



Northern Territory
Electoral Commission

VOTING BUSINESS

A guide to enrolling and voting



**Federal
Parliament**



**State/Territory
Parliaments**



**Local
Councils**



**THREE LEVELS
OF GOVERNMENT**

Three levels of government

Australia has 3 levels of government that work together to provide us with the services we need. We vote to choose the representatives at each level.

The 3 levels of government are:

- Federal government
- State and Territory governments
- Local government (or local councils)

Each level of government provides services to the community and has the power to make laws and decisions about different things, which is why it's important to vote in all elections.



HISTORY OF THE INDIGENOUS VOTE

History of the Indigenous vote

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have not always had equal voting rights.

In 1962, laws were changed to give all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people the right to vote.

Aboriginal people have the right to vote, and can have a say about laws and decisions that affect their lives.

There have been many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who have been chosen to speak for their community in the Territory government.

It's your right to have your say in your future and the future of your community.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO VOTE?



Why is it important to vote?

Voting is important business.

Voting lets you, your mob and your community have a say about who talks for you in federal government, territory government or local government.

Governments have responsibilities for making laws and decisions about things that affect our lives like, roads, schools, health care, education and housing.

It is law everyone 18 years and over must vote.



**ENROL
TO VOTE**

Enrol to vote

Before you can vote, you need to enrol by putting your name on the voting list which is called the electoral roll.

You may already be enrolled and not know. You can ask the voting mob to check your enrolment.

You can enrol or change your address on the internet at **www.ntec.nt.gov.au**

Or you can fill out a paper enrolment form.

You need ID to enrol. Your ID can be a driver licence, Medicare card or passport or someone who is already on the electoral roll and who knows you can sign the form as your ID.

You can enrol to vote at 16 years old so you're ready to vote when you turn 18.



**WHEN
TO VOTE**

When to vote

Everyone over 18 years must vote at a Territory election and a local government election every 4 years.

Federal government elections are held approximately once every three years.

Sometimes you may have to vote sooner in a by-election, if someone chosen leaves the position.

When voting business is on, you will hear about it on radio, internet, TV and social media.

There will also be posters telling you what time and day voting is on in your community.

If you are away that day in another community or town, you can vote there.

VOTE



**VOTING
DAY**

Voting day

On voting day, you will need to go to a voting centre to vote.

A voting centre is usually a school, building or hall the voting mob has set up to give out ballot papers so you can vote in the election. You mark your vote on a ballot paper.

Outside the voting centre there may be people who work for candidates. Candidates are the people who want you to vote for them.

These people might give you a piece of paper that shows you how they want you to vote for their candidate.

You decide who you vote for, your vote is secret.



VOTING MOB



Voting mob

When it is your turn to vote, go to the table and the voting mob will ask you 3 questions.

Question 1: What is your full name? This is the name you put on your enrolment form.

Question 2: What is your address? Tell them the community where you live.

Question 3: Have you voted before in this election? You can only vote once in each election.

The voting mob will then give you your ballot paper.



**YOUR
VOTE**



2024 TERRITORY ELECTION

FOR TERRITORY
YOUR VOTE

Your vote

When it's time to vote, take your ballot paper to a voting screen. The voting screen is there so you can vote in secret.

If you need help, you can take a friend with you or ask the voting mob.

The voting mob can't tell you who to vote for, but they can help you to fill out your ballot paper.

You decide who you vote for, your vote is secret.

BALLOT PAPER



Ballot paper

To vote for the person you want to represent you, write the number 1 in the box next to your first choice.

Then write a 2 in the box next to your second choice.

Keep going until all the boxes have a number.



ELECTION RESULTS

Election results

Once the voting is closed across the NT, the NTEC will count all the votes.

You can find out which person was elected to represent your voting area on the TV, radio, social media and in the newspaper.

You can also look at all the election results on the NTEC website at **www.ntec.gov.au**



**ARE THERE
ANY QUESTIONS?**

Are there any questions?

For more information go to:

- Your local council, electorate office or NTEC office
- ntec.gov.au
- Our social media channels - **@electionsnt**