

What are declared institutions?

The ECQ provides a range of services to give Queensland voters every possible opportunity to have their say at the ballot box.

The ECQ assists those people who are in residence at facilities such as aged care homes by visiting the facility during the election period with voting materials. These facilities are referred to as 'declared institutions' and must be registered with the ECQ.

To qualify for registration, the institution will be assessed on criteria such as the number of permanent and high care residents.

When will voting take place?

Voting at declared institutions takes place during the early voting period of an election. The Returning Officer will contact the manager of each declared institution prior to the early voting period to ensure the most appropriate time to visit.

The Returning Officer will confirm the visit in writing to advise the date and time election staff will visit.

Legislation dictates that voting at a declared institution cannot commence until the Tuesday 11 days before election day.

Who can vote at a declared institution?

This service is only available to residents of the declared institution. Staff and visitors must find an alternative way to vote.

How can I vote at a declared institution?

A voter in residence at a declared institution usually has two ways to vote:

- a static polling booth set up in a communal area of the institution – for residents who are mobile and able to leave their bed
- utilising mobile polling – election staff will visit residents in their room if they are not mobile.

Residents are entitled to ask election staff or scrutineers for their assistance to vote.

Candidates

Candidates and their scrutineers are entitled to be present with election staff during voting at declared institutions. However, they are not entitled to see how an elector votes, canvass for votes or disturb residents or the normal operation of the institution.

Poor behaviour by candidates or their scrutineers will be dealt with by election staff immediately.

Where are declared institutions?

Declared institution information will be published on the [ECQ website](#) during the election period.