



Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING
PERTINENT PROVISIONS ON
THE FILING OF CERTIFICATES
OF CANDIDACY UNDER
COMELEC RESOLUTION NO.
10924, ENTITLED "GENERAL
GUIDELINES AND OTHER
RELATED RULES AND
REGULATIONS FOR THE
OCTOBER 30, 2023 BARANGAY
AND SANGGUNIANG
KABATAAN ELECTIONS (BSKE)
AND ALL SUCCEEDING BSKEs
THEREAFTER" FOR PURPOSES
OF THE NOVEMBER 02, 2026
BARANGAY AND
SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
ELECTIONS

GARCIA, George Erwin M.
FEROLINO, Aimee P.
BULAY, Rey E.
MACEDA, JR. Ernesto Ferdinand P.
CELIS, Nelson J.
TANGARO-CASINGAL, Maria Norina S.
PIPO, Noli R.

Chairman
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

Promulgated: February 18, 2026

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RESOLUTION NO. 11196

WHEREAS, Section 2 (1), Article IX-C of the 1987 Constitution grants the Commission on Elections the power to enforce and administer all laws and regulations relative to the conduct of an election, plebiscite, initiative, referendum, and recall;

WHEREAS, on 07 June 2023, the Commission promulgated Resolution No. 10924, entitled "General Guidelines and Other Related Rules and Regulations for the October 30, 2023 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE) and All Succeeding BSKEs Thereafter";

WHEREAS, on 28 January 2026, the Commission promulgated Resolution No. 11191, entitled "Calendar of Activities and Periods of Certain Prohibited Acts in Connection with the November 2, 2026 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE)";

WHEREAS, every election, the Commission encounters issues on the declarations made by the aspirants in their Certificates of Candidacy (COC) such as the age requirement and citizenship;

WHEREAS, in the case of *Chito Bulatao Balintay v. COMELEC Provincial Election Supervisor (PES) of Zambales and COMELEC En Banc* docketed as G.R. No. 277540, promulgated on 04 March 2025, the Honorable Supreme Court *En Banc* ruled that the Commission committed grave abuse of discretion when “it failed to apply a liberal construction of its rules of procedure based on the peculiar circumstances” of the case and held “that the Comelec should reexamine whether its rules serve the interest of justice and fair play”;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to its power vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, and other election laws, the Commission RESOLVED, as it hereby RESOLVES, to amend the pertinent provisions of COMELEC Resolution No. 10924, to now read as follows:

SECTION 1. *Letter l of the Glossary of Terms is hereby amended to read as follows:*

“l) Candidate shall refer to any person seeking an elective public office, who has filed his or her certificate of candidacy, and who has not died, withdrawn his or her certificate of candidacy, had his or her certificate of candidacy denied due course or cancelled, or has been otherwise disqualified before the start of the campaign period for which he or she filed his certificate of candidacy. Provided, that, unlawful acts or omissions applicable to a candidate shall take effect upon filing of the Certificate of Candidacy.”

SECTION 2. *Section 164, Chapter I, Article VII is hereby amended to read as follows:*

“**SEC. 164. Age requirement of chairperson and member, SK.** - Aspirants for the positions of Chairperson and Member, SK must be at least eighteen (18) years but not more than twenty-four (24) years of age on the day of the elections.

For purposes of the November 2, 2026 BSKE, aspirants should be born on November 2, 2002 to November 2, 2008 to qualify for the position aspired for."

SECTION 3. *Section 169, Chapter I, Article VII is hereby amended to read as follows:*

"SEC. 169. Contents and forms of Certificate of Candidacy. – The COC shall be under oath and shall state:

a. xxx.

xxx.

y. xxx.

xxx.

Aspirant shall also affix a passport-size photograph taken within the last six (6) months, and may attach a bio-data and program of government not exceeding one hundred (100) words.

As warranty to their eligibility for the office being sought, the aspirants shall attach as Annex 1 to their COC a copy of their birth certificate issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority or the concerned Local Civil Registry.

A P30.00 documentary stamp tax (**DST**) shall be attached to one (1) of the copies of the COC and the documentary stamp tax number shall be written on the remaining two (2) copies of the COC. **Electronic DST implemented under Revenue Regulations No. 028-2025, dated 21 April 2025, shall be accepted.** Provided that the COC with the attached document stamp tax shall be deemed the original copy of the COC.

xxx.

The updated COC forms for the 2026 BSKE are attached as **Annexes 'K', 'K-1', 'K-2', and 'K-3'".**

SECTION 4. *Section 171, Chapter I, Article VII is hereby amended to read as follows:*

“SEC. 171. Where to file Certificate of Candidacy. - xxx.

xxx.

