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**ELECTORAL
COMMISSION**
TE KAITIAKI TAKE KŌWHIRI

Voting from overseas in the 2026 General Election

Adapted in 2026 by Accessible Formats Service,
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Transcriber's Note: The logo at the top of the page is:
ELECTORAL COMMISSION, TE KAITIAKI TAKE
KŌWHIRI

Voting from overseas in the 2026 General Election

You can vote overseas in the 2026 General Election from Wednesday 21 October until 7pm, Saturday 7 November (NZ time).

Who can enrol to vote from overseas?

You can enrol to vote from overseas if you:

- are 18 years or older
- have lived in New Zealand for more than 12 months continuously at some time in your life
- are one of the following:
 - a New Zealand citizen who has been in New Zealand in the last 3 years, or
 - a New Zealand resident for electoral purposes who has been in New Zealand in the last 12 months.

You're a resident for electoral purposes if you're eligible to live in New Zealand lawfully and not required to leave within a specified time.

This includes someone on a resident visa.

If you have questions about whether you are eligible to enrol and vote from overseas, you can find more information on vote.nz

How to enrol

It's important to keep your enrolment details up to date so that you can take part in the election.

You need to be correctly enrolled before you can download your voting papers.

To vote in this election, you must enrol or update your details by **midnight, Sunday 25 October (NZ time)**.

It's easy to enrol or update your details using your New Zealand driver licence, New Zealand passport or RealMe verified identity on vote.nz

When enrolling or updating your details, you:

- **must provide your last New Zealand address where you lived for one month or more** as this determines which electorate you're eligible to vote in
- **should include your email address** as this helps us send you information on the 2026 General Election.

When can you vote from overseas?

- Overseas voting opens: Wednesday 21 October
- Enrol or update your details by: **midnight, Sunday 25 October (NZ time)**
- Voting papers returned by upload on vote.nz must be received by 7pm, Saturday 7 November (NZ time)
- Voting papers returned to an overseas voting place: Check vote.nz/overseas to find your nearest overseas voting place, how it is accepting voting papers (post or hand delivered) and by when, as times will vary.

How to vote from overseas

The easiest and quickest way to vote from overseas is to download your voting papers from vote.nz/overseas

You may also be able to vote in person at an overseas voting place. Visit vote.nz/overseas to find your nearest overseas voting place and information on what services they are providing.

Check the opening hours before you go as these may vary or change.

Voting papers are not automatically sent to you overseas.

Overseas voters are no longer able to apply for postal votes to be sent from New Zealand or post voting papers back to New Zealand.

If you're on the unpublished roll you won't be able to download your voting papers. You will need to contact your nearest overseas voting place to vote in person or request a postal vote.

If you are not enrolled by **midnight, Sunday 25 October (NZ time)**, you will not be able to download your voting papers for this election, or be eligible to vote in-person.

If you're not able to access any overseas voting services, email overseas@vote.nz or call **+64 9 909 4182** (from overseas—international call rates may apply).

Full information on how to return your completed voting papers will be included with your download or postal voting pack.

How to complete your voting papers

Everyone who is enrolled to vote gets two votes: an electorate vote, and a party vote.

The electorate vote is for the candidate you want to represent the area you're enrolled in (your electorate).

The party vote is for the party you want to represent you. On your voting paper, place a tick by the name of the party and the candidate of your choice.

Vote before you go

If you're in New Zealand during the voting period of Monday 26 October to Saturday 7 November, it will be easier to vote in New Zealand before you go overseas.

Information about where and when you can vote will be available at vote.nz or you can call **0800 36 76 56** (within New Zealand).

Get support

If you have any questions about overseas voting, email overseas@vote.nz or call **+64 9 909 4182** (from overseas—international call rates may apply) for help.

If you are blind, partially blind, or have a physical disability which means you are unable to mark your voting papers without assistance, you may be eligible to use the dictation voting service.

Visit vote.nz/dictation to register or email overseas@vote.nz to discuss further.

More information

- Visit vote.nz/overseas
- Call **0800 36 76 56** (from New Zealand)
- Call **+64 9 909 4182** (from overseas)*
- Email overseas@vote.nz

*International call rates may apply.

End of Voting from overseas in the 2026 General Election

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