



Application for registration as an overseas elector



IMPORTANT — Please read the information on this page before you start to fill in the form

Can you register as an overseas elector for federal elections?

Yes, you may apply to be registered as an overseas elector if:

- you are already enrolled to vote at federal elections; and
- you intend to return within 6 years of leaving Australia.

This will ensure that your name is not removed from the roll while you are outside Australia and that you can vote in federal elections and referendums held while you are overseas.

When can you register?

You can register as an overseas elector up to 3 months before your expected date of departure or within 3 years after you have left Australia.

Your registration is valid for 6 years from your date of departure from Australia.

If, after leaving Australia, you find that you will be away for more than 6 years, you can apply to the Divisional Returning Officer to have your registration as an overseas elector extended by one year at a time.

You must apply to have your registration extended in the 3 months before your registration is due to expire. The application must be in writing and signed by you.

Can you register as an overseas elector for state or territory elections?

Yes, you can. However some states and territories have different arrangements to the Commonwealth for voting if an election is held while you are overseas. Information is available from individual state and territory electoral websites.

- **New South Wales**
You can register as for federal elections but you must return to Australia within 6 years to remain registered.
- **Victoria**
Same provisions as for federal elections. For further information, contact the Victorian Electoral Commission on **13 18 32** in Australia or visit their website at www.vec.vic.gov.au
- **Queensland**
No special provisions apply. For further information, contact the Queensland Electoral Commission on **1300 881 665** in Australia or visit their website at www.ecq.qld.gov.au
- **Western Australia**
Your federal registration will apply for State and local government elections. For further information on voting, contact the Western Australian Electoral Commission on **(08) 9214 0400** or visit their website at www.waec.wa.gov.au
- **South Australia**
No special provisions apply provided you retain your current enrolled address as your principal place of residence during the entire period you are absent from Australia. For further information visit their website at www.ecsa.sa.gov.au
- **Tasmania**
Same provisions as for federal elections.
- **Northern Territory**
No special provisions apply provided you retain an address within the Northern Territory.
- **Australian Capital Territory**
If you register as an overseas elector for federal elections you will automatically be registered for ACT elections, provided you intend to return to an address in the ACT.

Can you register as a general postal voter?

Yes, you can register as a general postal voter for federal and state elections and referendums at question 9 on the form. You will be sent ballot papers as soon as practicable after the declaration of nominations.

Do you have to vote?

It is not compulsory for people outside Australia to vote in federal elections and referendums. However, if you do not vote, or apply for a postal vote, your registration and electoral enrolment may be cancelled.

What if you are not currently enrolled?

If you are not currently enrolled and you have not yet left Australia, you will need to complete a new enrolment form and lodge it with this 'Application for registration as an overseas elector'.

If you have left Australia within the last 3 years and you are not enrolled, you may still be able to. Details of enrolment from outside Australia are available on the application 'Electoral Enrolment from outside Australia' which is available from Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) offices, Australian overseas missions and the AEC website at www.aec.gov.au

If your application for enrolment from outside Australia is accepted you will automatically be registered as an overseas elector and you will not need to complete a separate application.

How do you vote overseas for federal elections?

If a federal election or referendum is held while you are overseas you will be able to vote in person at those Australian overseas missions that provide full consular services. You should check with the mission for details of voting hours. This applies only to voting at federal elections and referendums.

If you cannot vote in person, you may apply for a postal vote. To do so, contact an Australian overseas mission, any AEC office in Australia or download an 'Application for a postal vote' from the AEC website at www.aec.gov.au It is your responsibility to request a postal vote.

A full list of overseas voting locations is available at the AEC website.

If a state or territory election is held while you are overseas, contact an Australian overseas mission or your state or territory electoral authority to find out how to vote.

Where can you get more information?

You can get more information on electoral enrolment at any office of the AEC or by calling **13 23 26** in Australia, or **+ 61 2 6271 4411** from overseas, or visit www.aec.gov.au

Who has access to electoral information?

Electoral information may be disclosed to persons or organisations as listed in the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*. These persons or organisations may include –

- Members of Parliament, Senators, registered political parties, and candidates for House of Representatives elections.
- Electoral authorities of states and territories that have a joint roll arrangement with the Commonwealth.
- Approved medical research and public health screening programs.
- Agencies, persons or organisations prescribed in the Electoral and Referendum Regulations 1940, including certain Australian government agencies and particular bodies for identity verification purposes under Commonwealth legislation relating to financial tracing and anti-money laundering.

For more detailed information on who may access electoral information, see the legislation, www.aec.gov.au or contact the Australian Electoral Commission.

Enrolment information is also made available under various state and territory legislation. Please contact your relevant state or territory electoral authority for further information.





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Office use only

Date received

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Notation

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NIN

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If completing this form by hand please use black or blue ink. Use BLOCK LETTERS and mark boxes with a cross X

1 Your current name

Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other

Family name

Given name(s)

2 Enrolled address

State Postcode

3 Postal address

If you register as a general postal voter, your postal voting papers will be sent to this address.

4 Contact details

Mobile phone number

Daytime phone number

Email

5 Date of birth

Write dates as dd/mm/yyyy

e.g. 25/03/1975

Gender

6 I expect to be overseas from

to

7 Do you intend to return to an address within your state or territory of enrolment?

Yes
No

8 Do you intend to retain your enrolled address as your principal place of residence while you are overseas?

Yes
No

9 Do you wish to register as a general postal voter?

Yes
No

Your postal voting papers will be sent to the postal address given at Question 3.

10 Signature of elector

Date

Authorisation to collect the information on this form is contained in the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*

Send the completed form by:

<p>Post to –</p> <p>Australian Electoral Commission GPO Box 9867 CAPITAL CITY* AUSTRALIA</p> <p><i>*insert the name of the capital city of the state/territory for which you are enrolled</i></p>	<p>Or fax to –</p> <table> <tr><td>New South Wales</td><td>+ 61 2 9281 9384</td></tr> <tr><td>Victoria</td><td>+ 61 3 9285 7167</td></tr> <tr><td>Queensland</td><td>+ 61 7 3832 3058</td></tr> <tr><td>Western Australia</td><td>+ 61 8 6363 8051</td></tr> <tr><td>South Australia</td><td>+ 61 8 8231 2664</td></tr> <tr><td>Tasmania</td><td>+ 61 3 6234 4268</td></tr> <tr><td>Australian Capital Territory</td><td>+ 61 2 6257 6014</td></tr> <tr><td>Northern Territory</td><td>+ 61 8 8981 4725</td></tr> </table>	New South Wales	+ 61 2 9281 9384	Victoria	+ 61 3 9285 7167	Queensland	+ 61 7 3832 3058	Western Australia	+ 61 8 6363 8051	South Australia	+ 61 8 8231 2664	Tasmania	+ 61 3 6234 4268	Australian Capital Territory	+ 61 2 6257 6014	Northern Territory	+ 61 8 8981 4725
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