Vote in the 2018 Victorian State Election

Victorian Electoral Commission
You can get this information in different ways

**Auslan**

Contact the Victorian Electoral Commission for a DVD in Auslan.

**Other languages**

Read page 22

Scope’s Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre helped the Victorian Electoral Commission write this Easy English book.

For more information about Scope’s Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre phone 03 9843 2000 or go to www.scopevic.org.au
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About this book

This book is about

• Victorian State elections

• how to vote

• what to do at a voting centre

• how to become a candidate.
Australia's government

Australia has 3 types of government

- Federal Government
- State Government
- local council.

Your vote helps to decide who is in charge.

Every Australian citizen aged 18 years or older must enrol and vote.

You must vote at every Federal, State and local council election.

If you do not vote you may have to pay a fine.
Enrol to vote

You **must** tell the Victorian Electoral Commission if you have

- changed your address
- changed your name.

You must fill in an enrolment form.

Get an enrolment form

- at any post office
- from the Victorian Electoral Commission
- online at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)
About voting

Do I have to vote?

Yes.

You must vote in the Victorian State election if you are an Australian citizen aged 18 years or older.

If you do not vote you may be sent a letter.

You will be asked why you did not vote.

You may have to pay a fine.
About voting

Why should I vote?

To vote means you

• have your say

• help to choose who is representing you.

Voting is your right.

Voting gives you power.
When is the Victorian State election?

The Victorian State election is held every 4 years.

It is held on the last Saturday in November.

The next Victorian State election is on
Saturday 24 November 2018.

You will hear about election day

• on television
• on radio
• in newspapers
• online
• on social media.
How do I vote in the State election?

Go to an early voting centre in the two weeks before election day.

Or

Go to a voting centre on election day.

If you **cannot** get to a voting centre you can vote by post.

You can vote by telephone if you

- are blind or have low vision
- have a physical disability and need help to vote.

For example, you are unable to complete a ballot paper without help.

See page 21 for contact information.
State Parliament

For a Victorian State election you vote for people in 2 parts of the Victorian State Parliament.

You will vote on 2 different ballot papers.

The 2 parts of the Victorian State Parliament are

- **Legislative Assembly**
  It is also called the Lower House (or District).

- **Legislative Council**
  It is also called the Upper House (or Region).
Votes help people get elected. Elected people are called Members of Parliament.

The Members of Parliament are the people who will speak for you in Parliament.

**Victorian State Government**

Each Member of Parliament has a seat in Parliament House.

The group of people who win the most seats in the **Legislative Assembly** or **Lower House** become the Victorian State Government.

The leader of this group is called the Premier. The Premier and his group are the Victorian State Government.

The State Government is in charge of Victoria.
The people elected to Parliament make laws about

• primary schools

• secondary schools

• police and prisons

• ambulance and fire services

• trams, trains and buses.
Where is my voting centre?

Look in the newspaper on election day.

It will tell you where all the voting centres are.

Or

Go to the Victorian Electoral Commission website.

The website is vec.vic.gov.au

Or

Call the Victorian Electoral Commission on 131 832.

Or

Check the Election Guide.

A guide will be mailed to each household before the election.
What to do at the voting centre

You will be shown to a table.

Tell your name and address to the election official.

The election official will mark your name on the list.

You will get 2 different ballot papers.

You will get a ballot paper for the Legislative Assembly (District).

You will get a ballot paper for the Legislative Council (Region).

You must vote on each ballot paper.

### Ballot Paper

#### DISTRICT OF

District Name

Number the boxes 1 to 8 in the order of your choice.

- CANDIDATE, NameA PARTY NAME
- CANDIDATE, NameB
- CANDIDATE, NameC
- CANDIDATE, NameD
- CANDIDATE, NameE
- CANDIDATE, NameF
- CANDIDATE, NameG
- CANDIDATE, NameH

#### REGION

Region Name

For your vote to count, you must vote either:

1. In 5 boxes of your choice.
2. In 1 box of your choice.

For your vote to count, you must vote in either of the two ways described below.

- EITHER
  - UNGROUPED
  - PARTY NAME
  - PARTY NAME
  - PARTY NAME
  - PARTY NAME
  - PARTY NAME
  - PARTY NAME
  - PARTY NAME
  - PARTY NAME

- OR
  - CANDIDATE, NameA PARTY NAME
  - CANDIDATE, NameB
  - CANDIDATE, NameC
  - CANDIDATE, NameD
  - CANDIDATE, NameE
  - CANDIDATE, NameF
  - CANDIDATE, NameG
  - CANDIDATE, NameH

Vote in the 2018 Victorian State Election
Voting

What must I do to vote?

Take your ballot papers to the voting screen.

You can ask election staff, a family member or a carer to help you fill out your ballot papers.

Follow the instructions on your ballot papers.

Fill in each ballot paper using **numbers only**.

Take your finished ballot papers to the ballot boxes.

Election staff can help you put your ballot papers in the ballot box.
Who do I vote for?

People who want to be in State Parliament are called candidates.

Each person has different ideas.

You need to pick the person you think will do the best job.

Some people belong to a political party.

Some people don't belong to a political party and are called independent candidates.
Voting

How do I get more information about each candidate?

You can telephone the candidate and talk to them.

You can ask these people for written information about their ideas.

How-to-vote cards from candidates are given out at the voting centre on election day.

This information will help you make a choice.
Become a candidate

How do I become a candidate?

You must be enrolled to vote in Victoria.

You must fill out a form. This form says you want to be a candidate.

You must pay $350. You get this money back if you win or get enough votes.

Some people cannot be a candidate.

