



Information on becoming a silent elector

Request by an elector for address not to be shown
on the Commonwealth or territory electoral rolls



Australian Capital Territory

Australian Electoral Commission **AEC**

Elections ACT

Silent enrolment

You can apply for silent enrolment if you believe that having your address shown on the publicly available electoral roll could put your personal safety or your family's safety at risk. Silent enrolment means your **address** will not be shown on **future** editions of the publicly available electoral roll.

Silent status is granted only if your personal safety or your family's safety is at risk. You need to provide details of what the actual risk to you or your family would be if your address was shown on the publicly available roll. You will not be granted silent elector status based solely on your profession, or because you have a silent phone number, or you don't like the idea of your details being publicly available, or you don't want to receive junk mail.

If you are granted silent enrolment in respect of the address for which you are already enrolled, the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) will endeavour to ensure that your address is obliterated from all publicly available copies of the electoral roll currently held by the AEC. However you should be aware that under the provisions of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* and the *Electoral Act 1992* (ACT), copies of the electoral roll may already be available in the public domain and your address may appear on these copies.

To apply to become a silent elector for both Commonwealth and ACT electoral rolls, complete this application and return it to the AEC. The application **must** be accompanied by a statutory declaration which explains in detail what you consider the risk to be and why your personal safety or that of your family is at risk. For your convenience a statutory declaration is provided on page 3.

This information will be treated in strictest confidence at all times.

If there are other members of the family who are enrolled at your address or enrolled at another address, they may also apply to become silent electors on the ground that you have silent enrolment. A separate application is required for each person requesting registration, however, a single statutory declaration will suffice provided it contains the names of all applicants and specifies the risk.

If you are not already enrolled at your current residential address you will also need to complete an electoral enrolment form and submit it with this application.

Registration

Granting of silent enrolment is not automatic. Each application will be considered by the Divisional Returning Officer and a decision will be made based on whether the claims made by the applicant meet the conditions for silent enrolment under the relevant legislation.

If you are unsure about whether you are eligible to register as a silent elector, please phone **13 23 26** for more information.

The Divisional Returning Officer will notify you in writing of the decision on your application. If your application is approved **only your name and the name of your division** will appear on the Commonwealth and ACT electoral rolls.

Change of address

If you are granted silent enrolment and you have a change of address you must still notify the AEC. You will need to reapply for silent enrolment at your new address.

You should also notify the AEC of any change to your postal address.

Do I have to vote?

Yes, voting is compulsory in federal and ACT elections for eligible persons aged 18 years or over. You may be fined if you do not vote. Even though you may be enrolled at 17, you cannot vote until you are 18.

Voting options for a silent elector

As a silent elector you can register as a general postal voter to have ballot papers automatically sent to you when a federal election or ACT election or referendum is called. You can register by ticking the 'Yes' box at item 9 on this form.

If you do not register as a general postal voter you will need to attend a polling place on polling day, attend a prepoll voting centre or apply for a postal vote for the relevant election.

Where can I get more information?

You can get more information at any office of the AEC. You can find the contact details of these offices in your local phone book or phone **13 23 26** for enrolment and other AEC enquiries. Information is also available at the AEC website at **www.aec.gov.au**

You can get more information on ACT elections from the ACT Electoral Commission on **(02) 6205 0033** or see the Elections ACT website at **www.elections.act.gov.au**

NOTE: If you have read the above information and wish to apply for silent enrolment, please complete pages 2 and 3 of this form.

Where do I send my form?

Faxed and emailed applications will not be accepted.

Your completed form must be delivered to an AEC office or posted to:

Australian Electoral Commission
Reply Paid 9867
CANBERRA ACT 2600

(No stamp needed if posted in Australia)



Request by an elector for address not to be shown on the electoral roll



You must read the information page before you complete and sign this form
Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence

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

1 Name	Mr Mrs Ms Dr etc.	
	Family name	
	Given names	

2 Residential address You must provide your current residential address. NOTE: If silent elector status is approved, your address will not be shown on the electoral roll.				
	Locality/Suburb	State	ACT	Postcode

3 Postal address <i>(Leave this section blank if it is the same as your residential address)</i> Your electoral mail will be sent to this address.				
	Locality/Suburb	State		Postcode

4 Phone number daytime	
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5 Date of birth <i>Please write dates like this (e.g. 25/03/1958)</i>	
	DD/MM/YYYY

6 Gender	Write either M for male or F for female	
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7 Previous name <i>(Leave this section blank if you have not changed your name since you last enrolled)</i> If you have changed any part of your name since you last enrolled, please write your previous name in full.	Previous family name	
	Previous given names	

8 Having my residential address shown on any electoral roll places the personal safety of myself or members of my family at risk as declared in the statutory declaration on page 3 of this form.	I therefore request that:
	the address for which I am claiming enrolment on the enclosed enrolment form not be shown on the roll. ☐ OR the address for which I am currently enrolled be removed from the roll. ☐

9 Do you wish to be registered as a general postal voter for federal and ACT election purposes? (see 'Voting options for a silent elector')	Yes ☐ You will be registered as a general postal voter and ballot papers will be sent to you whenever a federal or ACT election is held.
	No ☐ You will need to attend a polling place on polling day, attend a pre-poll voting centre or apply for a postal vote.

10 Declaration by APPLICANT I have read the information page and wish to apply for silent enrolment.	I declare that all the information I have given on this form is true and complete
Signature of applicant	
Date	
	DD/MM/YYYY

NOTE: You must also complete the statutory declaration on page 3 of this form.

The authority to collect this information is contained in the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* and the *Electoral Act 1992* (ACT)

ACT	NIN	Cats	Notation	Ack	RVI	Stat Dec	Date Received	
		S				Yes ☐ No ☐		I



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Statutory declaration



Australian Capital Territory

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If completing this form by hand please use BLOCK LETTERS and black or blue ink.

I, (name of person making the declaration)

Address

Occupation

State

ACT

Postcode

make the following declaration under the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959*:

NOTE: Please explain in detail what you consider the risk to be.

1. _____

I understand that a person who intentionally makes a false statement in a statutory declaration is guilty of an offence under section 11 of the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959*, and I believe that the statements in this declaration are true in every particular.

Signature of person making the declaration



Declared at

on

day of

20

Before me,

(Signature of person before whom the declaration is made)



Name

Address

*Qualification

* A statutory declaration may be made before a Justice of the Peace, a police officer, a pharmacist, a medical practitioner, a dentist, a nurse, a legal practitioner, a Member of Parliament, a permanent employee of the Commonwealth, state or territory with 5 or more years continuous service (including Commonwealth, state, territory or local government authorities), or a person before whom a statutory declaration may be made under the law of the state or territory in which the declaration is made.

NOTE: If you have changed your residential address or personal details, you will also need to complete a new **Application for Electoral Enrolment in the ACT** form which is available at the following URL <http://www.aec.gov.au>

NIN

Approved ☐

Not approved ☐

Signature of DRO