

GLOSSARY FOR STATE ELECTIONS

This fact relates to candidates, registered political parties, associated entities, third parties and donors involved in State elections and by-elections.

Term	Definition
Agent	An agent is an appointed representative who is responsible for ensuring that funding, disclosure and reporting obligations are fulfilled. An agent must be appointed for registered political parties and registered third parties. An agent may be appointed to act on behalf of a candidate or an unregistered third party campaigner.
Aggregated expenditure	For an election participant this means electoral expenditure that is taken to have been incurred for the election participant, even though the expenditure was incurred by another election participant.
Associated entity	An entity that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is controlled by 1 or more registered political parties candidate; or • operates wholly or to a significant extent for the benefit of 1 or more registered political parties or candidate.
Auditor	An individual who has the prescribed qualifications or experience and is not, and has not ever been, a member of a political party.
Candidate	A person is considered to be a candidate for a State election if they are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • already an elected member • an individual who has announced, or otherwise publicly indicated, their intention to be a candidate in the election, or • an individual who has otherwise indicated their intention to be a candidate in the election by accepting a gift for an electoral purpose or incurring electoral expenditure.
Capped expenditure period	For a general election , the expenditure cap period generally starts on the first business day after the last Saturday in March that year; and ends at 6pm on the polling day for the election. For a by-election or an extraordinary general election , the expenditure cap period starts the day the writ for the election is issued; and ends at 6pm on the polling day for the election. For the 2020 State general election, the capped expenditure period runs from 1 August 2020 to 6pm on 31 October 2020.
Caps	Refer to 'expenditure cap'.
Dedicated State campaign account	A single account with a financial institution operated by a candidate, political party or third party to receive all gifts and loans and to pay all electoral expenditure related to a state government election campaign and to repay all loans that were paid into the account. Account details must be disclosed to the ECQ and campaign accounts may be subject to compliance reviews up to 4 years after the election.
Disclosure	Disclosure is the reporting of information to the ECQ of political gifts and loans and electoral expenditure. Under Queensland's electoral legislation, all political participants and donors have obligations to disclose donations made and received, and expenditure incurred, in the ECQ's Electronic Disclosure System (EDS) . This information is available to the public in the EDS to ensure integrity, transparency and openness in State and local government elections.

Disclosure period	A disclosure period for an election depends upon an individual or entity's circumstances. Refer to <i>Fact sheet 3 - Disclosure of gifts and loans received</i> .
Disposition of property	A conveyance, transfer, assignment, settlement, delivery, payment or other alienation of property, and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the allotment of shares in a company; and • the creation of a trust in property; and • the grant or creation of a lease, mortgage, charge, servitude, licence, power, partnership or interest in property; and • the release, discharge, surrender, forfeiture or abandonment, at law or in equity, of a debt, contract or chose in action, or of an interest in property; and • the exercise by a person of a general power of appointment of property in favour of another person; and • any transaction entered into by a person with intent to diminish, directly or indirectly, the value of the person's own property and to increase the value of the property of another person.
Donation	Refer to 'gift'
EDS	Refer to 'Electronic Disclosure System'.
Election day	Also referred to as polling day.
Election funding	Candidates are entitled to claim election funding if they receive at least 6% of total number of formal first preference votes made in the election. Registered political parties are entitled to claim election funding if their endorsed candidate receives at least 6% of formal first preference votes made in the election. The amount of election funding will be the lesser of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a calculated amount based upon the number of formal first preference votes received, or • the amount of electoral expenditure claimed in relation to the election.
Election material	Material that is able to, or intended to, influence an elector about voting at an election or affect the result of an election. This includes all election material printed, published, distributed or broadcast, for example any advertisement, handbill, pamphlet, notice or social media post.
Election participant	This means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a candidate in the election • a registered political party • a registered third party for the election, or • a third party that is not registered for the election but incurs electoral expenditure for the election.
Election period	An election period for a State election begins on the day after the writ for the election is issued and ends at 6pm on the polling day for the election.
Election signage	An election sign is a sign, including a continuous sign, that contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • anything that could influence an elector in relation to voting at an election; or • otherwise affect the result of an election; or • is the colour or colours that are ordinarily associated with a registered political party; or • is prescribed by regulation to be an election sign. There are specific regulations relating to the quantity, placement, size and distribution of election signage around polling places. In addition to electoral legislation relating to signage, candidates, registered political parties, associated entities and third parties must adhere to the Department of Transport and Main Roads (www.tmr.qld.gov.au) regulations, as well as all council by-laws that apply to signage in an electoral district.
Election summary disclosure return	An election summary disclosure return is a submission to the ECQ which contains details of all gifts, loans or expenditure for the election. It must be lodged via the Electronic Disclosure System within 15 weeks after election day .

