



TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION

"Teachers Build Our Nation"

CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION

NO: 04 of 2026

DATE: 4th March 2026

FILE NO: TSC: 3-2-4

SUBJECT: RESIGNATION TO CONTEST 2027 NATIONAL GENERAL ELECTION

This circular is issued pursuant to Section 124 of the Teaching Service Act, 1988. It sets out guidelines for members of the teaching Service who intend to contest the 2027 General Elections.

This circular becomes effective immediately and remains in force until 30th September 2027.

The Tentative Schedule - 2027 National General Elections; -

No.	Stage	Date
1	Issue of Writs/Nomination open	29 April 2027
2	Close of Nomination (4.00pm)	6 May 2027
3	Polling Period begins	26 June 2027
4	Polling Period ends	9 July 2027
5	Return of Writs on or Before	30 July 2027

Requirements under Section 124-Teaching Service Commission (TSC) Act 1988.

Members of the Teaching Service who intend to contest the 2027 National General Elections are required to resign in accordance with Section 124 of the Teaching Service Act, 1988.

Members must comply with the following:

1. Submit a letter of resignation six (6) months before the issue of writs but not more than twelve (12) months before the issue of writs that is between **29 April, 2026 to 29 October, 2026**.
2. Clearly state the effective date of resignation in the letter. The letter must be properly dated and signed.

3. Deliver copies of the resignation letter to the TSC Provincial Advisor. A copy must also be retained at the school.
4. Address the resignation letter to:
The Chairman
Teaching Service Commission
PO Box 6268
BOROKO, NCD
5. Cease teaching duties and vacate the school on the effective date stated in the resignation letter.
6. The teacher shall be placed on leave without pay for the duration of the election campaign period from the date of resignation until the return of writs.
7. The teacher must not use the school grounds or school properties for election campaign purposes. This is prohibited under **Section 26 of the Teaching Service Act, 1988**.
8. A successful candidate must forward a copy of the official declaration of results to the Teaching Service Commission (TSC).
9. Upon receipt of the declaration of results, the Commission will direct the Payroll Division of National Department of Education to process resignation entitlements and separation documents.
10. A teacher who is successfully elected is not required to be re-admitted into the Teaching Service.
11. An unsuccessful candidate has two (2) months from the date of **return of writs** (i.e., from **30 July 2027** to **30th September 2027**) to apply in writing to the Teaching Service Commission for reinstatement.
12. Failure to apply within the two-month period will result in the teacher being deemed to have resigned permanently, and the TSC will authorize payment of entitlements and process separation documents.
13. An unsuccessful candidate may only resume teaching duties upon receipt of a formal acceptance letter from the Commission.
14. A teacher who is on sick leave, compassionate leave, study leave, secondment or leave without pay and contests the elections without complying with Section 124 of the Act will be in breach of the Act and will not be reinstated
15. Teachers who attempt to change resignation status from Section 124 (Election Purpose) to Section 122 (normal resignation) will not be reinstated.
16. If an unsuccessful candidate is permitted to resume teaching without an official acceptance letter from the TSC, the Education Authority will be liable to pay for any salaries paid during that period.
17. The teacher will be immediately stood down from teaching duties until all requirements are satisfied and approval is granted by the Appointing Authority.

18. Teachers who contest elections without formal resignation pursuant to Sections 122 (Normal Resignation) and /or 124 of the Teaching Service Act, 1988 will be terminated from the Teaching Service.
19. A teacher who resigns under Section 124 shall not be eligible for any employment benefits/Entitlements unless successfully elected.

Teachers (members) are strongly advised to carefully assess their circumstances and their prospects of electoral success before submitting a resignation under Section 124.

Unsuccessful candidates must strictly observe the guidelines provided to avoid administrative complications.

This Circular comes into effect immediately.



MAINI MIKE UGAIA
a/Chairman – TSC



DR CHARLY MUKE (PhD)
a/Commissioner Policy



KASI KAKAITO
a/Commissioner Operations

Distribution list:

- ✓ All Teachers (Members of the Teaching Service)
- ✓ Chairman – National Education Board
- ✓ The Secretary for Education, Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG)
- ✓ Provincial Education Advisors
- ✓ TSC Provincial Advisor
- ✓ All TMT/SSM Members