions shall require 1 sponsor from 50% of the LGA's within the State

#### **National:**

National Chair – ₦250,000

Other Offices – ₦150,000

## **SALE OF FORMS**

All payments for the purchase of Nomination Forms shall be made directly into Youth Party accredited bank account as follows:

**Bank:** Zenith

**Account Number:** 1015167021

**Account Name:** Youth Party

The fees shall be paid through the accredited banks and deposit receipts shall be evidence of payment and will be required for the collection of forms.

## **MODE OF CONGRESSES & CONVENTION ELECTIONS**

Therefore, in all respects, votes must be counted and results announced and recorded on the spot. In the event of a tie in any ballot, the election for that particular office shall be repeated for tying candidates until a winner emerges. The winner of election shall be determined by a simple majority of total votes cast.

## **WARD CONGRESS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CONGRESS, STATE CONGRESS AND NATIONAL CONVENTION MODE OF ELECTION:**

After membership accreditation, Elections at all levels shall be by secret ballot.

## **CONGRESSES & CONVENTION ELECTION SPECIAL PROVISIONS;**

The Ward Registers serve as the Voters Register, while the Membership Card serve as the Voter's card in each voting ward. Accreditation shall be conducted by the respective Congress Committee. The NCC reserves the right to cancel any election in areas where there are irregularities or violence in the conduct of election.

The NCC is the final appeal authority in all election disputes.

Any aspirant identified as having a hand in any irregularity, any violence or any electoral malpractice shall be suspended/expelled from the party and will forfeit his/her right to participate in any future election of the party for any position.

The SCC shall display/announce, the names of candidates vying for party positions in wards, Local government and State congresses and the positions they are vying for 72 hours before the Congress.

**THE TIMETABLE AND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE 2026 CONGRESSES AND CONVENTION IS AS FOLLOWS:**

S/No	Activity	Sale of Forms	Congresses & Convention date	Appeals from Congresses & Convention
1	Ward Congress	15th – 1st June 2026	6th June 2026	7th – 9th June 2026
2	LGAs' Congress	15th – 8th June 2026	13th June 2026	14th – 16th June 2026
3	State Congress	15th – 15th June 2026	20th June 2026	21st – 23rd June 2026
4	National Convention	15th – 22nd June 2026	27th June 2026	7th – 9th June 2026