

MISSOURI YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS & CANDIDATE FILING PROCESS

ELECTION PROCESS

1. The number of candidates for the following offices will not be limited and will be elected by the following constituencies.
 - a. Governor All YIG participants
 - b. Lt. Governor Members of the Senate
 - c. Secretary of State All YIG participants
 - d. Attorney General All Judicial participants
 - e. Speaker of the House Members of the House

CANDIDATE FILING PROCESS

1. Students running for one of the offices listed above are required to submit a Candidate Registration Form and Candidate Agreement to the State Office by October 13, 2011 to be eligible to run for office.
2. Students that file a Candidate Registration Form and Candidate Agreement after October 13 will not be eligible to run for office. No late forms or agreements will be accepted.
3. Students filing for office must review the Student Leadership Overview, Campaign Guidelines, and Campaign Events located on the YIG website. These documents will contain the following information:
 - a. Requirements for each office, including certain grade level, prior participation in YIG, or registration in a particular program area.
 - b. Explanation of duties associated with the position, including required meetings and conferences, filing a platform, recruiting a staff, and other specific duties.
 - c. Statement of personal conduct that all candidates must adhere to during the campaign.
 - d. Campaign guidelines regarding what is and is not permissible during the campaign, such as where signs may be hung or if hanging a banner is allowed.
4. The Candidate Registration Form includes the following:
 - a. Statement of Candidacy and Platform: This should include statements such as why you are running for this office, what you would bring to this office, and/or your qualifications. This should also include your goals if elected to office. For the office of Governor, this should also include policies you support. For other offices, this should include your goals if elected to office, such as more efficient registration process as Secretary of State, balanced debate in the House if elected Speaker, etc.
 - b. Terms of Agreement: Each candidate must state that they read the Qualifications and Duties for Office and agree to abide by all rules and regulations set forth by YIG.

5. All candidates must submit a digital photo to the State Office. This headshot of the candidate in high resolution digital format will be included in the official Campaign Guide and to be posted on YIG website. This file must be in .gif, .jpg, or .png format. The photo must be emailed to Katy Lacy at klacy@jcymca.org by October 13, 2011.
6. The Candidate Agreement must be filed with the State Office by October 13, 2011 and includes the following:
 - a. Statements that each candidate must acknowledge and agree to in order to run for office.
 - b. Signatures of the candidate, parent/guardian, and delegation advisor.
7. Candidate profiles will be placed on the YIG website approximately two weeks prior to the State Convention.
 - a. Profiles will include photo, statement of candidacy, and platform.
 - b. Candidates can also include contact information, campaign website, link to Facebook group, etc.
8. Ballot order will be determined based on filing order. The first candidate to file both the Candidate Registration Form and Candidate Agreement with the State Office will be listed first on the ballot.
9. If no candidates file for a particular office by the stated deadline, the State Office will extend the filing period for that office. The length of the extension will be determined by the State Office.

PRIMARY ELECTION AT STATE CONVENTION

1. The Primary Election will be held at the State Convention on Friday evening at the Hotel.
2. If there are four (4) or more candidates for a particular office, this office will be included on the Primary Election ballot.
3. The three (3) candidates with the most votes will move on to the General Election on Saturday morning. The results of the Primary Election will be announced during the social activities on Friday night at the Hotel.
4. If one candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote on Friday night for their particular office, they will be declared the winner of that office, and a General Election will not be held on Saturday morning for that particular office.
5. If there are three (3) or fewer candidates for a particular office, then a Primary Election for that office will not be held on Friday evening. These candidates will be listed on the ballot for the General Election held Saturday morning.
6. Different colored ballots will be given out to students depending on their program area.
7. Write-in candidates are not allowed.
8. Candidates are allowed to form "tickets", where candidates for various offices may choose to run under a common slogan or name.
 - a. The ballot will not reflect a party or slogan next to a candidate's name.
 - b. Only the candidate's name will appear on the ballot.

GENERAL ELECTION AT STATE CONVENTION

1. The General Election will be held Saturday morning at the Hotel.
2. If applicable, the results of the Primary Election on Friday night will determine the ballot for the General Election on Saturday morning.
3. Different colored ballots will be given out to students depending on their program area.
4. Election results will be announced by the Secretary of State at the Closing Session on Saturday.
5. Write-in candidates are not allowed.
6. Candidates are allowed to form "tickets", where candidates for various offices may choose to run under a common slogan or name.
 - a. The ballot will not reflect a party or slogan next to a candidate's name.
 - b. Only the candidate's name will appear on the ballot.