Electoral Act	Refers to the <i>Electoral Act 1992</i> , which is available at www.legislation.qld.gov.au .
Electoral committee	An electoral committee for a registered political party for an electoral district, means a committee established by the party to help elect a candidate in the electoral district. The electoral committee is treated as part of the candidate. An electoral committee is not an associated entity.
Electoral expenditure	Refer to <i>Fact sheet 5 – Definition of electoral expenditure</i> .
Electoral purpose	A purpose that relates to an election.
Electoral Regulation	Refers to the <i>Electoral Regulation 2013</i> , which is available at www.legislation.qld.gov.au .
Electronic Disclosure System	The ECQ's system for the electronic lodgement of disclosures by all electoral participants and donors - including real-time reporting and post-election summary returns - available at https://disclosures.ecq.qld.gov.au .
Endorsed candidate	A candidate for a State election and by-election who is endorsed by a registered political party.
Expenditure cap	A limit imposed upon independent candidates, endorsed candidates, registered political parties, associated entities and third parties as to how much electoral expenditure they can incur towards an election.
Fundraising contribution	Fundraising contribution means an amount paid by a person as a contribution, entry fee or other payment to entitle that person or another person to participate in, or otherwise obtain a benefit from, a fundraising venture or function. It includes an amount paid for a ticket in a raffle and an amount paid for an item at a fundraising auction. A fundraising contribution does not include an amount that relates towards a venture or function that is paid under a sponsorship arrangement.
Gift	A gift made by a person to another person is the disposition of property, or provision of a service, by the person to the other person, for no consideration or inadequate consideration. It also includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an amount of electoral expenditure a person gifted to a participant in an election, and • an amount, other than the amount of a loan, paid to or for the benefit of, or an amount of electoral expenditure gifted to, a registered political party by a federal or interstate branch or division, or a related political party of the party, and • an amount of uncharged interest or an amount forgiven on a loan, and • the part of a fundraising contribution made by a person • to another person that exceeds \$200, and • an amount paid, or service provided, by a person to a registered political party under a sponsorship arrangement. It does not include gifts made to an individual when the gift is made in a private capacity and for personal use, and the recipient does not intend to use the gift for an electoral purpose.
Gifted electoral expenditure	Electoral expenditure incurred by an entity is gifted to a candidate or political party where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • electoral expenditure is incurred with the authority or consent of the recipient; or • election material is accepted; or • little or no consideration is given to the person providing the gift; or • no invoice is issued requiring payment for the expenditure incurred .
Gift-in-kind	A gift of any good or service other than money. Also referred to as a non-monetary gift.
Gift threshold amount	The gift threshold amount is \$1,000.
Group of endorsed candidates	A group of endorsed candidates of a registered political party, means 2 or more candidates endorsed by the party for an election.

