

REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES**Real-time disclosure of gifts, loans & political donations**

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.

What gifts and loans need to be disclosed?

Registered political parties and their associated entities must disclose any gifts or loans of \$1,000 or more received during a reporting period.

The \$1,000 threshold applies to a single gift or loan as well as cumulative amounts if multiple gifts or loans are received from the same donor.

For disclosure purposes, all political donations are gifts or loans.

Please refer to [Fact sheet 5 – Definition of gifts and loans](#) and [Fact sheet 5A – Definition of political donations and donor statements](#) for more information.

The definition of a loan was amended on 19 March 2026 to no longer exclude amounts received from financial institutions.

This means loans from financial institutions must now be disclosed in real-time if they reach the \$1,000 threshold.

What is a reporting period?

There are 2 reporting periods each year:

- 1 January to 30 June
- 1 July to 31 December

What is real-time disclosure of gifts and loans?

Queensland has real-time disclosure laws which means gifts and loans are disclosed throughout the reporting period.

Registered political parties must disclose a gift or loan within **7 business days** of receipt. During the 7 business days prior to election day, gifts and loans must be disclosed within **24 hours** of receipt.

How are gifts and loans disclosed?

Gifts and loans must be disclosed to the ECQ in a return. Returns are lodged online via the ECQ's Electronic Disclosure System (EDS) at disclosures.ecq.qld.gov.au.

The public can view returns immediately after they have been lodged.

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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.



**Electoral
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Do registered political parties need to give anything to their donors?

Real-time disclosure is a dual obligation. Both the recipient of a gift or loan and the donor are required to disclose their gifts.

Parties who receive a gift or loan that must be disclosed in real-time have the obligation to advise the donor in writing that the donor also must lodge a return disclosing the gift or loan.

What is included in a return?

Each real-time return must include the following details:

- the value of the gift or loan
- the date it was made
- the **relevant particulars** of the donor
- the **relevant particulars** of the original source of the gift or loan (if applicable)
- whether or not the gift or loan is a political donation.

If the gift or loan is a political donation and is received by an electoral committee for an electoral district, the return must also include the name of the electoral district.

Returns for loans must include the terms and conditions of the loan.

What are relevant particulars?

The relevant particular of an entity are:

- if the entity is an **unincorporated association** – the names and addresses of the members of the executive committee (however described) of the association
- if the entity is a **trust fund or foundation** – the names and addresses of the trustees of the fund or foundation, or the title or other description of the trust fund or the name of the foundation
- **otherwise** – the name and address of the entity.

Who is the original source of a gift or loan?

If someone makes a gift or loan to another person or entity for the main purpose of enabling the recipient to make a gift or loan to an election participant, the first person is referred to as the 'original source' of the gift or loan.

The relevant particulars of the original source as well as those of the person who made the gift or loan directly to the election participant, must be disclosed in returns lodged with the ECQ.

For further information

This fact sheet mainly refers to part 11 of the EA. The EA is available in full at legislation.qld.gov.au. Participants in the electoral process should ensure they understand their obligations under the EA.

More information on state government elections

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 **RELATED FACT SHEETS**

Fact sheet 4 – Record keeping requirements

Fact sheet 5 – Definition of gifts and loans

Fact sheet 5A – Definition of political donations and donor statements

Fact sheets can be found on the [ECQ website](#).

More information on state government elections

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