

## FUNDING AND DISCLOSURE OBLIGATIONS FOR STATE BY-ELECTIONS - 2021

This fact sheet relates to candidates, registered political parties and associated entities involved in State by-elections held **after** the 2020 State general election.

Candidates and registered political parties contesting State by-elections should note that some obligations have changed since the 2020 State general election.

### Expenditure caps for by-elections

Electoral expenditure incurred by or for a candidate in a by-election must not exceed the cap amount.

For by-elections, the **capped expenditure period** commences on the day the writ for the election is issued and ends at 6pm on the polling day for the election.

**The cap amount for a State by-election held before the 2024 State general election is:**

**For independent candidates: \$90,748.65**

**For endorsed candidates: \$90,748.65**

For cap purposes, expenditure incurred by a political party is taken to be incurred by their endorsed candidate and is included in the candidate's expenditure cap. In other words, a registered political party and its endorsed candidate must not spend more than the candidate's cap amount.

Registered political parties may incur expenditure for the candidate via their own dedicated bank account but, as stated, this will be combined with their endorsed candidate's expenditure for the purposes of expenditure caps.

Goods which are first used for a campaign purpose during the capped expenditure period will count towards the expenditure cap, even if they are purchased prior to the capped expenditure period commencing.

Candidates (or their agents) and registered political parties must still lodge their own election summary returns disclosing the expenditure they have incurred.

For more detail, refer to:

[Fact Sheet 7 - Expenditure caps for registered political parties and endorsed candidates](#)

[Fact Sheet 8 - Expenditure caps for independent candidates.](#)

### Election funding claims

Candidates (or their agents) and registered political parties may lodge their own election funding claims.

Candidates and registered political parties are reminded that new requirements apply to election funding claims for by-elections from 2021 onwards. Refer to [Fact Sheet 20 - Election funding claims - 2021 Update.](#)

### Dedicated State campaign bank accounts

Candidates and registered political parties who incur expenditure for a State by-election **must** operate a dedicated account.

All donations and expenditure relating to the campaign **must** be transacted via the dedicated account.

Account details **must** be notified to the ECQ within 5 days of becoming a participant in the by-election.

Those who participate in successive Queensland State elections may use the same bank account but must ensure that all reporting obligations are met in full for each election.