The *Electoral Act 1992* regulates the size, quantity and placement of election signage at polling places for State elections and by-elections. Candidates, registered political parties, associated entities and third parties must ensure they are familiar with signage regulations prior to displaying any signage at a polling place. They must also ensure that all signage is compliant with political advertising regulations and carries an appropriate authorisation.

**What is an election sign?**

An election sign is a sign that seeks to influence a person’s vote, or otherwise affect the result of an election; or is the colour or colours that are ordinarily associated with a registered political party. This includes bunting, streamers and continuous flexible signs.

Permitted sizes:

- Large signs are signs up to 1830mm x 1220mm
- Small signs are signs up to 900mm x 600mm.

**How many signs can I put up at an early voting (pre-poll) voting office?**

Candidates, political parties and third parties may display up to 2 small signs within each restricted area at an early voting location during voting hours.

**How many election signs can I put up at an ordinary polling booth on election day?**

Candidates and registered political parties may display up to 6 signs in each restricted area, with a maximum of 4 of these being large signs.

- 4 large signs + 2 small signs = quota
- 2 large signs + 4 small signs = quota
- 4 large signs + 2 small signs = quota
- 5 large signs + 1 small sign = over quota
**Third parties**

Third parties may display up to **4 signs** in each restricted area, with a maximum of **2** of these signs being large signs.

Any sign displayed by a third party must be authorised.

Signage must **not** be displayed at a polling booth before 5am on election day.

**Associated entities**

Signs displayed by associated entities are included within the quota that applies to the candidate or registered political party that they support.

**A-Frame signs**

An A-Frame sign is considered as **ONE SIGN** whether the sides are the same or different.

**Where can I place election signs?**

All election signage must be at least **6 metres** from the entrance to a building used for voting.
**Restricted signage area**

The restricted signage area extends 100m from the building where polling is taking place.

Candidates and parties have a quota of up to six signs in the restricted signage area around the polling place or designated entrance.

A restricted signage area also extends from a designated entrance to the grounds on which the polling place is located.

Election signs within the restricted signage area at polling places do not need be accompanied by a campaign representative under the *Electoral Act 1992*.

Only signage relating to the primary election being held at the polling place may be displayed.

**Other regulations**

There are regulations relating to the display of election signage next to State-controlled roads and most local councils also regulate election signage through by-laws.

Candidates should confirm requirements with the [Department of Transport and Main Roads](https://www.transport.qld.gov.au) and their local council prior to displaying any signage.

**What can I attach election signs to?**

Election signage can be attached to a building, fence or other permanent structure. You may be required to ask for permission from the owner prior to placing an election sign on private or government property.

If the building used as a polling place is fenced, such as a school or shopping centre, the ECQ will clearly mark designated entrances into the grounds which will also have a restricted signage area of 100m within which election signage can be displayed.
What is not considered to be an election sign?

None of the following things are considered an election sign:

- an official sign, placed by authorised ECQ staff
- an item of clothing being worn by a person
- an umbrella or portable shade structure, or
- a small item, including, for example, a lapel pin, a badge, a hat, a pen or pencil, or a sticker.

What penalties apply?

These restrictions apply from the start of the election period (i.e. from the issue of the writ) until voting closes on polling day.

ECQ staff will remove any signage in contravention of the Act. A penalty of up to 10 penalty units applies ($1,334.50 as at 1 July 2020).

ECQ staff responsibilities

Electoral Commission of Queensland staff will request the removal of any signage that does not comply with the regulations. ECQ staff are authorised to remove signage that does not comply.

More information about election signage

The \textit{Electoral Act 1992} determines the rules and requirements that apply to election signage at polling places. The legislation is available at \url{www.legislation.qld.gov.au}.

If you have further questions, or would like more information, contact the ECQ on \url{www.ecq.qld.gov.au}, by phone on 1300 881 665 or by emailing \url{ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au}. 