



Electoral Education Centre

Voting in a State election

Who can vote

You can vote if you are:

- enrolled to vote
- 18 years of age or more.

Why should I vote?

Voting in a State election is really important. It is your way to have a say in who is elected to represent you in Parliament.

Voting in a State election is also compulsory. If you do not vote, you may be fined.

When do I vote?

Once you are enrolled, you can vote at any State election held in the electoral district in which you live.

State general elections are held on the second Saturday in March every four years.

State by-elections are held if a vacancy in the Legislative Assembly arises, for example, if an elected member resigns or dies. Only people enrolled in the affected electoral district vote in a by-election.

How do I vote?

Polling day is always on a Saturday. On polling day, electors go to a polling place to vote. Polling places are usually located in schools, town halls or courthouses. Polling place locations will be advertised before polling day. When you arrive at a polling place, you will need to see an issuing officer to be marked off the roll and be given your ballot papers.

When you have your ballot papers, take them to an empty voting screen and cast your vote. Read the instructions on the ballot paper carefully. It is okay to ask polling place staff if you need help.

Once you have completed your ballot papers, put them in the ballot box.

If you can't go to a polling place on polling day, you can vote before polling day.

Early voting can be done at an early voting centre up to two weeks before polling day, or you can apply to vote by post. Your ballot papers will be sent to you, and you return them in the envelope provided.