

Engagement kit – disability sector **2024 State general election**



Dear supporter

Queenslanders will head to the polls on 26 October 2024 to **vote on what counts** – and have a say about the things that matter to them.

Around 3.7 million Queenslanders will be eligible to vote in the State election to choose their Member of Parliament for the next four years.

While voting is compulsory, it's also a right and responsibility in our democracy, and we want to help ensure voting is quick and easy for everyone.

Can you help us?

We'd appreciate your support in sharing the <u>resources</u> in this kit with your networks within the disability sector.

In this kit, you'll find:

- a sample newsletter article
- social media posts to share on your accounts
- links to videos to share
- posters for your lunchroom/staff notice board/community notice boards
- Easy Read guide to voting for people with disability
- frequently asked questions and resources.

Over the next two months you'll also see our *Vote on what counts to you* advertising campaign which will run across a broad range of traditional and digital channels.

Please like and follow our social media accounts to stay up-to-date with the latest information about the 2024 State election.

Sharing our messages with your networks is another great way you can assist us and help ensure people have the information they need to participate.

If you have any enquiries, please email us at communication@ecq.qld.gov.au.

Thank you for your support,

ECQ Communication
Electoral Commission of Queensland

Sample article

Now's the time to *vote on what counts to vou*! — 26 October 2024

When Queenslanders **vote on what counts** at the 2024 State election, they'll be voting for the decision-makers who will shape their community.

Voting in a State election is about more than just health, education, and housing. It's about choosing a Member of Parliament that you want to represent you and your community.

Now's the time to make sure you're ready to vote on 26 October 2024 and ensure your voice will be heard.

Remember, voting is compulsory.

Voting anywhere in Queensland

You don't need to vote in your local area. You can vote at any early voting centre or election day polling booth in Queensland.

Vote when it's convenient for you

Because accessibility is a key priority for the ECQ, there are options for people who aren't able to or don't want to attend a polling place.

- Postal voting —request a postal vote on the ECQ website at <u>ecq.qld.gov.au/postalvoting</u> or phone 1300 881 665. Postal votes do not have to be sent to your address on the electoral roll. If you'll be away from your residence during the election, we can send the postal vote directly to you.
- Telephone voting available for eligible voters including people who need assistance voting because of an impairment or people who cannot physically visit a polling place. To protect the integrity, secrecy and security of your vote, there several steps to follow, so remember to allow sufficient time for this process. Register by calling 1300 912 782 from 9am on Monday 14 October until noon on Saturday 26 October 2024 and vote from 9am on Monday 14 October until 6pm on polling day, Saturday 26 October 2024.

If you want to vote in person, you can check the accessibility of a polling place or early voting centre on the <u>ECQ website</u>. Early voting centres and election day polling places are open from 8am to 6pm. Each voting location also has support services available:



- Request another person (an election official or anyone else) to join you if you need help
 voting to act as an interpreter, read and explain the ballot paper instructions, complete the
 ballot paper according to your instructions and place the ballot paper in the ballot box.
- If you are unable to access a polling place or leave your vehicle a polling official can bring your ballot papers to your vehicle so you can vote and place your vote in a ballot box without leaving the vehicle.
- Bring your Voter Information Card all Queenslanders on the electoral roll (except special postal voters) will receive a Voter Information Card in the mail before the elections. That's the big maroon card that you may recall receiving before previous state and local elections. Bringing this card with you when you come to vote will help you to get in and out of the polling booth quicker. If your email address is on the electoral roll, you will also receive a Voter Information Card through email.

Enrolling to vote

Now is also the time to make sure your enrolment details are up-to-date. If you're not on the electoral roll, you can't have your say. Visit <u>aec.gov.au</u> to enrol to vote or update your details.

Election Facts. STOP and CONSIDER

Lots of information flies around during elections. The ECQ encourages everyone to stop and consider if information is factual before they share it online or in person.

Ask yourself a few questions. Does it come from a reputable source? Is it current? Could it be a scam?

ECQ is a trusted source of factual information about elections in Queensland. So, if you hear or see something you're not sure about, visiting our <u>Election Facts webpage</u> to help ensure you have the facts about elections.

The ECQ website also has information about ways to vote, how voting systems and counting works, and the information you need to participate.



