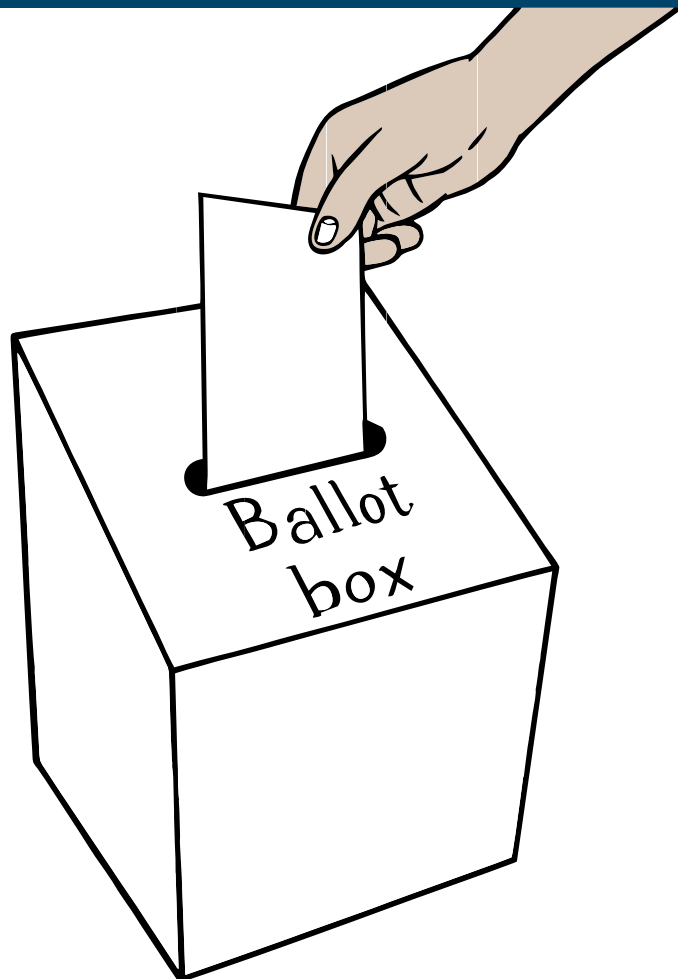


Easy Read

Vote in the 2026 Victorian state election



Victorian Electoral Commission



This information is from the Victorian Electoral Commission. Most people call us the VEC. This is what we will call ourselves in this book.



The VEC respects the First Nations peoples of Victoria.



You can get this information in other languages. Look on page 24 for how to do this.

What is in this book

About this book

- What this book is about
- Participating in Victoria's state election

About enrolment and voting

- Enrol to vote
- Who must vote

State election

- When the Victorian election is
- How to vote in the election

The Victorian government

- The Parliament of Victoria
- The Victorian Government

Voting centre information

- Where to find your voting centre
- What to do at the voting centre

Voting

- How to vote
- Who you can vote for

Meanings

- What words mean

More information

- Contact the VEC
- How to get information in other languages

About this book

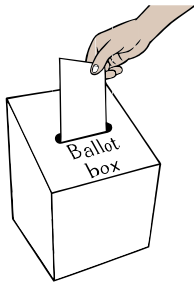
This book is about:



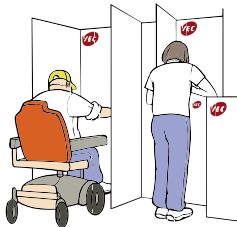
- Victorian state elections



- how to enrol

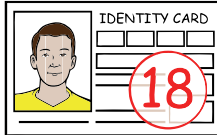


- how to vote



- what to do at a voting centre

About this book



Every **Australian citizen** aged 18 or older must enrol and vote.



You **must vote** at every federal, state and local council election.

If you do **not** vote you may have to pay a fine.

Your vote helps decide who is in charge.

About enrolment

Enrol to vote

NOVEMBER 2026						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

You **must** enrol by 8 pm on **Tuesday 3 November**.

You **must** tell the VEC if you change your:



- address
- name.



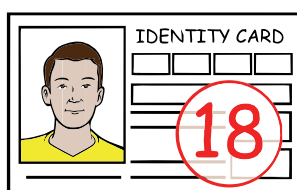
Use an **enrolment form** to enrol or change your details.

You can:

- get a paper enrolment form from the VEC
- or
- enrol online at **vec.vic.gov.au**

About voting

Who must vote

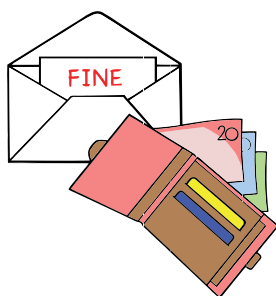


You **must** vote in the election if you are an Australian citizen aged 18 or older.



If you are **away** on election day you can:

- vote early
- tell the VEC.



If you **do not** vote you may get a letter from the VEC. The letter will ask why you did not vote.

You may have to pay a fine.

About voting

Why you should vote



Your vote is how you say who you want to:

- be the Victorian Government
- speak for you.

Voting is your right.

Voting gives you power.

