

NOMINATION PROCESS FOR STATE ELECTIONS

The *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, (www.legislation.qld.gov.au) sets out who may be nominated as a candidate and elected as a member of the Legislative Assembly for an electoral district. The ECQ does not provide advice on a candidate's eligibility to stand for election. If in doubt, the candidate should seek independent legal advice.

The *Electoral Act 1992* sets out the requirements for the process of nominating candidates for State elections and by-elections. It is important that candidates familiarise themselves with all the provisions contained within Part 7 of the *Electoral Act 1992*.

Nomination period

The nomination period commences the day after the writ for the election is issued and ends at midday on the day that nominations close. The day that nominations close will be confirmed in the writ for the election.

A candidate can be nominated by:

- the registered officer of a registered political party (for endorsed candidates), or
- by six or more persons enrolled in the electoral district, none of whom have previously nominated a candidate for this election (for non-endorsed candidates).

Non-endorsed candidates are encouraged to seek nominations from more than six electors with current enrolment in their electoral district, to ensure the validity of their nomination. All candidates are also encouraged to lodge nominations as early as possible to ensure all nominations can be processed before the scheduled close of the nomination period.

Nominations must be submitted to the ECQ, or the Returning Officer for the electoral district, in the approved form.

Candidate nomination details can be entered into the **Self-Service Portal** (<https://selfserv.elections.qld.gov.au>) in order to streamline the nomination process and pre-populate a nomination form, which must then be printed and signed before lodging with the ECQ.

A nomination deposit of \$250 must be paid by cash, bank cheque, credit card or electronic funds transfer (EFT) at the time of nomination. The deposit will be refunded for:

- candidates who are elected, and
- candidates who receive more than 4% of formal first preferences votes.

The deposit will be refunded to the person who paid the deposit, or someone else with the person's written authority.

Announcement of nominations

After the close of nominations, the ECQ will advise Returning Officers (RO) of the names of all properly nominated candidates for their electoral district. This information will be displayed at the RO's office and on the ECQ website. Should only one candidate be nominated for an electoral district, the candidate is elected.

Ballot draw

The order in which candidate's names appear on the ballot paper is determined by a ballot draw, which is conducted by the ECQ in the presence of witnesses. Candidates, or their representatives, may attend the ballot draw.