

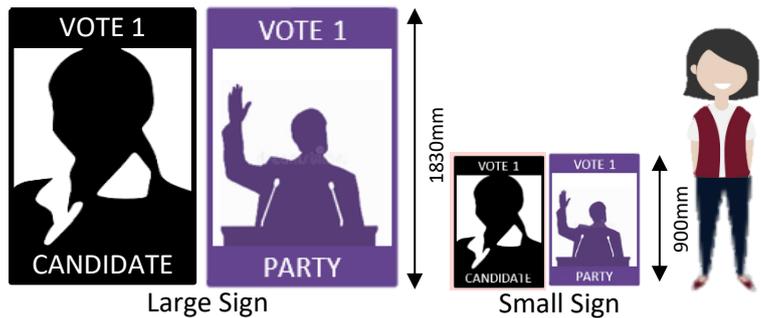
# Election Signage

## at polling places for State elections and by-elections

The *Electoral Act 1992* (EA) 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:

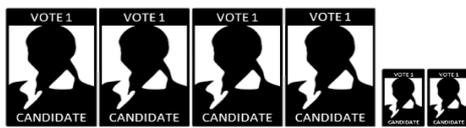
- Large signs are signs up to 1830mm x 1220mm
- Small signs are signs up to 900mm x 600mm.

### 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 designated 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 designated area, with a maximum of **4** of these being large signs, on election day. Signage must **not** be displayed before 5am on election day.

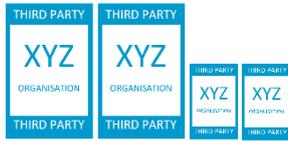
		<p>FOUR LARGE SIGNS + TWO SMALL SIGNS = QUOTA</p>
		<p>TWO LARGE SIGNS + FOUR SMALL SIGNS = QUOTA</p>
		<p>FOUR LARGE SIGNS + TWO SMALL SIGNS = QUOTA</p>
		<p>FIVE LARGE SIGNS + ONE SMALL SIGNS = OVER QUOTA</p>

*Note: Registered political parties and endorsed candidates share a combined quota.*

## Third parties

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

Any sign displayed by a third party must carry an authorisation.



TWO LARGE + TWO SMALL SIGNS = QUOTA

## Associated entities

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



FOUR LARGE SIGNS + TWO SMALL SIGNS = QUOTA

## A-Frame signs

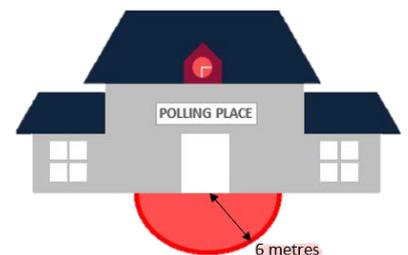
An A-Frame sign is considered as **ONE SIGN** whether the sides are the same or different.



ONE A-FRAME = ONE SIGN

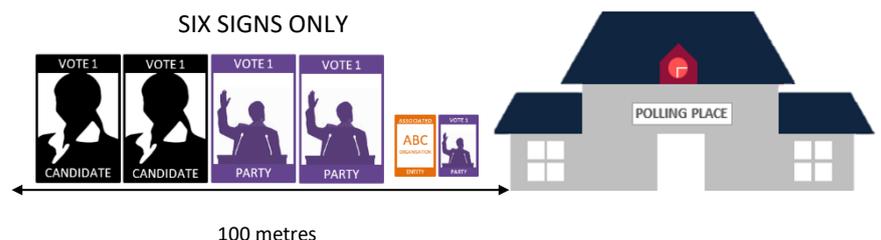
## Where can I place election signs?

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



## Designated signage area

The designated signage area extends 100 metres from the building where polling is taking place.



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

Election signs within the designated signage area at polling places do not need be accompanied by a campaign representative under the EA.

Only signage relating to a **primary election** being held at the polling place may be displayed. The election for the district in which the polling booth is located will always be considered a primary election. The ECQ will declare which other elections are considered primary elections for each polling place where voting is taking place for more than one electoral district.

All signage displayed at an early voting (pre-poll) location must be **removed by 6pm** on the last day of early voting (i.e. 6pm on Friday 30 October), even if that location is being used for voting on election day (Saturday 31 October).

No election signage can be displayed at any polling place before 5am on election day.

## 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 election signage requirements with the [Department of Transport and Main Roads](#) and their **local council** prior to displaying any signage.

Local laws that are not inconsistent with these State laws, such as council by-laws, must still be complied with, in addition to the State laws. For example, local laws about not obstructing pedestrians or traffic or relating to public safety continue to apply and need to be complied with.

Note that State laws regulating election signage take precedence over council by-laws to the extent of any inconsistency between State and local laws. The ECQ is responsible for ensuring election participants comply with State laws about signs set out under section 185A to 185H of the EA.

## What can I attach election signs to?

Election signage can be attached to a building, fence or other permanent structure so long as you have permission from the owner prior to placing an election sign on private or government property.



## 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 EA determines the rules and requirements that apply to election signage at polling places. The legislation is available at [www.legislation.qld.gov.au](http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au).

If you have further questions, or would like more information, contact the ECQ on [www.ecq.qld.gov.au](http://www.ecq.qld.gov.au), by phone on 1300 881 665 or by emailing [ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au).