

## First Regional Edition for the Caribbean

# Course for WOMEN ELECTORAL CANDIDATES

Edition: Isabel U. Teshea

**November  
18th – 19th, 2024**

**Port of Spain,  
Trinidad and Tobago**



**Open to non-OECS countries**  
Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname

# The Isabel U. Teshea Course for Women Electoral Candidates

*First edition for the Caribbean Member States*

**Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago  
(November 18th-19th, 2024)**

More than 96 years after the creation of the Inter-American Commission of Women of the OAS (CIM/OAS), women's right to vote is guaranteed across the region. However, the right to be elected and, in general, women's access to government positions, as well as their permanence in power, continues to be an issue in the Americas, including within the Caribbean region.

To address this situation, from 2018, CIM/OAS has been promoting a high-level capacity-building initiative through its: **Course for Women Electoral Candidates**, developed jointly with the OAS School of Government with a dual objective:

- 1) To strengthen the political leadership skills of women candidates during electoral campaigns.**
- 2) To provide strategies to combat gender discrimination that persists in electoral campaigns.**

To date, 21 editions of the Course have been successfully held and trained over 2,000 women electoral candidates who have gone on to contest electoral seats in a total of 12 countries of Latin America<sup>1</sup>.

Sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the United States to the OAS, CIM decided to migrate its in-demand Course for the benefit of the Caribbean by inaugurating two Caribbean (2) editions of the course in the region during 2024/25. These editions of the Course are targeted at women who have either run for office at the national level or are planning to run in the upcoming election cycle - with an emphasis on including young women; and women from marginalized groups. In a pioneering element of the existing Course, these curated editions have a sub-regional component.

This regional course is being executed through partnership with the OAS School of Government, the Government of The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago; the Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL) and the Parliamentary Network for Women of the Americas (ParlAmericas). The CIM will pioneer this first edition as **The Isabel U. Teshea Course for Women Electoral Candidates** at the Hilton Hotel in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>- Tuesday, November, 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – including participants from the non-OECS OAS Member States.<sup>2</sup>

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1 Mexico, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Dominican Republic.

2 Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname

The Course is aimed at 52 women from the Caribbean, who have either run for office or are aspiring to run for elective office in the next election cycle:

- 40 participants from Trinidad and Tobago, and
- 12 participants from the non-OECS Member States of the OAS: 2 participants from each country.

The organizers are planning to offer a limited number of transport and accommodation scholarships for participants of the course, on a need basis. For participants residing in certain districts of Trinidad, accommodation will be considered and provided, along with transportation for selected participants.

For participants travelling from Tobago and the invited non-OECS OAS Member States (Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname), both transport and accommodation will be provided.

A Call for Applications to register for the Course will be issued from **August 16th to September 8th**.



**For registration, please click on the following link:**  
**<https://forms.office.com/r/B87RaGUEyv>**

**For questions or comments, please email  
Yasmin Odlum at [yodlum@oas.org](mailto:yodlum@oas.org)  
with copy to María José Pinto at [mpinto@oas.org](mailto:mpinto@oas.org) .**



# OAS | CIM

**Inter-American Commission of Women**

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 [ComisionInteramericanaDeMujeres](https://www.facebook.com/ComisionInteramericanaDeMujeres)

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