Ask the Victorian Electoral Commission for more information.

Look on page 21 for how to contact us.
Meanings

Check the meanings of words

**Australian citizen** — a person who was born in Australia.

**Or**

A person who was born overseas but now lives in Australia. This person has made a special promise to follow all the laws of Australia. This person has become an Australian citizen.

**Ballot box** — a box in the voting centre where you put your filled-in ballot paper.

**Ballot paper** — a sheet of paper you write your vote on.

**Candidate** — a person who wants to represent you in Parliament.
Meanings

Democracy — a country where people have the right to vote for who is in charge.

Election — choosing someone or making a choice by voting.

Election day — the Saturday when voting centres are open 8.00 am – 6.00 pm.

Election official — a person who works at elections.

Enrol — put your name on a list to vote.

How-to-vote card — a page of information about candidates and how to vote for them. These are given out at voting centres.
Meanings

**Independent** — by yourself. An independent person in Parliament does not belong to a group or political party.

**Political party** — a group of people who have similar ideas about things.

**Postal vote** — you can vote before the election. Often you will vote at home. You will send your vote back in an envelope before election day.

**Telephone voting** — You can vote by telephone if you

- are blind or have low vision
- have a physical disability and need help to vote. For example, are unable to attend a voting centre or complete a ballot paper without help.
**Meanings**

**Victorian State Government** — the largest group of people in State Parliament is called the Victorian State Government. The State Government is in charge of Victoria.

**Victorian State Parliament** — a group of people who are chosen by the people in Victoria to represent them.

**Vote or voting** — to make your choice on your ballot paper.

**Voting centre** — the place you go to vote.
More information

Contact us

You can get more information from the Victorian Electoral Commission.

Website  vec.vic.gov.au
Email  info@vec.vic.gov.au

Postal address

Victorian Electoral Commission,
Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000

Phone

131 832
+ 61 3 8620 1100 (from outside Victoria)

If you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment phone the National Relay Service 133 677 and ask for 03 8620 1100.

For speech-to-speech relay phone 1300 555 727 and ask for 03 8620 1100.
How do I get this information in another language?

قانونية (Arabic)
إذا أردت المزيد من المعلومات التفصيلية، وبحاجة للإستعانة بترجمة شفهية، يرجى الاتصال على الرقم 01009 92009 (03).

Bosanski (Bosnian)
Ako su vam potrebne detaljnije informacije i pomoć prevodioca, nazovite (03) 9209 0191.

中文繁體 (Cantonese)
如果需要詳細資料和傳譯員協助，請電 (03) 9209 0101。

Hrvatski (Croatian)
Ako su vam potrebne podrobnije informacije i pomoć tumača, nazovite (03) 9209 0102.

درى (Dari)
اگر به معلومات مفصلتر و کمک ترجمه ضرورت دارید، به تلفن شماره 0193 9209 0119 (03) نگه بزنید.

Thuonjän (Dinka)
Na koor yín lëek ci kek cuuir ku kuony de athok /raan ë thok waaric, yuöpë (03) 9209 0119.

Ελληνικά (Greek)
Αν χρειάζεστε πιο λεπτομερείς πληροφορίες και τη βοήθεια διερμηνέα, τηλεφωνήστε στο (03) 9209 0103.

Italiano (Italian)
Se hai bisogno di informazioni più particolaregiate e dell’assistenza di un interprete, telefona al (03) 9209 0104.

ភាសាខ្មែរ (Khmer)
ប្រការប្រក្រតិប្បសិក្ដសម្រាប់សាលារ៉ូបូគោលធនាគារប្រជាជន៍ប្រការសាលារ៉ូបូ។ សំបូជានេះ (03) 9209 01921.
How do I get this information in another language?

한국어 (Korean)
더 자세한 내용을 원하시거나 통역 서비스가 필요하시면 (03) 9209 0194번으로 연락하시기 바랍니다.

Македонски (Macedonian)
Ако сакате подетални информация и помощ со преведувач јавете се на (03) 9209 0105.

中文简体 (Mandarin)
如果需要详细资料和传译员协助，请电 (03) 9209 0106。

فارسی (Persian)
اگر اطلاعات مفصل تر یا کمک یک مترجم را می خواهید به شماره 9209 0109 (03) تلفن کنید.

Русский (Russian)
Если вам нужна более подробная информация и помощь переводчика, то позвоните по номеру (03) 9209 0196.

Српски (Serbian)
Ако су вам потребне детаљније информације и помоћ тумача, позвовите (03) 9209 0107.

Сомали (Somali)
Haddii aad u baahan tahay macluumaad faahfaahsan oo intaas ka badan iyo caawimada mutarjumka, wac (03) 9209 0108.

Español (Spanish)
Si necesita información más detallada y la asistencia de un intérprete, llame al teléfono (03) 9209 0109.

Türkçe (Turkish)
Daha ayrıntılı bilgi edinmek istemeniz ve bir çevirmene gerek duymanz durumunda, (03) 9209 0110 numaralı telefonu arayın.

Việt ngữ (Vietnamese)
Nếu quý vị cần thêm thông tin chi tiết và sự giúp đỡ của thông dịch viên, hãy điện thoại số (03) 9209 0111.

All other languages
For enquiries in all other non-English languages call our interpreting service on (03) 9209 0112.
Other Easy English Guides available from the VEC:
• Vote in Local Council Postal Elections
• Vote in Local Council Attendance Elections
• Vote in Melbourne City Council Postal Elections
• Vote in the Greater Geelong City Council Postal Elections

Address all enquiries to the Victorian Electoral Commission,
Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000

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