

## EXPENDITURE CAPS FOR INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

This fact sheet relates to candidates who are not endorsed by a registered political party and who contest a State election or by-election **after 30 November 2020**. All references to legislation are to the *Electoral Act 1992*. The information in this fact sheet does not replace legislation. If you are concerned about your obligations, you should seek independent legal advice.

There are limitations (caps) on the amount of electoral expenditure that can be incurred during the capped expenditure period for a State election. These caps apply to independent candidates, amongst others.

See [Fact Sheet 8](#) for information about what is and what is not electoral expenditure.

### What is the capped expenditure period?

The capped expenditure period starts on<sup>1</sup>:

- For the 2024 State general election – Tuesday, 2 April 2024.
- For a by-election – the day the writ for the election is issued.

The capped expenditure period ends at 6pm on election day for both general elections and by-elections.

### What is the expenditure cap amount?

The expenditure cap for an independent candidate is **\$90,748.65** for both the 2024 State general election and intervening by-elections.

### Recovery of amounts over the expenditure cap

Non-compliance with electoral expenditure caps is an offence that carries substantial penalties, including potential prosecution.

An amount which is up to double that of the excess expenditure may also be recovered as a debt to the State.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See section 280

<sup>2</sup> See section 281J