



Am I eligible to vote?

If you are a British citizen living abroad, you can apply to be an **overseas voter**.

As long as you were registered to vote in the UK within the last 15 years, you can register to vote from overseas. If you were too young to register when you left the UK, your parent or guardian must have been registered.

As an overseas voter, you are eligible to vote in elections for the **UK Parliament** and the **European Parliament**. You cannot vote in UK local or mayoral elections, or elections to the Scottish Parliament, the National Assembly for Wales or the London Assembly.

If you live in a country which is a member of the European Union, you can vote in that country's own local and European parliamentary elections. But, you cannot vote in European elections in more than one country.

How do I register to vote?

- 1 Fill in the electoral registration form.
- 2 Make sure **you** sign the declaration and get another British citizen living overseas, but not a close relative, to sign the witness declaration.
- 3 Return your completed form as soon as possible to your electoral registration office. This is the office responsible for the address where you were last registered to vote in the UK. You can find their contact details at www.aboutmyvote.co.uk

Please note: the deadline for registering to vote can be up to two months before an election.

Who has my personal details?

There are two versions of the electoral register – the **full** version and the **edited** version. The full register is used for elections and referendums, preventing and detecting crime, and checking applications for credit. The edited register is available for general sale and can be used for commercial activities such as marketing.

Your details will appear on the full version of the register, but you can **choose** whether or not your details appear on the edited register.

How can I vote?

You can vote in one of **three** ways.

- **By post** if you want your ballot paper sent to you. You should be aware that it will be sent to you about a week before the election. So, you need to consider whether there is enough time to receive your ballot paper, mark your vote and return it **before** voting closes on election day. Ballot papers that arrive after this time will **not** be counted.
- **By proxy** if you want someone else to vote on your behalf. Your proxy must be aged 18 or over, a British, Irish or Commonwealth citizen and be living in the UK. Your proxy can either vote at the polling station for the area where you are registered, or by post.
- **In person** if you are in the UK on election day. You can only vote at the polling station where you are registered to vote in the UK. You **cannot** vote at your local embassy or consulate. You can not vote in person if you, or your proxy, have applied to vote by post. If you have appointed a proxy, you can still vote in person, provided your proxy has not already voted for you.

If you want to vote by post or by proxy, you need to fill in one of the application forms that accompany this form.

More information

Please contact your electoral registration office if you have any questions about:

- registering to vote;
- postal and proxy voting; or
- the candidates standing at an election.

In England and Wales, the electoral registration office is based at your local council. In Scotland, it may be a separate office.

For contact details, go to www.aboutmyvote.co.uk

This form does not apply to Northern Ireland. Visit www.electoralofficeni.gov.uk for more information.



Electoral registration form for a British citizen living overseas



Only one person can register using this form. Please read the notes carefully before filling in this form. This form does not apply to Crown Servants or British Council employees. Please write in black ink and use **BLOCK LETTERS**. When you have filled in every section and signed the form personally, send it to your electoral registration office.

1 About you

Surname

First names (in full)

Current address (outside the UK)

This address will be used for correspondence.

Postcode

Tick here if you do **not** want your name to be included on the **edited** register, which is available for general sale. Read the accompanying notes for more information.

You do not have to give the following information, but it will help us to contact you if there is a query about your form.

Daytime telephone or mobile number (including country codes)

Email address

2 Your last UK registration details

Please give the full address where you were last registered to vote in the UK.

Postcode

If you have changed your name since you were last registered to vote in the UK, please give your previous name.

Surname

First names (in full)

Your last UK registration details (continued)

Please tick the **one** statement that applies to you.

I was last registered as an overseas voter on

Day Month Year

Now go to section 5

I was last registered as a UK resident or service voter until

Day Month Year

Now go to section 4

I was too young to have registered before I left the UK. Please give your date of birth.

Day Month Year

Now go to section 3

3 Your parent or guardian

Fill in this section if you were too young to have registered when you left the UK. You must enclose a photocopy of your birth certificate.

The person named below is/was my (tick one box) parent or guardian

Surname

First names (in full)

If your parent or guardian's name is different from the name that appears on your birth certificate or has changed since your parent or guardian was last registered to vote, please give their previous name.

Surname

First names (in full)

I have enclosed a photocopy of my birth certificate.



Electoral registration form for a British citizen living overseas



4 Citizenship

Please tick the **one** statement that applies to you.

I hold a British passport stating that I am a British citizen.

British passport number

Place of issue

Date of issue

Day Month Year

I do not hold a British passport stating that I am a British citizen, but I was born in the UK before 1 January 1983.

I am a British citizen, but my passport does not state that I am a British citizen.

Date you became a British citizen

Day Month Year

Please explain how you became a British citizen (for example, naturalisation or marriage).

5 Declaration

You must sign the declaration yourself. If the form is not signed, it will be sent back to you. This declaration cancels any previous declaration you may have made.

- I am a British citizen.
- I am not living in the UK.

Please tick the **one** statement that applies to you.

I ceased to live in the UK on

Day Month Year

I ceased to be a crown servant, an employee of the British Council, or a member of Her Majesty's forces on

Day Month Year

Declaration (continued)

As far as I know, the details on this form are true and correct.

Signature

Date

6 Witness declaration

If this is the first time you have registered as an overseas voter, you need to get **another person** to fill in this section.

- I am aged 18 or over.
- I hold a British passport stating that I am a British citizen.
- I am not living in the UK.
- I know the applicant but am not his/her husband, wife, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild.
- To the best of my knowledge, the applicant is a British citizen and is not living in the UK at the time of his/her declaration.

Witness signature

Date

Witness names (in full)

Witness address

You need to give the following information (for reference purposes only).

British passport number

Place of issue

Date of issue

Day Month Year

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Polling district:

Date received:

Elector number:

Date added: