



Information on becoming a silent elector

Request by an elector for address not to be shown
on the Commonwealth or state electoral rolls



Australian Electoral Commission **AEC**

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

Silent enrolment

You can apply for silent enrolment if you believe that having your address shown on the publicly available electoral roll could put your personal safety or your family's safety at risk. Silent enrolment means your **address** will not be shown on **future** editions of the publicly available electoral roll.

Silent status is granted only if your personal safety or your family's safety is at risk. You need to provide details of what the actual risk to you or your family would be if your address was shown on the publicly available roll. You will not be granted silent elector status based solely on your profession, or because you have a silent phone number, or you don't like the idea of your details being publicly available, or you don't want to receive junk mail.

If you are granted silent enrolment in respect of the address for which you are already enrolled, the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) will endeavour to ensure that your address is obliterated from all copies of the electoral roll currently held by the AEC. However you should be aware that under the provisions of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*, copies of the electoral roll may already be available in the public domain and your address may appear on these copies.

To apply to become a silent elector for both Commonwealth and Victorian state electoral rolls, complete this application and return it to the AEC. The application **must** be accompanied by a statutory declaration which explains in detail what you consider the risk to be and why your personal safety or that of your family is at risk. For your convenience a statutory declaration is provided on page 3.

This information will be treated in strictest confidence at all times.

If there are other members of the family who are enrolled at your address or enrolled at another address, they may also apply to become silent electors on the ground that you have silent enrolment. A separate application is required for each person requesting registration, however, a single statutory declaration will suffice provided it contains the names of all applicants and specifies the risk.

If you are not already enrolled at your current residential address you will also need to complete an electoral enrolment form and submit it with this application.

Registration

Granting of silent enrolment is not automatic. Each application will be considered by the Divisional Returning Officer and a decision will be made based on whether the claims made by the applicant meet the conditions for silent enrolment under the relevant legislation.

If you are unsure about whether you are eligible to register as a silent elector, please phone **13 23 26** for more information.

The Divisional Returning Officer will notify you in writing of the decision on your application. If your application is approved **only your name and the name of your division** will appear on the Commonwealth electoral rolls and only your name and the words 'address suppressed' will appear on state and local government electoral rolls.

Local government rolls are a combination of the Victorian state roll and council ratepayer lists. If you are enrolled on the Victorian state roll and silent enrolment has been granted, your address in respect of that enrolment will be suppressed on the local government roll. Ratepayers who do not live within the municipality, non-Australian citizens and company nominees are included on the local government roll by the council. If you are one of these people and you do not wish to have your non-resident property address and/or your residential/contact address included on the local government roll, you will need to make a separate application to the council to become a municipal silent voter.

Change of address

If you are granted silent enrolment and you have a change of address you must still notify the AEC. You will need to reapply for silent enrolment at your new address.

You should also notify the AEC of any change to your postal address.

Do I have to vote?

Yes, voting is compulsory in federal and Victorian state elections for eligible persons aged 18 years or over. Voting is also compulsory for residents aged 18 years or over at local government elections. You may be fined if you do not vote. Even though you may be enrolled at 17, you cannot vote until you are 18.

Voting options for a silent elector

As a silent elector you can register as a general postal voter to have ballot papers automatically sent to you when a federal election or referendum or Victorian state or local government election or state referendum is called. You can register by ticking the 'Yes' box at item 9 on this form.

If you do not register as a general postal voter you will need to attend a polling place on polling day, attend a prepoll voting centre or apply for a postal vote for the relevant election.

Where can I get more information?

You can get more information at any office of the AEC or the Victorian Electoral Commission. You can find the contact details of these offices in your local phone book or phone **13 23 26** for enrolment and other AEC enquiries, or phone **13 18 32** for Victorian Electoral Commission enquiries. Information is also available at the AEC website at www.aec.gov.au

NOTE: If you have read the above information and wish to apply for silent enrolment, please complete pages 2 and 3 of this form.

Where do I send my form?

Faxed and emailed applications will not be accepted.

Your completed form must be delivered to an AEC office or posted to:

Australian Electoral Commission
Reply Paid 9867
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

(No stamp needed if posted in Australia)



Request by an elector for address not to be shown on the electoral roll



You must read the information page before you complete and sign this form
Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence



If completing this form by hand please use black or blue ink. Use BLOCK LETTERS and mark boxes with an **X**

1 Name Mr Mrs Ms Dr etc.

Family name

Given names

2 Residential address
You must provide your current residential address.
NOTE: If silent elector status is approved, your address will not be shown on the electoral roll.

Locality/Suburb

State **VIC** Postcode

3 Postal address *(Leave this section blank if it is the same as your residential address)*
Your electoral mail will be sent to this address.

Locality/Suburb

State Postcode

4 Phone number daytime

5 Date of birth *Please write dates like this (e.g. 25/03/1958)*

DD/MM/YYYY

6 Gender Write either M for male or F for female

7 Previous name *(Leave this section blank if you have not changed your name since you last enrolled)*
If you have changed any part of your name since you last enrolled, please write your previous name in full.

Previous family name

Previous given names

8 Having my residential address shown on any electoral roll places the personal safety of myself or members of my family at risk as declared in the statutory declaration on page 3 of this form.

I therefore request that:

the address for which I am claiming enrolment on the enclosed enrolment form not be shown on the roll.

OR

the address for which I am currently enrolled be removed from the roll.

9 Do you wish to be registered as a general postal voter for federal and Victorian state election purposes?
(see 'Voting options for a silent elector')

Yes **You will be registered as a general postal voter and ballot papers will be sent to you whenever a federal or Victorian state election is held.**

No **You will need to attend a polling place on polling day, attend a pre-poll voting centre or apply for a postal vote.**

10 Declaration by APPLICANT I have read the information page and wish to apply for silent enrolment.

I declare that all the information I have given on this form is true and complete

Signature of applicant

Date

DD/MM/YYYY

NOTE: You must also complete the statutory declaration on page 3 of this form.

The authority to collect this information is contained in the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* and the *Victorian Electoral Act 2002*

V	NIN	Cats	Notation	Ack	RVI	Stat Dec	Date Received		E
		S				Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			



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Statutory declaration



Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence

If completing this form by hand please use BLOCK LETTERS and black or blue ink.

I, (name of person making the declaration)					
Address					
Occupation		State	VIC	Postcode	

do solemnly and sincerely declare:

NOTE: Please explain in detail what you consider the risk to be.

1. _____

And I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the *Evidence Act 1958 (Victoria)*, and acknowledge that this declaration is true and correct and is made in the belief that the person making a false declaration is liable to the penalties of perjury.

Signature of person making the declaration			
Declared at			
on	day of	20	

Before me, (Signature of person before whom the declaration is made)					
Name					
Address					
		State		Postcode	
*Qualification					

* A statutory declaration made in Victoria may be made before a Justice of the Peace, a police officer, a pharmacist, a medical practitioner, a dentist, a legal practitioner, a Member of Parliament, or any other person before whom a declaration may be made under the *Evidence Act 1958*.

NOTE: If you have changed your residential address or personal details, you will also need to complete a new **Application for Electoral Enrolment in Victoria** form which is available at the following URL <http://www.aec.gov.au>

NIN	Approved <input type="checkbox"/>	Not approved <input type="checkbox"/>	Signature of DRO
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