Guide to voting in a State election

The ECQ has developed an easy read guide to voting in a State election. The information in this guide is written in an easier to read way, and pictures are used to explain some ideas.

The Guide is available on the ECQ's website in both accessible PDF and accessible HTML formats.



How to vote in Queensland state elections

Easy Read version





Voter Information Card

Look for this card in the mail and bring it with you when you vote!





Help spread the word

You can share these resources with your community.

Social media

Social media post

Queensland's State election is on Saturday 26 October.

- Going to be out of town? Vote at any polling place in Queensland.
- Want to avoid the rush? Early voting is open from 8am-6pm 14–25 October (weekdays)
- Really want to avoid the rush? Request a postal vote by 7pm at 14 October.

Learn more about the election and where you can vote at the <u>ECQ website</u>.

It's time to make your vote **count**. Queensland's State election is Saturday 26 October.

- ✓ You can vote at any polling booth within Queensland.
- ✓ There is only one ballot paper, and you need to number every box.
- ✓ Early voting hours have been extended to 8am–6pm.

Learn more about the election and your voting options at the <u>ECQ website</u>.

Social media tile*





Before you share information online – Stop and Consider.

- ? Does it come from a reputable source?
- ? Is it current?
- ? Could it be a scam?

If you see or hear something you're not sure about, visit the ECQ's Election Facts page to ensure you have the facts about the election.

Visit ecq.qld.gov.au/electionfacts to learn more.



Make voting quick and easy at the upcoming State election.

If you're enrolled to vote, look out for this big maroon card in the post. Take it with you when you go to vote to help get in and out of the booth quickly.

Early voting is available from 14 October 2024 or you can vote on election day on 26 October 2024. For voting times and locations, visit ecq.qld.gov.au/booths.



^{*} Downloadable social media tiles can be found on the ECQ's Resources page.

Videos

We have several videos available on our <u>YouTube channel</u>, and we like these 3 informational videos located on our <u>Resources page</u>.

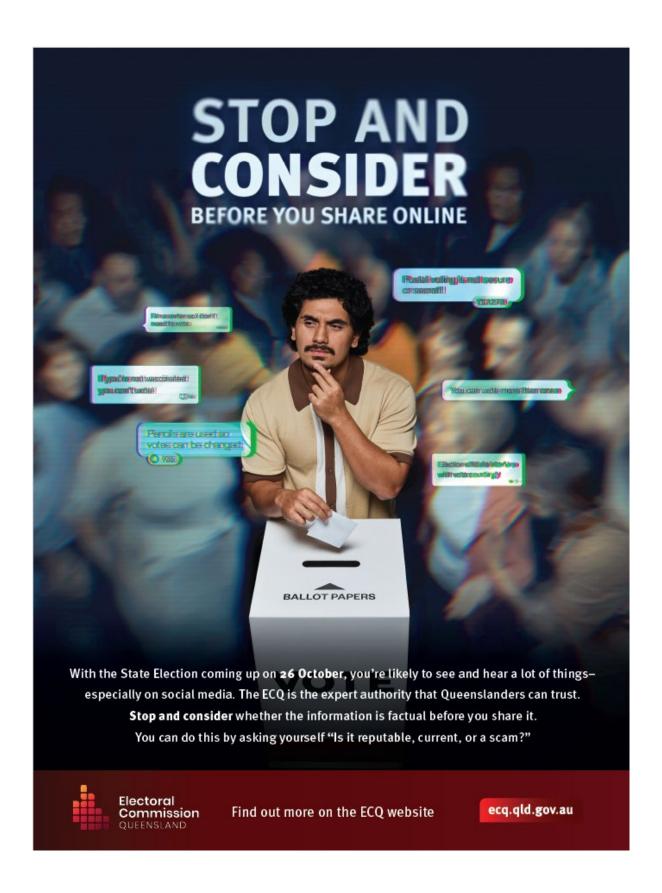
- 1. Stop and consider animation
- 2. Ways to vote
- 3. Requesting a postal vote

Posters

Download a copy for your community noticeboards. A4 and A3 sizes are available.







Frequently asked questions

Is voting compulsory?

Voting is compulsory for all Australian citizens aged 18 years or older. If you do not vote, you may receive a fine. On 26 October 2024, it will be compulsory for all enrolled Queenslanders to vote for the Member of Parliament they want to represent them for the next four years.

Are you enrolled to vote?

