

## CANDIDATES

### Nominating as a candidate for a state election

Unless otherwise stated, all references to legislation are to the *Electoral Act 1992* (EA). The information in this fact sheet does not replace legislation. If you are concerned about your circumstances, you should seek independent legal advice.

This fact sheet relates to the nomination process for state elections in Queensland. This process is managed by the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ).

In Queensland, you can be nominated as an independent candidate or as an endorsed candidate of a registered political party.

### Who can be a candidate?

You may be nominated as a candidate for the Legislative Assembly of Queensland if you are:

- an adult Australian citizen living in Queensland
- enrolled on the electoral roll for any electoral district in Queensland
- **not** a disqualified person under section 64 of the [Parliament of Queensland Act 2001](#).

A disqualified person includes someone who is, for example, serving a prison sentence, has been convicted of bribery, treason or certain electoral offences, or is an undischarged bankrupt.

The ECQ cannot provide legal advice to prospective candidates. If you are in any doubt regarding your eligibility, please consult the relevant legislation or seek independent legal advice.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are eligible for nomination. The ECQ cannot give eligibility advice.

### When can I lodge my nomination?

The nomination period commences the day after the writ for the election is issued. This will be published on the [ECQ's website](#).

Nominations must be lodged before **midday** on the last day of the nomination period.

Late or incomplete nominations cannot be accepted. You should lodge your nomination as soon as possible to allow for any errors or omissions to be corrected within the nomination period.

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#### More information

If you need more information relating to Funding, Disclosure and Compliance, please contact ECQ on 1300 881 665 or by emailing [fad@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:fad@ecq.qld.gov.au).



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## How can I lodge my nomination?

Nominations must be lodged on the approved nomination form along with a \$250 deposit before **midday** on the day nominations close. The approved nomination form can be accessed via the [ECQ's website](#).

If you are endorsed by a registered political party, your party's registered officer is responsible for lodging your completed nomination form directly with the ECQ's head office.

If you are not endorsed by a registered political party, you can lodge your nomination form with either the Returning Officer for your electoral district or the ECQ's head office. Contact details for Returning Officers and their office locations will be available on the [ECQ's website](#) following the issue of the writ.

## What do I need to provide with my nomination?

### CONSENT AND DECLARATION (ENDORSED CANDIDATES)

If you are endorsed by a registered political party, you will need to sign a Consent and Declaration form to consent to your nomination. This can be obtained from your party's registered officer or is available as Form 5a on the [ECQ's website](#).

You should ensure that the Consent and Declaration form and all other required information is provided to the registered officer of your political party in advance of the nomination process.

### NOMINATOR DETAILS (INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES)

If you are not endorsed by a registered political party, you must be nominated by at least 6 people who are enrolled on the electoral roll in the electoral district you intend to contest. None of your nominators can have nominated another candidate for the election.

You will need to collect the details and signatures of your nominators on your nomination form. The credentials of your nominators will be checked against the electoral roll. The ECQ recommends you submit more than 6 nominators in case 1 or more are not eligible electors.

### STATE CAMPAIGN BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

All candidates must have a state campaign bank account for the election. The account details must be provided to the ECQ on the nomination form or within 5 days of nomination.

For further information about state campaign bank accounts, please refer to [Fact sheet 16 – State campaign bank accounts for candidates](#).

### NOMINATION DEPOSIT

A deposit of \$250 must be lodged with the ECQ or the Returning Officer at the time of nomination. Deposits can be paid via BPoint, cash, bank cheque or electronic funds transfer.

Nomination deposits are refunded to candidates who are successfully elected or who receive at least 4% of the total number of formal votes.

## More information on state government elections

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Late or incomplete nominations **cannot** be accepted.

### What happens after I nominate?

After the close of nominations, the names of nominated candidates will be displayed in the Returning Officer's office and published on the ECQ's website.

Generally, information provided in a nomination form will be published on the ECQ's website until the conclusion of the election. Some information will be held by the ECQ as part of the nomination process but will not be disclosed to the public:

- residential address of a candidate who is a silent elector
- details of the state campaign bank account, including BSB and account number, name of account and financial institution, of the candidate.

The Returning Officer will conduct a draw to determine the order that candidates' names appear on the ballot paper. You will be advised of the time and location of the ballot draw by the Returning Officer.

You will be able to access a copy of the Queensland electoral roll for the electoral district you are contesting. The roll will show the names and addresses of electors in the district as at the date of roll closure. The addresses of silent electors are not released.

### For further information

This fact sheet mainly refers to part 7, division 2 of the EA. The EA is available in full at [legislation.qld.gov.au](http://legislation.qld.gov.au). Participants in the electoral process should ensure they understand their obligations under the EA.



#### RELATED FACT SHEETS

Fact sheet 16 – State campaign bank accounts for candidates

Fact sheets can be found on the [ECQ website](http://ecq.qld.gov.au).

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