



**AEC**

Australian Electoral Commission

# Your official guide to the 2019 federal election

**SATURDAY 18 MAY 2019**

Your vote will help shape Australia



Voting is compulsory for all Australian citizens aged 18 years and over

# Election day is Saturday 18 May 2019. Polling places open from 8am to 6pm sharp.

## Where can I vote?

You can vote at any polling place in your state or territory on election day.

Polling places are usually located at local schools, churches and community halls, or public buildings.

To find your nearest polling place visit [www.aec.gov.au/where](http://www.aec.gov.au/where). Details of polling places will also be published in major metropolitan newspapers the day before election day.

You can check the accessibility rating and details of polling places at [www.aec.gov.au/where](http://www.aec.gov.au/where).

For blind or low vision voting options please call 13 23 26.

If you will be interstate on election day you can vote at a designated interstate voting centre, or consider the early voting options below.

## What if I can't make it on election day?

If you can't make it to a polling place in your state or territory on election day, you may be eligible to vote early either in person or by post.



## How to vote early in person

You can vote before election day at an early voting centre, with a mobile polling team, or at an Australian overseas voting centre.

Early voting centres open from Monday 29 April 2019. Opening dates and times vary, so visit [www.aec.gov.au/where](http://www.aec.gov.au/where) to check the details of each early voting centre.

For more information, including on eligibility, visit [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) or call 13 23 26.

## How to vote early by post

If eligible, you can apply for a postal vote online at [www.aec.gov.au/pva](http://www.aec.gov.au/pva). Application forms are also available from any AEC office. Send your application to the AEC as soon as possible to reach us no later than **6pm Wednesday 15 May 2019**.

## Has my electoral division changed?

There are now 151 federal electoral divisions (including two new divisions). Some divisions have been renamed, and the boundaries of many have changed since the last federal election.

Check which electoral division you live in at [www.aec.gov.au/electorate](http://www.aec.gov.au/electorate).

## Who you vote for is your decision

Outside the polling place, candidate representatives may offer to give you how-to-vote cards, suggesting you vote in a particular way. You do not have to accept or follow the how-to-vote cards.

## How to make your vote count

On election day you will receive **two ballot papers**:

- a green one for the House of Representatives, and
- a white one for the Senate.

You must complete both ballot papers.

On the green ballot paper you are voting for a representative of your local area or electorate in the House of Representatives.

On the white ballot paper you are voting for representatives of your state or territory in the Senate.

## House of Representatives

On the green ballot paper you must number **every box** in the order of your choice.

House of Representatives  
Ballot Paper

State  
Electoral Division of Division Name

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

2 SURNAME, Given Names  
INDEPENDENT

3 SURNAME, Given Names  
PARTY

7 SURNAME, Given Names  
PARTY

4 SURNAME, Given Names  
PARTY

1 SURNAME, Given Names  
PARTY

5 SURNAME, Given Names  
PARTY

6 SURNAME, Given Names  
PARTY

8 SURNAME, Given Names  
PARTY

Remember... number every box to make your vote count

Sample ballot paper

## Senate

On the white ballot paper you have a choice of two ways to vote:











**EITHER**

### Above the line

If you choose to vote above the line, you need to **number at least 6 boxes**.

Put the number '1' in the box for the party or group that is your first choice, a '2' for your second choice and so on until you've numbered at least 6 boxes.

You can continue to place numbers in the order of your choice in as many boxes above the line as you like.

 <p>Senate Ballot Paper State – Election of 6 Senators</p>							
	<p><b>You may vote in one of two ways</b></p> <p><b>Either</b></p> <p><b>Above the line</b> By numbering at least 6 of these boxes in the order of your choice (with number 1 as your first choice).</p>	<p>A</p>  <p>5</p> <p>PARTY</p>	<p>B</p>  <p>2</p> <p>PARTY</p>	<p>C</p>   <p>1</p> <p>PARTY</p>	<p>D</p>  <p>PARTY</p>	<p>E</p>  <p>3</p> <p>PARTY</p>	<p>F</p>   <p>6</p> <p>PARTY</p>

**OR**

### Below the line

If you choose to vote below the line, you need to **number at least 12 boxes**, from 1 to 12, for individual candidates in the order of your choice. You can continue to place numbers in the order of your choice in as many boxes below the line as you like.

<p><b>Or</b></p> <p><b>Below the line</b> By numbering at least 12 of these boxes in the order of your choice (with number 1 as your first choice).</p>	<p>PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p>1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p>	<p>PARTY</p> <p>8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p>5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p>	<p>PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p>3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p>2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p>	<p>PARTY</p> <p>6</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p>12</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p>	<p>PARTY</p> <p>10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p>9</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p>	<p>PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p>11</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names PARTY</p>	<p>UNGROUPED</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT</p> <p>4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT</p> <p>7</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT</p>
	<p><b>SAMPLE</b></p>							

Sample ballot paper

**Don't worry if you make a mistake. You can ask for another ballot paper and start again.**

Did you know you can practise voting on the AEC website? Go to [www.aec.gov.au/practise-voting](http://www.aec.gov.au/practise-voting)

## What happens at the polling place?

- 1 A polling official will ask for your full name and address, and if you have voted before in this election. They will mark your name off the electoral roll.



- 2 You will be given two ballot papers – a green one for the House of Representatives, and a white one for the Senate.



- 3 Read the instructions on both ballot papers carefully. Ask a polling official for help if you are unsure.



- 4 When you are finished, fold your ballot papers and place them in the correct ballot box.

## Alternative versions of this guide

You can download alternative formats of this guide such as audio and large print at [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au). Braille is also available on request by calling 13 23 26.

If you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment contact us through the National Relay Service (NRS):

- TTY users phone 13 36 77 and quote 13 23 26.
- Speak and Listen users phone 1300 555 727 and quote 13 23 26.
- Internet relay users connect to the NRS then ask for 13 23 26.

## Information in other languages

Translated versions of this guide can be downloaded from [www.aec.gov.au/translated](http://www.aec.gov.au/translated).

Telephone interpreter services are available. For information about voting and elections, call the number listed next to your preferred language.

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

**Voting is compulsory for Australian citizens aged 18 years and over.** If you don't vote, you may be prosecuted.

**If you vote more than once it is a criminal offence.**

[www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) 13 23 26

