Who can see my personal details once I enrol to vote?

The public electoral roll, containing names and addresses, is available for viewing at the Victorian Electoral Commission’s office. However, if you have enrolled using a ‘no fixed address’ form, only your name will appear on the roll, not your address.

The information you provide is also made available, by law, to members of Parliament, political parties, approved medical researchers and public health screening programs, certain government agencies and other electoral authorities. The enrolment form explains this further.

I’m concerned about my details appearing on the electoral roll.

If you use the ‘no fixed address’ enrolment form only your name will appear on the publicly available roll.

If you use a standard enrolment form, your name and address will appear. If you believe that having your address on the electoral roll endangers the safety of you or any member of your family, then you can apply to be a silent elector. You will need to fill out a ‘silent elector’ form in addition to your enrolment form. If approved, only your name will appear on the electoral roll; your address will not be shown.

A new enrolment form is required every time you move address. If you are a silent elector and you are moving from interstate, update your enrolment with the Australian Electoral Commission.

Will I be fined if I have not enrolled before?

No. The VEC wants to make it as easy as possible for people to enrol to vote.

Will I be fined if I enrol but do not vote in a federal, State or local council election in Victoria?

If you have ‘no fixed address’ enrolment in Victoria and do not vote in a federal, State or local council election you will not be fined.

What if I have an outstanding fine/s from previous State elections?

If you received a voting fine in the past and didn’t pay it, it’s important that you let the VEC know. You can also ask a community worker to contact the VEC on your behalf.

What if I don’t vote in an election and I receive a letter in the mail asking me to explain why I didn’t vote?

Do not ignore this letter. Call the Victorian Electoral Commission (for local council and State elections) or the Australian Electoral Commission (for federal elections) and explain that you are experiencing homelessness and were unable to vote on election day.

For more information call 131 832, or visit vec.vic.gov.au/homelessnotvoteless
**NO FIXED ADDRESS ENROLMENT**

What is ‘no fixed address’ enrolment?

All Australian citizens aged 18 years or older are eligible to enrol to vote. Voting eligibility is usually based on an enrolled address. However, individuals who don’t have access to safe and secure housing can enrol using a ‘no fixed address’ enrolment form. Enrolment for a person experiencing homelessness is not compulsory. Someone who enrols using a ‘no fixed address’ form and does not vote will not be fined.

If your client moves to permanent housing at a later date, enrolment details need to be updated using a regular enrolment form. The form is available on vec.vic.gov.au or at any Post Office or Australian Electoral Commission office.

**GET INVOLVED WITH OUR PROGRAM**

How can my agency get involved in the Homeless not Voteless Program?

Through the Homeless not Voteless Program, the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) works with community agencies to ensure that everyone has access to the electoral process, regardless of their current living situation.

The VEC can provide:

- enrolment outreach sessions for people accessing homelessness agencies
- information sessions about the electoral process for agency workers
- provision of special voting facilities in the lead up to major elections
- ‘no fixed address’ enrolment forms, plus posters and Easy English information to display at your agency.

You may also want to consider including a ‘no fixed address’ enrolment form in your client information packs.

For more information call 131 832, or visit vec.vic.gov.au/homelessnotvoteless

**TALKING WITH CLIENTS ABOUT VOTING**

The Government has nothing to do with my life.

Local council, state and federal governments make decisions that affect the community. For example, the State government is responsible for housing, public transport, police, fire and ambulance services, aged care and public schools.

When you vote in an election, you get to have your say on who you think can best represent your views on these issues.

Never voted, not interested.

There’s a whole range of ways to have your say on issues that are important to you. Voting in an election is one of the easiest and most powerful.

No way! You get fined if you don’t vote...

If you don’t have safe and secure housing you can enrol using the ‘no fixed address’ form. This means you are able to exercise your right to vote, but won’t be fined if you don’t vote.

**COMPLETING THE ‘NO FIXED ADDRESS’ ENROLMENT FORM**

Tick the box ‘I am homeless’ if you are: living in crisis accommodation, sleeping rough, living in transitional or supported accommodation or do not have access to safe and secure housing.

Even though you do not have a permanent home address, we still need to work out which electorate applies to you at an election.

Option A: The place you were last eligible to be enrolled is where you last lived for one month or more. If this does not apply to you, go to Option B.

Option B: If you have never been eligible to enrol to vote before you can use the address of your enrolled family member.

Option C: If neither A nor B apply, you can use your place of birth to identify your electorate. This only applies if you were born in Australia.

This address relates to the option you chose in Question 4. If you chose Option C and don’t know the actual address, just write the locality or suburb. If the address is outside of Victoria please contact the VEC on 131 832 for more information.

You can use any address that will allow you to access the mail we send you. It could be where you receive your Centrelink forms, or an agency you often visit.

If you don’t have a driver licence or passport you can ask someone you know — a friend, relative or agency worker — to confirm your identity. They must be on the electoral roll.

FOR MORE INFORMATION call 131 832, or visit vec.vic.gov.au/homelessnotvoteless

Q3
Tick the box ‘I am homeless’ if you are: living in crisis accommodation, sleeping rough, living in transitional or supported accommodation or do not have access to safe and secure housing.

Q4
Even though you do not have a permanent home address, we still need to work out which electorate applies to you at an election.

Option A: The place you were last eligible to be enrolled is where you last lived for one month or more. If this does not apply to you, go to Option B.

Option B: If you have never been eligible to enrol to vote before you can use the address of your enrolled family member.

Option C: If neither A nor B apply, you can use your place of birth to identify your electorate. This only applies if you were born in Australia.

This address relates to the option you chose in Question 4. If you chose Option C and don’t know the actual address, just write the locality or suburb. If the address is outside of Victoria please contact the VEC on 131 832 for more information.

Q6
This address relates to the option you chose in Question 4. If you chose Option C and don’t know the actual address, just write the locality or suburb. If the address is outside of Victoria please contact the VEC on 131 832 for more information.

Q7
You can use any address that will allow you to access the mail we send you. It could be where you receive your Centrelink forms, or an agency you often visit.

Q10
If you don’t have a driver licence or passport you can ask someone you know — a friend, relative or agency worker — to confirm your identity. They must be on the electoral roll.