



## Electoral Commissioner

### APPROVED FORM FOR THE PURPOSES OF POSTAL VOTE APPLICATION

*Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*  
Section 184(1)

*Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984*  
Section 55(1)

I, Tom Rogers, Electoral Commissioner, in exercise of the power under subsection 4(1) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (Electoral Act) and subsection 3(1) of the *Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984* (Referendum Act), do hereby:

1. **REVOKE** all previous approved forms made under subsection 184(1) of the Electoral Act and subsection 55(1) of the Referendum Act;
2. **APPROVE** the forms that appear in the Schedule to this instrument to be approved forms for the purposes of:

Providing a means for a person to apply for a postal vote in writing on the approved form, containing a declaration that they are entitled to apply, under subsection 184(1) of the Electoral Act; and under subsection 55(1) of the Referendum Act.

3. **DECLARE** that this approved form takes effect from execution.

Tom Rogers  
Electoral Commissioner

13 September 2017

# **SCHEDULE**

EF048 – Postal Vote Application

# Postal vote application form

## Am I eligible to vote early?

You can vote early, either in person or by post, if on polling day you can't get to a polling place because you:

- are outside the electorate where you are enrolled to vote
- are more than 8km from a polling place
- are travelling
- can't leave your workplace to vote
- are seriously ill, infirm or due to give birth shortly (or if you are caring for someone who is)
- are a patient in hospital and can't vote at the hospital
- have religious beliefs that prevent you from attending a polling place
- are in prison serving a sentence of less than three years or otherwise detained
- are a silent elector
- have a reasonable fear for your safety.

**Carefully consider your options as voting early in person may be an easier option than voting by post.**

## In person

You can vote in person before polling day at an AEC divisional office or at an early voting centre in Australia or overseas (when available). The locations and opening times of early voting centres are available at [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) or by calling **13 23 26**.

## By post

You can apply for a postal vote online at [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) or by using this form.

**The AEC must receive your application by 6pm on the Wednesday before polling day for your application to be accepted.**

**Return your completed application as soon as possible. Ensure you leave enough time for your vote to be completed by polling day and then returned to the AEC.**

The AEC will start mailing voting papers to voters who have applied for a postal vote after the nominations for candidates have closed. This is usually 2–3 weeks after the announcement of the election. In a referendum, voting papers will be sent as soon as possible after the announcement of the referendum.

Please note: the AEC accepts faxed and emailed forms however as the security of external systems cannot be assured, the AEC does not accept any liability for unauthorised interception of electronic communications associated with the use of this form.

## About your postal vote application

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) is authorised under the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 and the Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984* (the 'Acts'), to collect and verify the information you have been asked to complete on this application form.

The information you have provided will assist the AEC with processing your application and postal vote and may be viewed by authorised staff and scrutineers. The AEC may seek further information from you or provide you with information about the progress of your application using any of the contact details you provide on your application form.

The AEC, in accordance with the Acts, is required to provide when requested, your name, date of birth and residential address to eligible candidates for the Senate or House of Representatives and eligible registered political parties after the election. In accordance with the Acts, the applications for an electoral division are available for public inspection at the relevant divisional office after the election and until the election can no longer be questioned.

The AEC will deal with the information that you provide in accordance with its privacy policy published at [www.aec.gov.au/privacy](http://www.aec.gov.au/privacy)

## Returning your form

**Post:** Australian Electoral Commission  
Reply Paid 9867  
[Your capital city]  
(No stamp is needed if posted in Australia)

**Email:** [info@aec.gov.au](mailto:info@aec.gov.au)

**Fax or in person:** Visit [www.aec.gov.au/contact](http://www.aec.gov.au/contact) to find the fax number or location of your nearest AEC office

## For more information

Australian Electoral Commission: [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) or **13 23 26**. From outside Australia please call **+61 2 6160 2600**.

## Help in other languages

العربية	Arabic	1300 720 132	Język polski	Polish	1300 720 143
廣東話	Cantonese	1300 720 135	Português	Portuguese	1300 720 145
Hrvatski	Croatian	1300 720 136	Русский язык	Russian	1300 720 146
Ελληνικά	Greek	1300 720 137	Српски	Serbian	1300 720 147
Italiano	Italian	1300 720 138	Español	Spanish	1300 720 148
ខ្មែរ	Khmer	1300 720 134	Türkçe	Turkish	1300 720 149
한국어	Korean	1300 720 468	Tiếng Việt	Vietnamese	1300 720 152
Македонски	Macedonian	1300 720 139	Other languages		1300 720 153
普通话	Mandarin	1300 720 142			

## If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment

Contact the AEC through the National Relay Service (NRS):  
**TTY:** 133 677 then ask for 13 23 26

**Speak and Listen:** 1300 555 727 then ask for 13 23 26

**Internet relay:** connect to the NRS then ask for 13 23 26.

