2023 General Election

Voting Procedure

1. Voting Starts at 8:30am

2. Present your PVC for accreditation using BVAS

3. Check and be sure your name is on the register of voters in that polling Unit.

4. Get authenticated with the BVAS through fingerprint or facials

5. Once accredited, you will be issued a ballot paper

6. Go to the voting cubicle to make your choice in secret and drop marked ballot paper in the ballot box

7. You can leave or stay 300 meters away from the voting area to witness vote sorting & counting
As the 2023 General Election draws near, it is necessary to let citizens who are 18 years and above know the voting procedure. It is your civic responsibility as a citizen of Nigeria to be involved in electing our leaders. This is what election is all about and there cannot be election without voters.

**Basic Election Information**

Presidential and National Assembly Election  -  25th February, 2023

Governorship and State Houses of Assembly Election  -  11th March, 2023

Time  -  8:30am to 2:30pm

(However, voters on the queue on or before 2:30pm will be allowed to vote)

**Who is allowed (eligible) to vote?**

To vote, you must be:

- A Nigerian, 18 years and above
• A registered voter
• In possession of a Permanent Voter’s Card (PVC)
• Appear in person at the polling unit

Where Can I Vote?

You will vote in the polling unit where your name is enlisted in the Register of Voters.

Do I need my PVC to be able to Vote?

YES! Only those with their PVC and that are authenticated using the BVAS device (fingerprint or facial recognition) shall be allowed to vote. NO PVC, NO VOTING!

What is BVAS?

BVAS is an electronic machine called Bimodal Voter Accreditation System. It is used for voter verification and authentication to confirm the identity of a voter using either their fingerprints or face.

Significance of BVAS

The BVAS and/or any other electronic device INEC uses at elections has been backed by the Electoral Act 2022. It ensures that only persons eligible to vote and in possession of their PVCs and whose names are on the register of voters of a particular polling unit are allowed to vote at that polling unit and to only vote once.

Differences between BVAS and the Smart Card Reader (SCR) previously used by INEC

• It verifies and accredits voter using either their fingerprints or their face, eliminating failure to accredit eligible voter.
Details of voters are stored on the BVAS and not on the PVC as was the case with SCR.

BVAS is used as INEC Voter Enrolment Device (IVED) during voters registration.

BVAS is used for uploading election results to the INEC Results viewing Portal (IReV).

Note:

The BVAS automatically updates itself as accreditation takes place hence, the figures cannot be manipulated.

PROCEDURE FOR ACCREDITATION AND VOTING

1. Accreditation

Polling Unit will open at 8:30am and close at 2:30pm or when the last person on the queue on or before 2:30pm votes. This means that all eligible voters on queue as at 2:30pm will be allowed to vote.

Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) shall be used to verify you (voter) as the valid owner of the PVC in your possession and that your name is on the Register of Voters in that polling unit.

It will match your fingerprints and (or) face; one of which must successfully identify you as the owner of the PVC presented to the official before you will be allowed to vote.

If the BVAS fails to recognise your fingerprint, the facial recognition function of BVAS will be used to verify and accredit you.
• After the above steps are successfully completed, a poll official will check for your name in the Register of Voters and tick it.

• Indelible ink will be applied on the cuticle of your finger.

• A stamped, signed and dated ballot paper will be issued to you.

• If the BVAS fails to recognise your fingerprints as well as facial photograph, you will not be allowed to vote.

2. **Voting**

• You will go to the voting cubicle to mark your choice on the ballot paper in secret.

• Ensure the ink does not smear other parts of the ballot paper to avoid your vote being rejected.

• The ballot paper should be folded vertically.

• You are not allowed to take photograph of the ballot paper when in the voting cubicle.

• You will drop the marked ballot paper into the ballot box in full view of all present.

• After casting your vote, you are free to remain 300 metres from the polling area to witness sorting, counting and announcement of result, provided you are orderly and do not disrupt the process.

**Collation and Announcement of Results**

Results shall be collated at various levels depending on the type of
election, after which it is announced by INEC.

In order to enhance transparency, INEC has provided an online results viewing portal called IReV (www.inecelectionsresults.ng) where you can view results of all polling units in real time before they are declared at the end of the election by INEC.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR ENQUIRIES

INEC CITIZEN’S CONTACT CENTRE (ICCC)
for all your enquiries, complaints and suggestions

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