

Territory Campaign Account

Financial disclosure factsheet – Legislative Assembly

Disclaimer: This factsheet is a general overview provided by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC) and should not substitute legal advice. Unless specified otherwise, all references are to the Electoral Act 2004 (NT), effective from 1 July 2021. Please consult the legislation and seek independent legal advice as necessary.

What is a Territory Campaign Account?

Parties and independent candidates must keep a separate bank account with an Authorised Deposit-taking Institution (ADI) for electoral purposes.¹

To align with the legislation, the NTEC refers to the account as a Territory Campaign Account (TCA), however the account does not need to meet any naming requirements.

The Territory Campaign Account is used to isolate funds relevant to an election.

What are TCAs for?

All election expenditure must be paid from the TCA, and any gifts intended for electoral purposes must be transferred directly into the TCA or transferred into the TCA as soon as practicable.²

Non-election funds mistakenly transferred into the TCA should be transferred out of the account with the reason noted in the transaction reference details. If gifts received are intended for a federal electoral purpose, the TCA should not be used—see factsheet 10 for further details.

After the electoral expenditure period ends, unused funds can be transferred out of the TCA account.

TCA requirements for parties

A political party must have only one Territory Campaign Account (TCA) to cover the party and all endorsed candidates.

If an endorsed candidate directly accepts a donation, instead of the donation being made to the party, the donation must be deposited to the TCA as soon as practicable and reported as a donation to the candidate by the party (details disclosable at a lower threshold - \$200).

If you require a credit card and cannot link it to the TCA, it is reasonable to create an additional account that receives transfers only from the TCA account and is not used for any non-election purposes.

TCA requirements for independent candidates

Independent candidates can create a separate account in their personal banking as their TCA.

Version	Date	Author	Changes made
2.0	19 April 2024	Chris Brack, Financial Disclosure and Compliance Manager	Updated for 2024 Territory Election

¹ See section 213A. For the list of ADIs, see <https://www.apra.gov.au/register-of-authorized-deposit-taking-institutions>
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Page 1 of 1

² See sections 213B – 213D