Visit aec.gov.au to enrol to vote or to check your details are up-to-date.

Have you changed address?

If you've changed address since the last election, you'll need to update your details on the electoral roll to ensure you are voting in the correct electorate. Update your details at aec.gov.au.

What is state government?

State government is also known as the Queensland Government. Your Member of Parliament belongs to the Queensland Government.

Why do I need to vote in a State general election?

Voting for your Member of Parliament helps determine the future of Queensland. The Queensland government is responsible for education, health, the environment, transport, public works, police services and more.

Every time you go to a hospital or visit a public school, your State government is at work. Don't miss out on having a say on how it works for you.

Why is voting important?

Governments make decisions about services, laws and protections that impact on every part of our lives. By voting, you are part of this decision-making and making a choice about how Queensland is run.

If you don't vote, you are relying on someone else to choose your representative for you. The best way to make sure you are involved in decisions about your community is to vote.

What is a Voter Information Card?

A Voter Information Card is sent to your enrolled address before an election in Queensland. An email version is also sent to you if you have added your email address to the electoral roll.

Your card is personalised for you and includes your electorate and a barcode that election staff can scan at a polling place to help you get in and out quicker.

How can I cast my vote?

Every Queenslander can choose the most convenient way for them to vote.

- Vote on election day, 26 October 2024 you can vote at any polling place in Queensland.
 The <u>Find My Polling Booth tool</u> on the ECQ website will help you find the best booth for
 you. Bring your maroon Voter Information Card with you for quicker voting. You can vote
 from 8am to 6pm on election day.
- Vote early from 14 October 2024 you can vote before election day at an early voting centre anywhere in Queensland. Bring your maroon Voter Information Card with you for quicker voting. Early voting centres are open from 8am-6pm Monday-Friday from 14-25 October 2024. Visit the ECQ website to find an early voting.
- Vote by post anyone can request a postal vote. The most direct way to apply is via the
 <u>ECQ website</u> before requests close at 7pm on Monday 14 October 2024. When you receive
 your voting materials, you can complete your vote straight away but remember to read the
 instructions carefully first to ensure your vote can be included in the count. Return your
 postal vote as soon as you can. The ECQ must receive it by 5pm on Tuesday 5 November
 2024. Visit the ECQ website to watch a <u>video about postal voting</u>.
- Voting by telephone telephone voting is available for eligible electors who cannot attend
 a polling booth because they are away or cannot vote without assistance. Check the <u>ECQ's</u>
 <u>fact sheet</u> to see if you are eligible before registering. Registration for eligible people is
 from 9am on Monday 14 October until noon on Saturday 26 October 2024. You can vote
 from 14 October until 6pm on election day, 26 October 2024.

How do I know which electorate I am enrolled in?

Your electorate is on your Voter Information Card or you can find out at the <u>ECQ website</u>. During a State general election, you can vote at any polling place in Queensland.

Is there help for people with accessibility needs?

Check the <u>Find My Polling Booth webpage</u> for the accessibility access at polling booths in your local area. If you have mobility issues you can also vote from your car. Call the phone number of the booth supervisor, which can be found on a sign out the front of the voting centre, and an election official will come out to your car help.

I need help filling out my ballot paper.

If you need help when voting, another person can assist you in the polling booth. This person may act as an interpreter, read, and explain the ballot paper instructions, complete the ballot paper according to your instructions and place the ballot paper in the ballot box. You may bring a friend or relative to assist you or ask an election official to help.

I need voting information written more simply or more accessibly.

The ECQ has developed an Easy read guide to voting in a State election. The information in this guide is written in an easier to read way. Pictures are also used to explain concepts. The Guide is available as an <u>accessible PDF</u> or as a webpage in <u>accessible HTML</u>.

Is there help for people who do not speak English or have limited English?

Every polling place in Queensland will have voting information in 25 languages. Ask a staff member for the <u>Multilingual Guide</u> when you arrive to vote. If the language you need is not available in the Guide, a telephone translation and interpreting service is available through Language Loop. Election staff can assist you with these contact details.

I heard something about the election that doesn't sound right.

The ECQ is Queensland's team of electoral experts, so if you hear or see something you're not sure about, visiting our <u>Election Facts webpage</u> will help ensure you have the facts about elections.

Stop and consider the information is reputable, current or a scam before sharing information about the electoral process online.