State election

When the election is

There is a state election every 4 years.

It is held on the last Saturday in November.

NOVEMBER 2026						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

The next election is on

Saturday 28 November 2026.

Election information will be:

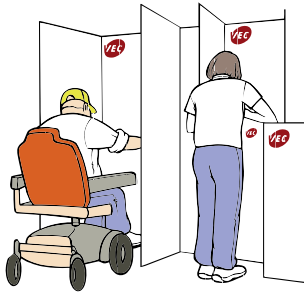


- on social media
- on television
- online
- on radio
- in newspapers.



State election

How to vote in the election



Go to an early voting centre.

Early voting centres open 2 weeks before election day.

Or



You can go to a low sensory voting centre.

Low sensory voting centres are only open on Tuesday 17 November from 10am to 4pm.

Or

Go to an election day voting centre on Saturday 28 November.

State election



If you **cannot** get to a voting centre you can vote by post.



You can vote by telephone if you:

- are blind or have low vision
- cannot write without help
- live near a bushfire or flood.

Look on page 23 for how to contact us.

The Victorian government

What the government does

The government makes rules for Victoria.

These rules are called laws. There are laws about:



- schools



- hospitals



- police and prisons



- ambulance and fire services



- trams, trains and buses.

Voting centre information



Find your voting centre

To find your voting centre go to the VEC website.

The website is **vec.vic.gov.au**



Or



Phone 131 832 to speak to someone at the VEC.

Voting centre information

What to do at the voting centre

You will be shown to a table.



You will be asked if you have already voted.

If you have not already voted say 'no'.



Tell the staff your name and address.

The staff will mark your name off the list.

Voting centre information

Ballot paper
Sample District

Election of 1 member of the Legislative Assembly

Number the boxes 1 to 10 in the order of your choice.
Number every box to make your vote count.

☐ **CANDIDATE, One**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Two**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Three**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Four**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Five**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Six**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Seven**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Eight**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Nine**
Sample party name

☐ **CANDIDATE, Ten**
Sample party name

Fold the ballot paper and put it in the ballot box or
declaration envelope as appropriate.

You will get 2 ballot papers.

The small ballot paper is for the **lower house** (district).

The large ballot paper is for the **upper house** (region).

Sample ballot paper
Sample Metropolitan Region
Election of 5 members of the Legislative Council

Directions
We give you two ballot papers.
This ballot paper is for the upper house.
Number every box to make your vote count.

Place the numbers 1 to 6 in the boxes to the left of the sample groups to indicate your choice.

Sample group A
Sample party name

Sample group B
Sample party name

Sample group C
Sample party name

Sample group D
Sample party name

Sample group E
Sample party name

Sample group F
Sample party name

Place the numbers 1 to 6 in the boxes to the left of the sample groups to indicate your choice.

Sample group A
Sample party name

Sample group B
Sample party name

Sample group C
Sample party name

Sample group D
Sample party name

Sample group E
Sample party name

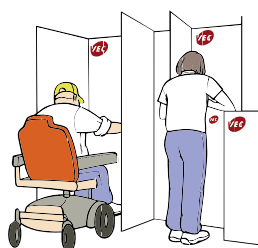
Sample group F
Sample party name

Fold the ballot paper and put it in the ballot box or
declaration envelope as appropriate.

You must vote on **each** ballot paper.

Voting

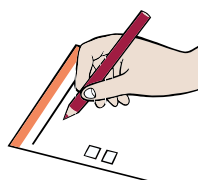
How to vote



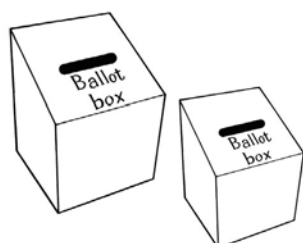
Take your ballot papers to the voting screen.



You can ask someone to help you number your ballot papers. This could be a staff member, your family member or carer.



Follow the instructions on your ballot papers.



Use **numbers only**.

Take your finished ballot papers to the ballot boxes.



Election staff can help you put your ballot papers in the ballot box.

Voting

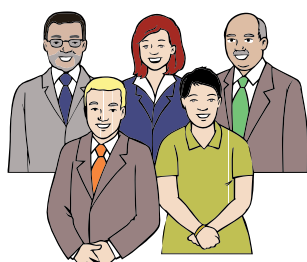
Who to vote for

People who want to be in parliament are called **candidates**.



Each candidate has different ideas.

You need to pick the candidate you think will do the best job.



Some candidates are in a group called a political party.



Some candidates are not in a political party. They are called independent candidates.

Voting

More information about candidates

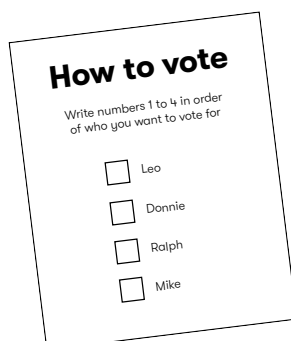


You can find out who your candidates are on the VEC website after 9 November.

NOVEMBER 2026						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

You can call the candidate and talk to them.

You can ask the candidate for written information about their ideas.



