

# Get ready to enrol and vote.



**ELECTORAL  
COMMISSION**  
TE KAITIAKI TAKE KŌWHIRI

## Why enrol to vote?

If you're enrolled to vote, you get to have a say in general elections, local elections and referendums. Elections are your chance to have a say about who represents you on the issues that you care about.

**You can make sure  
your voice is heard by  
enrolling to vote.**



## Who can enrol to vote?

You *must* enrol if you:

- are 18 years or older, and
- are a New Zealand citizen or a permanent resident of New Zealand, and
- have lived in New Zealand for more than one year continuously at some time in your life.

If you are Australian, Cook Islands Maori, Niuean or Tokelauan, you can only enrol if you have lived in New Zealand continuously for 12 months.

If you live overseas you can enrol to vote if you:

- are a New Zealand citizen who has been in New Zealand within the past three years, or
- are a permanent resident of New Zealand who has been in New Zealand within the past twelve months.

You can enrol once you turn 17. When you turn 18, you'll be automatically enrolled and you'll be ready to vote.



## How do I enrol?

It's easy to enrol or update your details. You can:

- Visit **vote.nz** and use your New Zealand driver license, New Zealand passport or RealMe verified identity to enrol online
- Call free **0800 36 76 56** and ask for a form to be sent to you

When you've enrolled, your name will go on the electoral roll. You must be on the electoral roll to vote.

You need to update your details every time you move house.



## Enrolling to vote if you are Māori

If you're of Māori descent and enrolling for the first time, you have an important choice to make. You need to decide which electoral roll you want to be on: the general roll or the Māori roll.

Your choice affects which electorate you vote in at the general election.

If you choose the general roll, you'll vote for a candidate in a general electorate. If you choose the Māori roll, you'll vote for a candidate in a Māori electorate. You can vote for the same list of political parties whichever roll you're on.

The roll you choose may affect the way you vote in local elections. If you're on the Māori roll and your local authority has a Māori ward or constituency, you'll vote for a candidate in the Māori ward.

If you change your mind once you've chosen a roll (Māori or general), you can change rolls during the Māori Electoral Option, which takes place about every 5 years.



## Need help to enrol?

You can ask someone you know, such as a friend or family member, or you can ask your local registrar of electors, to help you complete your enrolment form, or to complete your form for you.

You need to sign the form.

If you know someone who can't complete and sign their enrolment form because of a physical or mental impairment, you may be able to help.

Go to **vote.nz** to find out more about helping someone enrol to vote.



## Concerned about your personal safety?

If you're concerned about your personal safety, or that of your family, you can apply to go on the confidential unpublished roll. We'll keep your enrolment details secure and we won't give them to anyone.

Talk to your local registrar of electors, go to **vote.nz** or call **0800 36 76 56** for more information and an application form.



## Need more information?

For more information about enrolling and voting:

- Visit **vote.nz**
- Visit **facebook.com/VoteNZ**

Information about enrolling and voting is available in 27 languages at **vote.nz**



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