No filing fee or any other fees shall be imposed for the filing of the COC.

xxx.”

SECTION 5. *Section 172, Chapter I, Article VII is hereby amended to read as follows:*

“SEC. 172. Period for filing Certificate of Candidacy. xxx.

xxx

An incomplete COC shall not be accepted and shall not be stamped as received on time even when the aspirant is present and waiting to be called. **The concerned aspirant shall be informed of the cause of non-acceptance of the COC, and shall be advised to complete the same. On the last day of filing therefor, any aspirant or authorized representative who has been advised to duly accomplish the COC shall be given until 11:59 PM¹ of the same day to file a completely and properly filled out COC. For this purpose, the Office of the Election Officer shall list down the names of the aspirants who are advised to complete their COC.**

An incomplete COC includes but not limited to the following: no documentary-stamp attached, no original signature of the aspirant or digital signature as defined under existing laws and rules, not notarized COC, no signature of the notary public, incomplete address, no photograph, not completely filled out COC, and no birth certificate attached.

Sample forms of the Record/List containing the details of the aspirants in the queuing area are attached as Annexes ‘M’, ‘M-1’, and **‘M-2’**.

xxx.”

¹ In the case of *Balintay*, the Supreme Court said that, “COMELEC could have surely relaxed its procedural rules to allow the filing and give consideration to the petitioner’s COC considering that only three minutes have passed from the passage of the deadline. There was grave abuse of discretion in its failure to apply its rules liberally and in disallowing petitioner to participate as a candidate for the position of governor of Zambales in the 2025 NLE”, thus, “COMELEC should reexamine whether its application of the rules serves the interest of justice and fair play.”

SECTION 6. *Section 174, Chapter I, Article VII is hereby amended to read as follows:*

“SEC. 174. Effects of filing Certificate of Candidacy.

a. xxx.

b. xxx.

c. Any unlawful acts or omissions applicable to a candidate shall take effect upon the filing of Certificate of Candidacy.”

SECTION 7. *Section 185, Chapter I, Article VII is hereby amended to read as follows:*

“SEC. 185. Filing of Statement of Withdrawal by the duly authorized representative of the Aspirant. – The Sworn Statement of Withdrawal may be filed by the duly authorized representative of the aspirant in case of physical incapacity of the withdrawing aspirant to personally file it due to medical condition.

For this purpose, the duly authorized representative shall be required to present along with the Sworn Authority to File the Statement of Withdrawal, a verified medical report or certificate pertaining to the physical injury, medical or mental condition which restricts movement or functional capacity of the withdrawing aspirant. The medical report or certificate should contain the name and signature of the issuing registered physician, License Number (Lic. No.), and Professional Tax Receipt Number (PTR No.) who has personally examined the aspirant. The medical report or certificate must be made by a physician who specializes on the medical condition or affliction of the aspirant.

In case the aspirant is physically unable to sign and swear to the Sworn Statement of Withdrawal due to a serious medical condition, an appropriate petition for the withdrawal of candidacy may be filed with the Clerk of the Commission for the consideration of the Commission *En Banc*.

The updated form for the Authority to File Statement of Withdrawal is attached as Annex ‘R’”.

SECTION 8. *Section 197, Chapter I, Article VII is hereby amended to read as follows:*

"SEC. 197. **Health Marshal, functions.** - Whenever necessary, a Health Marshal shall be deployed in receiving offices of areas affected by a public health emergency to ensure an orderly filing of COC, taking into consideration the strict observance of the health and safety protocols provided in these rules and in the guidelines set by competent authorities, if necessary."

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.* This resolution shall take effect immediately upon publication in at least two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

SECTION 10. *Publication and Dissemination.* The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this Resolution in at least two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines while the Information Technology Department shall cause its posting in the official website of the COMELEC.

SO ORDERED.

GEORGE ERWIN M. GARCIA

Chairman

AIMEE P. FEROLINO

Commissioner

REY E. BULAY

Commissioner

ERNESTO FERDINAND P. MACEDA, JR.

Commissioner

NELSON J. CELIS

Commissioner

MARIA NORINA S. TANGARO-CASINGAL

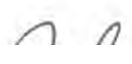
Commissioner

NOLI R. PIPO

Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

APPROVED for publication, February 18, 2026.


CONSUELO B. DIOLA

Director IV

Office of the Commission Secretary

This Resolution can be verified at this number (02)8527-2987; email address comsec@comelec.gov.ph