

# Enrolling and voting as a person with no fixed address

If you are 18 years or over and an Australian citizen or eligible British subject, you are eligible to enrol and vote when elections and referendums are held.

You are a person with no fixed address if any of the following applies:

- you do not have a permanent place of living
- you are homeless
- you do not have access to safe and secure housing
- you are currently living in crisis or transitional accommodation.



## Enrolling



### Do I have to be enrolled if I have no fixed address?

If you have never been enrolled, it is not compulsory to enrol if you do not have a fixed address.

However, if you were enrolled prior to not having a fixed address, it is compulsory for you to maintain your enrolment. You can let the AEC know you no longer have a fixed address by completing the *Enrolment for persons with no fixed address* enrolment form.



### How do I enrol as a person with no fixed address?

If you have no fixed address, you can enrol for the first time or you can change your enrolment by completing the *Enrolment for persons with no fixed address* enrolment form. The form is available on the AEC website at [aec.gov.au](http://aec.gov.au) under 'For voters' and 'special category enrolment'.

If you prefer a paper form, this can be collected from an AEC office, or you can arrange for one to be sent to you by calling the AEC on 13 23 26.



### Do I need to provide an address to enrol as a person with no fixed address?

**Yes.** When you enrol as a person with no fixed address, you will still need to provide an address as the AEC needs to know which area of Australia you will vote for in a referendum or federal election.

On the form, you will let us know the first address option that applies to you:

- A. The address where you were last eligible to be enrolled (generally the address where you last lived for at least one month).
- B. If you have not previously been eligible to enrol, the address where one of your next of kin is currently enrolled.
- C. If neither A nor B applies, the address where you were born.
- D. If none of the above apply, the address where you have the closest connection (this can only be used by persons born outside Australia).

If you use either **B**, **C** or **D**, you will need to provide a short statement to support your selection.



### Can I also enrol as a silent elector?

**No.** You cannot be enrolled both as a person with no fixed address and as a silent elector. However, if you enrol as a person with no fixed address, your address will not be publicly available.

You can apply to be a silent elector once you have a permanent place of living.



### Can someone help me to complete my enrolment form?

**Yes.** Someone can help you complete the enrolment form. However, you must sign or make your mark on the form.



### How do I confirm my identity?

If you are enrolling or updating your enrolment, you need to confirm your identity. You can use an Australian driver's licence, passport, Medicare card or citizenship certificate. If you do not have access to one of those, someone who is on the electoral roll can confirm your identity.

## Voting



### Do I have to vote?

If you are enrolled as a person with no fixed address, it is not compulsory for you to vote and you will not be fined.



### Can I vote if I want to?

**Yes.** Being enrolled as a person with no fixed address allows you to vote and participate in the democratic process.

You have the following options to vote:

- going to a polling place within your state or territory on voting day
- if eligible, voting at an early voting centre or applying for a postal vote
- if a mobile polling team is visiting a homelessness service near you, you can vote on the day they visit (this will be during the two weeks before voting day).

If you are eligible and would like to apply for a postal vote, you will need to provide an address where your ballot paper(s) can be sent. More information about voting by mail is available on the AEC website at [aec.gov.au](http://aec.gov.au) under 'For voters' and 'ways to vote'.

Polling locations will be available on the AEC website at [aec.gov.au](http://aec.gov.au) soon after an electoral event is announced. You can also call the AEC on 13 23 26 to find a polling place.



### Can someone help me to vote?

**Yes.** You can ask anyone, other than a candidate, for assistance to vote. Assistance can include reading the voting materials and explaining the process. Assistance can also include completing the ballot paper(s) on your behalf if you ask them to. However, the person must complete your ballot paper(s) as per your instructions and must not influence how you vote.