You can see who a candidate wants you to vote for on their how-to-vote card. You do not have to vote the way the card says. It is a suggestion only.

These cards are handed out at voting centres.

Meanings

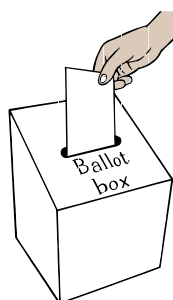
Check the meanings of words



Australian citizen

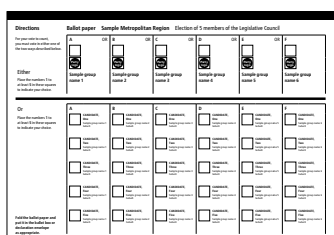
A person who was born:

- in Australia
- overseas but lives in Australia and has promised to follow all laws as a citizen.



Ballot box

A box in the voting centre where you put your ballot paper after numbering it.



Ballot paper

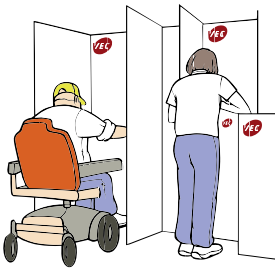
A sheet of paper with the names of candidates or groups on it. You write numbers next to the names to vote.

Meanings



Candidate

A person who wants to represent you in parliament.



Election

When you choose someone to speak for you in parliament.

NOVEMBER 2026						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Election day

The final day you can vote in the election.

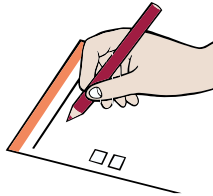
On election day you can visit a voting centre between 8 am and 6 pm. Election day is Saturday 28 November.

Meanings



Election official

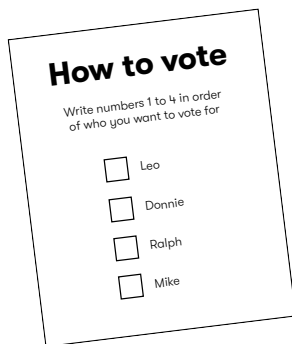
A person who works at elections.



Enrol

When you put your name on a list to vote.

Meanings



How-to-vote card

A page showing candidates and the order someone would like you to vote for them in.

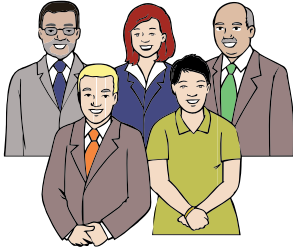
These are given out at voting centres. You do not have to follow the instructions on the card.



Independent

An independent candidate or member of parliament does not belong to a group or political party.

Meanings



Political party

A group of people with similar ideas about things.



Postal vote

A way to vote before election day. You must apply to vote by post. The VEC will send you ballot papers and you will send your vote back in an envelope.

Meanings



Telephone voting

A way to vote if you:

- are blind or have low vision
- cannot write on a ballot paper without help
- are affected by a bushfire or flood.

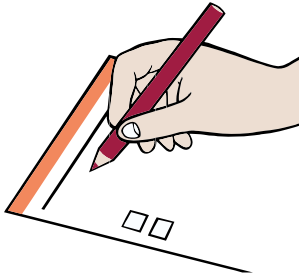


Victorian Government

The largest group of people in the Parliament of Victoria is called the Victorian Government. The government makes decisions for the state.

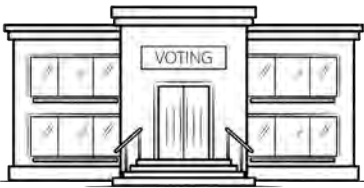
A group of people chosen by voters to represent them.

Meanings



Vote or voting

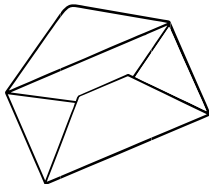
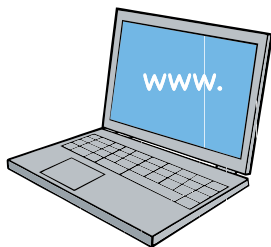
When you write on a ballot paper to show who you most want to be in parliament and government.



Voting centre

A place you go to vote. There are different types of voting centres, including low sensory voting centres.

More information



An Australian Government Initiative



Contact us

You can get more information from the Victorian Electoral Commission.

Website vec.vic.gov.au

Email info@vec.vic.gov.au

Postal address

Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000

Phone

131 832 (if you are in Victoria)

03 8620 1100 (from another state or territory)

+ 61 3 8620 1100 (from overseas)

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or need to use the National Relay Service, call **133 677** and ask for **03 8620 1100**.

For speech-to-speech relay phone **1300 555 727** and ask for **03 8620 1100**.

You can find information in other languages on our website



**You can speak to us on the phone
with a translator**



**Call (03) 9209 0112 to speak to us
with a translator**

Other Easy English Guides available from the VEC:

- Enrolling and voting for people without a home
- Sorting fact from fiction
- About enrolling and voting for families, carers and supporters
- What happens if I do not vote?

Address all enquiries to the Victorian Electoral Commission,
Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000



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