Independent candidate	A candidate for a state government election who is not endorsed by a registered political party.
Independent member	A member of parliament who was not an endorsed candidate of any political party at the last general election and is not a member of a political party.
Original source of gift or loan	An individual or an entity is considered to be the 'original source' of a gift or loan if they make that gift or loan for the purpose of enabling the recipient to directly or indirectly make a gift or loan to an election participant. Donors must disclose the original source of a gift or loan, if they themselves are not the original provider of the gift or loan.
Participant	Refer to 'Election participant'.
Penalty unit	The fine amount for an offence under Queensland State legislation and the laws of local governments is identified as a penalty unit. Queensland's <i>Penalties and Sentences Regulation 2015</i> defines the dollar value of a penalty unit and is subject to a yearly review by the State Treasurer. The penalty unit value in Queensland is \$133.45 (current from 1 July 2020).
Periodic disclosure	The disclosure summary that registered political parties are required to lodge with the ECQ on a six-monthly basis. This is lodged via the Electronic Disclosure System.
Policy development payment	A payment made to an independent member or a registered political party on a 6-monthly basis provided they meet certain criteria.
Prohibited donor	<p>A prohibited donor is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a property developer or their close associate, or • an industry representative organisation, a majority of whose members are property developers. <p>A property developer is a corporation engaged in a business that regularly involves the making of relevant planning applications by or on behalf of the corporation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in connection with the residential or commercial development of land, and • with the ultimate purpose of the sale or lease of the land for profit. <p>A close associate of a corporation means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a related body corporate of the property developer • a director or other officer of the property developer • a person with more than 20% of the voting power of the property developer or a related body corporate • a spouse of a person described above • if the corporation or a related body corporation of the corporation is a stapled entity in relation to a stapled security – the other stapled entity in relation to the stapled security, • if the corporation is a trustee, manager or responsible entity in relation to a unit trust - a person who holds more than 20% of the units in the trust, or • if the corporation is a trustee, manager, or responsible entity in relation to a discretionary trust - a beneficiary of the trust.
Real-time disclosure	<p>Real-time disclosure is the legislated requirement for the disclosure of gifts, loans and expenditure to the ECQ within seven business days of the gift or loan being received or the expenditure incurred.</p> <p>In the last week of an election period, the 'real-time' requirement is reduced to within 24 hours of the gift or loan being received for candidates, registered political parties and associated entities.</p> <p>Real-time gift and loan disclosure for third parties remains within 7 days.</p>
Registered political party	<p>A political party registered in Queensland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a party which has been registered by the ECQ under part 6 of the <i>Electoral Act 1992</i> • has the party name next to its candidate on a ballot paper • is entitled to reimbursement of election expenditure • is granted access to a copy of the electoral roll. <p>To register, a party must (among other things):</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a written constitution which outlines the party aims and complies with the <i>Electoral Act 1992</i> • have at least 500 members on the electoral roll or an elected Member of Parliament • promote and endorses the election of a candidate to the Queensland Parliament.
Registered third party	<p>Third party campaigners/donors who incur \$6,000 or more of electoral expenditure towards an election must register as a third party with the ECQ prior to meeting this threshold. They must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appoint an agent • operate a dedicated bank account for the election • fulfil specific reporting and disclosure obligations to the ECQ for the election • adhere to electoral expenditure caps.
Relevant particulars	<p>The relevant particulars of an entity are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For an unincorporated association: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the name of the association; and - the names and addresses of the members of the executive committee (however described) of the association; or • For a trust fund or foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the names and addresses of the trustees of the fund or the foundation; or - the title or other description of the trust fund or the name of the foundation; or • Otherwise - the name and address of the entity.
Roll	Electoral roll
Sponsorship	<p>A sponsorship arrangement, between a person (the sponsor) and a registered political party, means an arrangement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - that establishes a relationship of sponsorship, approval or association between the sponsor and the party, whether or not for commercial gain; or - that confers a right on the sponsor to associate the sponsor, or the sponsor's goods or services, with the party, or a fundraising or other venture, program or event. It does not matter whether or not the sponsor is entitled, under the arrangement to be acknowledged as a sponsor, or to advertising or marketing rights, or to supply the sponsor's goods or services, or to another benefit, including, for example, entry to a particular event or function.
Summary disclosure return	Refer to Election summary return .
Third party	<p>A third party is an individual or an entity, based inside or outside Queensland, who makes donations or incurs expenditure to promote or oppose candidates or political parties, or to otherwise influence voting, in a Queensland State election.</p> <p>Third parties have disclosure obligations should they make donations or incur electoral expenditure towards an election campaign; however, a third party must also formally register with the ECQ if they spend, or someone they authorise spends, cumulatively more than \$6,000 in electoral expenditure, during the capped expenditure period for an election. A dedicated State campaign bank account must also be established.</p> <p>Third parties are subject to an electoral expenditure cap (limit) of \$87,000 per electoral district, with a total expenditure cap of \$1 million State-wide for the election.</p>
Writ	The writ is signed by the Governor of Queensland and commands the Electoral Commission of Queensland to conduct an election or a by-election in accordance with the law.