

Register of Electors

Application to be an anonymous elector

To vote you must be on the electoral register. The electoral register is a public document and by law is published and made available for public inspection. This is an important part of the transparency of our democratic process.

If the publication of your name and address would be prejudicial (harmful) to your personal safety or to that of a member of your household, you can apply to be an anonymous elector.

If you are recorded as an “anonymous elector” your name and address will not be on the published register that is available for inspection from Local Authorities, or that is in polling stations on polling day. You will be included by a reference instead. Voter.ie and Checktheregister.ie are portals which facilitate registration and updates to name and address and you will be able to view and apply to amend your details online. To view a specific entry you need an exact name and address. You will vote by post and not attend your polling station on polling day.

Your details will still be available to local authority staff managing the register and to the returning officer staff to organise your ballot.

You can apply to be an anonymous elector in the following situations:

- the publication of your name and address would be prejudicial (harmful) to your personal safety
- the publication of your name and address would be prejudicial (harmful) to the personal safety of a member of your household.

You will need to provide supporting information for the reason you are applying. This can be:

| Supporting documentation | Or | A declaration by a qualified person |
|--|----|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A copy of a safety order, barring order, interim barring order, emergency barring order or a protection order issued under the Domestic Violence Act 2018;➤ a copy of a restraining order under the Non-Fatal Offences against the Persons Act 1997; or➤ a harassment order granted under the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017. <p>If you are sending an order you will need to ensure that the only person identifiable on the order is you or the member of your household affected by the order. You should ensure the details of other parties cannot be seen.</p> | Or | <p>You may have the declaration on page 4 signed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ a member of the Garda Síochána (who must be at superintendent grade or above); or➤ a registered medical practitioner for example a general practitioner (GP). <p>The declaration will state that in their opinion your safety or the safety of a member of your household would be at risk if the electoral register published or made available for public inspection contained your name and address.</p> |

If you are not the person named in the court order you need to provide some evidence that you live at the same address as the named person such as a bill in your name at the same address.

To apply, please fill out this form.

Register of Electors

It's easier online!

The easiest way for you to register to vote or update your details is online.



www.checktheregister.ie

Use this form to apply to be an anonymous elector. Your name and address will not be available on the published register that is available at the office of the local authority for public inspection, or that is in polling stations on polling day. You will be included by a reference instead and you will vote by post. You will still be able to view and apply to amend your details online using checktheregister or Voter.ie. You need an exact name and address to find an entry on either. **Please note: Local authority franchise (electoral registration) staff and the local returning officer staff who manage postal votes will have access to your information for processing purposes.**

To process your application we need to gather some personal information about you. We tell you what information and why we need it in the guidance notes. Please read this information to help you fill out the form. You will also need to provide some supporting documentation.

Please complete this form in BLOCK CAPITALS

1 Your details

First name

Surname

PPSN

Date of birth

Phone number

Email address

Nationality

Address

Where you live now.

Eircode

2 Reason for application

State briefly the reason for your application

Please choose one:

☐

My application is accompanied by supporting documentation
or

☐

My application is accompanied by a declaration.

I believe that to the best of my knowledge the information and the documentation supporting my application that I have provided:

- > is truthful, and
- > complete.

I understand that it is a legal offence under electoral law to knowingly give false or misleading information to a local authority.

Signature

Date

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | D | M | M | Y | Y | Y | Y |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Declaration (if applicable)

If you have **not provided** other supporting documentation take this form to your local Garda station or to your registered medical practitioner (for example a GP) and have them make the declaration.

Note for Garda or Registered Medical Practitioner: Anonymous registration allows for the registration of people whose safety would be at risk, or the safety of a member of their household would be at risk, if their name or address were publicly available on the electoral register. The applicant is required to provide supporting information with their application. This can be a declaration by a qualified person (a member of the Garda Síochána (who must be at superintendent grade or above) or a registered medical practitioner (G.P.).

The declaration will state that in their opinion - the applicant and/or a member(s) of their household (where this applies) would be at risk if the electoral register available for public inspection contained their names and the address where they lived.

Tick as appropriate

- ☐ This declaration is being made by a member of the Garda Síochána (superintendent grade or above).
- ☐ This declaration is being made by a registered medical practitioner.

Full name

Profession/grade

Work address

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | |
| <input type="text"/> | |
| Eircode | <input type="text"/> |

Stamp

◀ If Garda station /
local authority

Phone number

Medical Council number (If medical practitioner)

Witness declaration and signature

I, , declare that in my opinion, the safety of the applicant
 or a member of their household

would be at risk, if the publication or the making available for inspection of the name and address of the applicant was contained on the electoral register.

Information and guidance to fill in this form

How your information is used

To vote you must be on the electoral register.

Your local authority needs some personal data (including your name, address, date of birth, PPSN and nationality) to process your application to register to vote or to make changes to an existing record.

This information may be shared with other local authorities where necessary to manage and maintain the electoral register.

To protect the accuracy of the register your identity data can be cross checked with the Department of Social Protection on a limited basis to confirm identity details (name, date of birth, PPSN). While the register is a public document, your PPSN and date of birth will not be published.

In the case of anonymous electors, identifying details, including name and address will not appear on the published register. A person who is registered as an anonymous elector will be able to request changes to their name and address online using [checktheregister](#) or [Voter.ie](#). You need an exact name and address to find an entry on either.

This helps to ensure that:

- only eligible people are registered to vote,
- the register is kept up to date, and
- no person is on the register twice or has incorrect details.

The legal basis for this is set out in the Electoral Reform Act 2022.

Supporting information

You will need to include one of the following with your application:

- A copy of a relevant court order - you will need to ensure that no identifying details are visible in respect of any party other than the one relevant to this application

or

- A declaration made by a Garda (at Superintendent level or higher), or a registered medical practitioner, for example a GP, stating that in their opinion your safety or the safety of a member of your household would be at risk if your name and address were available for public inspection on the electoral register.

If you are not the person named in the order you will need to provide evidence that you live at the same address.

Sending this form to your local authority

Remember:

- To include evidence to support your application (copy of the relevant court document or declaration). Where you are providing documentation to support your application, for example a court order, you must ensure that details of any third party are not visible on the order - you can redact such details;
- Provide evidence that you are a member of the same household as the person at risk (where this applies);
- Sign and date the form.

Latest date for receipt of Application

While you can send this form to your local authority at any time, **if an election or referendum has been formally called**, the form must be received by the local authority no later than:

| Electoral event | Latest date for receipt of application by your local authority |
|--|---|
| Dáil election | Two days after the date of dissolution of the Dáil |
| Dáil bye-election | Two days after the polling day order is made in the case of a Dáil bye-election |
| Presidential, European or local election or a referendum | At least 22 days before polling day (not including Sundays, Good Friday or Public Holidays) |

Forms received late cannot be considered and will have no effect for that election or referendum.

Where do I send the completed form?

Send your form with any other information needed to your local authority. On the envelope, write 'Confidential Electoral Register' and the address of your local authority. You may put a standard stamp on it and post.

More information

If you need to look up your local authority's address, you can get it online or ask your local Citizens Information Centre.