



How do I apply to vote by post?

- 1** Fill in the postal vote application form.
- 2** Make sure **you** complete all sections of the form and supply your date of birth and signature.
- 3** Return your form to your local electoral registration office. You can find their details at [yourvotematters.co.uk](https://www.yourvotematters.co.uk).

Please **do not** return your form to The Electoral Commission. **Please note:** You must return your postal vote application form by 5pm, **11 working days** before an election or referendum. If you are not already registered to vote, your application to register must have reached the Electoral Registration Officer by midnight, **12 working days** before the poll.

This form and these deadlines do not apply in Northern Ireland. Visit eoni.org.uk for more information.

Voting by post

In England and Wales you must be aged 18 or over on polling day to vote at an election or referendum.

In Scotland, you must be aged 16 or over on polling day to vote in Scottish Parliamentary and local government elections, and must be 18 or over on polling day to vote in UK Parliamentary or European Parliamentary elections.

You can apply to vote by post for a particular election or referendum*, for a set period of time or for all future polls. Postal votes can be sent out to addresses in the UK and abroad.

What happens after I've returned this form?

- When an election or referendum is going to be held, your ballot paper will be sent to you in the post.
- If your ballot paper has not arrived four working days before the poll, contact the Returning Officer at your local council for a replacement.

What happens after I've returned this form?

- You will need to give your date of birth and signature on this application form, and again when you use your postal vote. This information is needed to prevent fraud. If you are unable to sign this form, please contact your Electoral Registration Officer.
- Make sure you return your postal vote so that it arrives by the close of poll, otherwise it will not be counted. A Freepost envelope is included in your postal ballot pack. But, if you are sending it from overseas, you will need to pay the postage.
- If it is too late to send your vote back by post, you can hand it in on polling day to the returning officer at your local council, or drop it off at certain polling stations. For further information contact the Returning Officer.

*By referendum we mean Neighbourhood Planning Referendums, Council Tax Referendums and Mayoral & Governance Arrangements Referendums. If you wish to apply to vote by post for a different type of referendum, please contact your Electoral Registration Officer.



More information

If you need more forms or have any questions about voting by post, go to yourvotematters.co.uk or contact your electoral registration office.

In England and Wales, the electoral registration office is based at your local council. In Scotland, it may be a separate office.

For contact details, go to yourvotematters.co.uk

Electoral Registration Officers will only use the information you provide for electoral purposes. They will look after personal information securely and will follow the Data Protection Act 1998. Electoral Registration Officers will not give personal information about you to anyone else or another organisation unless they have to by law.

