



Australian Electoral Commission

AEC

Helping you have your say.

Information for an Applicant

1. **Qualifications for an applicant. As an elector, you** are entitled to apply for a postal vote if, between 8 am and 6 pm on polling day, **one or more of the following apply:**

- **you** will not be within the State or Territory for which you are enrolled;
- you will not be within 8 kilometres, by the most practicable route, of a polling place in the State or Territory for which you are enrolled;
- you will be travelling under conditions which will prevent you from voting in the State or Territory for which you are enrolled;
- you are unable to attend a polling place because of illness, infirmity or approaching maternity;
- you will be at a place other than a hospital, caring for a seriously ill or infirm person or a woman approaching maternity and therefore unable to attend a polling place;
- you will be a patient in a hospital and unable to vote at that hospital;
- you are not able to attend a polling place because of membership of a religious order or religious belief;
- you are not able to attend a polling place because you are imprisoned, in lawful custody or in detention;
- you have silent enrolment;
- you are unable to attend a polling place because of employment responsibilities.

2. **Mail application. An application for a postal vote** may be made to any Divisional Returning Officer at any time after the announcement of the election for an election or referendum. However, you should keep in mind that the application must reach the Divisional Returning Officer by the last mail clearance on the Thursday before polling day to allow for the voting material to be sent to you for completion and posting before the close of the poll.

Reply paid envelopes for the posting of your application, if not provided, are available at any Post Office within Australia.

3. Application in **person. A written application is** not required if you prefer to make an application in person, during business hours, at the office of any Divisional

Returning Officer or any of the advertised pre-poll voting centres. The location of pre-poll voting centres will be published in newspapers in the period leading up to polling day.

4. **Overseas applications. Overseas** electors may make a personal application at the office of any Assistant Returning Officer appointed at various locations such as Australian embassies, consulates or High Commissions. Facilities are available during ordinary local office hours and at any special times arranged locally. Written applications may also be made to these offices, or to any Divisional Office in Australia. **Faxed applications will be processed but not acknowledged.** Please **keep** in mind that the application should reach the issuing officer by the last mail clearance on the Thursday before polling day to allow for the voting papers to be sent to you for completion and posting before the close of poll.

5. Further information. Locations of all polling facilities may be obtained by contacting any office of the Australian Electoral Commission. A special telephone inquiry service is usually available at election or referendum time. These special telephone numbers are advertised in major daily newspapers.

6. "The Commonwealth *Electoral Act 1918* allows for public inspection of postal vote applications at the Divisional Office from the third day after polling until the election can no longer be questioned (ie. 40 days after the return of the writ)."

Information for a Witness

1. **Qualifications for a witness.** A witness must be an elector whose name appears on a Commonwealth of Australia electoral roll.

However, **where an application is made overseas the following persons may also act as witness:**

- an Australian citizen;
- an officer of the Australian armed forces or the armed forces of some other part of the Queen's dominions;
- an Australian Public Servant or a public servant of some other part of the Queen's dominions;
- a Justice of the Peace for, or a minister of religion or medical practitioner resident in, a Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia or some other part of the Queen's dominions.

2. **Duties of a witness. As a witness you shall —**

- **be satisfied as to the identity of the applicant;**
- **see the applicant sign the application;**
- **be satisfied that the statements contained in the application are true;**
- **sign the application, add the date and your name and address.**

APPLICATION FOR A POSTAL VOTE
Important -applicant and witness should read the information adjacent.

ELECTOR TO COMPLETE — PLEASE PRINT

Surname or family name		
Full Christian or given names		
Address for which you claim to be enrolled		
	Postcode	
Postal Address (Where you want voting papers sent if different from above)		
	Postcode	
Contact Phone No.	(BH)	(AH)
I declare that I am entitled to apply for a postal vote.		
Signature or Mark of Applicant		

▼ COMPLETE AND DETACH ▼

WITNESS TO COMPLETE

Signature of witness	/ /
Name (BLOCK LETTERS)	
Address	

OFFICE USE ONLY

ISSUING DIVISION	
Certificate No.	
Date of issue	
Issuing officer's initials	
ELECTOR'S DIVISION	
Date certificate received in Division for which vote claimed	

APPLICATION FOR A POSTAL VOTE
Important — applicant and witness should read the
information adjacent.

ELECTOR TO COMPLETE — PLEASE PRINT

Surname or family name		
Full Christian or given names		
Postal Address (Where you want voting papers sent.)		
		Postcode
Address for which you claim to be enrolled		
		Postcode
Contact Phone No.	<i>08 9111 1111</i>	<i>08 9111 1111</i>
I declare that I am entitled to apply for a postal vote.		
Signature or Mark of Applicant		
/ /		

WITNESS TO COMPLETE

Signature of witness	/ /
Name (BLOCK LETTERS)	
Address	

OFFICE USE ONLY

ISSUING DIVISION		
Certificate No.		
Date of issue		
ELECTOR'S DIVISION		
Issuing officer's initials		EF54 Ref.
Date certificate received in Division for which vote claimed		

□ COMPLETE AND DETACH