

Election officials are also trained to provide assistance to voters as needed.

**11. My father is bedridden and unable to travel to the polling station. Can I vote on his behalf?**

Voting has to be done by the voter personally at the allotted polling station. This is to maintain voting secrecy.

**12. My brother is physically disabled (e.g. blind/loss of limb). Can I help him to mark on his ballot paper?**

Election officials can help your brother mark the ballot paper upon request. All election officials are under oath to maintain voting secrecy. Hence, you can be assured that your brother's voting choice will be secret.

**13. My relative has dementia. Can she vote?**

Those with dementia are not disqualified from voting under the Parliamentary Elections Act.

**14. Can I bring my child into the polling station? I don't have anyone else who can take care of him on Polling Day.**

Under the law, only voters are allowed into the voting area. If you have no choice, you may bring your child to the polling station, but he cannot enter the voting area.

**Voting is Compulsory  
Your Vote is Secret**

1800-CALL-ELD (1800-225-5353)

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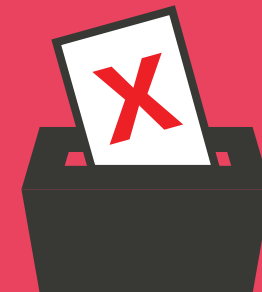


Elections Department  
Singapore

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# VOTING AT SINGAPORE ELECTIONS



## VOTING ELIGIBILITY

### 1. How is voting eligibility determined?

The registers of electors list the names of persons who can vote in the respective electoral divisions (also known as constituencies). A person must satisfy the following criteria as of the date the registers are based on\* (for determining electors' qualification and addresses) before he can be listed in a current register:

- A citizen of Singapore (holder of pink NRIC);
- Not less than 21 years of age;
- Not disqualified from being an elector under any prevailing law; and
- Have a Singapore residential address on his NRIC or a contact address in Singapore registered with the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA).

### 2. How do I check my voting eligibility?

Singapore Citizens may check their particulars in the registers:

- Online at the Elections Department website (<http://www.eld.gov.sg>);
- At community centres/clubs (with NRIC/passport);
- At Singapore overseas missions that serve as overseas registration centres (with NRIC/passport); or
- At the Elections Department (with NRIC/passport).

### 3. What happens if I register a new NRIC address after the date the current registers are based on\*?

The registers of electors are compiled by electoral divisions based on electors' addresses. If you register a change of address after that date, your new address will be reflected in the registers only when they are next revised or updated. Hence, if an election is called before that, you will be allocated to vote at a polling station in the electoral division where your previous address comes under.

### 4. What if I fail to vote at an election?

If you fail to vote at an election, your name will be removed from the registers, but you may apply to the Elections Department to restore your name after the

election. If you do not restore your name, you will not be able to vote or stand as a candidate in future elections.

### 5. Is voting compulsory?

Voting at Singapore's presidential and parliamentary elections is compulsory. It is as much a fundamental right of citizenship as it is a civic responsibility to be exercised by citizens to choose and elect their leaders in a democracy. All eligible voters must vote on Polling Day.

## OVERSEAS VOTING

### 6. Who can vote overseas?

Singaporeans residing overseas who are eligible to vote (see Q1) may register as overseas electors to vote at one of the overseas polling stations, if they have resided in Singapore for an aggregate of at least 30 days during the 3-year period before the date the current registers of electors are based on\*.

### 7. Why must I re-register as an overseas elector every now and then?

With each revision of the registers of electors, previous registrations as overseas electors will lapse and re-registration is required. This is to keep the records of overseas electors up-to-date.

### 8. What happens if I change my NRIC address to an overseas address?

The registers of electors are compiled by electoral divisions based on electors' NRIC addresses or, where an NRIC address is overseas, a contact address in Singapore registered with ICA. Hence, if you change your NRIC address to an overseas address, please register a contact address in Singapore with ICA<sup>1</sup>, so that your name can be entered or retained in the register of an electoral division when the registers are next revised.

<sup>1</sup>This is a contact address in Singapore that you have registered with ICA.

The contact address must either be:

- the address of any residential property in Singapore that you own an estate or interest in; or
- the residential address in Singapore of:
  - your spouse, grandparent, parent, sibling, child, grandchild;

- any grandparent, parent or sibling of your spouse;
- any sibling of any of your parents or your spouse's parents; or
- any child of any of your siblings or your spouse's siblings.

## VOTING AT POLLING STATIONS

### 9. At the polling station, why does the Election Official write my voter serial number on the counterfoil of the ballot paper and call out my name before I am issued with a ballot paper?

Writing the voter serial number on the ballot paper counterfoil is to facilitate vote tracing if necessary. This is allowed only if there is an order from the Court arising from an election petition, and the Court must be satisfied that votes may have been fraudulently cast thus affecting the result of the election.

Calling out the voter serial number and voter's name allows voters to acknowledge that the election official has got the right name and makes the proceedings more transparent to polling agents who are representing their candidates to observe the proceedings.

### 10. What are the measures in place to facilitate elderly voters and voters with special needs to cast their vote at polling stations?

There are special drop-off points at polling stations for vehicles conveying elderly voters or voters with physical disabilities near the voting areas. Voting areas are barrier-free and wheelchairs are provided for voters who need them.

Within the voting area, priority queuing is offered to these voters for the issuance of ballot papers. Polling booths are also equipped with a lower deck so that voters on wheelchair can mark the ballot paper easily and in secret. For voters who are visually impaired, stencils are provided so that they can mark the ballot paper themselves without assistance.